

## Shannon Forrest

### Rivesci



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ELEVATE YOUR FOOD



Being an entrepreneur is a passion for Shannon Forrest who opened a jewellery shop when she was just 25. She loves putting hard work into a concept and seeing a brand grow and develop.

From Clonmel in Co. Tipperary, Shannon was working in marketing when she met her now fiancé Declan Malone, a qualified chef.

The couple both decided to take time out of their careers for a little while and it made them seriously think about their future.

They bought a vintage food truck and established Rivesci in September 2019, travelling to food festivals, before setting up permanently in Clonmel. A few months later Covid hit.

Shannon had just completed the Supervalu Food Academy programme and convinced Declan to start making their own products, so they wouldn't be reliant on one revenue stream. This allowed them to completely pivot during Covid.

Two local businesses approached them about selling their condiments and it snowballed from there. Rivesci's Cashew Chilli Crush and Red Onion Marmalade are now stocked in over 80 stores nationwide. They moved production to a commercial kitchen in Thurles to meet demand.

While the past year has been tough (the couple even cancelled their wedding to put their efforts into the business), it allowed them to create a viable and growing start up. In September 2020, they won three stars at the Great Taste Awards from The Guild of Fine Food in the UK.

Shannon applied for ACORNS two years running and was thrilled to be accepted in 2020. She has loved getting to know the other female entrepreneurs and says it has been an incredible learning journey personally.

The couple are in the process of hiring staff to upscale production further, while also developing new products, and launching their online shop in late summer 2021.

*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  
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Food and the Marine