

Antoinette Butler

The Butler Language Academy



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It was her love of Kerry that inspired Antoinette Butler to set up The Butler Language Academy, a programme offering European students and adults a chance to explore the county while learning English. The Butler Language Academy is based in The Butler Centre, a historical building in Listowel, which was recently renovated by Antoinette.

The Butler Language Academy offers a variety of programmes from internships to activity-based holidays. Each day starts off with English class in the Butler Centre followed by a fun or relaxing activity, which is all run through English. Golf is a popular activity with men, while body and mind activities, like pampering and flower arranging, are popular choices for ladies.

With the increase of people availing of The Butler Language Academy, Antoinette, who had been working solo, took the plunge and added some new team members. She now has a local team of three employees and many European-based assistants who help promote her programmes internationally.

Despite having the passion and ideas, it was difficult to set everything in motion, but ACORNS helped Antoinette to clarify her ideas and create a plan of action. The newly-established Butler Language Academy will cater for those over 18, while Irish Host Family – a business Antoinette set up in 2012 – caters for students aged 11 to 18. Both businesses are run in The Butler Centre.

The language academy is also open to Irish students who wish to study German and those interested in doing work experience in Germany.

Antoinette's plan is to continue boosting local tourism and eventually expand the languages and options available.

Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.