

## Emerging Bowls by Ian Elliott

Some weeks ago, I decided to try something I had been thinking of doing for a while but never got around to it. A pair of Emerging Bowls. It was one of the last things I made on my old lathe, I now have a Coronet Herald and so far, I am well pleased.

I originally thought about two separate pieces of timber with a paper joint, to be parted after initial turning of the outside of the bowls. But looking through my stock of timber I had nothing that was suitable and as I do not have a thicknesser planer I was unable to prep something that was suitable. I did however have some Wenge about 75mm x 65mm, so decided to make them from one piece then half it on the Bandsaw, I crosscut the Wenge to 120mm long.

My next thing I had to consider was how to hold it on the Lathe. I screwed a face plate ring to a rectangular piece of MDF and hot glued the Wenge to the MDF, using the tailstock both to centre and as a clamp. I have used hot glue several times to hold but have always put it on the back of the work piece as well as a bead around the edges. But for this I thought I would try just beads around the edges as I needed the back of the Wenge to be dead flat against the MDF. This turned out to be quite adequate even as I was turning without the support of the tailstock. I did mark off the bowl diameter and the depth of the bowl before hot gluing to the MDF.



I made a very precise template of the outside of the bowl using some paper backed Walnut veneer which was less than 0.5 mm thick, but it did the job well. I also put masking tape along the line I had to stop cutting at. As it was impossible to see the pencil line whilst turning on the dark Wenge. Turning a precise half sphere was very tricky and took some time for such a small piece, a lot of stopping to check against the template. The time I took making the template definitely payed dividends.



Using a wood chisel between the MDF and the back of the workpiece I parted it through the hot glue joint, it came away very easily considering the hold it had whilst turning. I then cut the piece in half on the Bandsaw.

Using the tailstock, I centred one half against the MDF, but as the work piece was not totally hard up against the MDF I applied two clamps before applying the hot glue. I also hot glued a support behind the outside of the bowl (hot glue to MDF only), as this is where the pressure will be when turning the inside of the bowl.



Removed the tailstock and turned out the bowl and the face. Then repeated for the second bowl.

Upon completion of the bowls, I fitted my sanding disc and sanding table to the lathe. Sanded the square sections i.e. bottoms, back and ends and applied a finish.

When I took them into the house, they looked a little mediocre, so I applied some gold leaf to the inside of the bowls, that made them ping.



The other day I found that Ann had stood them on end as an ornament.

