

This is the story of our happy cows...



The Ahimsa Dairy Foundation has nine milking cows in Kent, and now we also have nine non-milking cows and calves in beautiful surroundings at our sanctuary in Groby, Leicester.

THE REAL STORY OF MILK

The idyllic picture of cows which we like to show our children - happily roaming the fields, eating fresh green grass and generously expending their milk - is sadly rarely a reality. Today, with pressures to meet the demands of supermarkets the intensively farmed dairy cow is largely confined indoors and forced to yield between 30-50 litres of milk a day with a pregnancy every year.

In conventional dairies tens of thousands of bull calves are killed every year. Cows themselves are slaughtered as soon as they become infertile or start to produce less milk, often when they are only four or five years old. No Ahimsa animal will ever meet this fate.



Our cows are kept to the Ahimsa Slaughter-free standard. They graze freely and are allowed to develop relationships amongst themselves as well as with those who care for them.

AHIMSA COWS IN LEICESTER

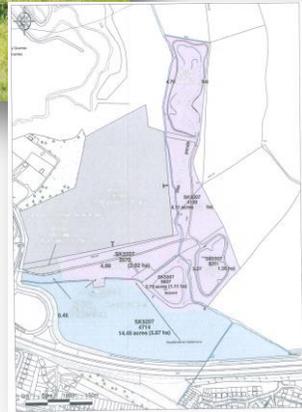
The Ahimsa Dairy Foundation would like to offer thanks and appreciation to ISKCON¹ Leicester for their kind support in providing 52 acres of land in Groby for three years, for our non-milking cows and sanctuary in Leicester. Below are the members of our non-milking herd in Groby.

Draupadi, Nimai & Nitai

The herd are mainly young animals who have been weaned and brought here from Kent. Amongst them is Draupadi who is like an aunt/ wet nurse to the young calves when they arrive, she lets them suckle her. Draupadi is particularly affectionate to Nimai and Nitai, two bull calves who she has raised from 3 months old. Once older, the two boys will be trained to work the land and be involved in transportation activities on the farm.



Draupadi giving Nimai (2yrs old) a scratch



¹ International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Dharma, Gautam & Padma

Dharma and Gautam are two big boys, very gentle, dignified and mellow fellows. They came together with Padma, a young female who is blind in one eye. They grew up together from birth, and are now approaching three years old. The two boys have always kept a protective eye on their little 'sister'.



Dharma relaxing (left), Gautam above

These oxen will soon begin their apprenticeship to work the land.

Primrose and Horatio

Primrose and Horatio came to the sanctuary together. Primrose, has a feisty nature is one year older than Horatio .aged two. She tends to be a bit bossy and sometimes overbearing with young Horatio.



Champa – a retired cow who recently arrived in Leicester. Welcomed beautifully by the rest of the herd (above left)

SEYMOUR AT CITY SPITALFIELDS FARM



Seymour has had a lot of adventures in his young life. He is shortly going to join the herd at the sanctuary having been fostered at Spitalfields City Farm for some months. There he was a big hit with visitors. He was a tad afraid of the cats, but got on well with all of the other animals and received masses of fuss and attention from staff who all fell in love with him. He is now going to start a new life as a working bull. The experiment was so successful we hope to be fostering more calves with the farm in the future

IRIS AT HUGLETT'S WOOD FARM (EAST SUSSEX)



Iris didn't come to Leicester because it was too far for her to travel in her twilight years. So we arranged for her to go to another sanctuary in Sussex. She is having a fab time there, hanging out with the other cows and having lots of treats.

NEW ARRIVALS AT COMMONWORK, KENT

Back in Kent where our milking herd live all of our cows are doing well. Four new bull calves have recently been born and after they are weaned they will eventually join the rest of the gang at Groby.



Harry



Henry



Bhima (above) and Dunstan (right)



Sunset at Leicester Sanctuary Dec 13