

FEBRUARY 2020 - BRYAN MILHAM

George Foweraker was suffering from a bad cold so Bryan Milham kindly stepped in at 2 days notice to provide the February club demonstration.

Firstly, Bryan announced that as of April 1st 2020 he will be the AWGB South West Area Representative and we all wish him well in that new role - see NEWS for more info.

Bryan's main demonstration was a **Wardrobe Lavender Hanger** ..

Body

Starting with a block of Maple?

- roughly turn to round
- turn a tenon and remount in the chuck
- finish off turning to 2" round

Top Tip 1 - when using a skew never let the sharpened edge of the skew touch the toolrest as it will cause nicks

Top Tip 2 - finish off turning to round after remounting on the tenon just in case the piece doesn't run totally true when first mounted on the tenon

- use a beading tool to create a bead on each end
- turn down the section between the beads to the level of the bottom of the bead
- using a 30mm forstner bit mounted in the tailstock, create a small hole say 5mm deep
- drill out the centre
- drill series of holes of say 4mm, 5mm 6mm diameter in the central core tidying up with a skew
- using the original 30mm indents as a guide, use the 30mm forstner bit again to drill all the way through



Lid

Using a similar piece of maple, turn to round as above ...

- drill 6mm hole
- create a 30mm tenon to fit into the body created above
- add beads and decoration as required



Drop Finial

Using a similar but slightly longer piece

- turn to round
- shape as required to create an attractive tear drop finial
- thread a ribbon through and secure
- fill with lavender seeds or whatever scent desired and hang



Bryan had intended to demonstrate creating a small box with alternative decorated lids but unfortunately time was against him. However, he was able to show a particular staining technique as follows ...

Turning to round a roughly 4" diameter piece of oak, then shaping to a round cornered lid shape and then sanding down to 320 grit, Bryan coated the piece with white vinegar using wire wool. Before our very eyes the wood started to turn black (with a blueish tinge). After a few minutes it was totally black. This technique can be used on other woods that have a high tannin content. Seal when completely dry with oil such as Danish Oil or Tung Oil.



Health and Safety Tip - if keeping wire wool in a bottle of white vinegar make sure that there is a small hole in the lid to avoid the bottle exploding.

Thanks to Bryan for standing in at such short notice to demonstrate the making of an object that he admitted he had not had time to practice beforehand. As ever his demo was full of useful information and tips.

David Langan