

# On the road from Surrey to Devon

By Chris Watkins

**Many thanks for** the recent features on Surrey Scenery and Glorious Devon patterns.

**Your story of the transition** might have another dimension. The post-war designs of 12734 Glorious Devon and 13623 Surrey scenery in their various colourways are, of course, on china. But the earlier Surrey scenery 7662 was, of course, on earthenware. And a couple of earthenware illustrations have slipped into your second feature (page 11 and back cover). Just because they are blue shall we now call them “Glorious Devon”?

**I think there is a** different story. Surrey Scenery had a variation on earthenware - lustre pattern number 8676, as illustrated on page 13 on shapes 810 and 799. I have learned that the lustre was prone to being rubbed off and revealing the decoration in blue beneath. Here is an illustration on two 780 shape vases: one pristine and the other with the lustre gone.



**The key evidence** comes from the backmarks on the right-hand vase: some of the brown lustre remains on the rim, and especially on the shape and pattern numbers. Also we have an illustration of the process part-way through, on a 832 shape cylindrical vase.



**And as the earthenware** pattern books do not list a decoration with “Devon”, I think this confirms that the transition from Surrey to Devon was only on china. But maybe the lustre rubbing off gave them the idea to travel that way!■