

Kate Connolly

Kate Connolly Jewellery



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Jewellery
DRUMCLIFFE, Co.SLIGO

In many ways there are synergies between Kate Connolly's previous work as a civil engineer, a career she enjoyed for 30 years, and her current role as designer and founder of Kate Connolly Jewellery.

As an engineer, Kate would often be working with IT design packages, manipulating metal and finding manufacturing solutions.

Her range of jewellery is unique to her homeplace in Sligo's Drumcliffe – the final resting place of W.B. Yeats.

Each carefully designed piece of jewellery is inspired by the lyrical and romantic poetry of Yeats and the beautiful, mystical landscape of Co. Sligo.

Not surprisingly her jewellery is particularly popular with tourists from North America who like to take a piece of Ireland home; Kate also exports many pieces of jewellery.

While Kate finds the business enjoyable, the designing side excites her most.

After she took retirement from Sligo County Council, Kate lived in Vienna for a couple of years as her husband's work took us there. Then they moved back to Dublin and she started attending weekly Silversmith classes – it was from there that the idea to make her own range of jewellery began.

Kate's work now covers the gambit – from design to photography, website maintenance to selling at local markets.

Being part of the ACORNS programme has helped Kate to meet other such women running their own businesses in the North West.

Kate says that often when you're working in your business, and things are hectic, you need to be able to step back and meet others in a similar situation. The ACORNS programme helped her to see the future more clearly for the business and plan accordingly.

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



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine