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The place to come for all your Bulle and Eureka restoration parts.

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Bulle Clock Serial Number 3899

*Restoration of Bulle Clock
Serial Number 3899*

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Photos by kind permission of the owner. This is a tall movement on a round wood base found in the 1925 catalogue as an "A" type. This early clock dates from circa 1921. The dial with its moon hands, is in excellent condition. The whole clock looks in good original condition and doesn't seem to have been played around with too much.

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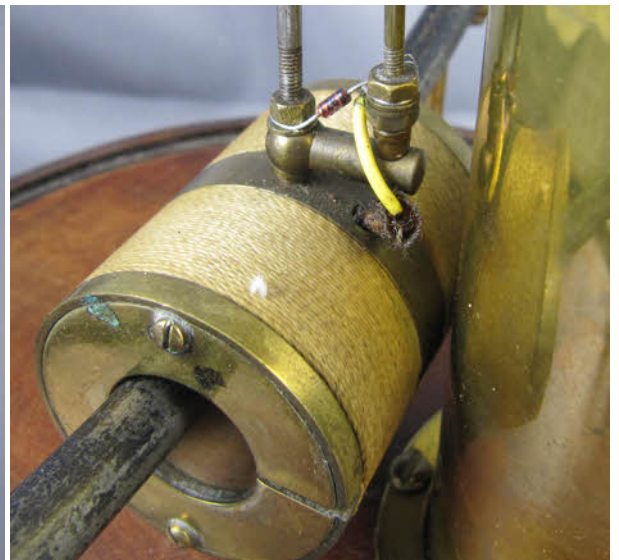
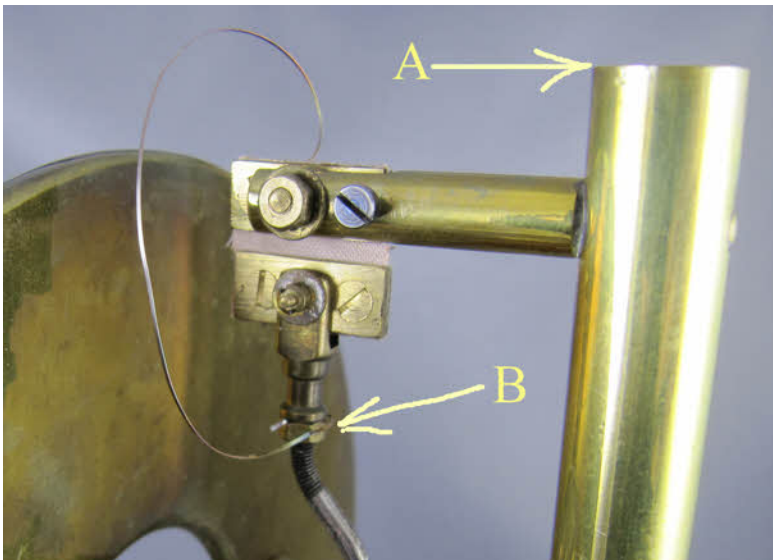
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The base is a little tired with some scratches. It will be cut back and given a few coats of French Polish. The oblong label shows that this was imported and sold by "The British Horo-electric Company of London. Although it looks as though the label is secured by small screws they are in fact sharp pins as can be seen below



This photo shows the base of the clock with the mm brass wire banding which is heavily corroded and broken (arrowed).



The photo above shows the missing domed cap (A) to the stem which is an easy job to replace by making one from solid brass turned up on the lathe. It also shows the method of bridging the contact wire from the frame to the pendulum (B) I have never seen an original direct from the factory and so cannot comment on whether this method is correct, but it does seem very hap hazard and poorly thought out. The Bulle factory soon changed this to a small 1.5mm screw which is a much more secure method (see page 8). The last photo shows the small diode that someone has installed across the coil. It will be removed as unnecessary.

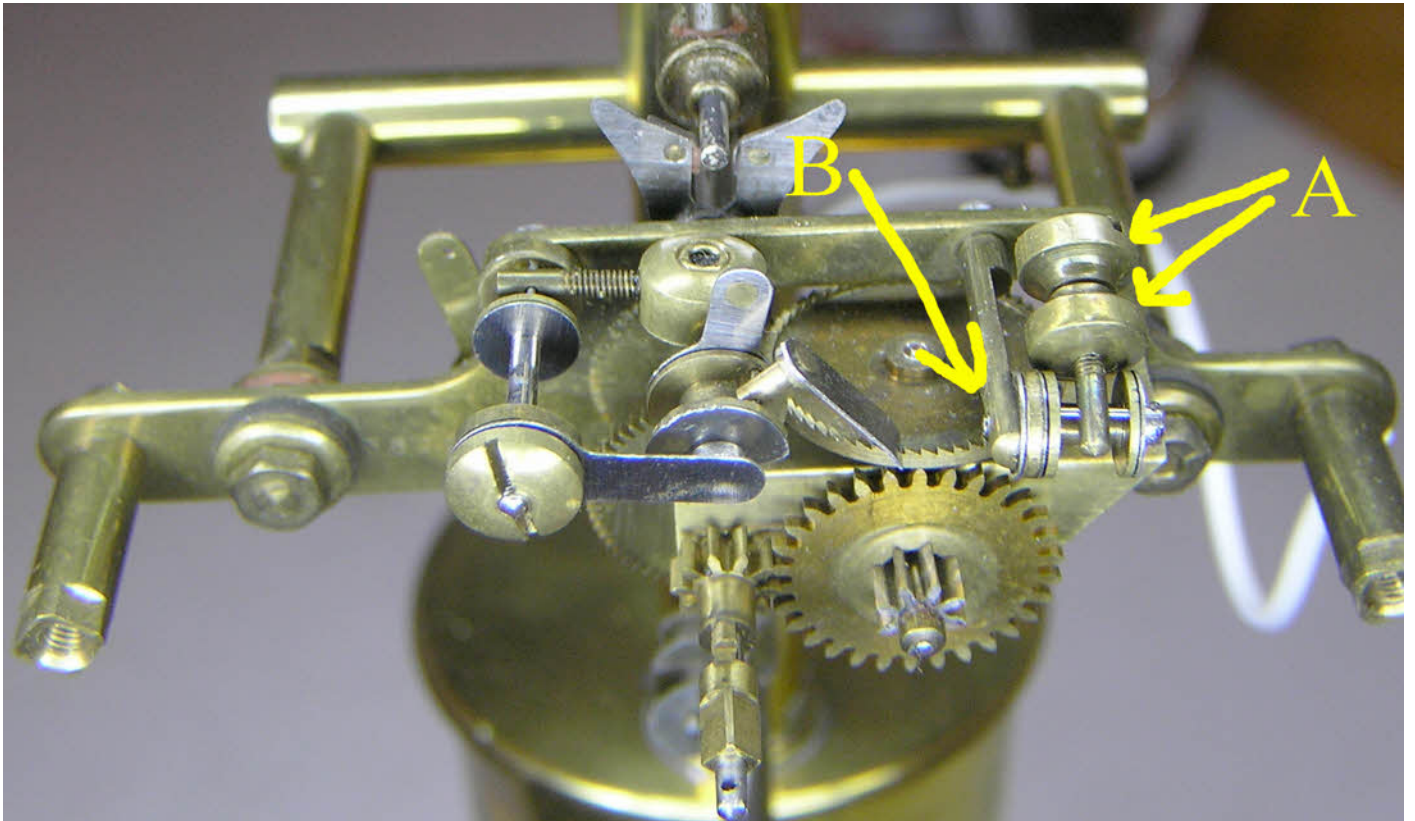
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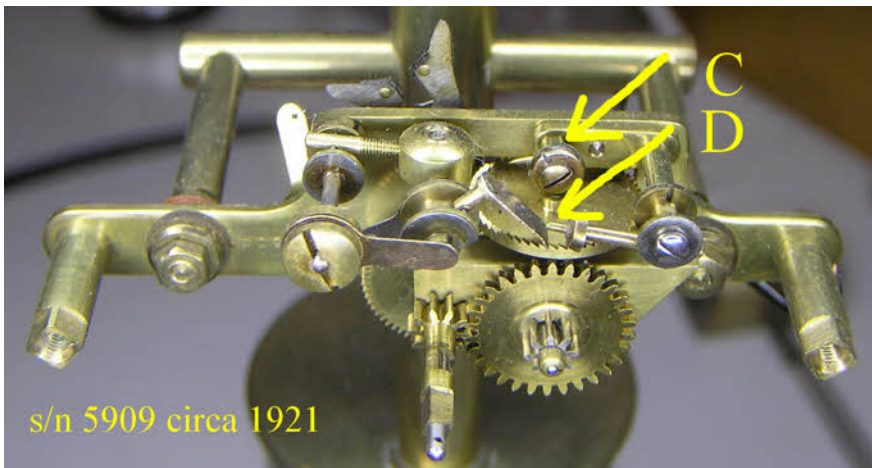
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This photo shows the movement which has no major missing parts or damage. One thing to note of interest is that these early clocks did not have a vertical stop to the count wheel as seen below in the photo below (C) of movement s/n 5909. This meant that the weight of the minute hand running from the hour to the half hour lifted the count wheel via the worm wheel allowing the minute hand to also drop and advance on the dial by a minute or two before catching up again from the half hour to the hour. On these early clocks they tried adding small nuts (A) to the detent that carried the pawl stop. This would have the effect of counteracting the weight of the minute hand by keeping the count wheel firmly depressed. This is a rear facing mounting method for the stop pawl but a variant has the pawl assembly at the rear facing right to left. At (B) there should be a small coned protuberance that restricts the gathering pawl from lifting when the clock is moved. This was



s/n 5909 circa 1921

also changed on later clocks by adding a small extension to the stop pawl as shown (D).

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Two photos showing the corroded brass decorative wire and the top of the frame tube.



The photo left above shows the corroded battery compartment cover with missing brass knob. The photo above shows the third levelling foot which has a knurled extension added to compensate for the fact that the original screws has worked loose over the years and will fall out of the wood if unscrewed by more than a millimetre or two. This will be corrected. The photo as left shows the corrosion inside the tube.

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This photo shows the negative lead wire soldered to the column. This will be removed.



The new domed cap (above) ready for insertion into the top of the frame.

I always try and keep the original cord around the coil cover but as in so many cases this one was dry and brittle such that it fell off in loops when touched. This photo shows the rewind cover.



The levelling screws has been cleaned and repaired with a plug insert added where the extra knurled wheel has been removed. I have made an insert for the base where the thread in the wood has become worn leaving the foot very loose. The hole will be drilled out and the insert hammered in.



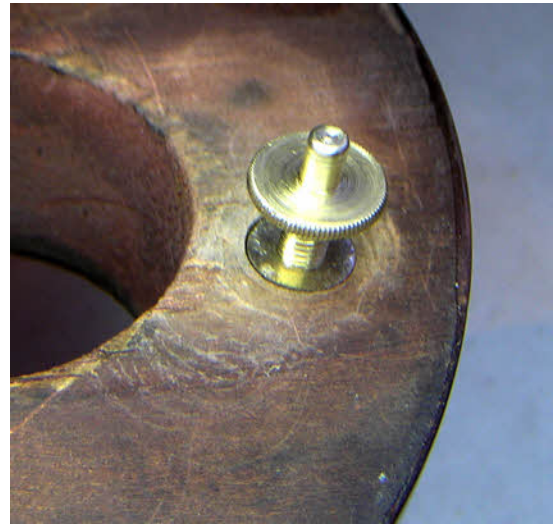
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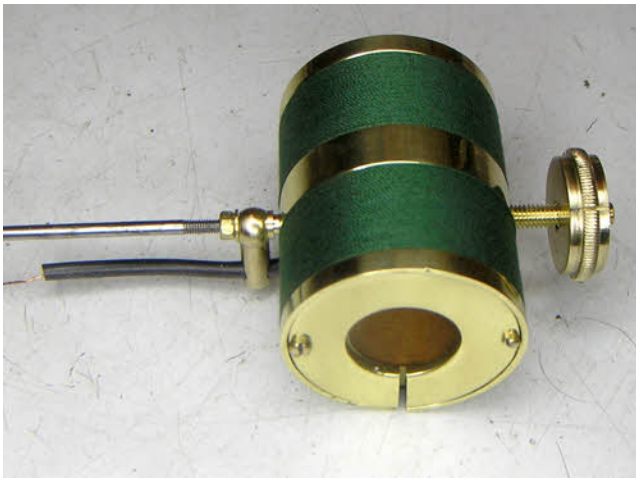
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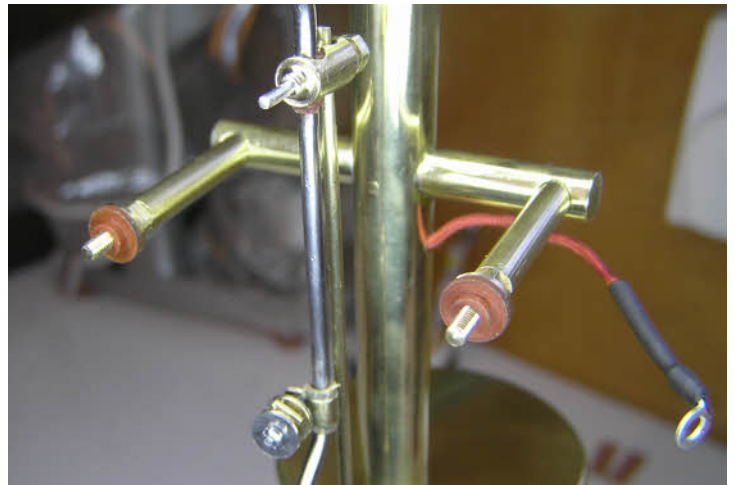
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The polished base with new decorative 1.00mm brass wire, and the restored levelling screw back in place



The coil back in the cover with pendulum rod and rating nut.



The frame ready to accept the movement. Note the stepped red fibre insulating washers. On these early clock is usual to see red stepped inner washers with black plain outer washers.



The pendulum base and magnet back together and the refurbished battery compartment cover with



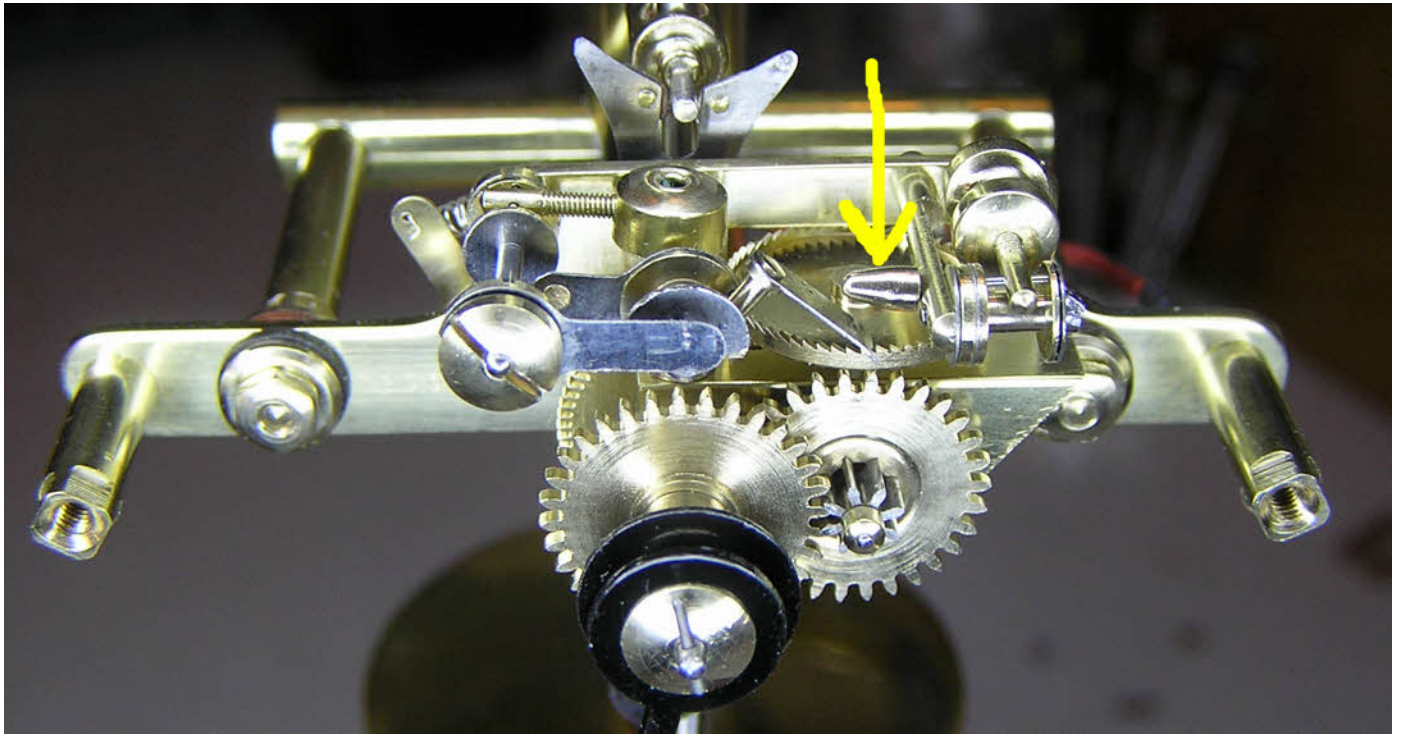
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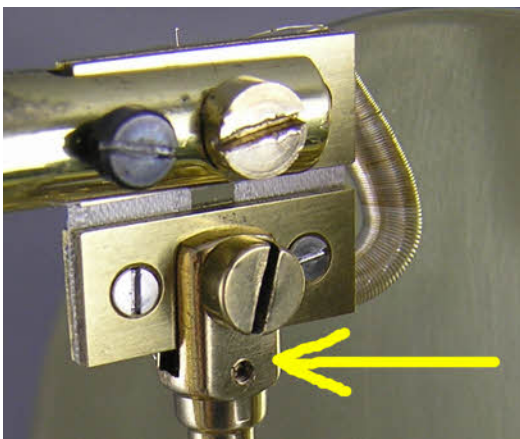
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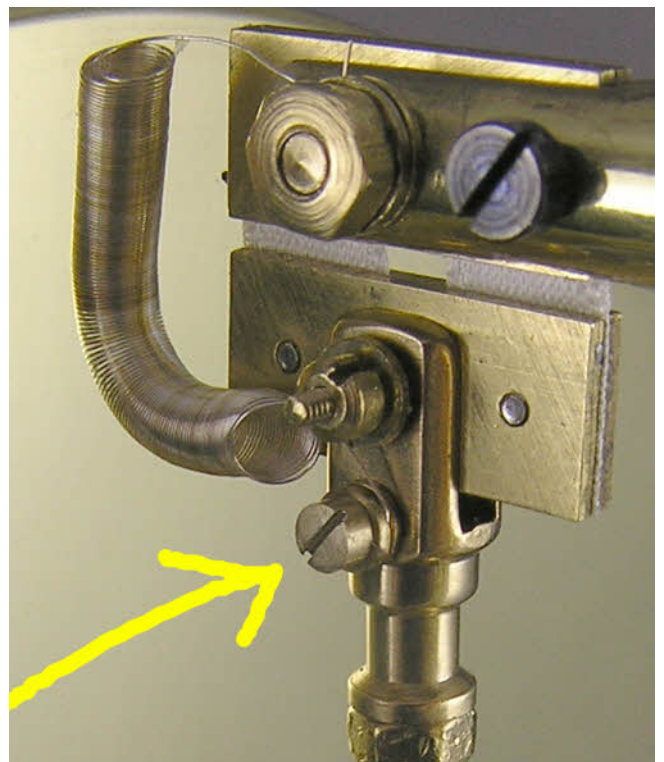
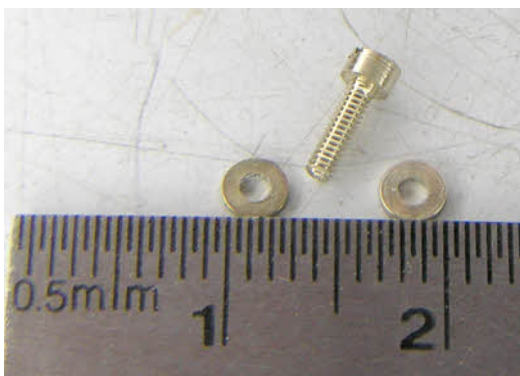
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The movement back in place showing the new tapered spigot in its position.



These last three photos show the new screw and washers for the contact wire mounting point.



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The finished clock.