

Horologix



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

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Bulle Clock Serial Number 5909

*Restoration of Bulle Clock
Serial Number 5909*

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Photos by kind permission of the owner.

A tall early movement on a round wooden base. The dial is in excellent condition with no major blemishes. The base is a little tired and missing label and brass banding. The hands moon hands are original and just need tidying and painting.



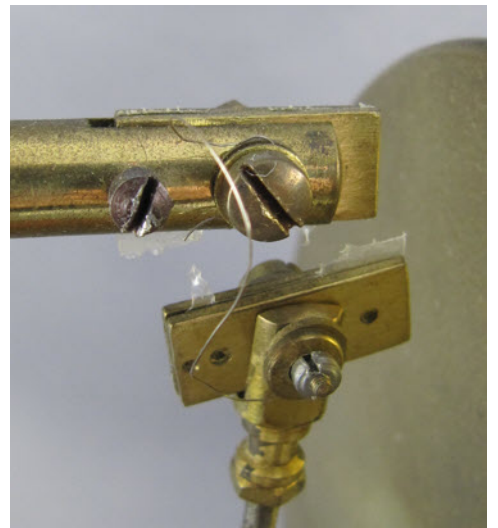
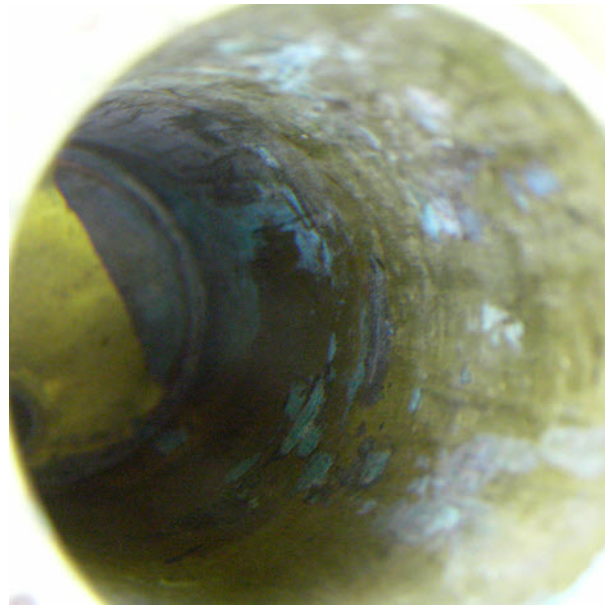
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The base will need to be stripped and polished whilst the column will need to be cleaned and then the acid burns treated. There are also some marks on the outside of the tube which may not polish out. The suspension is an easy job to replace and will present no problems. But there is the old problem of the rating nut being reduced in mass to try and lighten it and thereby speed the clock up. In all my time in restoring Bulles I have never needed to adjust the weight of this nut. If the movement and pendulum are cleaned and restored correctly then the rating nut as supplied with the clock will work just fine.

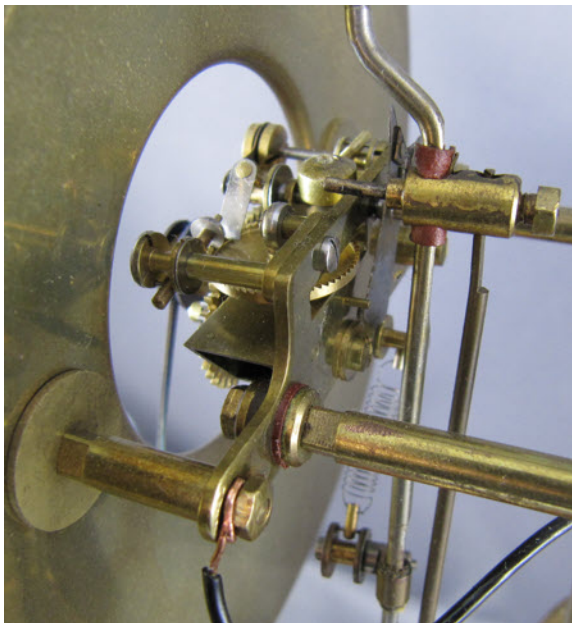
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Top left is the movement behind the dial. All looks to be OK with no missing parts or damage. The next two photos show the novel, way the power is applied to the clock. The two battery holders are soldered together in parallel to provide 1.5v and then secured to a wooden block which has one of the terminals attached to a bent brass wire which is forced against the column when inserted in the tube.



This last photo shows the reduced rating nut that will have to be replaced. It also shows the condition of the cord which although it has lost most of its colour, it is still bright and "silky" to the touch. This contrast with most of the other restorations as seen in the galleries on this web site, where the cord can normally be seen to be lack lustre, dry and very brittle. So we will try and leave the cord in situ and work around it to clean the brass casing. This take more time and effort but worth it where the cord is in such good condition.

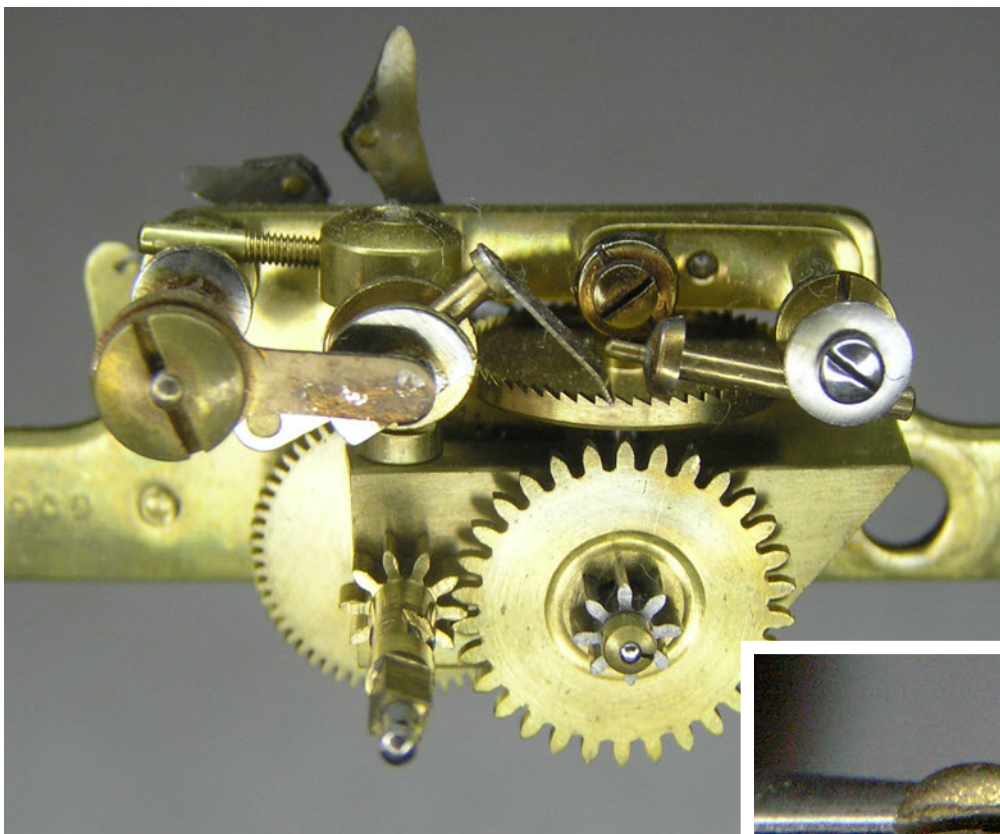
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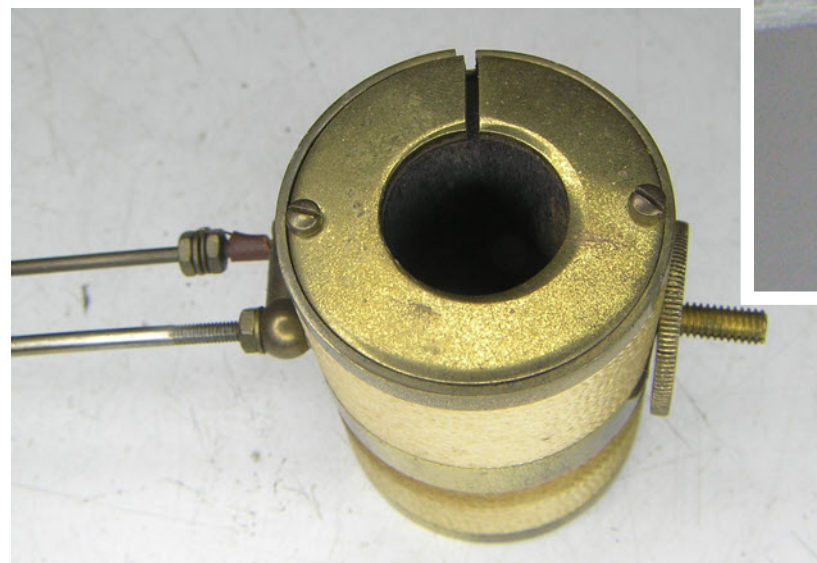
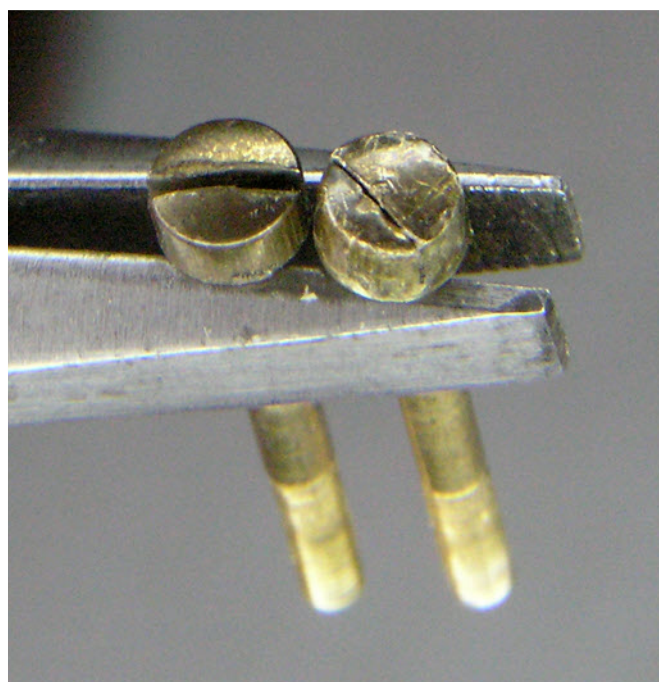
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The movement, although dirty, is in good condition.

One of the screws that secures the magnet has been badly beaten and damaged. It looks as though it can be recovered by turning it true in the lathe and cutting a new slot.



The odd angle of the pendulum rod can be seen in the photo on the left. This feels as though it is just loose in the casing and shouldn't present a problem.

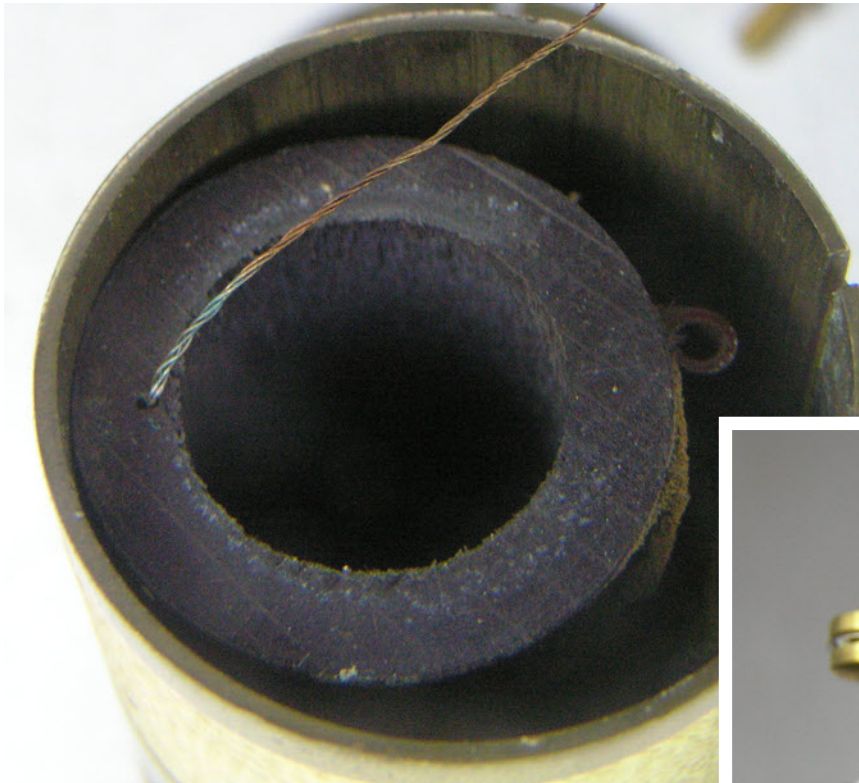
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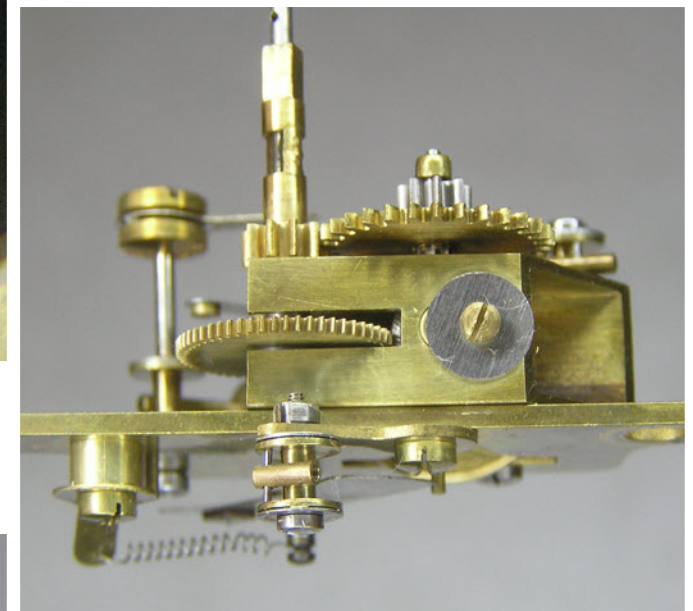
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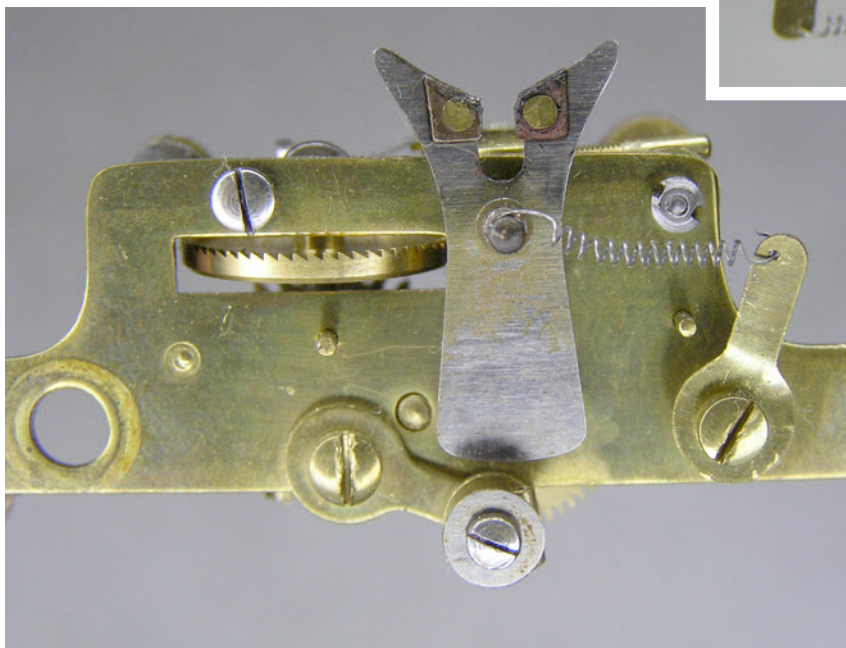
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Here we see the coil inside the casing. It looks to be original if a little dirty with the beginnings of corrosion of the copper lead out wire. This should all clean up OK.



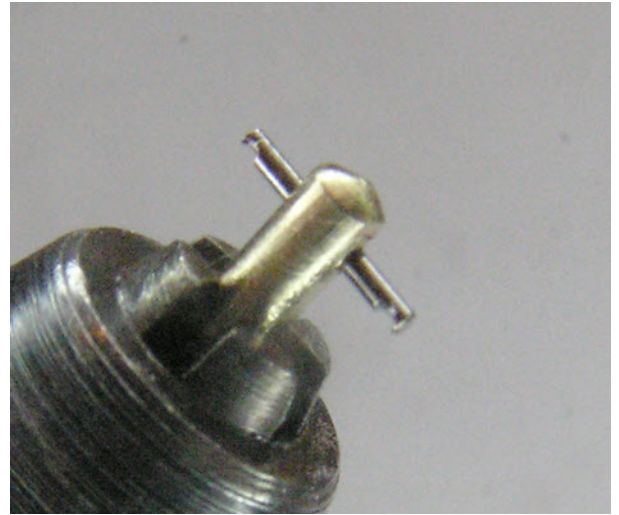
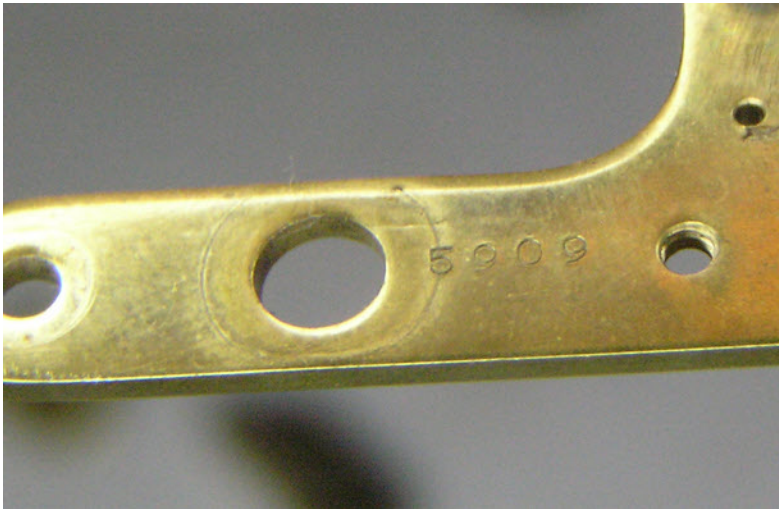
The photo above clearly shows the early square box tube of the earlier Bulle movements.



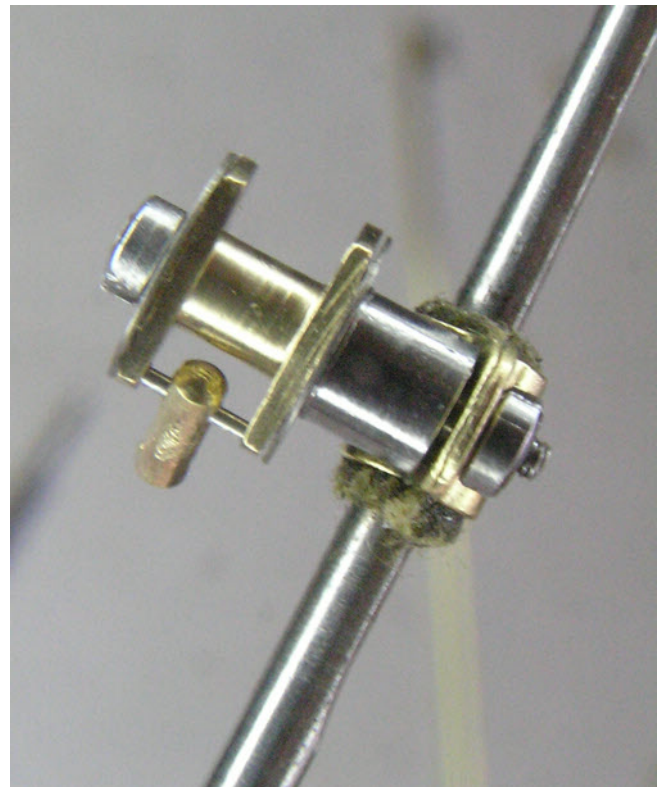
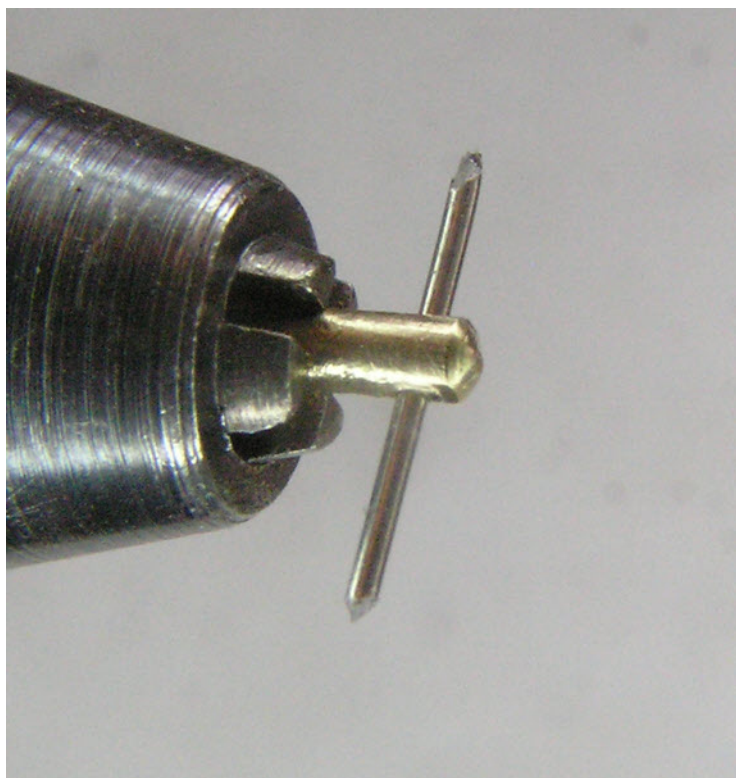
The photo at left shows the rear of the movement with the silver and fibre contacts. Both look to be in good condition and will only need cleaning to put them back into working condition. The contact spring is a replacement and is too strong with no loop.

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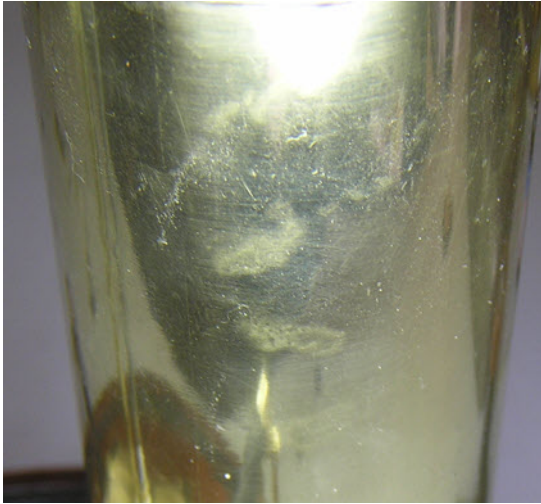
Serial Number on the main movement plate.



The photo at top right shows the worn "T" piece of the lower Isochron bracket. I use 0.5mm piano wire to replace the steel cross bar which can then easily be ground to size. The last photo shows the assembly back in position on the pendulum rod.

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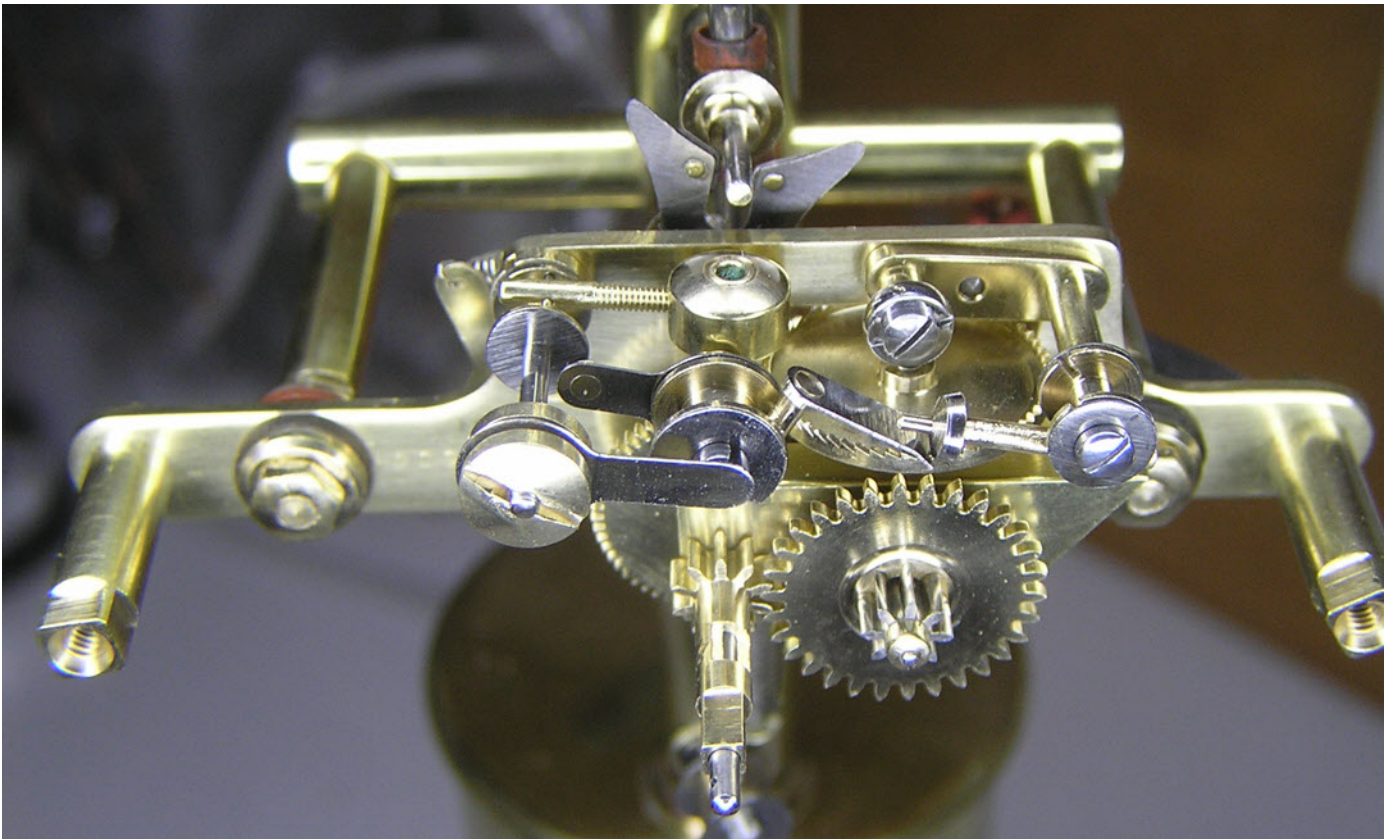
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The remaining marks can still be seen in the tube even after cleaning and polishing, although they are not bad enough to be really noticeable once the clock is re-assembled.



The pendulum back in place on the column. The cord was successfully preserved during the cleaning operations.



The cleaned movement back in position ready for testing.

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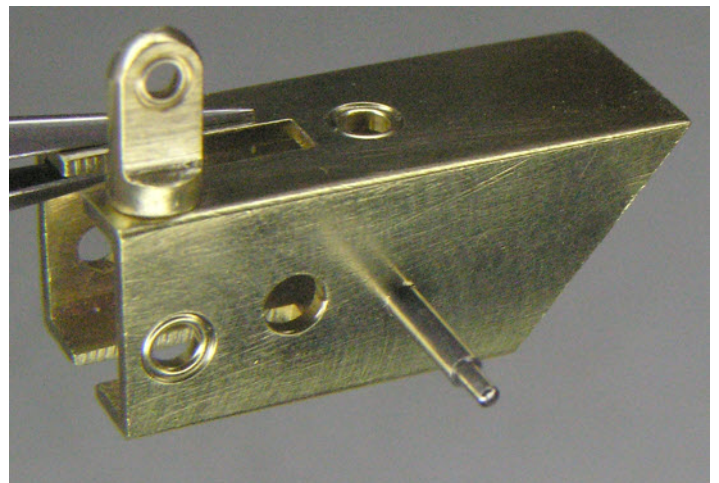
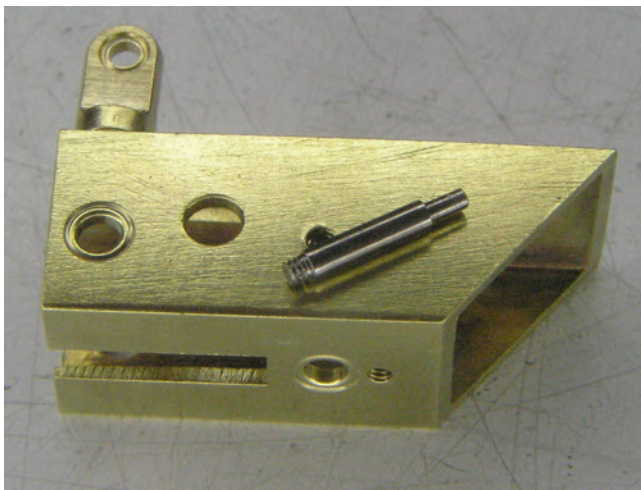
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The polished base with new label and brass stringing.



The underside of the base with re-stored cover.



The two photos above show the detail of the box tube and the screwed pin which is the arbour for the intermediate minute wheel.



This last photo shows the silver contact spring that spans the electrical gap created by the silk suspension unit.

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The finished clock