

## Margaret Coyne

### *Margaret Coyne Couture*



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A growing weariness around the commute to her job with a leading designer in Dublin compelled Margaret Coyne to make Dowra, Co. Cavan, a permanent home – not just for herself and her husband, but also her budding dress-making business.

“I launched in August 2021 and I’ve never been busier. There’s real public appetite for this kind of service, particularly in the North West,” says the founder of Margaret Coyne Couture, who uses her skills as a Grafton Academy graduate, and experience of her 20-year career in the fashion industry, to produce once-off, luxurious bridal, evening and occasion wear.

Recently reclassified as a creative space by Cavan County Council, the Old Courthouse building in the heart of Dowra provides the setting in which Margaret creates her designs and hosts fittings.

“Our bridal collection is a big part of our business but a real growth area for us is the mother-of-the-bride outfits. We also do millinery so mums can get their dresses and hats at the same time. Both brides and mums can have their fittings together also, which is a lovely experience for them.”

Margaret, who hopes to launch a ready-to-wear mother-of-the-bride collection in the next 12 months, was recently shortlisted for Newcomer of the Year at the Weddings Online Awards and believes ACORNS was essential to helping her focus on business and finance, rather than just the creative side of her operations.

“ACORNS helped me change my attitude in terms of how I operate. I know all there is to know about making dresses but my issue has been around actually thinking like a businesswoman. It was fantastic to be surrounded by women with similar goals. I was inspired by all the fantastic people and their stories,” she adds.

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



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