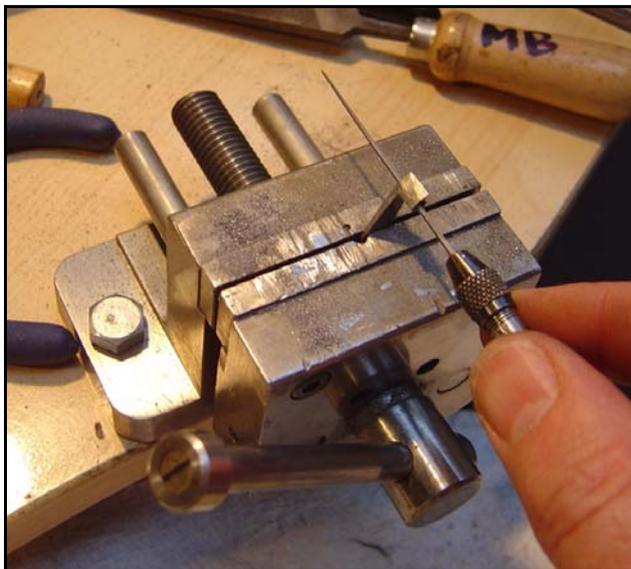
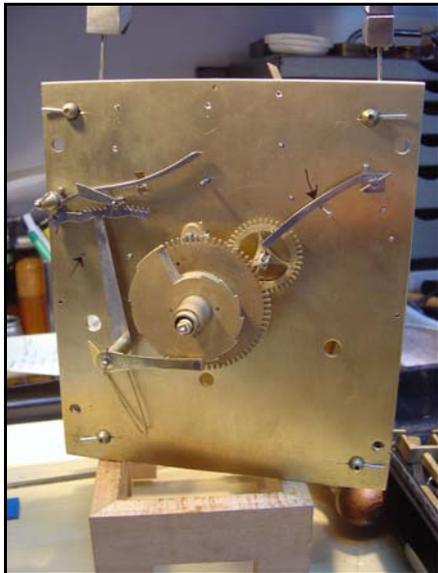


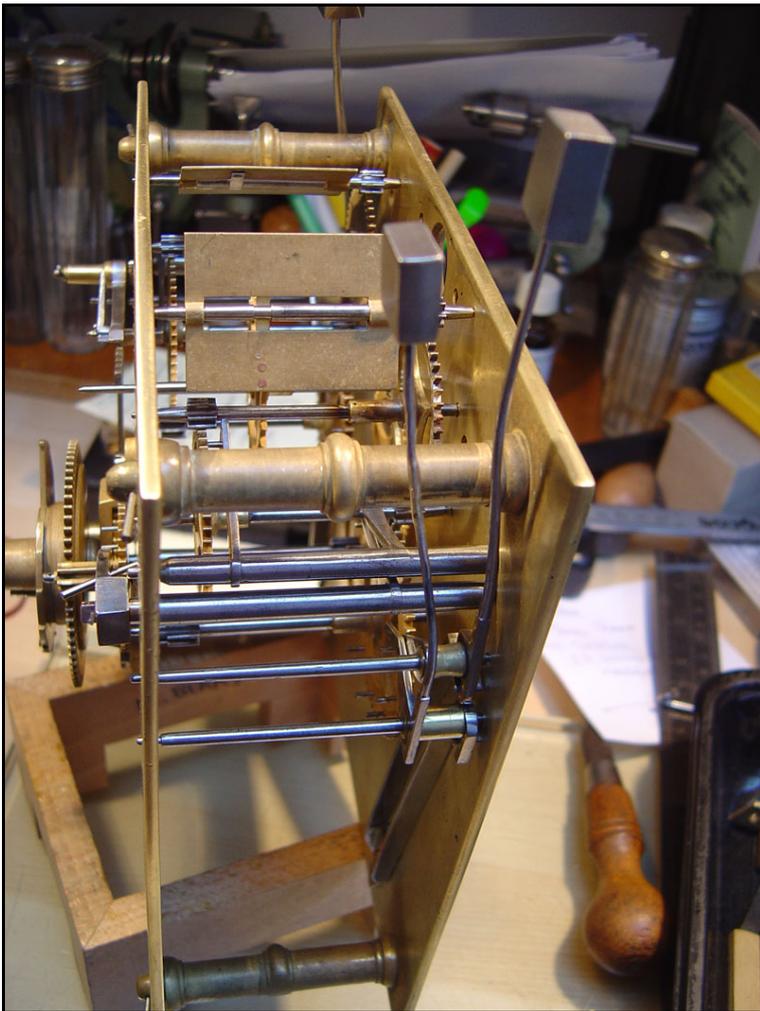
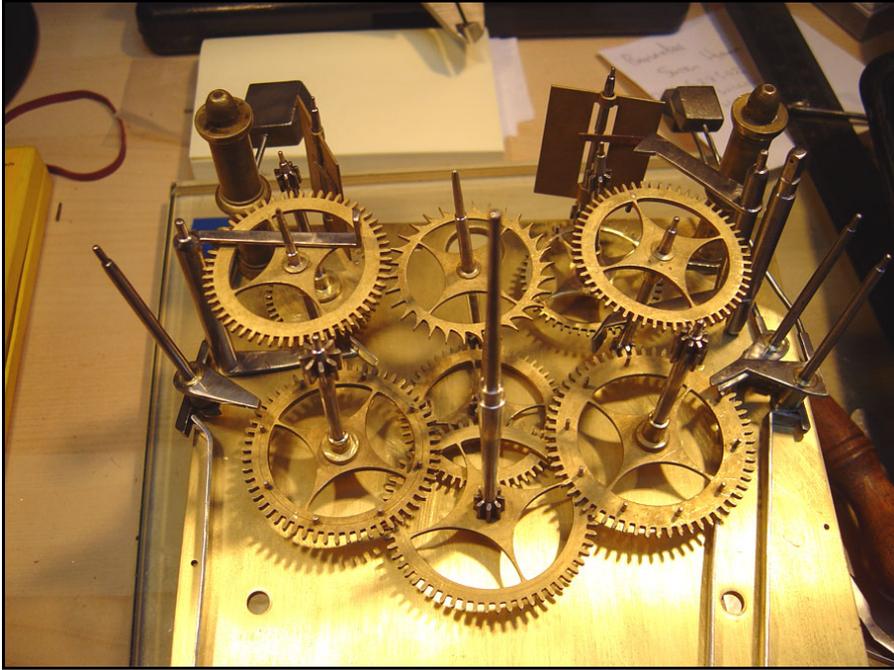
## An update on progress with the restoration of my Samuel Collier of Eccles Long Case Clock made in circa 1780

**The Movement.** Work has progressed well on the movement, but slowly, these past months have been very busy in the workshop. The pinions were found to be in very good order when the movement was cleaned. This was a surprise as heavy oil contamination nearly always exacerbates wear; this is due to the oil turning into a grinding paste, this good fortune will at least reduce the restoration costs. The movement is very well made, and having three trains was certainly an expensive and imposing clock when new, the wheels are well cut and they have fine crossings. A few small fractures on the qtr warning wheel have now been repaired. I have just assembled the movement after bushing to check the setup of how the qtr and strike trains work. My next job is to fully clean the movement and fit some new gut lines, I then need to find some suitable period driving weights. The testing can then get under way. I have included some pictures of the repairs for your interest.



The original gathering pallet was badly worn and fell into two pieces while being removed. Left shows a new gathering pallet being made and adjusted.

Regarding the strike, the minute wheel lifts the lever and sets off the qtr train, the count wheel can be seen in the above picture. After the fourth quarter a detent is lifted by a pin on the count wheel, this puts the rack on warning and quickly operates the hour rack strike.



A side view showing the quarter train and hammers, the smaller hammer shaft had been poorly repaired and this was repaired.

Only two bushes were fitted, back of the second wheel and back of the strike fly arbors.

I repaired a fracture with soft solder on the qtr warning wheel and also tightened the collet.

**The Dial.** The dial on this clock was in very poor condition, time spent in the skip has not helped it much. These Manchester made dials with a bitumen ground are very difficult to restore.



This is the replacement moon phase dial.

The original was in such poor condition that unfortunately it could not be restored. A new blank brass disc was made and the teeth cut, the dial artist Mrs Francis Tennant has faithfully reproduced the art work from the old dial and made a splendid job of restoring the dial.

Note the typical long nose of the Manchester moons.



The original dial, showing the severity of the brass fatigue fractures. These discs were often made from poor quality off cuts of flat cast brass.



This is the largest Manchester dial currently recorded at 16 ¼", note the hand painted maps, the pink ground and Gesso work. The two bunches of Gold flowers and the painted winding circles are also typical. The original artist is a mystery but his work can easily be spotted and was only used by a small few of the Greater Manchester makers. See photos of the dial in an un-restored condition at:-

<http://www.longcaseclock.co.uk/feature/whatachallenge.pdf>

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