

Carla Taylor

An Sean-Teach



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When Carla Taylor ended up living and working in An Sean-Teach - The Old House, a traditional thatched house in Aughnacross, Co Laois, she uncovered a remarkable coincidence: a nun in Carla's home town of Boksburg in South Africa had been born in the house.

Little did Carla know when she was growing up that she would end up living in the nun's birthplace and exporting her products to South Africa, among other markets.

Since its origins in 2013 at The Old House the company has grown substantially and recently rebranded from An Sean-Teach Ltd to 1721 Spirits as an independent family business that prides itself on taking the traditions and practices of past times and bringing them into the 21st Century, "A Renaissance in Irish Spirits"; creating new, interesting, innovative and award-winning products for domestic and international markets.

It is fair to say that things have been going well for the company: It won four Blas na hÉireann 2017 awards. Brennan's won a gold medal at the 2017 Irish Whiskey Awards for Best Irish Gin. DV8 Gold has won Gold at Blas na hÉireann in 2017 and Overall Best Irish Liqueur 2019 at The Irish Whiskey Awards.

1721 Spirits main products are DV8 Gold and DV8 Pink Gin Cream Liqueurs and Brennan's Old House Irish Botanical Gin. New products include; a Hard Seltzer and Irish Whiskey & Gin Liqueurs

The company is currently expanding its range in Australia, South Africa as well as seeking to grow its presence in America and Europe.

1721 Spirits' products are stocked in SuperValu and other stores, hotels and restaurants nationwide.

Carla continues to stay in touch with her new family of ACORNS participants who have formed a strong bond and regularly meet and support each other.

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