

District ISLE OF MAN

Tartan Designer t. Richard Moore

Date 1975

The Isle of Man tartan owes its origin to a disagreement with regard to the commercial weaving of the Manx national tartan, the first samples of which had been produced by its designer Miss Patricia McQuaid, on a hand loom. She had registered her Manx national design in 1959 under the Registered designs Act, and reached an agreement with the Tynwald Woollen Mills at St John's to produce it commercially in the form of rugs. Differing views, concerning the supervision of production, however, led to an eventual termination of the arrangement. The Mills nevertheless continued to receive inquiries about the Manx national tartan. In consequence, in 1975 it was decided to produce an entirely new tartan which could be identified with the Isle of Man. Thus, was born the Isle of Man tartan, designed by Mr. T. Richard Moore, who had been associated with the Tynwald Mills for more than fifty years. He, like Miss McQuaid, based his tartan on the colors prevalent on the island, expressing his ideas in the form of a poem:

“The Misty-Blue for the seas that surround
The Reddy-Brown for the rocks that abound
The Green for the grass and Green for the trees
The Gold for the gorse that waves in the breeze
The White for the cottages, homely and gay
The Red for the sunset at close of the day
The Purple, the heather that covers the hills
THE ISLE OF MAN TARTAN from Tynwald Mills”

Taken from “District Tartans of Scotland”, by Gordon Teall & Philip Smith, Shephard-Walwyn (Publishers) Ltd.

This clan information sheet has been prepared by
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