Restored Bulle 24834



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Bulle Clock Serial Number 24834

Restoration of Bulle Clock Serial Number 24834



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Photos by kind permission of the owner.

The clock as delivered.

A tall movement in a carved wall, case with glazed front opening door. The dial and some other bits and pieces were in plastic bags inside the case.

The case itself looks to be in very good condition, just needing a good waxing. Although it proved very difficult to open the door as it seemed to be jammed tight. The carcass may have shrunk over the years leaving the door slightly oversize. We will need to inspect and if necessary shave a smidgen of the top and / or bottom. The glass is also loose and will need securing.

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Note the lovely carving on the side of the case. The battery compartment looks rusted through in places.





The photo above shows the lead out wire from the pendulum has no insulation and will short out on the brass. The insulation is old and dried right out. It crumbles when touched. The last photo shows the corrosion on one of the stand off pillars.

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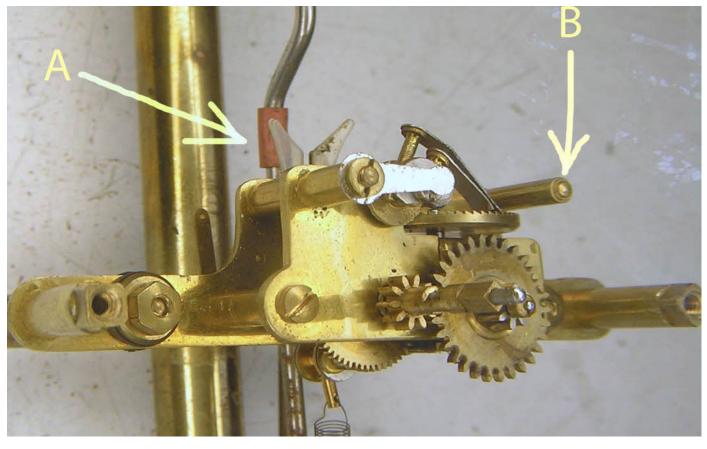
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The corroded pillar securing screw from the rear.



The replaced suspension and contact wire. Both will need to be made.



A) shows the missing contact pin assembly some of which is in the plastic bags, while the body itself has slipped down the pendulum rod and is shown in later photos. B) shows the arm which limits the pawls from jumping out of the count wheel whilst the clock is in transit.

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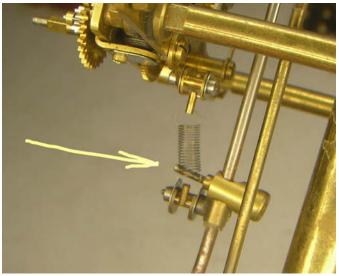
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The arrow shows that the contact pin assembly has dropped down the pendulum rod because the hexagon head screw has been removed. The parts were supplied in the plastic bags. The other photos show the coil housing and orientation of the coil in the housing. The orientation is important to get right on assembly otherwise it will not match the magnet with its South-North-South orientation and the clock will fail to run. Some clocks are seen with magnets polarised North-South-North probably because the coil has been inserted the wrong way round and it's easier to re-polarise the magnets rather than take the pendulum apart again and re-orientate the coil.



This last photo shows one of the coil lead out wires. The insulation is as hard as rock and crumbles when touched.

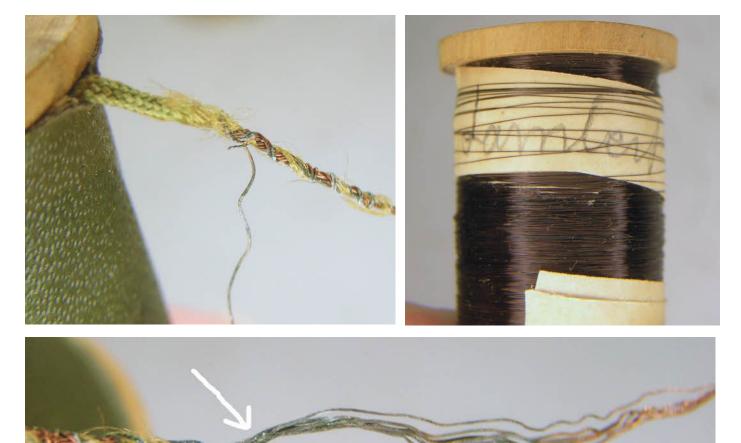
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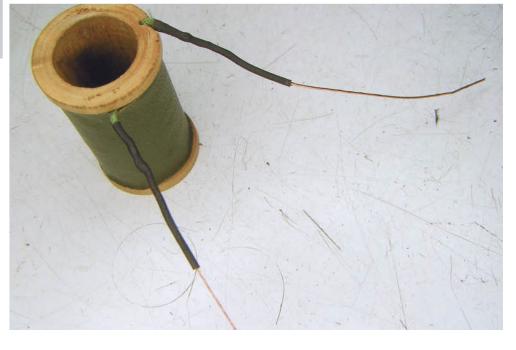


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The first photo shows the lead out wire has been replaced at some point. The arrowed photo shows the bad corrosion of the wire which need to be replaced. When the paper covering was removed I found the name of the factory worker who wound the coil, a Monsieur Lambert. I bet he didn't think his name would be seen 80 years later! Last photo shows the new lead out wires



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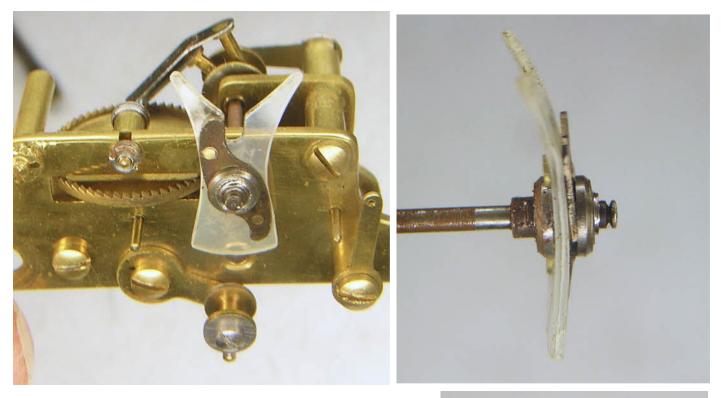
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The fork is one of those early plastic types and must have been subject to damp at some time (notice the rusted arbour) as it is quite bent out of shape. They are relatively easy to straighten with the application of a little steam and steady pressure. In this case though there were problems with continuity so I had to replace the fork. The photo below shows a badly mauled nut that will need replacing.





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These photos shows the clock back in the case with new coil binding. Note that the battery housing has been damaged through acid leakage, although it shouldn't get any after worse Ι cleaned away all the acid and gave it a protective coat of paint.



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The dial is still in very good condition and only needed washing in soapy water. The brass rim was then cleaned and polished. Note that this dial is made from printed aluminium and was therefore safe to wash. Card dial are obviously a different matter and should not be cleaned at all.

The wooden case has only had a polish with wax.

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The finished clock

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