

[YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS]

[DATE]

Dear [LANDOWNER/OCCUPIER],

My name is [YOUR NAME] and I am contacting you by letter to explain my request, as I did not want to intrude or invade your privacy.

I appreciate that at present I am a stranger and you know nothing about me so I would like to give you a few details about me if I may.

(Insert a few personal things here for example)

I am [AGE] years old, and live in [TOWN OR VILLAGE] I am a keen history enthusiast who loves to learn about our heritage and my goal is to add to this knowledge and to share it with others.

So far I have learnt [LOCAL HISTORY OF TOWN/VILLAGE LAND IS LOCATED IN] and with your help would love to learn more.

I would like to ask for permission to access your land and use a metal detector which will be enable me to find any local artifacts and relics that may be present thus enabling me to learn more about our local ancestors which I can share with others. When I locate a target my metal detector is very accurate and will ensure that the smallest possible plug of soil or turf is removed.

Once I have recovered the artifact, I carefully replace any loose soil and turf. It would be hard for you to tell any disturbance had ever taken place. The same consideration and care is taken on ploughed land.

I am very respectful of the country code and care a lot for nature, and always abide by the metal detecting code of practice which is agreed by the National Farmers Union and the National Council for Metal Detecting. For your peace of mind, I am also covered by public liability insurance to the amount of [AMOUNT OF INSURANCE. DELETE STATEMENT IF NONE]

I would completely comply to any rules, restrictions, and boundaries you set and would always have the greatest respect for your land, property and animals. I would also always report to you before entering your land to make sure It wasn't inconvenient.

If I was to find any artifacts of value (including those covered by the Treasure act 1996) the usual agreement between yourself as the landowner and myself would be an equal share of any monetary reward. I have attached an example agreement for you to read through at your own leisure and hope that you will find it fair and acceptable.

Anything I find on your land would be reported to you.

[OPTIONAL OFFER OF FREE SERVICES] I would also be willing to offer you a few free services as a gesture of good will, one being the attempted recovery of any items on your land that you or a family member may have lost i.e. Jewellery or tools etc secondly removing litter, nails and sharp objects on my way around.

Thirdly I would be willing to offer an extra set of hands when I am free if you needed them. If you are willing to give me a chance then please either phone me on the number I have given, send me an email or you could write, I have included a self addressed stamped envelope. Which ever suits you best.

If you would like me to call you to discuss things further and answer any questions that you may have then please let me know.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely

[YOUR NAME].