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Bulle Clock Serial Number 58150

Restoration of Bulle Clock Serial Number 58150



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Photos by kind permission of the owner.

This medium sized movement with 22cm pendulum is housed in a mahogany case with bevelled glass window at the front and bevelled glass in the dial access door. The aluminium dial is in excellent condition with no discernable marks. The dial sight ring is integral to the bezel and is of thick brass. There is no sign of silvering anywhere and was manufactured with just the polished brass finish. The woodwork looks to be in good condition and will only need a good wax polish to lift the dirt. The hands are good but will need repainting. There was a small plantic bag incide the case

There was a small plastic bag inside the case which held a few parts that had obviously fallen off the clock over the years. The largest of which is the rating nut.







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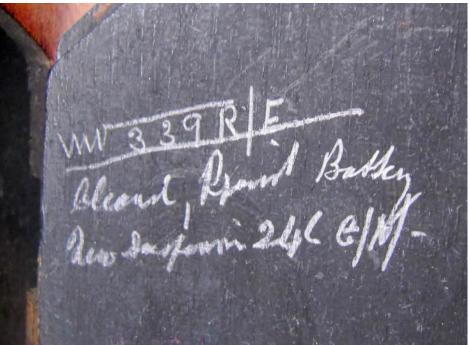
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Above are photos of the back and side of the case, which other than dust and grime are in good nick.

There is an interesting pencil written note on the inside of the rear door. Unfortunately, other than the number, I cannot make head nor tail of it.



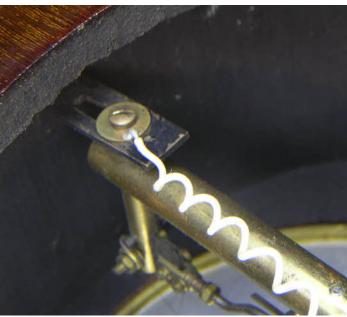
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The inside of the case shows the movement which is held in place from the front via two lower brackets and one central one at the top.

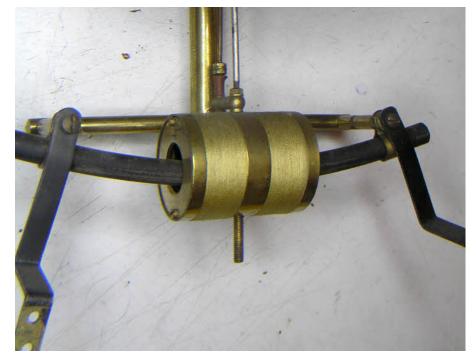
The wiring is later plastic replacement.

Restored Bulle 58150

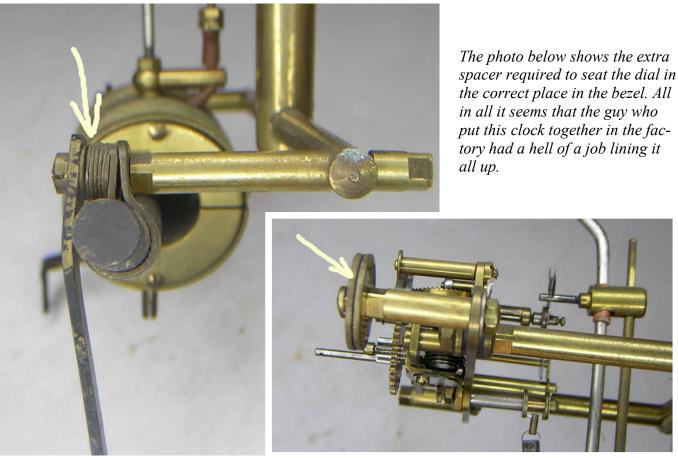


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Both of the lower brackets have been bent to suit the movement and dial placing. Note also that they have been padded out with about 8 washers on each side so that the movement sits vertically in the case. Without them the movement would sit too far forward to suit the dial placing, and the coil would be scraping on the magnet.

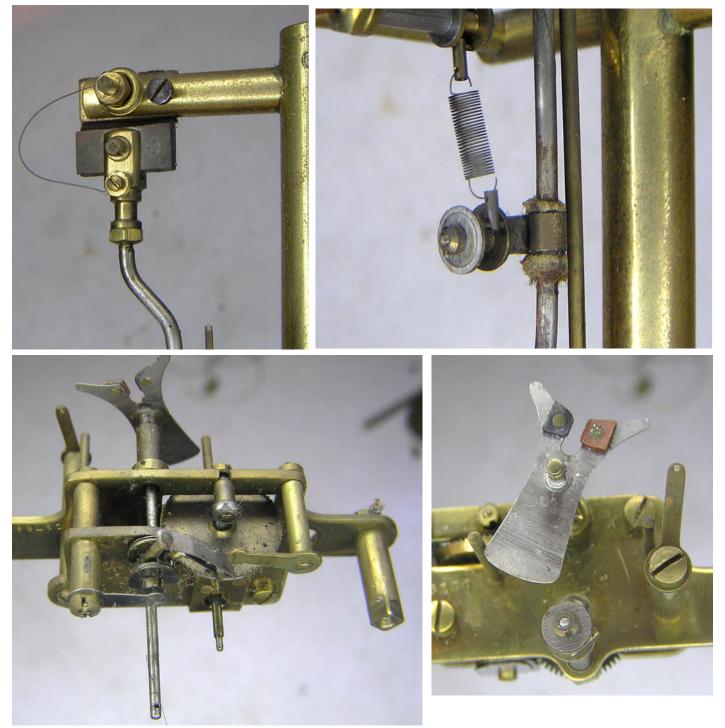


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The photo at top left shows the suspension assembly which may have the original contact wire in place. The second photo shows the Isochron spring assembly and the slight rust on the steel pendulum rod. The last photos shows the movement which apart from dust and oil looks to be in good condition. The fork contacts will only need cleaning.



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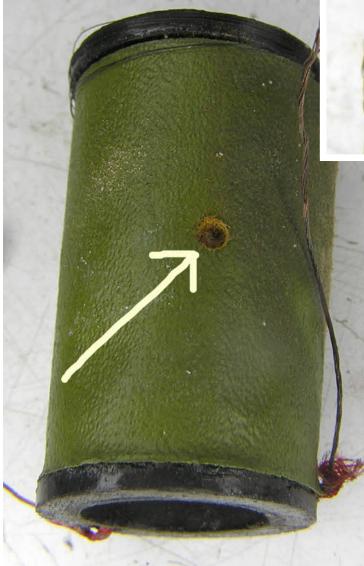


The photo at top left shows the insulation which has separated and allows an intermittent contact with the brass bracket thereby shorting the coil. The two photos on the right show the difference in colour of the cord covering the coil housing. At the front it's straw where it has been bleached by sunshine, while the back is less so as it was protected in the darkness of the case. But you can also see the two areas at each end where it seems to be partially eaten away. It is very brittle and will have to be replaced. The photo at bottom left shows the interior of the coil casing after the cap has been removed.



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This doesn't look good. The hole in the left hand photo is caused by the pendulum rod being screwed down to far into the casing thereby cutting into the paper coil cover and maybe into the coil itself. The photo above shows the loose coil wire protruding from the paper cover. I was very surprised indeed to find that the coil was still intact and shows a good 1200 ohms on the meter. With the damage shown I was sure I would have to rewind the coil. As it is I will make good the winding and secure it all back with a paper cover before re-assembly.

Below we can see that the coil leads are in a very bad way and in fact have been eaten through and separated completely. This just goes to show the necessity of completely dissasembling a clock so that all parts can be checked for wear and tear. This wire will need to be cleaned back and new wire attached. But it looks as though there is enough left to clean rather than rewind the coil.

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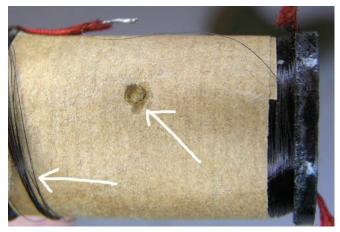


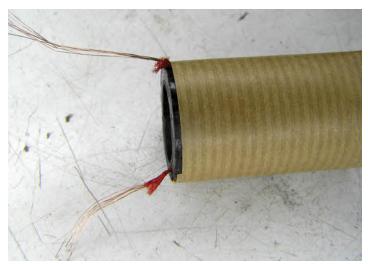
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These two photos shows the amount of oil sludge present in the pawl assembly and the count wheel. But it is easily cleaned up.







The photo at left above shows that the hole did not penetrate right though to coil and I was able to remove the old paper and secure the loose coil loops with new paper. The coil ends were also cleaned and readied to receive new wire extensions.

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The place to come

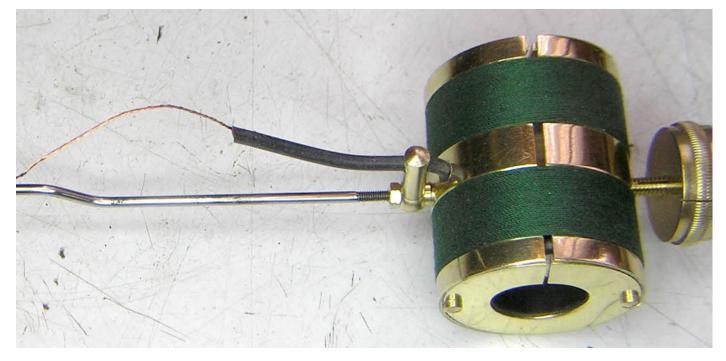
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A stage in the assembly if the pendulum. Note the new rubber insulation and the extended coil wire. The coil cover has been rewound with new cord.



The movement cleaned and back in place on the frame. The problem with these cased movements is that a test stand is needed to reassemble the clock and test before casing. But the different methods of attachment mean I had to add new extensions to my test stand to accommodate them all.

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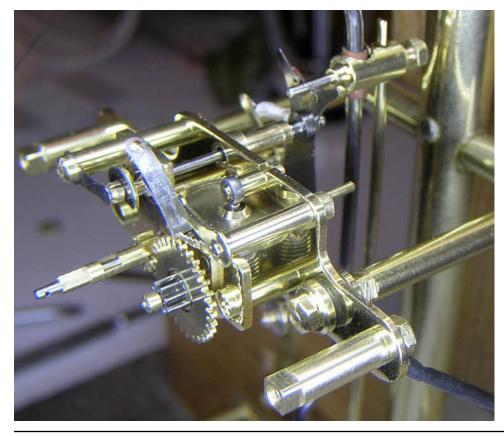
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The new silk suspension with the original contact wire.

The pendulum and magnet back in place on the frame.



The cleaned movement and contact pin assembly.

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Some shots of the dial and polished case.

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The finished clock