



# Horologica

Donn Haven Lathrop and Fortunat Mueller-Maerki are contributors this issue.

Member submissions are needed! Share reviews and announcements of new and interesting books, websites, digital media programs, periodicals, exhibits, and all else pertaining to horology. Please send contributions to the editor at [ddeLUcca@nawcc.org](mailto:ddeLUcca@nawcc.org) or NAWCC, Inc., 514 Poplar St., Columbia, PA 17512-2130, c/o the Publications Dept.

## The Museum of Measurement and Time

We are pleased to announce the opening of the Museum of Measurement and Time, 301 North Polk Street, Jefferson, TX 75657, 903-665-6668, [www.museumofmeasurementandtime.org](http://www.museumofmeasurementandtime.org).

The museum features a private collection of land surveying and clock items. Exhibits are instruments, maps, books, and documents related to land surveying. The clock collection features calendar clocks, Ingraham clocks, books, and publications related to horology.

Admission is free. Museum hours are Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. Call for reservations and special arrangements. The museum will announce a special opening and viewing period for "clock collectors only" at a later date.

Please contact us with questions or specific inquiries, 903-665-8802 or 903-666-0338, [jingram663@aol.com](mailto:jingram663@aol.com).

—Johnny & Edith Ingram (TX)

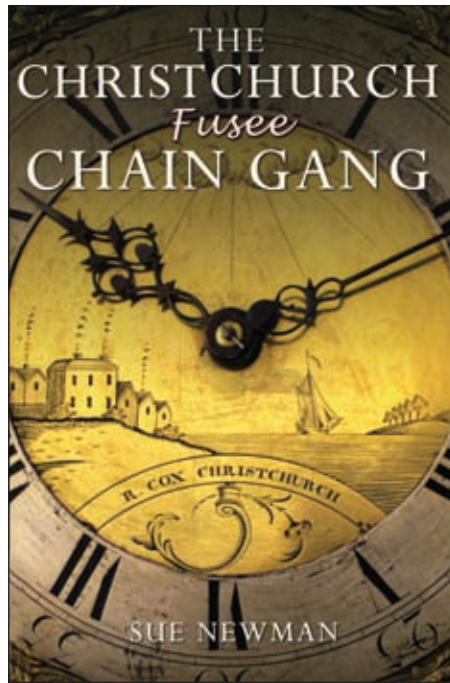
## The Christchurch Fusee Chain Gang

by Sue Newman

Published by Amberly Publishing, Cirencester Road, Chalford, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL6 8PE, United Kingdom. © 2010 Sue Newman.

Perfect Bound 6-1/4" x 9-3/16", 256 pages. 146 illustrations, 29 in color, 15 maps. Indexed. ISBN: 9781848684416.

The synopsis on the back cover of this book says it all: "Who they were: What they did; How they lived. Making fusee chains—and the other ways, legal and illegal, that the wolf was kept from the cottage doors of



Christchurch, 1700-1900. A study of poverty and survival and bygone trades with major new discoveries about the watch industry, and the characters who inhabited this small town."

Chapters 1-3 are devoted to a socioeconomic analysis of the town and its inhabitants and how they supported themselves. These chapters can be easily skipped, but they contribute a foundation that supports the rest of the book.

Chapters 2-6 cover the meat of chainmaking, a process that is much more complicated than it appears at first glance. This section tracks quickly through a brief history of timekeeping, from the stick in the ground to Harrison's chronometers.

It's a good review for those familiar with clocks and watches and will teach the nonhorologist about the need for fusee chains.

As for the chains... Can you imagine making up a chain with over 500

links whose final diameter will be that of a horsehair? Another horological source states that the standard chain length was 6 inches, a length made up of 630 separate pieces, based on the calculation of 63 links and 42 rivets per inch. Incredible! Newman details all of the steps in the making of the chain parts, the assembly of those parts, and the final steps done before the chain could be installed in a pocket watch. This section is profusely illustrated and is most thorough in its treatment of making fusee chains in Christchurch.

Chapter 7 closes the book with a discussion of other occupations of Christchurch residents. It is not horologically interesting, but it does point out once again the steps people had to take in the continual battle to keep body and soul together.

Appendix. Censuses from 1841 to 1901 name those who worked on fusee chains and coincidentally illustrate the drop in the need for chains as the century ended.

The book is well worth reading. It points out (in this day of prosperity and iPhones) how some of our ancestors lived in abject poverty, yet they rose above that abject poverty to produce many items of a singular beauty and complexity.

—Donn Haven Lathrop (VT)

## Twelve Faces of Time - Horological Virtuosos

By Elizabeth Doerr (text) and Ralf Baumgarten (photography).

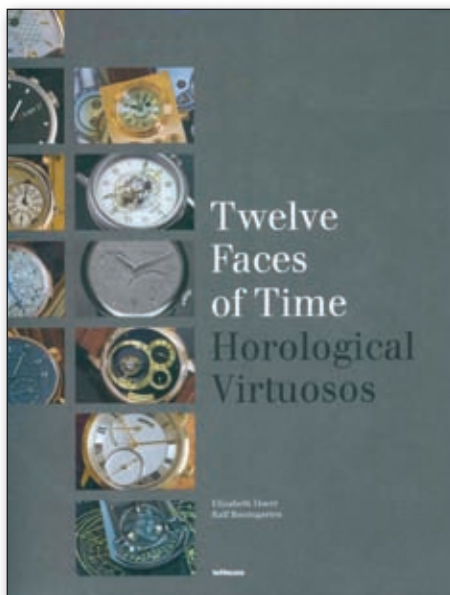
Published 2010 by teNeues Verlag, Kempten (Germany). ISBN 978-3-8327-9373-9. Hardcover, dustjacket.

208 pages, 34 cm x 27 cm, ca. 300 black & white photographs. Text in English. Available from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). List price is \$95, available for

about U.S. \$65 plus postage, or borrow from the NAWCC Library and Research Center.

The most fascinating sector of contemporary watchmaking—even if numerically insignificant—is watch brands that are the expression of the values, style, and thoughts of an individual watchmaker. This book introduces us to 12 such individuals, from seven nations (although nine now practice their art in Switzerland). In 12 16-page chapters we meet the following (in order of age):

- Philippe Dufour (b. 1948, Switzerland), the pioneer in the rebirth of the independent artisanal watchmaker
- Paul Gerber (b. 1950, Switzerland), who started adding unique complications to individualize high-grade watches in the 1980s, before this was fashionable
- Ludwig Oechslin (b. 1952, Italy), the scholar who after getting degrees in archeology, classics, physics, the history of science, and astronomy started an apprenticeship as a watchmaker
- François-Paul Journe (b. 1957, France), the Geneva-based fan of Antide Janvier and dual oscillator resonance timepieces
- Kenji Shiohara (b. 1958, Japan), who created a small “haute horlogerie,” individual-pieces workshop, within the giant Seiko conglomerate
- Kari Voutilainen (b. 1962, Finland), who started out as a teacher of watchmaking skills and found his calling in creating one-of-a-kind watches only at age 40
- Vianney Halter (b. 1963, France), considered a genius in the world of horological mechanics, who insists that he just “creates the watches that he dreams of”
- Beat Haldimann (b. 1964, Switzerland), with his central axis visible tourbillion wristwatches and the flying dual balance Resonance H2
- Volker Vyskocil (b. 1964, Germany), the completely self-taught watchmaker and programming wizard who makes watches on his self-designed, self-built CNC machine
- Thomas Prescher (b. 1966, Germany), a boyish-looking former navy



captain turned watchmaker enamored with triple axis tourbillions

- Roger Smith (b. 1970, United Kingdom), the only watchmaker personally trained by the great George Daniels who goes on building masterpieces in the tradition of Breguet and Daniels.
- Felix Baumgartner (b. 1975, Switzerland), the 35-year-old newcomer to this select group who embodies the perfect marriage of high-tech and individualism.

The text and images of the chapters strive to create an impression of the artisans, their styles, methods, and motivations. There are some images of masterpieces, but the focus is on showing the masters in their environment. The text is sparse, and the pages have much white space.

This is not a technical book, but a human interest story about what drives these geniuses to create and what inspires them to make unusual watches. It is a book that encourages contemplation regarding high-quality horology.

This reviewer has been fortunate over the years to personally meet several of the featured watchmakers and believes that the two authors have captured their essence rather well.

*Twelve Faces of Time* is an unusual but useful addition to a horological library if the reader has an interest in the human story behind the recent resurgence of artisanal watchmaking at the highest levels.

—Fortunat Mueller-Maerki (NJ)

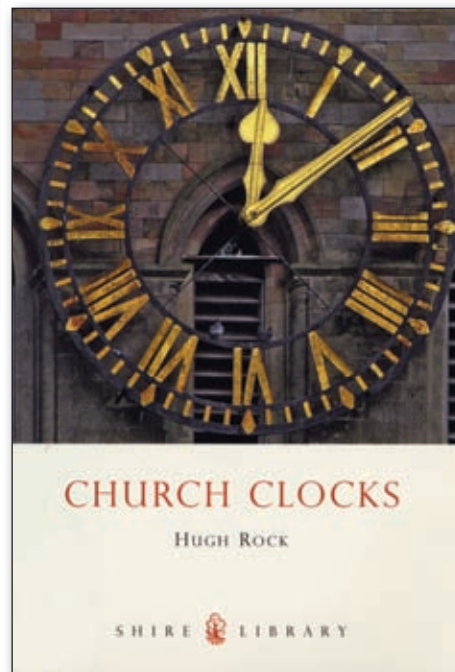
## Church Clocks

by Hugh Rock

Published by Shire Publications Ltd., Midland House, West Way, Botley, Oxford OX2 0PH, United Kingdom.

© 2008 Hugh Rock. Perfect Bound 57/8" x 81/4", 64 pages.

119 illustrations, 98 in color. Indexed. ISBN: 9780747806875.



Altogether, I found this a delightful little book, but unfortunately, it was a bit too short for someone whose interests extend to the details of any and all of the massive clocks that grace our countrysides.

The author is another of us who rescued a tower clock from certain doom, and from that experience, came this book and a lifelong fascination with tower clocks.

The book is well illustrated, with accompanying text or caption for each illustration.

The author traces the history, albeit in a somewhat abbreviated fashion, of clocks from their first appearance up through the electric clocks used in some public venues. The variations in designs and the execution of those designs illustrate the horologist's search for perfection in clock design and execution over the centuries. Of particular interest is the clock by Robinson in All Saints Church, Winterton. Its enormous main wheels and the outsize escape

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wheel are echoed in the Stephenson, Howard, and Davis Model II illustrated in Frederick Shelley's *Early American Tower Clocks*. He also refers to Dr. C. F. C. Beeson's 1971 opus, *English Church Clocks, 1280-1850*, which would be the next book for the budding tower clock enthusiast. (I must here interject that once again, I wondered what the initials C. F. C. stood for. After many hours on the Internet, I found that they stand for Cyril Frederick Cherrington, that the inestimable Dr. Beeson was known to his friends by the nickname Scroggs, and that he was a lifelong friend of T. E. Lawrence.)

Of special note is the chapter on the foliot escapement, the not-so-accurate predecessor of the pendulum. The author points out that the foliot was readily adaptable to the variable hour lengths of "timekeeping" that were based on hours of daylight, which varied according to the seasons—something that had escaped me in all my reading on old clocks.

The final chapter on quarter chimes is also of considerable interest, and added to my knowledge of this particular aspect of public timekeeping.

This is a delightful little book, well written and illustrated, and well worth buying.

—Donn Haven Lathrop (VT)

## La Classification Horlogère des Calibres de Montres et des Fournitures d'Horlogerie Suisses

Quartolingual edition: Français-Deutsch-English-Espanol [Facsimile re-edition of the three issues: I: 1936 (blue), II: 1939 (brown), III: 1949 (red).] By A.-F. Jobin (editor). Published 2009 and 2010 by Historische Uhrenbücher, Berlin (Germany). ISBN 978-3-941539-04-4. ISBN 978-941539-05-1, ISBN 978-941539-06-8. Hardcover, spiralbound; 320, 330, and 336 pages. 29cm x 21cm. Thousands of illustrations (black and white). Euro 249 for the three-book set (plus postage of Euro 37.50 to the U.S.). Available at the website of the publisher: <http://www.uhrenliteratur.de/verlag/index/start.htm>.

Or consult these books at the NAWCC Library and Research Center, Columbia, PA.

For the collector of vintage Swiss watches dating from the first half of the twentieth century it has often been difficult to positively identify and date the many different movement calibers (both pocket watch and wristwatch) that were made by the numerous players in the then highly fragmented Swiss watch industry. The most common movements, particularly those made by the Ebauches group, or the big brands like Rolex, Omega, and Patek, are reasonably covered in the common price guides, and in a few brand-specific reference books (e.g., *Omega Sag* [by Richon, Bienne: 1989]). But for the vast majority of makers there are no specific books, and it is virtually impossible to locate movement images.

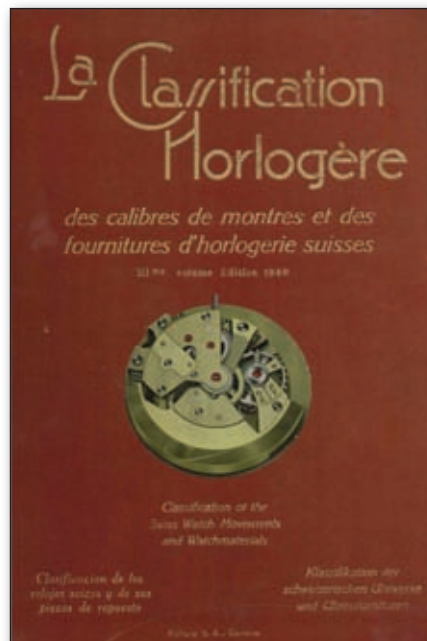
Fortunately, a series of movement identification guides was published in Geneva for the global repair trade in the years 1936, 1939 and, after a break for World War II, in 1949. Unfortunately, not many were exported from Switzerland, and most of the few existing copies were used for many years as references in repair shops. Original copies are virtually impossible to find; not even the National Watch and Clock Library in Columbia, PA, or the AWCI Library

in Ohio have these. Florian Stern in Berlin, a retired teacher of watch repair dedicated to preserving horological literature, located a set and in 2009 produced a high-quality facsimile edition.

Each of the three volumes contains over 300 pages of information, and each volume covers over 30 different brands in alphabetical order. The introduction of each volume includes a table showing an enlarged image of each major movement component with the correct name of the part in French, German, and English, and conversion tables for the various measurement systems (douzaines, lines, millimeters, and American "Size").

The following makers are included: Volume I (1936): Angelus, Stolz Frères, Altus, Arogno, Aurore, Bettlach, Buhré Paul & Barbezat, Buser Frères & Co., Cortebert Watch Co., Doxa Watch, Dreyfuss & Co., Enicar, Eros, Eterna, ETA, Felsa, Fleurler, Fontainemelon (F.H.F.), Frey & Co., Glycine Watch Co., Hora, Imhof, Kurth Frères, Langendorf Watch Co., Lavina, Liengme & Co., Marvin Watch Co., Matter F., Meyer & Studeli, Michel A., Minerva, Moeri F., Montilier, Olivia Watch, Omega Watch Co., Optima Watch, Orion Watch Co., Patek, Philippe & Co., Perfecta, Peseux, Le Phare, Phenix Watch Co., Record Watch Co., Recta, Schild, Sonceboz, Tavannes Watch Co., Unitas, Vacheron & Constantin, Vénus, Wasa, Welta, Zenith, Zodiac.

Volume II (1939): Alpina Watch, Altus, Astin, Aubry, Beguelin & Co., Buhré Paul & Barbezat, Büren, Bulla Watch, Bole, Breitling, Buren, Buser Frères & Co., Champagne, Doxa Watch, Dreyfuss & Co., Dulux, Ebauches, Enicar, Enila, Eros, Eterna, Eska, Frey & Co., General Watch Co., A.G.M., Gindrat, Glycine Watch Co., Grana, Helvetia, Henex, Imhof, International Watch & Co. (IWC), Jeannin Numa, Kocher & Cie., Lanco Watch, Kurth Frères, Langendorf Watch Co., Lavina, Longines, Maitre L. & Fils, Mido, Omega Watch Co., Patek, Philippe & Co., Perret & Berthoud, Pery, Phenix, Pronto, Econvilier Watch Co., Record Watch Co.,



Revue Watch, Rolex Watch Co., Schild, Silvana, Sportex, Tavannes Watch Co., Thommen, Tissot, Universal Watch, Zenith.

Volume III (1949): Aerni Charles, Alpha Watch, Alpina Watch, Angelus, Beguelin & Co., Bielco Watch, Bueche-Ross H., Buhré Paul & Barbezat, Bulla Watch, Buser Frères & Co., Busga, Cortebert Watch Co., Damas Watch, Dom Watch, Doxa Watch, Ebauches, Ebel, Ebosa, Election Nouvelle, Enicar, Essor, Eska Watch Co., Eterna, Flora Watch, Frenca Watch, Gala Watch, General Watch Co., Geneva Sport Watch, Gerber-Morgenthaler A., Glycine Watch Co., Golaz & Ce, Grossenbacher A., Hallauer Jean, Helvetia, Heuer Ed & Co., Homberger-Rauschenbach E, International Watch & Co. (IWC), Jeannin Numa, Jobin es Fils de Paul, Juillard & Cie, Juillard Emile, Ocher & Cie Lanco Watch, Lanco, Langendorf Watch Co., Lavina, LeCoultre & Cie, Leonidas, Liengme & Co., Longines, Lunesa Watch, Luxor, Maître L. & Fils, Mardon Watch, Marvin Watch Co., Mido, Minerva, Moeri f., Mulfi, Muller Henri, Nicolet Watch, Olma Watch, Omega Watch Co., Optima Watch, Orator Watch, Orel Watch, Patek, Philippe & Co., Perret & Berthoud, Pierce, Precimax, Pronto Watch Co., Reconvilier Watch Co., Record Watch Co., Recta, Revue Watch, Rolex Watch Co., Sada, Schild, Schwarz-Etienne les Fils de Paul, Silvana, Stolz Freres, Surena, Thommen, Tramelan Watch Co., Unia Watch, Union Horlogere, Universal Watch, Vacheron & Constantin.

Each brand section (ranging from 2 to 20 pages per brand) starts with an “advertisement” for the brand (anywhere from one-third page to a full page, typically showing an image of the factory building), followed by life-size illustrations of all their current movement calibers, followed by illustrated parts lists for each of the movements.

The originals were scanned at high resolution and printed on good

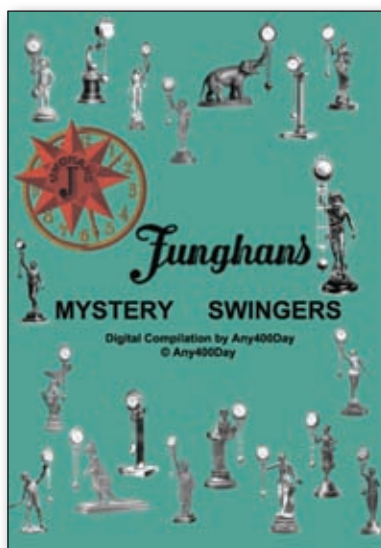
quality paper, making the facsimiles easier to use and more useful than the originals. The resulting books are clearly a useful and valuable reference and research tool.

Even if costly, this set of books is an indispensable tool for the serious collector of Swiss watches of the twentieth century to correctly identify the movement, and Stern deserves the gratitude for having made this tool available once again to a wider range of collectors.

—Fortunat Mueller-Maerki (NJ)

### Junghans Mystery Swingers

by Victor Tang [Facsimile on CD-Rom Edition], Published 2010; by Any400Day, Singapore. Text in English, German, French, Spanish, and Italian. 112 pages, in protected .pdf format on CD-ROM [in plastic folder], printable and searchable, includes copy of the required Adobe Reader software. Available at [www.Any400Day.com](http://www.Any400Day.com) for a cost sharing payment of U.S. \$15 (including free worldwide shipping).



Clocks where the whole case, including the movement and dial, swing back and forth—usually referred to in English as “Swingers”—add visual interest to any collection. There are many variations, but undoubtedly the one seen most often is a cast metal elephant with a raised trunk (about 29 cm high) holding the oscillating movement.

This model was first documented in a 1910 French language catalog of Junghans, the large, Schramberg, Germany-based clock manufacturer. It remained in the Junghans product line up to World War II, and unauthorized “fake” copies continue to be produced in large numbers. Despite their ubiquity in the clock-collecting world, nobody up to now had taken the effort to systematically compile the original documentary evidence of the Junghans swingers.

Victor Tang, a Singapore-based enthusiast of European factory-made clocks of the early twentieth century, has yet again filled a void. His newest release (May 2010) goes beyond his previous practice of just reproducing historic clock catalogs in user-friendly, indexed, and printable CD-ROM format. Now he has produced a useful compilation of heretofore hard-to-find catalog entries on Junghans swinger clocks between 1910 and 1938, in 17 different historic catalogs published by Junghans in Germany, France, Italy, and Austria. The “elephants” have at least 34 cousins, most much less known and

some exceedingly rare. Tang has identified 35 different models of Junghans swinger clocks.

This electronic publication consists of two parts: In the first half, each of the 36 models is pictured on a page, with clickable icons for the catalogs in which it appears. The second half

reproduces in chronological order the catalog cover page of the 17 historic Junghans catalogs, to provide contemporary documentation on these models, followed by facsimile reproductions dealing with swingers.

As usual, Victor has provided indices by model numbers and model names, and the texts are searchable in Adobe reader. The images are high resolution (600 dpi), but contain digital watermarks and are printable only at a 150 dpi resolution to prevent unauthorized reproduction.

With this latest addition to his series of CD-ROMs, Victor Tang goes beyond his previous high standard for user friendliness of catalog reprints by creating his first subject compilation, drawing from multiple original historic documents. And as always, his prices cannot be beat.

—Fortunat F. Mueller-Maerki (NJ)