

Jennifer Doyle Millbee Studio

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aving graduated from college with a degree in Interior and Furniture Design at the start of the financial crisis in 2007, Jennifer Doyle, from Gorteen, Killeigh, Co Offaly, quickly realised there would be limited career opportunities in the prevailing economic climate.

Undeterred, she set up her own practice offering small commercial interior design projects and workshops. Jennifer has been self-employed ever since and she put her accumulated experience and expertise into a new venture in 2019 when she launched Millbee Studio, which produces beeswax food wraps, a reusable alternative to cling film.

The wraps are made from natural ingredients and organic cotton bespoke printed fabric at her home studio in Ballycommon, Tullamore, Co Offaly.

As a mother of two young children, Jennifer was inspired to create something meaningful that would address the problem of single-use plastics and combine her passions for design and beekeeping.

Millbee Studio currently has 50 stockists, including one in the UK and in Lithuania, and online sales are growing. Jennifer has also just launched her own brand of raw Irish honey. In 2019 Millbee Studio was shortlisted for the Irish Made Awards and also came 2nd in two categories at the Irish Start-up Awards.

Jennifer also sells her products at markets, and has created her own e-commerce website to sell online. She combines running the business with rearing her children and loves the flexibility that being self-employed offers her.

She found the support and encouragement of other women in business to be a great benefit of being an ACORNS participant.

Her plans for the future include growing Millbee Studio in Ireland and internationally with an initial focus on European markets.

