

## Eilín O'Carroll

### *Firmount House*

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Firmount House has a rich and colourful history dating all the way back to the 17th century, and Eilín O'Carroll and her husband David have injected fresh life into the house.

Located in Clane, Co Kildare, Firmount House was previously a WWI hospital, and a nuclear bunker and tracking centre. It lay vacant for several years before Eilín and David bought the property in 2012 with the goal of reopening it to the public. They have been renovating it ever since.

During 2017, they completed the ground floor and in July, they opened Firmount House as a venue for weddings, pop-up events, retreats and community and corporate events. Firmount House hosts various classes including open-air Tai Chi and yoga in the gardens. In 2019, Firmount House will offer six double bedrooms —perfect for a weekend wedding or yoga retreat.

Eilín juggles her work as an asset management consultant with renovating the house and organising events, helped in no small part by her husband David.

Doing their own renovations was a mammoth task but ACORNS was an incredible source of support for Eilín, who continues to work with her fellow participants by organising events with them at Firmount House. So far, she has hosted a photoshoot with flowers from Fernwood and headpieces from ByKYNA.

This September, she has scheduled a chocolate workshop with Bean and Goose and a styling event with Laurel the Salon and KYMAIA. And with plans to launch an interiors accessories line in 2019 with another participant, Eilín's goal is to keep filling Firmount House with more events by her fellow ACORNS.

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