

Horologix



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

Contact Peter Smith
Telephone 01454-880825
Or Mobile 07969-773480
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Eureka Clock Serial Number 8419

*Restoration of Eureka
Clock Serial Number 8419*

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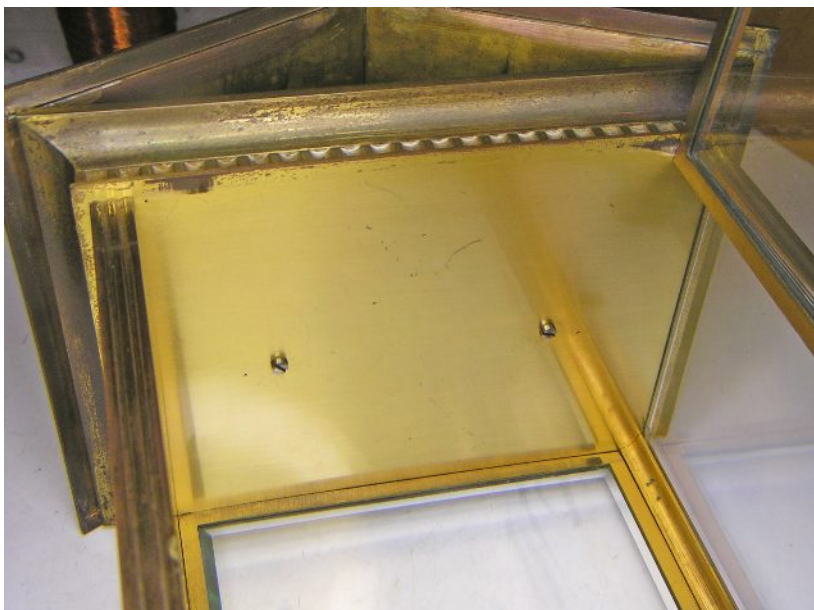
Eureka Clock Serial Number 8419



Photos by kind permission of the owner

First of all I must apologise for the lack of photos taken of the clock in its delivered condition. It seems my SD camera card has finally given up the ghost after nine years of continuous use. So the sequence starts at the disassembly stage.

The clock is one of the rarer "Madeleine" case which is an architectural style with pediment top and stepped base. The four glass centre has opening doors front and rear.



The first photos shows the method of securing the top with two long machine screws through the top plate into two brazed on threaded brass blocks. The front tympanum has a thin cast relief sculpture of two winged creatures drinking from a fountain. The sculpture is held in place by two small rivets. Both the the front and back tympanum are held in a groove cut into the angled roof.



Because the wiring for the movement comes up from below and is easily disconnected, the whole movement can be removed from the case making life much simpler for assembly and testing (unlike the Bulle four glass which is a real pain to assemble and test).



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Note the groove in the roof and threaded inserts for the two screws.

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Other than years of dirt and grime first impressions are that the whole clock looks to be in a complete and original condition; other than the normal wear of the contact flag.

The dial has typical yellow staining probably caused by smoke either from a domestic fire or smoking.



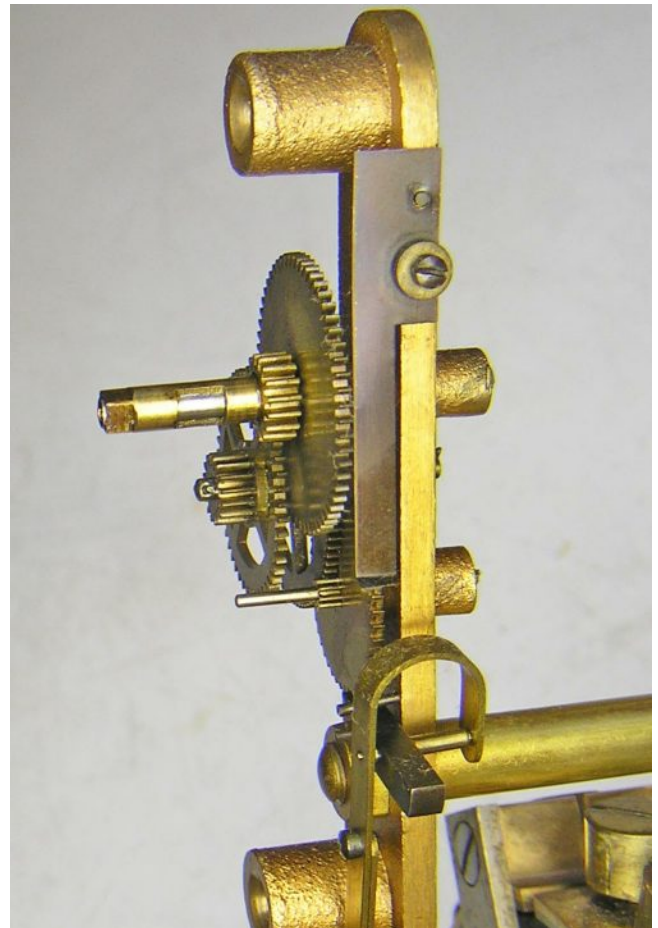
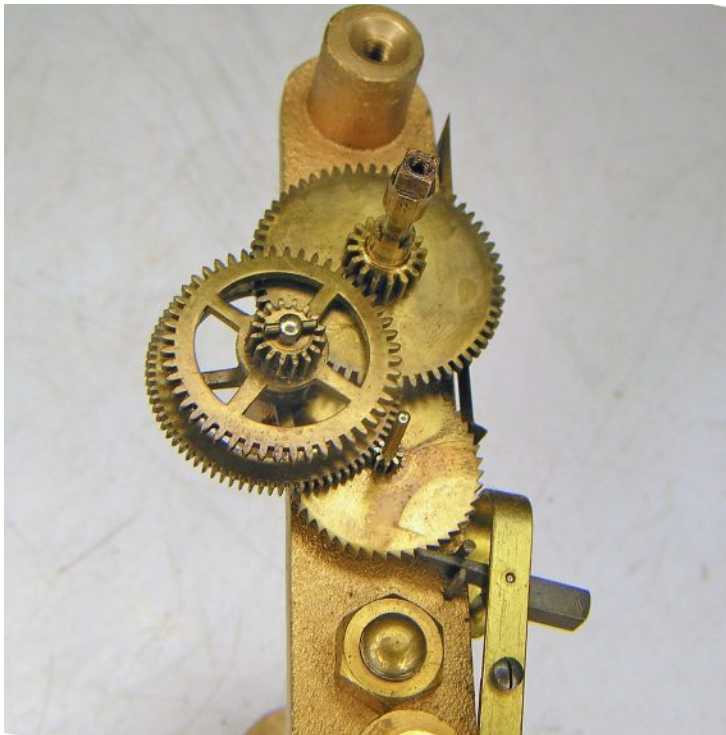
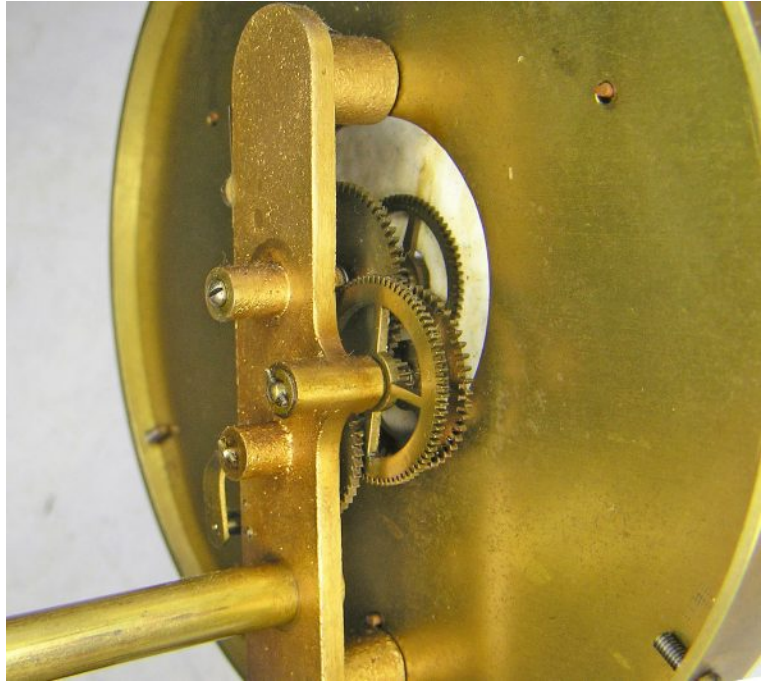
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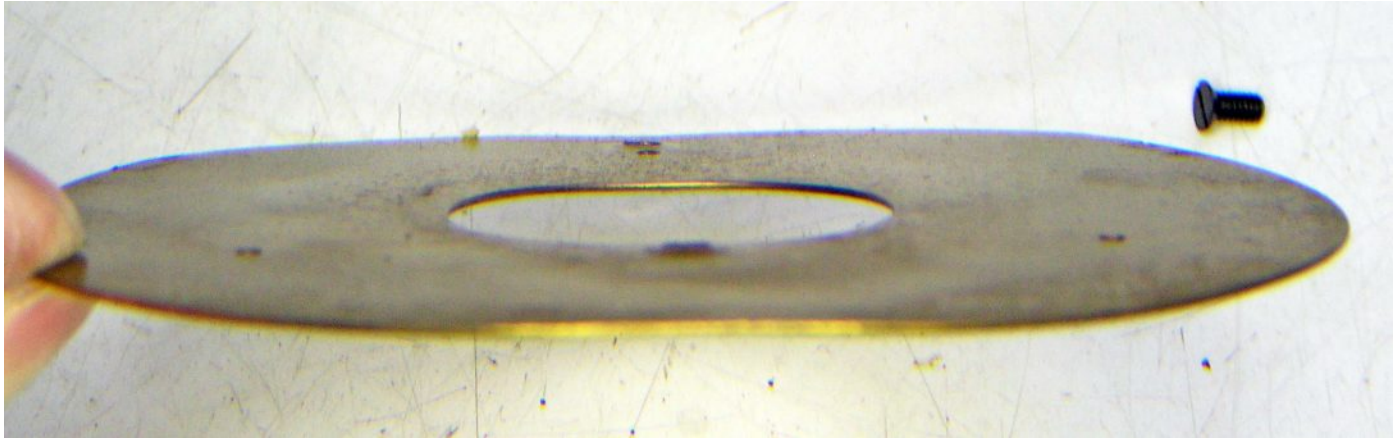
These photos show that the the wheel train is complete and in good order. Even the count wheel click spring is fine with hardly any wear.




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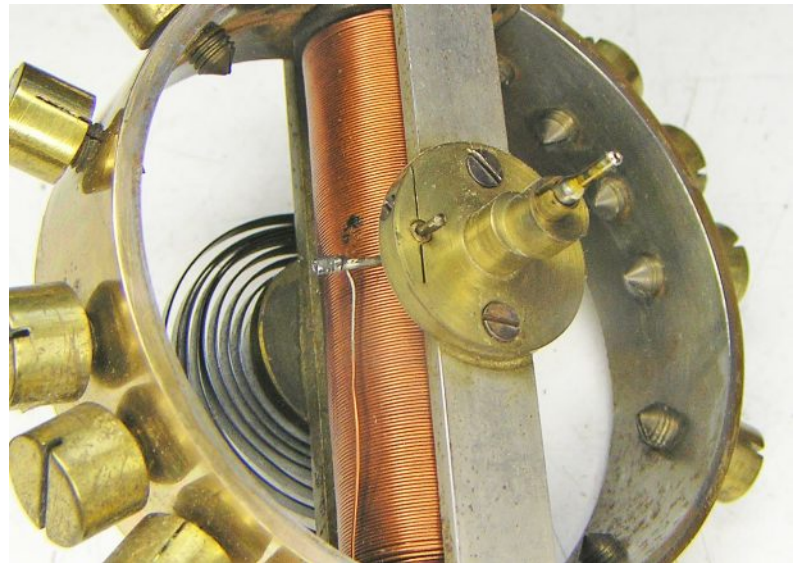
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The only damage I can find is the bent dial back plate which although bent is easily straightened.

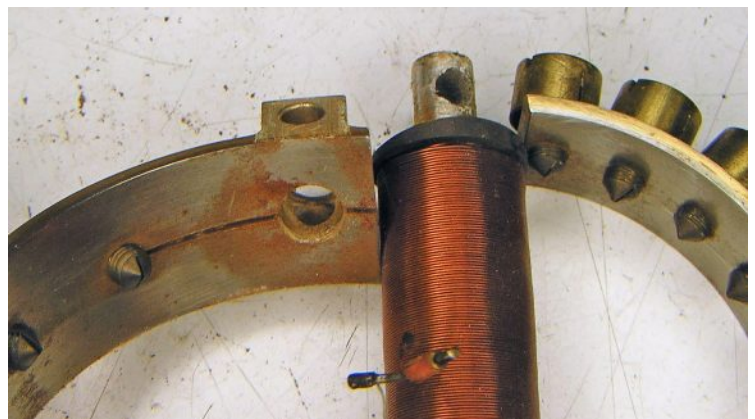


The bearings are a little caked with congealed oil, but this is easily cleaned off and is far better than being coated in rust.



The pivots are unworn and just have a coating of the congealed oil.

A little rust has found its way onto the steel of the bimetallic balance wheel but this will not be a problem once cleaned and sealed.



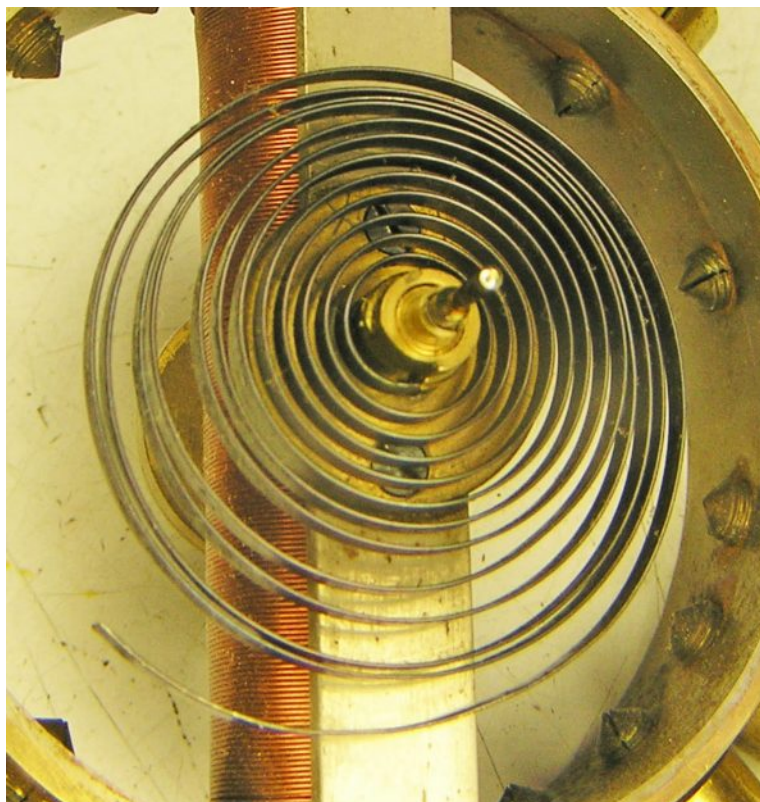
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The balance spring proved to be a little bent and needed some careful bending and tweaking to regain some semblance of an even coil pitch.

The clock came without the hand collet and retaining screw but these are easily made. One issue though was that the canon pinion square protruded through the minute hand and I had to turn the décolleté with a shallow relief to cater for it, otherwise The collet would not pull up tight against the minute hand.

Note that the collet is countersunk to accept the matching screw. The screw itself is also slightly domed. It will be polished and blued.



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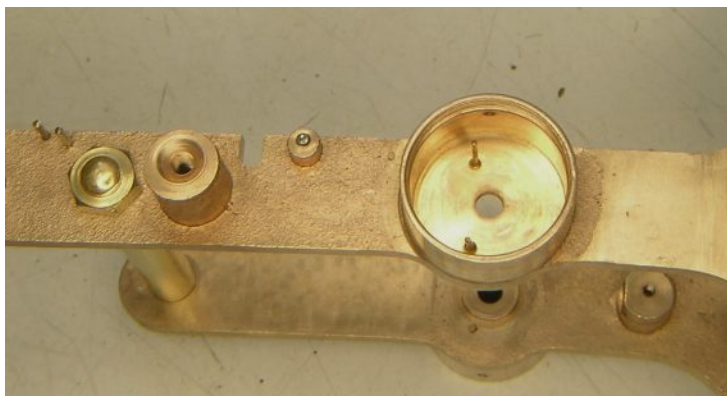
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The component parts of the case after cleaning and lacquering. There are still some traces of gilding on the case but the majority and long been polished away. This leads to some difficulty in matching up the different types of brass used in making the clock. There are some cast parts as well as plate. Another issue is that the top of the roof which has been exposed to the open air has had some leaching of the zinc in the brass which has left the copper prevalent. I have polished out as much as I can but there are tinges of red left showing through. After all the parts were gently cleaned I had to polish some parts while leaving others untouched to try and get an even colour match. Of course it is possible to have all the parts re-gilded but I wonder whether the effort and cost would be worth it?



One of the bearing housings after cleaning. Besides the ball bearings themselves, the hardened steel ball races must be removed for cleaning and polishing.

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*The case re-assembled.
Ready to receive the move-
ment.*

*As previously noted the
Madeleine case can be
completely rebuilt separate
from the movement be-
cause of the way the move-
ment is mounted in the
case, This makes it a
dream to test the move-
ment at any time and re-
place in the case. Unlike
the Bulled equivalent in
which the movement is al-
most an integral part of the
case with the top of the
movement secured through
the top of the case and the
wiring being fed through
the top and down the inside
of the case. A real pain.*

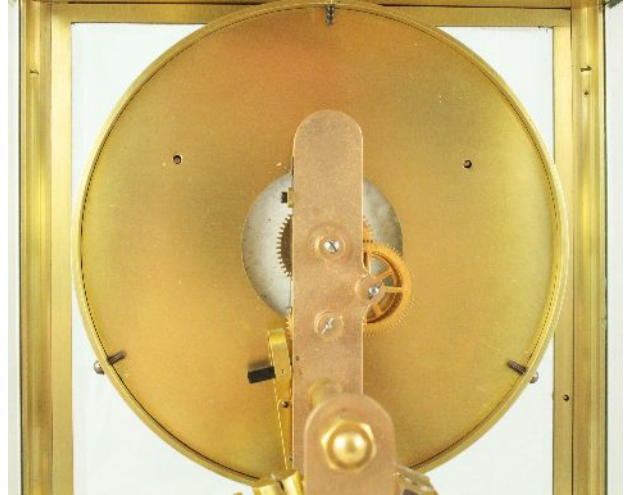
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Some shots of the finished clock. Note the straightened balance spring, hand collet and blued screw, The dial has cleaned up very well with just a little warm water and soap.

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The rear of the finished clock.

The owner expressed a wish to replace one of the side panel glass which had a small shelling of the corner. A new panel was cut and bevelled by Gary Long of Class Glass.

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The finished clock