



## Retro-fitting a Superheater

By Roger Marsh

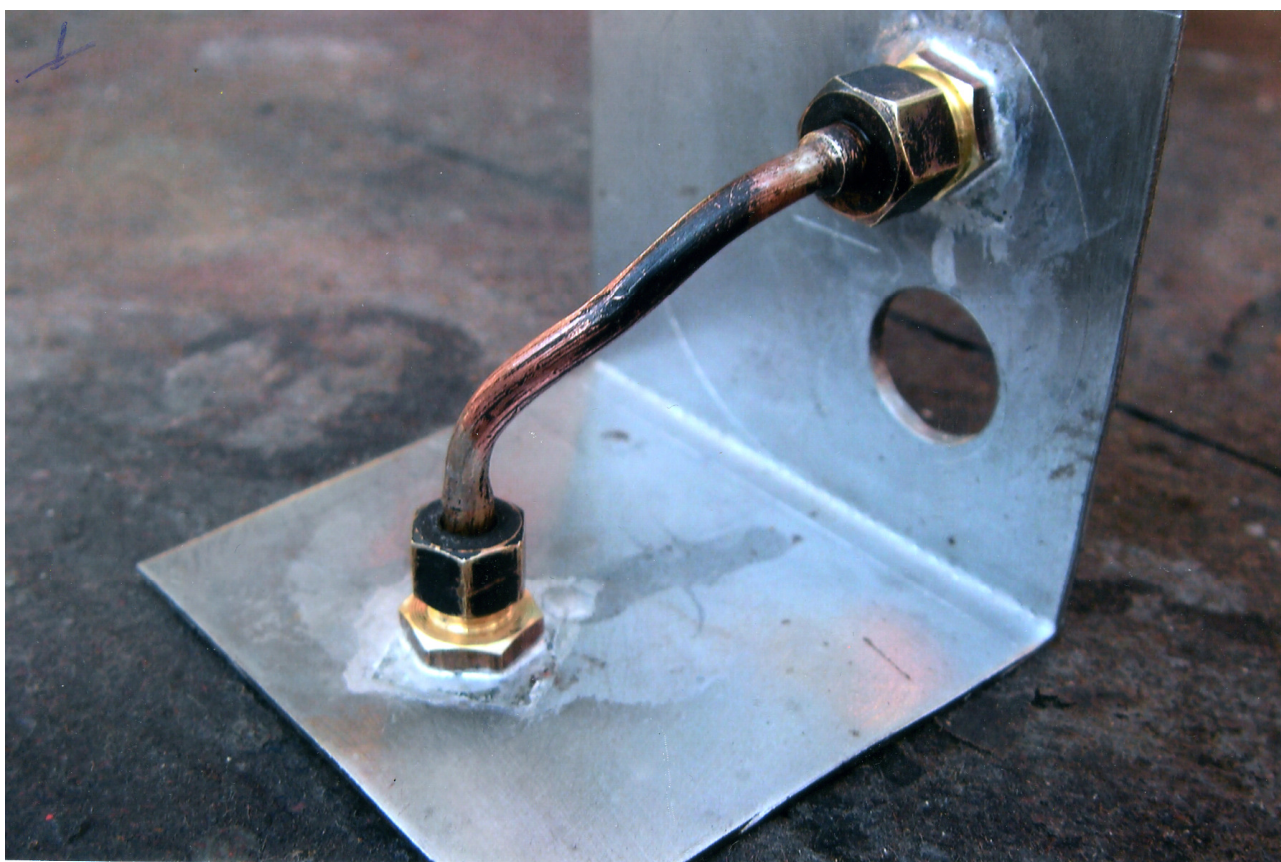
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It was nice to see the pictures of my little engines at the AGM but who was that bolding old twit making all the smoke?

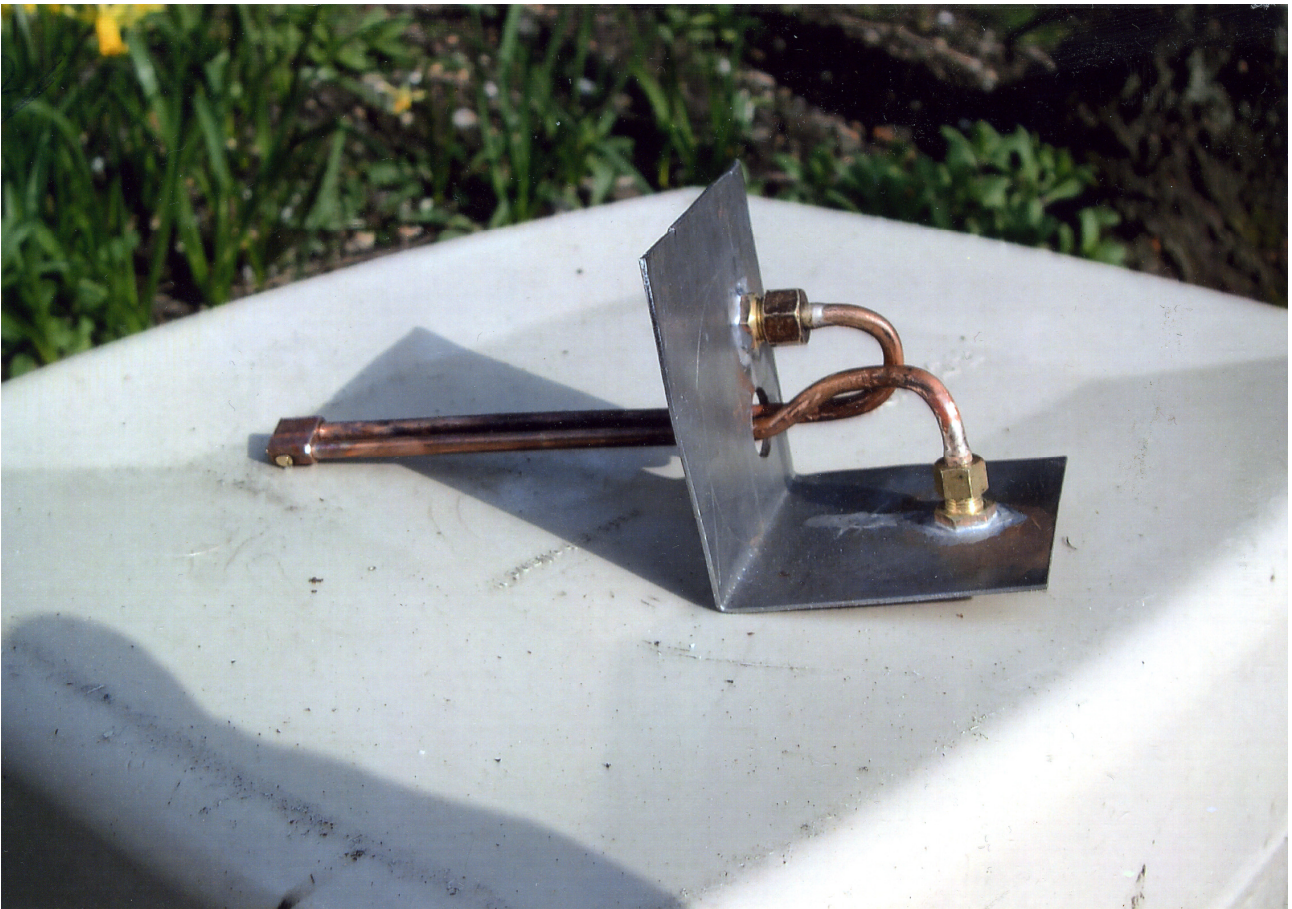
The Editors inference that the making of smoke in public places will be illegal after July underlines the confusion in the minds of our young people of today. As any medical man will tell you, while tobacco smoke is bad for you, loco smoke is a positive elixir. Without any processing they will tell you that the merest whiff of the stuff will lift the spirits, quicken the pulse and soothe the most fevered brow. Furthermore it is a well known fact that the therapy of putting fuel on fires of these little engines and watching the flame (and smoke) curl up the tubes, creates the sunniest disposition in any male. So there!



In my article 'Multum in Parvo' I have referred to "Tom Coopers Hunslett". Why I put two T's on the end I don't know as I've been telling people for 40 years that Hunslett is an area of Leeds and not a small 'Hunsle' (sorry about that). My real reason for putting Biro to paper is to explain how I retro-fitted a superheater to the Thornhill & Wareham. At the AGM I noticed it took a long time to clear the cylinders of water, there being no drain cocks, so I hoped that by raising the steam temperature the problem would be ameliorated.

I wanted to do the work without stripping the loco so I made what we would now call a 'virtual smoke-box'. The first picture shows what I mean. A piece of scrap metal was folded and marked out to represent the boiler front and smoke-box floor. A hole was drilled to represent the flue and two fittings turned up to represent the nozzles that the existing pipe was fitted to. The latter were fitted to the pipe and soft-soldered in their respective positions in the virtual smoke-box. The pipe

was then removed and the element built up in the usual way.



The second picture shows the two parts ready for brazing to the return block. It is worth mentioning that the loco has 2 x 15mm flues instead of the usual nine or eleven at 5/16" diameter. This had worked well on a Gauge One Green Arrow but the shorter ones in this case, cause a fair amount of cinder to be thrown out and the steaming tends to be a little erratic.

However it goes OK and is quite a jolly little engine so perhaps I will call it Jupiter!.