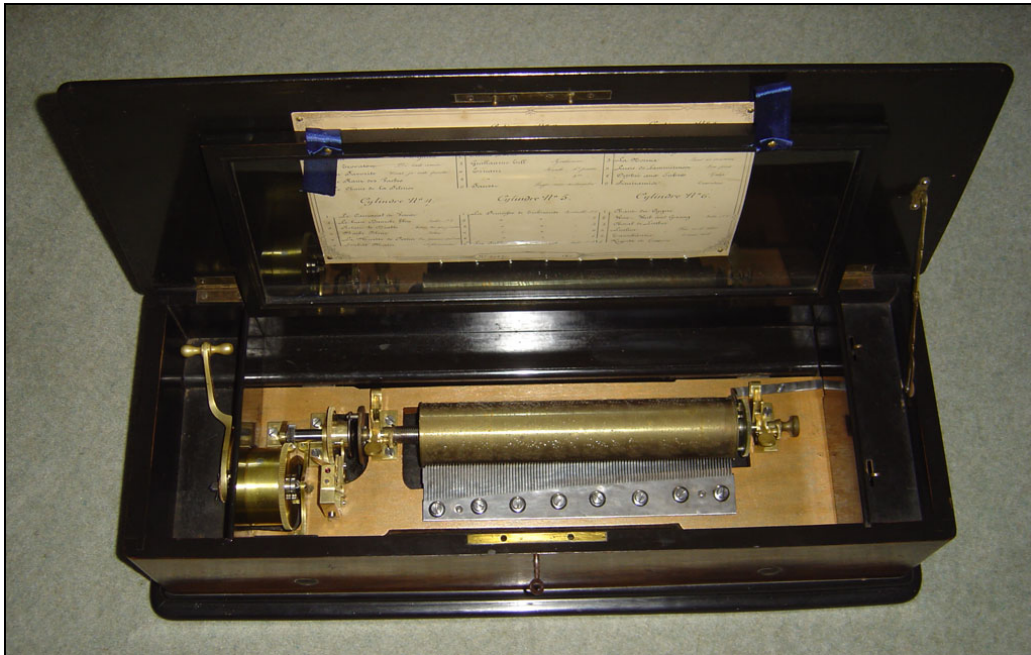


A 6-air cylinder music box by Nicole Frères of Geneva made in circa 1840



This wonderful early Victorian music box had not run for a while and was very dirty when it came into the workshop. The oil had turned into a gum and it also had several wear related problems. Although the music box motor is simple in operation it is not always easy to repair. The spring is of large dimensions, and must be treated with some respect during its removal for inspection. Like any piece of clock work it needs servicing on a regular basis, in the same manner as a clock, if not parts do get worn & damaged.



Here we see the white metal core of the spring arbor has fractured, most likely due to pressure, and the spring hook has come away. This could have resulted in severe damage if the hook had given way while the box was wound. The repaired arbor and new hook on the right.



Left, the speed governor required several bearing bushes. Right, one of the spring arbor bearings had worn to an oval shape and was causing the wheel train to butt. This was repaired by letting in a piece of hammer hardened cast yellow brass and re-forming the bearing to the correct size and position.

