

# Thomas Lester Leaves

This course will begin with a presentation of the development of Thomas Lester lace and what makes his designs truly unique in the guipure family of laces. It will put into context and describe the difference between traditional Bedfordshire lace and the pictorial Lester lace which combines skills and designs from Honiton, Beds, Bucks, Russian, Point de Gaze and more.

This beautiful mid-19th century midlands English lace features motifs of cloth stitch flowers, leaves, fruits and animals. It is worked continuously with a plaited (guipure) ground. Additional skills learned will be starting in two directions, crossing and joining trails, invisible starts and finishes, adding and deleting pairs, gimped veins in cloth-stitch, square and rolled tallies, passing the gimp in the Bedfordshire, Bucks and Honiton traditions, plus pattern interpretation and design. This class is attractive to anyone with a good foundation skills in bobbin lace.

## **Materials:**

- 18" or larger cookie pillow
- Bobbins and Thread: 30 pairs **Egyptian Cotton** 36/2 or **FINCA** 50/3, or **Fil Au Chinois** 40/3, or **Filato di Cantu** 50/2. Bobbins can be E. Midland or Continental but not mixed. Bring extra pairs
- Gimp: 2 pairs **DMC Broder Special #16**
- 3 Cover cloths
- Very fine crochet hook (#15), or Lazy Maid
- **Bohin** 26 x .65 and 30 x .60 pins
- Fine sharp scissors and/or snips
- 4 ply blue pricking card
- matte blue contact paper
- pencil and white eraser
- colored highlighters

## **Pattern:**

Make several enlargements of the pattern selected for diagramming and notes.

## **Preparation:**

Wind bobbins in pairs all in the same direction (clockwise or counter clockwise, but not mixed).

Wind 2 pairs of gimp.

Mount pricking on blue card stock using matte transparent blue low tac contact paper.