

Mostly Manx



Jan Quillin is 'Mann Mad' . . .

When it comes to 'MostlyManx' Jan Quillin comfortably meets the criteria...and then some! She established Mann Mad in 2006 designing a range of imaginative merchandising concepts embracing the Island's iconic Three Legs symbol: 'The reason I called the business 'Mann Mad' is because I love and respect all that is Manx, and I'm literally mad about the Isle of Man,' she told Manx Tails.

Originally trained as a photographer at the Cheshire School of Art and Design, Jan still enjoys recording images of Island life, though her occupational focus is on her merchandise, which offers a unique, high quality representation of both the Island and its heritage.

Jan lives in Port St Mary with her husband Paul and teenage children Hugh and Rose-Ada: 'They are all part of the conceptual part of the process,'



said Jan, 'along with my niece, Ruth Quillin, and her Mum Rebecca Comish, who both support me with lots of coffee and ideas when I hit a block! I like to tune in to what is Manx and I'm constantly listening out for phrases which demonstrate the essence of being Manx, and translating them into merchandise.'

Mann Mad is only part of Jan's busy life as a Mum and entrepreneur – she's also a trained occupational therapist and is currently working at the Island's Hospice where she applies her creative skills to working with patients with life limiting diseases: 'I also link-up with the Arts Council for bigger community projects,' she explained. After working at Hospice for over seven years she's looking forward to joining the Island's Drug and Alcohol team: 'I believe that creativity can work as a form of meditation in motion



and can help people free their minds and re-focus onto something positive, which helps build stamina, concentration and much more.'

Jan's most famous design was created in 2004 and has gained enormous popularity; Supermann is the subject of an entire range of products which bear the image: 'I made the connection with Superman, and was surprised nobody had thought of it before – it works in so many ways as the colours are the same too.'

Jan's head is always full of design ideas and she keeps a notebook next to her bed, for those seminal moments when a great idea strikes late at night or in the early hours of the morning: 'I would like to develop some of my international designs that have been buzzing around in my head for years – but all in good time.'

You can see a selection of Jan's great merchandise in the MostlyManx shop in Nelson Street, Douglas.



For more information about Manx Artisans visit the MostlyManx shop in Nelson Street, Douglas