Free Structured Walks

Saturday between 11 am and 1 pm

By Apointment only.

Contact Rob Wright by Friday for confirmation.

Rob Wright. Dog Aggression Specialist.

https://dog-aggression-specialist.com

Join us for the structured dog walk on Saturday between 11 am and 1 pm, a unique opportunity to strengthen your bond with your dog while addressing behavioural challenges in a supportive, controlled environment. This walk is designed to benefit both you and your dog by fostering confidence, reducing stress, and promoting calm, enjoyable interactions. Your dog will learn to navigate triggers such as other dogs or unfamiliar settings, while you gain practical skills to guide them effectively. I will provide hands-on guidance, offering tailored tips, demonstrating techniques, and, when necessary, stepping in to manage challenging behaviours like lunging or aggression. I have had many sessions where all of the dogs where off lead, calmly going about their business and exploring the scents, animal trails, fox poo (dog perfume), mud, water or whatever takes their fancy.



Observation and Guidance

I will closely monitor your dog's behaviour and your interactions, offering tailored tips to address specific issues. If your dog shows exessive signs of stress or aggression (e.g., lunging or defensive and offensive behaviours), I may briefly take the lead to demonstrate calming techniques.

Location: For directions on your phone use this link: Google Maps

A22 Blindley Heath, Lingfield, Surrey. UK

Postcode: RH7 6LG

Image: Google Maps street view of the A22 Southbound.



Image: Google Maps street view of the A22 Northbound.



Image: Google Maps street view of the lane to follow.

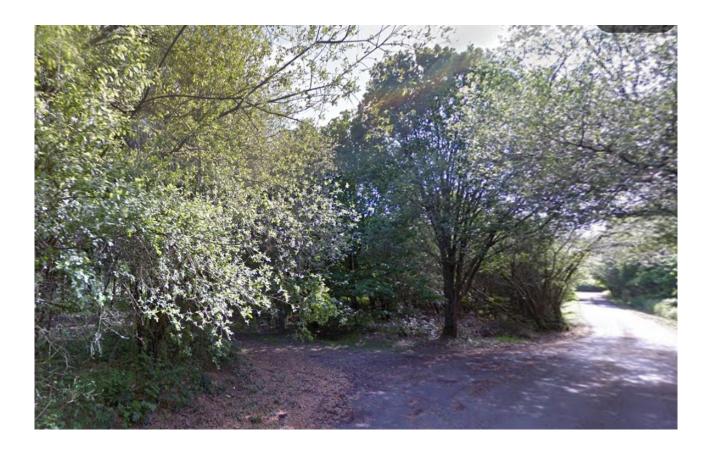


Park in the layby on the right as you enter.

(Highlighted) Please leave space for another car if possible.



Alternatively, follow the track to the gate on the left, halfway down the lane.





Parking space for two cars are highlighted, don't block the gates, keep clear in case of emergencies.

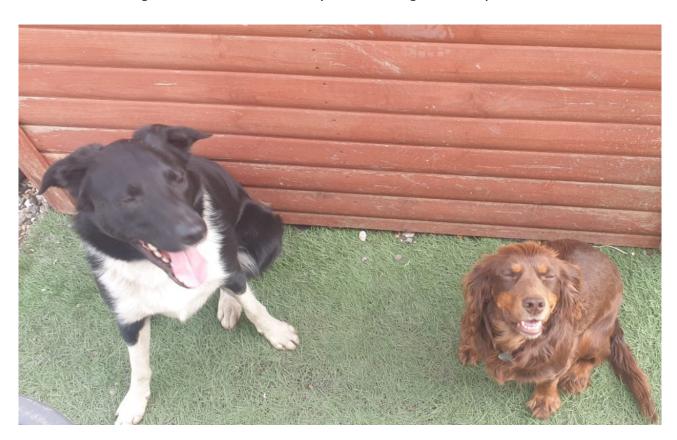
Pre-Walk Preparation

Bring essentials such as water, high-value treats, a secure lead, and a well-fitted collar or harness. Ensure your dog has had the opportunity to relieve themselves before the walk to reduce stress and promote focus. Bring a bag for waste disposal to keep the nature reserve clean.

Location and Environment: The walk will take place in a nature reserve and along public pathways consisting of grass and weeds, mud or water. We may encounter wildlife such as foxes, deer, rats, mice, or birds. Respect their right to live in the reserve free from harassment by keeping your dog/s under control.

Introducing My Best Pals:

Oscar – A Working Welsh Collie and Shandy – A Working Cocker Spaniel.



To help you feel at ease during the walk, here's a brief introduction to my dogs, Shandy and Oscar, who may join us:

Shandy: A charming and energetic working cocker spaniel, Shandy is small but brimming with confidence. Her natural role is to flush out birds or small animals, and she may instinctively chase or, on occasion, catch small wildlife like rats or rabbits, presenting them to me. Shandy is also my 'behaviorist helper dog' where she is nurturing yet firm, promoting good manners when required. She avoids conflict but will correct another dog's

behaviour, (she doesn't bite – she explains) if tensions arise, helping to maintain a peaceful group dynamic. Shandy loves life, she's always happy.

Oscar: A friendly and slightly quirky dog, Oscar is a handsome Shorthaired Welsh Collie, he's a good helper, he chases the sheep away for me and leaves the horses, deer and Lllamas alone, he's an independent thinker with strong instincts, yet loyal and at one with me. He is highly attuned to other dogs' intentions and may challenge any inappropriate behaviour, though he responds promptly to my cue ("that'll do") to de-escalate before situations become heated. Raised to be stable and confident, Oscar respects boundaries, avoiding interactions with dogs or people who signal a need for space. He mostly spends his time communicating with me about a stick he wants me to throw or his next steps, sometimes through whistle commands, to manage tasks like politely encouraging animals (e.g., sheep or birds) to move aside for safe passage. We may pause briefly to allow Oscar to complete these tasks before continuing.



This photo shows Roxy (Staffy) challenging Oscar for the stick with a sharp focussed stare. Oscar is calm, I'm calm, you are calm, and the dogs are too! The stick was given to Roxy for being a good girl. Oscar is good with that, he is happy to share.

Litter Policy: Dropping litter is strictly prohibited in the nature reserve. Please bring a bag to collect any waste (e.g., dog waste or personal items) and dispose of it responsibly to maintain the environment.

Walk Structure and Guidance: Follow me down the track, keeping a comfortable distance from other dogs if needed to prevent stress. Allow your dog to sniff and explore at their own pace, don't rush. We will turn right before the fence and meet in the clearing, where the focus will be on establishing a calm state.

Your role is to engage with your dog: Help your dog to relax and enjoy the environment, allow your dog to sniff and explore at their own pace, don't rush.

Observation and Support: I will monitor your dog's behaviour and your interactions, offering specific tips to address issues. If severe stress or aggression (e.g., lunging or defensive/offensive behaviour) occurs, I may temporarily take the lead to demonstrate calming techniques.

Managing Overwhelm: If your dog shows signs of stress (e.g., panting, hackles, or stiffening), create distance from other dogs or stimuli. Lower your body, use a calm voice with positive words (e.g., "walkies" or "dinner"), and encourage your dog to focus on you.

Calming Techniques: When your dog relaxes and focuses on you, reward them with a treat and use long, soft strokes along their side to reinforce calmness. Maintain relaxed body language and avoid high-pitched tones.

Group Walk and Activities: Once the dogs are relatively calm in the clearing, we will proceed with a group walk, maintaining a relaxed pace. If appropriate and safe, we may allow off-lead time in a large field, allow them swimming, or ball chasing to reward their calm behaviour and enhance their enjoyment.

Avoid Distractions: During moments of stress or recovery, avoid chit-chat to maintain focus on your dog's calmness and your connection with them.

Group Size and Safety: The walk will always involve a small, manageable group to ensure safety and individual attention. Maintain distance between dogs as needed, and avoid sharing toys to prevent conflicts.

Weather Considerations: The walk will proceed rain or shine, so please dress appropriately for the weather. In case of extreme conditions, I will communicate any changes or contingency plans in advance.

Post-Walk Reinforcement: To maintain progress, practice the calming techniques learned during the walk at home. Consistency in using positive reinforcement and calm engagement will help reinforce your dog's confident, relaxed behaviour.

Limited Liability: Participation in the structured dog walk is at your own risk. While I will provide professional guidance and support to manage your dog's behaviour, I am not liable for any injury, damage, or loss to you, your dog, or any third party during the walk.

You are responsible for keeping your dog under control: but I will step in to assume responsibility an control if necessary, such as in cases of attempted fighting or aggressive behaviour, to ensure safety.

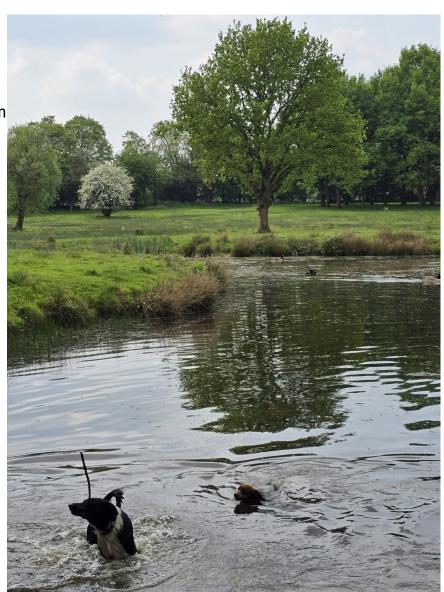
Any pre-existing health or behavioural conditions: Should be disclosed prior to the walk to ensure safety.

By participating, you acknowledge that dog behaviour can be unpredictable, and I am not responsible for outcomes beyond my professional guidance.

Enjoy!

This structured walk is crafted to enhance your relationship with your dog by addressing stress or aggression triggers in a supportive setting, paving the way for calm and enjoyable walks. With my expert guidance, you'll learn to recognise and manage your dog's behaviours, using practical techniques to build their confidence and your handling skills.

The structured format, including preparation, a calm clearing session, and potential fun activities, ensures a positive experience. The limited liability section clarifies responsibilities, allowing us to focus on a safe and rewarding session.



Together, we'll work towards a peaceful, rewarding walk that enhances your dog's well-being and your confidence as their owner.

Rob Wright. Dog Aggression Specialist.

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