July 2012 Shaun Clifford



Shaun proposed to demonstrate how he turns a winged bowl from a piece of Evergreen Oak approx 2ft x 10inches with the bark still attached. The piece of Oak was mounted on a faceplate and the head of the lathe rotated to 90° to the lathe bed.

With a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch bowl gouge Shaun started by flattening the base of the bowl. He then began to shape the hollow that would define the shape of the wings and the shape of the underside of the central bowl. A spigot to fit the four jaw chuck was formed. The hollowing and shaping was continued, refining the

shape of the wings and the bowl shape until the hollow was approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through the thickness of the wood. He then took some cuts to ensure that the bases of both wings were evenly flat and level.

A large skew chisel is Shaun's choice to use as a scraper to give a finish to the underside. Shaun does not use the skew as a pure scraper but has the handle lowered so he is taking a fine cut—I'm sure that if I tried this I would take a large chunk out of the bowl! With a gouge with the flute "closed" Shaun shear scraped around the hollow to get a good finish. The underside was then power sanded with the lathe stationary to a finish—if the wood is very wet Shaun uses a hot air gun to dry the surface and then



sands. Sean cut three rings into the underside of the bowl as a "trademark" He then hand sands and applies Danish Oil as finish. The photo shows the underside completed and ready to be mounted back on the lathe.



With the piece reversed on the chuck the wings can be worked on. Shaun starts by turning the top corner s away at an angle of about 45° and then proceeds to round off the cut right to the end of the wing. He continued the shaping until he had reached the desired wing thickness and then made a gentle continuous cut to get as clean a finish as possible. He then used the skew chisel as a scraper to remove any irregularities.

With the wing shaping completed he started to hollow the bowl. The first cuts were taken to flatten the top of the bowl and then the hollowing cuts were taken,

starting from the outside into the centre. The hollowing cuts were continued and Shaun followed the shape of the outside of the bowl, attempting to get the wall thickness uniform throughout. This is so that the piece dries evenly and does not move overmuch. When the hollowing was complete and finishing cuts and shear scraping

completed Shaun used the hot air gun to dry the top 3mm of the bowl and wings. He then proceeded to power sand through the grits with the lathe running. Danish Oil was applied.

The piece was removed from the lathe and the ends of the wings rounded over with a small block plane to remove the hard edges. The final coat of Danish oil was applied over the planed area.



it off and cleans up the base of the bowl. Most of his winged bowls are supported on the wings.

The following are a selection of the pieces Shaun had on show.





