

Dolly Cliff's designs



'Oak Leaf' (pattern number 8808)

"Oak Leaf" is a fully free hand pattern that well exhibits the "linear stlye" that characterises a number of Dolly Cliff's patterns.

The principal element of the main pattern section is composed of an informal grouping of brown, black and green leaves that is balanced by a single pink flower and an orange berry.

Extending from each side of the principal element are bunches of multi-coloured fruit. It is these wings that provide the extension of the pattern into a linear form.

On flatware, these wings are repeated as partial patterns and give balance to the whole design. When applied to hollowware, such as vases, only the principal design is depicted and is supported by simple bands.



'Orange Blossom' (pattern number 8998)

'Orange Blossom', like 'Oak Leaf' is another 'linear pattern'. Present in this pattern is an informal, central element composed, in this pattern, of yellow and red flowers. Extending from this central element, again are wings depicting

leaves and stylised buds. Again these wings are repeated as partial patterns to balance the design.



It is interesting that this pattern was also released on tableware as a partial pattern that uses only the "wings".

Like some patterns by Clarice Cliff, Dolly Cliff's pattern, 'Orange

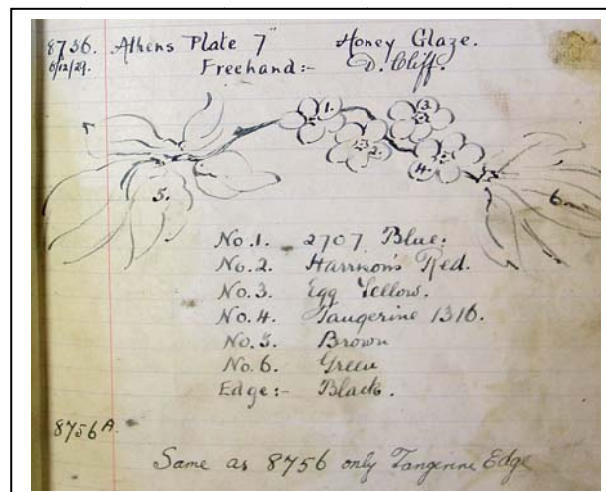
'Blossom' was copied on hard paste porcelain by at least one Japanese pottery.¹



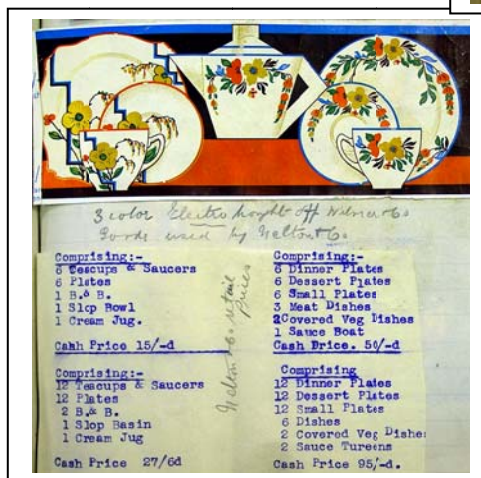
'Lynley' (working name) (pattern numbers 8756 and 8756A) Example shown (left) 8756A.

'Lynley' is a later pattern than "Oak Leaf" or 'Orange Blossom' and shows a more simple, but no less elegant approach to the 'linear' depiction of the pattern.

In this design, the central element of brown leaves is large and is balanced by a large "wing" composed of flowers and leaves. A small group of a single orange flower and a few green leaves have been attached to the principal element. A single 'wing' has been repeated as a partial pattern.



Pattern book entry for 8756 and 8756A²



This advertisement draft, from the Wilkinson archives, depicts the Dolly Cliff patterns 'Orange Blossom' (right) and 'Leonora' (left). Whilst the prices quoted are not in the same order as Bizarre ware, they are still commensurate with middle market prices.

Greg Slater ACT

¹ www.theagora.com.au Articles – Contemporary Copies of Wilkinson/Clarice Cliff.

² Pattern book excerpt reproduced by kind permission of Wedgwood Museum, Barlaston.