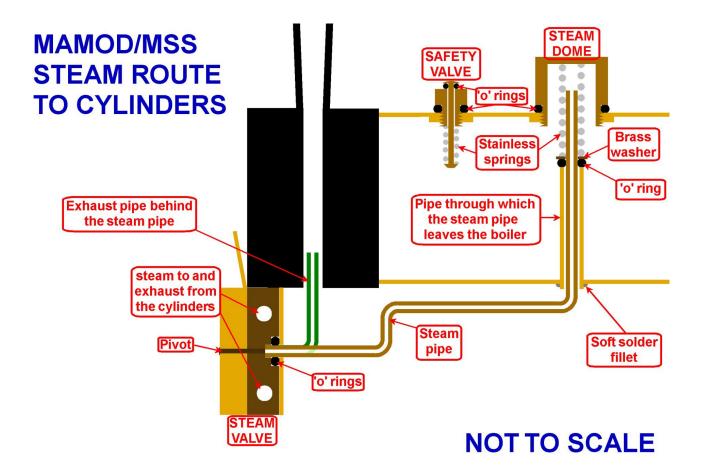
## Steam path on the Mamod/MSS locos



The steam pipe travels down from the dome through a larger pipe soldered into the bottom of the boiler. This is sealed to the steam pipe with an 'o' ring, brass washer and compression spring. When the dome is screwed down the spring is compressed and this then puts pressure onto the brass washer which forces the 'o' ring tightly onto the top of the outer pipe. The 'o' ring should be a tight fit onto the steam pipe so that when the dome is screwed into place this 'o' ring makes a steam tight connection between the steam pipe and the outer pipe which is soldered into the bottom of the boiler. In some Mamod and MSS locos the steam pipe is simply soldered to the boiler pipe instead of using the spring, washer and 'o' ring.

'o' rings are fitted to the back of the steam valve where the steam and exhaust pipes are simply pushed in. The 'o' rings are held in place by a thin plate fitted to the back of the valve which in turn is held in place by the pivot nut and bolt.

If the boiler is allowed to run out of water and then overheat the 'o' rings may be cooked and the solder fillet at the bottom of the boiler could melt. It is advisable to replace all of the 'o' rings and renew the solder fillet at the bottom of the boiler should the water level drop too low with a fire still burning underneath.