



## CLIMATE ACTION FOCUS AREAS

-  REDUCING WASTE
-  RE-PURPOSING MATERIALS
-  VISITOR EXPERIENCE

## CASE STUDY

# THE SHED DISTILLERY OF PJ RIGNEY

## ABOUT US

The Shed Distillery of PJ Rigney is the producer of Drumshanbo Gunpowder Irish Gin, Drumshanbo Single Pot Still Irish Whiskey and Sausage Tree Pure Irish Vodka. The building was part of a green field development in Co. Leitrim in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands, with all new-build materials and fittings selected to optimise efficiencies and conserve resources.

“ There's resourcefulness in many rural communities in Ireland, a thriftiness and a desire not to waste anything that has become a big part of the way we work. ”

Patrick J Rigney, Managing Director and Founder, The Shed Distillery of PJ Rigney

# Local community inspiration

## GETTING STARTED

"You know, I think the mentality of the local people has really rubbed off on the business too. There's resourcefulness in many rural communities in Ireland, a thriftiness and a desire not to waste anything that has become a big part of the way we work."

Nothing comes easy to a town like Drumshanbo – you have to work to achieve things. I love that mentality."

**Patrick J Rigney,**  
Managing Director and Founder,  
The Shed Distillery of PJ Rigney



**In other areas...**

The Curious Laboratory of PJ Rigney is home to a repurposed laboratory cabinet previously housed at Queens University, Belfast. Roller blackboards were reclaimed from local schools and are now used as educational tools for visitors.



THE SHED DISTILLERY, DRUMSHANBO, CO LEITRIM

## CREATIVELY RE-PURPOSING TO REDUCE WASTE AND ENHANCE THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

The business has a quest to 'make the ordinary extraordinary'. One of the ways it does that is through creatively re-purposing materials for use in their production process and to enhance the curiosity factor in its visitor centre.

- the distilling process results in 700kg of waste spent grain per day i.e. grain which is left over after the mashing process. This is collected

daily by local farmers and used as cattle feed

- the slates used on the Shed Distillery Experience were reclaimed from the convent of The Poor Sisters of Claire in Drumshanbo, at the time the convent was being refurbished with new roof slates
- old suitcases and trunks have been converted into furniture and seating pieces



## RE-PURPOSING CARDBOARD

Re-purpose where you can. For example in July 2021, the Shed Distillery invested in a shredder to shred in-coming cardboard used as packaging by suppliers. The shred is now used as protective packaging for

The Shed's e-commerce shipping, which eliminated the need for plastic bubble wrap. The machine had paid for itself within six months and had saved 2,250m of bubble-wrap in that time.



THE SHED DISTILLERY, DRUMSHANBO, CO LEITRIM



“ It goes back to the promise in that word ‘remarkable’ again, that feeds into everything we’re doing – the product, the process, the brands, and ultimately the experience. We are making something that is high-quality, authentic, and with a story behind it. That is a combination that interests people. ”

Patrick J Rigney, Managing Director and Founder, The Shed Distillery of PJ Rigney



ACRES LAKE FLOATING BOARDWALK,  
DRUMSHANBO, CO LEITRIM

### Top Tip

“Re-purpose where you can. For example in July 2021, the Shed Distillery invested in a shredder to shred in-coming cardboard used as packaging by suppliers. The shred is now used as protective packaging for The Shed’s e-commerce shipping, which eliminated the need for plastic bubble wrap. The machine had paid for itself within six months and had saved 2,250m of bubble-wrap in that time.”

**Patrick J Rigney,**  
Managing Director and  
Founder,  
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## About climate action

This case study is part of Fáilte Ireland’s suite of climate action business supports, helping tourism and hospitality businesses on their climate action journey.

Find out more at [Climate action \(Failteireland.ie\)](https://www.failteireland.ie)