



THE ART OF TRADITIONAL SPINNING WITH 5TH GENERATION SHEEP FARMER,
ALISON FULLAM GOGAN, ON HER FAMILY FARM IN THE BOYNE VALLEY

Set in the heart of the Boyne Valley countryside near the rural village of Donore in county Meath, the Leck family farm is just minutes from the World Heritage Site of Brú na Boinne with a wondrous view of the Neolithic Cairn of Newgrange across the field and the River Boyne. The farm itself has a cemetery dating back to the 12th century with its very own standing stone!

Fifth generation farmer, Alison warmly welcomes visitors to her farm where she loves to share her story and family tradition of spinning. Learned from her grandmother, Alison is a wool enthusiast and demonstrates the traditional methods used to create a ball of wool from the Jacob sheep, specially selected for their beautiful natural colours. This is a truly immersive experience where visitors meet the sheep and have an opportunity to touch, feel and smell the wool at different stages of the spinning process. Learn how to felt your own sheep under Alison's gentle guidance and take home as a memory of this engaging and grounding experience. **Highlights include:**

- **Alison Fullam Gogan** | sheep farmer | expert spinner, weaver and felter | wool enthusiast
- **Location** | family farm | Donore, Co. Meath | 500 metres from Newgrange (Brú Na Boinne)
- **Landscape** | World UNESCO site | ancient lands | countryside | Neolithic burial site
- **The Sheep** | Jacob sheep | reared for the natural beauty of their wool | friendly and cuddly
- **Methods** | traditional | hands on | spinning | carding of the wool (brushing) | hand washing
- **Heritage & Tradition** | 5th generation sheep farmer | skills passed down through generations
- **Working Farm** | get up close with the friendly sheep | take a selfie | farm life
- **The View** | clear view of Newgrange from the farm | across the field and the River Boyne
- **Farm Shop** | hand spun wool | woollen scarves & hats | 100% Irish made crafts- local artists

Through our experiences we share the art of spinning using traditional methods
The wool is from our Jacob sheep on the farm and everything we do is by hand

Experience Options

Experience Name	Short Description	Experience Type	Min-Max	Duration	Public Price Per Person
Spin me a Yarn	Meet 5 th generation Sheep Farmer, Alison Fullam Gogan and her flock for an immersive traditional spinning experience with the opportunity to craft your very own felt sheep.	Scheduled	1-10	45-60 mins	€45
		Private group	4-10		
Inclusions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the Jacob sheep on the Leck Family Farm- opportunity to feed and pet • View of World Heritage Site, Newgrange Passage tomb from the farm • Hands on demonstration of wool spinning with 5th generation sheep farmer, Alison Fullam • Craft a felt sheep using wool from the farm and take home as a memento of your visit • Opportunity to browse the eclectic mix of craft from local artists in the farm shop 					
Important Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled experiences can be booked online at www.boynevalleywools.com • Private experiences are subject to minimum numbers <u>or</u> the equivalent in charges 					

Experience Description

Spin me a Yarn

Meet 5th generation sheep farmer, Alison Fullam Gogan on her family farm and learn about the age-old tradition of spinning. Meet the Jacob sheep who happily graze against the backdrop of the ancient Neolithic Cairn of Newgrange before joining Alison in her craft shop for an immersive demonstration of the traditional processes, from fleece, washing, carding, spinning to completed garment. Work with the wool to felt your very own sheep under Alison's gentle guidance and take time to browse the extensive mix of wool and local crafts in Alison's beautiful craft shop.

Important Information

Booking Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alison Fullam Gogan • M: +353 (0) 86 8931692 • E: boynevalleywools@gmail.com www.boynevalleywools.com
Opening and Closing Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled tours: February- November (see website for details) • Private group bookings available year round
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Co-ordinates- 53.695526894859434, -6.456273771939794 • Eircode- A92 TFD0
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free parking available on site • Car parking available for up to 10 cars • Coach parking available for 1 x 50 seater coach or 4 x 36 seater
Customer Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – There is a stone pathway into the field with access to the sheep- the surface is relatively smooth under foot and is unlikely to cause concern for those with mobility issues – There is a small ramp into the craft studio and another ramp into the space where the experience takes place – There is a small bathroom for visitors in the craft studio- this toilet is not wheelchair accessible. • Languages: English
Our Sustainable Ethos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of our wool is grown on the farm • The washing and drying of the wool is done outside in the fresh air to reduce its environmental impact • Our Craft Shop is a showcase for local artists- we support and promote Irish handmade art and craft.

