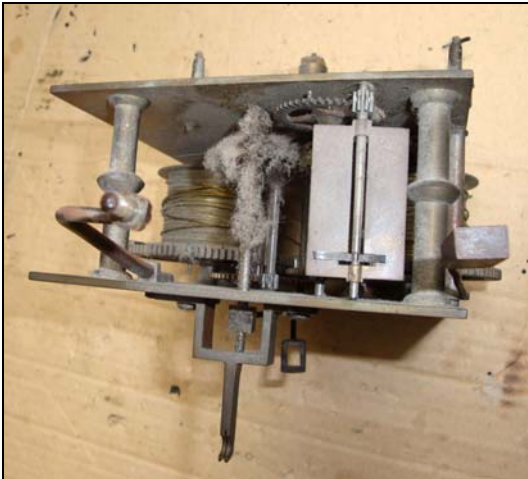


A David Collier of Gatley, here is another longcase clock movement that I could not see go to the scrap man and is again made by my favourite local family of clockmakers. This really well made movement from the 1770 / 80 period was found in a box of scrap clock parts from a loft clearance. I bought these parts and decided to restore the clock to its past glory in the hope I could one day find a suitable case to put it in.

As you can see from the pictures below the clock was in a very tired and dirty condition with a few parts missing, but on examination it was found to have been very well made and I felt a good candidate for a full restoration.



The clock looks as though it has been in this condition for some time



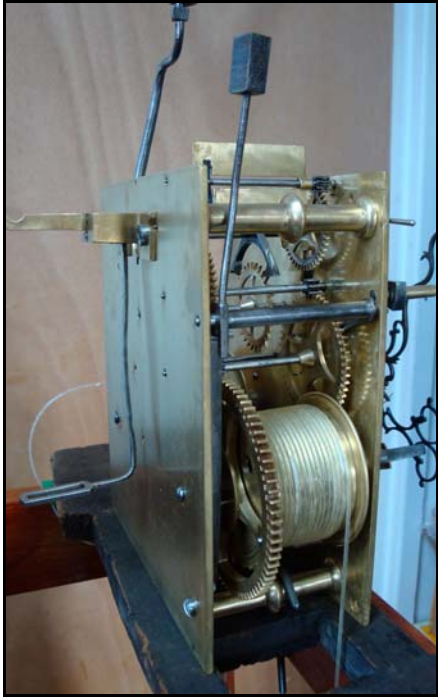
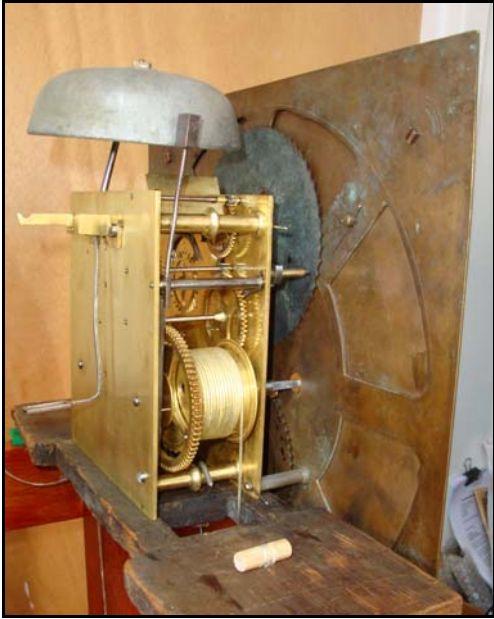
The dial is 13" square and has an unusual penny moon, this kind of moon was favoured by David Collier and many northern makers in the mid 18th century, but this moon is unusual in being painted showing quarters of the lunation. Here is the moon after cleaning and some restoration work.



One of the big surprises I found when restoring the dial of this clock was the use of a red wax on the dial plate, just in the engraved flowers surrounding the penny moon. This is quite rare but there was still red pigment in the engraving under all the layers of dirt. I was able to match the red pigment and after cleaning out the old wax from the engraving I made some red shellac wax to replace it before the dial was re-silvered. All the other dial wax had to be removed as it was all in very poor condition.



Here is the David Collier clock movement restored and looking its best and on test in the workshop. The spandrels are replacements, the hands made by me to replace the missing parts. The clock keeps great time and is working very reliably and a big difference from the scrap condition it entered the workshop.



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