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Dairy/Beef Placement

Donal and Eileen own a dairy and beef farm not far from the town of Kanturk in County Cork.

Donal and Eileen's farm is set on 170 acres, all of the land is grass. There are approximately 115 Friesian cows plus replacement heifers, and 80 to 90 Friesian and Hereford dry stock cattle aged 0 to 1 years. There is a Dairymaster milking parlour with automatic feeders. The dairy unit consists of housing for 80 cows, a calf shed with individual and multiple calf pens. A slatted shed that holds 44 dairy stock and a beef shed that will hold 80 to 90 dry stock. Calving takes place from 20 January until 1 May though sometimes there may be several early or late arrivals. Artificial Insemination (AI) is used for breeding and there are 3 stock bulls for any cows not in calf through the use of AI. The dry stock are kept for 1 ½ years and sold on as store cattle. Silage is cut by an outside contractor.



Donal works on their farm full time while Eileen works 4 days each week away from the farm. Eileen usually helps with morning milking before leaving for work.

The couple do not have children, though Donal's parents and his brother and sister live very close by in their own homes. Donal's brother has 2 sons in their 20's, they help on the farm and his sister's 2 children are under the age of 10 (a boy and a girl), so you can expect to see Donal's family quite often!

Donal and Eileen enjoy walking, reading and listening to music in their spare time.

The nearest town is Kanturk, a small and friendly town, it has pubs, shops, a library, a cycling velodrome, parks and the town hosts an annual arts festival. There are Hurling and Gaelic Football teams too if you enjoy sports. Have a look at the towns website www.kanturk.ie for more information. Buses are available from Kanturk to Mallow and from there you can travel to Cork or Galway. The nearest train station is in Banteer which is 6kms away.



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