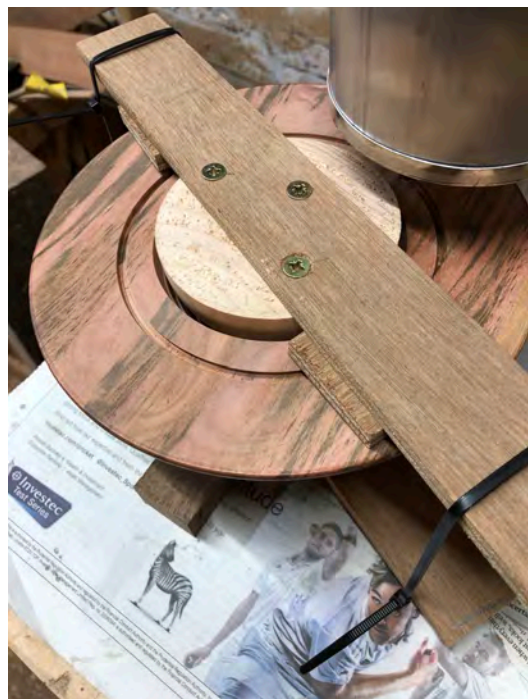


'Tiger eye' Bowl



This is a 'different' bowl made of Tasmanian 'tiger myrtle' with a pewter interior (& ring) cast in place. The technique may be of interest. It is fairly chunky partly as a design choice and partly to avoid potential issues with heat and the wood, though this may be unnecessary. It is quite heavy anyway because of the pewter, which is about 4mm thick at the edge and (deliberately) about 8mm at the base. This was to make sure that the liquid pewter, poured in at one edge, flowed all around the hemispherical central mould, which was smoothed pine. The hardened pewter does not stick to the wood - hence the grooves in the wood interior to ensure retention (& the top face groove is dovetailed). 200mm diameter (pewter centre ~100mm) and 80mm high.

The pewter interior is sanded with an unpowered bowl sander and successive fine sanding pads to 12000 grit, followed by Brasso, carefully kept off the wood. I have elected not to completely





remove the ripple on the interior metal surface as this seems more interesting, but one easily could. The final bowl is very tactile!

Pictures during making are shown above. The as-cast pewter interior is semi-matt and shows interesting patterning (including the grain of the pine mould) and could be left for a different effect. Finishing of the pewter ring and interior bowl top edges was done at fairly slow speed with a very sharp scraper - this because this tool does not 'lift' the metal. Swarf is recycled.

The mould is temporarily held in place for casting with screws and a ply jig, giving the desired spacings as above.

Will Stewart
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