

The Woodwork

Antique clock restoration brings together many skills; I work closely with a qualified cabinet and clock case restorer, who has over 20 years of experience and can work miracles with your clock case.

The case of an antique clock can suffer greatly over the years; my past notes on this website have concentrated on the clockwork and matters of dial restoration, so some details and examples of his case work will, I hope, be of interest and helpful to any antique clock owner. Of course this is just a small sample of the clocks and barometers we have worked on together.

Damage can occur to a clock case from an accident, woodworm, but mainly from the problems just associated with the general wear & tear of several hundred years of a clocks life.

It is important that the clock case restorer has the skill, experience and a feeling for sympathetic repair and restoration work and an in depth understanding of clock case history and development. It is impossible to go into great detail here, but I hope these examples will demonstrate some of his work to the veneers, brass inlay, marquetry, colouring, and polishing. Can you tell the difference?

Please contact me if we can help or quote for any repairs and restoration to your clock. You can bring your clock to us or we can arrange to collect country wide at reasonable rates.



This very tired bracket clock restored beautifully, the value of this clock increased considerably more than the cost of the work done to it.

A Mahogany Long Case Clock circa 1750

The clock, left, was badly damaged with several parts missing, it looked wonderful when repaired & restored.

Just look at that colour!



A Manchester made fusee dial clock

This wall clock was made in the 1850/60 period had spent most of its working life on the wall of a city pub. It was covered in a nicotine gum and the dial was yellow. The brewery owners of the pub were not aware of the clocks quality and value; I recommended that they had the clock restored and it will now hang in their new board room.



Stedman of Godalming 1826

The condition of this bracket clock was very tired and it had not had a service for over thirty years, a great testament to the quality and the maker. The case had many problems including loose veneer and brass inlay, faulty locks. The dial made from brass was in a very poor condition and the paint was falling off, this was repainted. Again, a top quality restoration has increased the value of this treasured clock which has been in the same family for many years.



A nice William IV mercury column wheel barometer

You often see these fine instruments looking sad and worn on the walls of local sale rooms. This example had not worked for many years and it was in a very tired and dirty condition when I bought it for restoration. The tube had little mercury left and most of that was oxidised in the glass column. The case is covered in a thick mahogany veneer, the box wood stringing could hardly be seen under the dirt and old wax of ages. It is now fully restored to its past glory and still doing the job it was designed to do 180 years ago. Can you tell the difference?



A nice walnut marquetry long case clock from circa 1690

This clock had some big problems, any restoration of a museum quality clock such as this can take time, and of course great skill in matching materials and the colour of missing veneers. These clocks are a speciality of ours.

The plinth on this clock had been replaced due to some damage in the distant past, so a new walnut panel in the style and pattern of the existing door was made and fitted to match. The door mouldings re-fitted securely.



Accidental Damage, it happens!

This long case clock was hit very hard by a door which blew open during a winter gale. The clock case was a heap of boards and broken glass when we collected it for repair and restoration work. The movement and dial had fortunately not sustained too much damage and like humpty dumpty we put it all back together again. The owner was very pleased with the result as this Scottish made clock had been in their family for many generations.



A nice new door stop
has stopped the problem
from happening again



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