

Oxford University Society of Change Ringers

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2003

The Society continues to prosper, now with two Taylor tens in Oxford and frequent peal attempts at both. This year has sadly had several deaths, but also seen the completion of the Mary Mag project and the emergence of several of the new generation as regular participants in College Youth performances. Unfortunately it has not seen an increase in the number of contributions to the Newsletter.

New Officers

This is a complete list of the Officers elected at the AGM:

President	John Camp
Senior Member	Dermot Roaf
General Secretary	Peter Giles
Master	Marika Pascovitch (St Hildas)
Resident Secretary	Rosalind French (St Hilda's)
Librarian	Oliver Lomax (Lincoln)
Treasurer	Graham Drabble (St John's)
Steeplekeepers	Patrick Hogan (Oriell) Jack Gunning (Pembroke)
Webmaster	Henry Coggill (St Hugh's)
Brookes rep.	?
CC Rep	Peter Niblett
BRF Trustees:	Senior Member and Treasurer ex officio Andrew Stubbs Christopher Poole

The Vice Presidents were re-elected en bloc: Quentin Armitage, Doug Beaumont, David Brown, Ian W Davies, Stephen Ivin, Wilfrid Moreton, Paul Mounsey, Donald Niblett, Dermot Roaf, Betty Robbins, John Spice and Andrew Stubbs.

Bell Restoration Fund

Mark Shepherd and Alex Byrne have been re-elected as 'Independent Examiners'.

Life Members

The following have become Life Members:

Mary Sloman	Somerville 1999-2002
Mark A Bell	Jesus 1999-2002

2003 Annual Dinner

This year's Dinner will again be at Harris Manchester College, on Saturday 1st February at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Tickets will be £42.00. The speech welcoming the Guests will be given by Paul Mounsey, and the guest speaker is Chris Johnson from the CUG.

Please send an SAE and a cheque payable to OUSCR Dinner Committee to: Graham Drabble, St John's Collge OX1 3JP, stating any seating plan preferences and dietary requirements. Closing date for tickets is 20th January.

Drinking the night before will be at the Folly Bridge. Sunday coffee is t.b.c..

Meeting Dates in 2003

The Society's business meetings are held on Mondays, and take place in the Quarrell Room in Exeter.

TGM dates - the first Monday in term. Jan 20th, April 28rd and Oct 13th.
AGM date - Monday, Dec 1st.

Newsletter Account

The cost of printing and posting this Newsletter will be about £160. The Newsletter account will stand at about £640 after this letter has been sent. If you wish to contribute, please make your cheque payable to `Mr P Giles` or `Post Office Counters`. I thank Bob Mordaunt for his very generous donation this year.

The Annual Tour

The 2002 tour was based in Ipswich and organised by Nigel Orchard. The 2003 Tour will be based in the Leeds area, and arranged by Lawrence Haines. He may be contacted at 32 Whiston House, Halton Road, London N1 2DH or lawrence@mobij.freemove.co.uk Easter Day is once more in 0th week, so the tour will be a fortnight earlier - April 6th to 11th.

Residents' Review *Henry Coggill, the immediate past Master, writes:*

2002 has been another fruitful year for the OUS, with enthusiasm and tradition as prominent as ever. We have been very fortunate to have seen the continued efforts of Stephen Ivin transform the bells of Mary Mag yet further into a lovely (very) light Ten, upon which we have rung quarter peals of Stedman Caters and Yorkshire Royal, and look forward to ringing peals soon.

The normal scheme of a weekly practice at Mary Mag, preceded by a quarter peal, has continued, with attendance as regular as ever. Alternate weeks have hosted quarters and practices at St Thos, although with the augmentation at Mary Mag, we have balanced 10-bell ringing between both towers. How lucky we are!

Sunday hears the bells of St Thos, Mary Mag and St Ebbes every morning, followed by SMV and New College on certain weeks. St Cross also rings out once every month.

There have been 14 peals during this year, some in Memory of David Woodward, Roger Abbott and Rodney Meadows. A wide range of methods, including London Royal, 8-Spliced, Stedman, Cornwall and Plain Bob have been rung, with residents at the heart of nearly of these; we are very grateful, as ever, to the non-residents who help us to achieve this.

The regular calendar of events has yielded its customary merriments and pleasures, with highlights being the ever-popular Annual Dinner in February, the residents' Joint Outing with the Cambridge Guild, to Guildford this year, the Annual Tour, to Ipswich, May Morning at SMV, the Summer Outing, to Kirtlington, Freshers' Outing, to Wallingford, and the SUA Striking Competition, held in Southampton.

The OUS has done it's bit to mix with other Universities, hosting a weekend of Ringing for all University Societies, and members have been spotted at Dinners in Bristol, Cambridge and London.

Handbell ringing has blossomed from the twilight of recent years, with 2 practices every week enabling most who attend to ring Plain Bob, some achieving Kent and Cambridge, and everyone managing at least Plain Hunt.

All said, the quest for ringing greatness abounds, whether that be Grandsire, Surprise Major or Bristol Max, everyone in the Society has a propensity for progress, and I wish next year's committee team all the best with continuing this and the excellent traditions of the OUS.

Society Ties

Still twenty eight to go, and only £3.00 each.

Address List

The Address List is available on request electronically, on paper or via diskette. The following 28 members are currently lost: Catherine Bannister, Sarah Bates, Mike Capocci, Richard Casserley, Rosemary Clark, Frances E Collins, Paul Crane, Robert Galloway, Andre Gren, David Hamlin, Sally Hawksworth, Luke Heaton, Lance Hewson, Anne Lambert, John S Leonard, Bill Lister, Andrew J Loveland, Jeremy McCabe, Melanie Milan, JD Mozley, David Newman, Colin Parker, Julia Sheard, Nigel Sheppard, Richard Tapper, C Turnbull, and AJ Vincent.

The Society's History

Sales have now reached 238, an increase of merely one in a year. Do please consider getting a copy if you have not already invested: another 30, and the BRF makes a profit from the project. Please send your cheque for £30.00 per copy (incl. postage and package), made out to 'OUSCR History', to the general secretary.

Old Newsletters

The Society is trying to improve its library, and would welcome copies of Newsletters before 1980. Please contact the general secretary if you have any to give or copy.

Members' News

Dermot Roaf celebrated 50 years as a ringer at St Giles on September, and the band had a special service and reception for him. **John Spice** celebrated his 80th birthday in May. **Peter Semmens** is living in York and enjoys listening to the Minster ringing on Sundays. He promises us some stories about his time with the OUS in the 1940s, when he shared digs in Southmoor Road with Rodney Meadows for two years.

John Lonsbrough has had an unfortunate accident: 'During a visit to Sussex, on September 5th I was at Brighton Rail Station where a line of luggage trolleys is towed along the platforms by a little electric tractor. We don't have this type of hazard at Oxford. I did not appreciate that this thing was crossing my path and so walked into the side of it. This action was not advisable as it resulted in a broken foot and a cracked rib, with general inconvenience and a prohibition on ringing tower bells for at least six weeks. At my age recovery is slow and, as you saw, I am still hobbling at 13 weeks, but did start ringing at selected places 3 weeks ago and seem to be coping now

with normal service apart from causing delay on ringing room stairs. Hopefully this will teach me to look where I am going !

Roy Stoddard writes: 'John Pusey has recently sent me an email about Dermot's celebration. He suggests that since I am one of the lost souls of the OUS I let you have my address and news, so that those who remember me may know that I'm still alive! My name and address is: Roy Stoddard, Apartado 50,11310 Sotogrande, Spain. Tel. 34 956 616037. Email(when at home) <106160.563@compuserve.com>. After reading English and Theology at Keble (1956-1961), and qualifying in Medicine in London (1968), I worked in hospital medicine for 16 years. Then my wife and I set out to sail round the world in a small yacht - a dangerous thing to do - especially if you haven't done any sailing before! But we managed it. We now work for "Mercy ships", a voluntary Christian organization which brings "hope and healing to the world's poor". Our hospital-ship, the "Anastasis", spends half the year in West Africa and half the year in Europe raising funds and recruits. I spend about three or four months a year on the ship. We are in the European phase at present and will be in Germany throughout September, so unfortunately I will not be able to attend Dermot's celebration. I have not done any change-ringing since leaving Oxford in 1961, but was delighted to receive John's letter mentioning names that I never thought I would come across again. And I would like to express my admiration and thanks to you for acting as a reference point whereby the many who passed through the OUS can renew old friendships. For me it was a lost world that has suddenly come to light again!'

Brigid Simpkin (nee Rose) hasn't rung for forty five years, but still appreciates the newsletter. **Hilary Beck** is still in New Zealand, but hopes to move to Canada in February. He has an attractive suggestion that we lead a campaign to get Oxford TB renamed, and put a decent Oxford method in its place. **David Hope** is now ringing master at Worcester Cathedral.

Roger Abbott died in February. Lawrence Haines collated an obituary from various members for the RW:

Roger Abbott, who contributed greatly and generously to ringing, especially in Oxford, died of a heart attack when aged only 60, leaving his wife Clare and sons Ben and Tim. This brief memorial draws on contributions from many who knew him. He will be sadly missed.

Roger learned to ring in 1952. The bells at his home town, Frome in Somerset, were too unwieldy for learners, so Roger was taught at Whatley. His teacher was Eunice D. Overend, who has taught many people in the area and still does. Peter Wycherley, another of Eunice's pupils at the time, recalls, "We were enthusiastic cyclists and cycled to meetings in our own district and other districts in the Bath and Wells on most Saturdays. Our 'longest length' was to cycle (in a day) from Frome to camp in the Norfolk Broads, and ring at St. Peter's Mancroft. We attempted numerous peals, mostly doubles, mostly unsuccessful." But among the successes was Roger's first as conductor - Grandsire at Whatley in 1956.

Roger came up to St Catherine's in 1960 to read Engineering, and went on to take a doctorate. He did not ring much in Oxford as an undergraduate, but became more active later. By the late 1960s he had settled in the area and was ringing with both the OUS and the OS. Cars were not very common amongst the resident members in those days: on Saturday outings Roger's less-than-youthful Ford Anglia would usually be teeming with grateful non-cyclists.

Roger enjoyed peal ringing, and took part in many of the peals rung for the OUS, OS and eventually the St Thomas Society during the early 1970s. Steve Whittleton remembers, "Roger was always prepared to drive peal bands to towers. He would meet us at about 5pm in St Giles with his battered car. Four of us would cram into it and off we would go." Another undergraduate in the band, Peter Giles, says, "Although Roger was never one of the lads - hardly surprising since he was grown up and we weren't! - he often enjoyed coming for a curry after the Thursday peal, and was known by the waiters in the Bombay as the Boss Man."

When Roger married Clare, he cut back on his peal ringing, and when he took up flying his opportunities for ringing weekend peals were reduced. Even so, he rang in total something over 250 peals. Most were of Surprise Major or Royal, and over a quarter were rung at St Thos. With his early experience on the heavy-going bells of Frome, Roger much enjoyed ringing the tenor to peals. Amongst other feats, he carried off the tricky task of tenoring to spliced Caters and Royal, and it was the St Thos tenor that he rang to his last peal, in January 2002.

Roger rang a good deal with the Oxford Society - at practices, for Sunday services and festivals, and in peals. He was Treasurer of the Society for 12 years. Roger gave generously to bell appeals, and donated a new treble for St Mary Mag. The OUS rang a peal of Bristol S Major in Roger's memory at St Thomas's on Saturday, 9th March, conducted by Mark Bell. Ben and Tim both rang in a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Stephen Ivin, at St. Thos on the day of his funeral. Another quarter peal was rung at Whatley on 12th March by people who had rung with him in the early days, including his teacher Eunice (well into her eighties).

There was a great deal more to Roger than his ringing. His interests ranged wide: and as his colleague David Rowles remarked, "He always seemed to genuinely know something about nearly every topic that came up in conversation." Yet he was no butterfly: whatever he tackled, he wanted to do wholeheartedly and to the best of his ability.

Roger was an accomplished organist. Latterly, he was more likely on a Sunday morning to be playing the organ at Wheatley Parish Church than ringing. He gave several organ recitals, including a number in Germany and at SMV. With his characteristically meticulous and intelligent preparation, he was a fine performer in continuo and accompaniment, as shown in a recent performance of Charpentier's *Little Mass* in the Holywell Music Rooms. He also composed music, including a *Fanfare for St. Nicholas*, which was played at Roger's funeral service.

Roger had in recent years been doing an increasing amount of singing. He enjoyed playing a Gentleman of Japan in *The Mikado*, and travelled to Menden, near

Dortmund, in October 2001 to sing in Brahms' *Ein Deutscher Requiem*; where he used his immaculate German to exchange Adolf Hitler jokes with his hosts.

For many years, a much appreciated start of the Wheatley Carol Service was the tune ringing on handbells by Roger and his sons, Ben and Tim.

Roger was a pioneer in the study of the workings of insect muscle at the molecular level, and was among the first to use computers in biology. His doctoral research was carried out in the ARC Unit in the Zoology Department, where Professor Pringle was interested in finding out how insects can move their wings at a frequency higher than that of the nervous impulses that stimulate them. Roger, an engineer, studied the mechanics of the insect flight muscles using fibres from the giant waterbug *Lethocerus*. Belinda Bullard reports that Roger was extremely good at the intricate manipulations needed to fix small bundles of fibres to the apparatus.

Roger was ahead of his time in controlling and recording his experiments by means of an early computer. As there was no suitable software, he had to write it himself. Besides specific software for his experiments, he created an extended form of the Algol programming language, known as Abgol, for the University's Computing Department. Soon afterwards, he was marketing extensions to the FOCAL language used on the PDP-8 computer that was very popular in scientific circles. He began to carry out programming and computer consultancy as a freelance. He formed his own company, RHA (Minisystems) Limited, and from then on most of his working life was spent in some form of computing.

Flying was one of the passions of Roger's life. He set about it in his usual thorough and intelligent fashion. For 20 years he flew from Wycombe Air Park and for many of those years he was a part-time instructor. He generally flew single engine Cessna 152s and 172s. He was also licensed for multi-engined planes and held a night-flying rating. His strong dedication to flying was demonstrated when he failed a routine medical because of high blood pressure. He immediately set about a programme of long road runs and other exercise to overcome the problem, persisting for fully two years before he was again permitted to fly.

Roger never replaced anything he could repair - cars, washing machines, cameras. He could have bought new, but he liked the challenge and the chance to use his engineering skills. This characteristic was reflected in the quotation on the order of service for his funeral, "He must be a good chap, running a car like that and buying new bells".

He was interested in photography, and when still a teenager, made money out of commissions to take photographs. He was very knowledgeable about wine, particularly German wine. For a time had his own vine in his garden at Horspath.

Above all, Roger was a loving husband and father. Nigel Orchard, a frequent guest, said, "Staying at Roger and Clare's home, one recognised the closeness and mutual support of the family. Roger and Clare were devoted parents. Roger was known to say that his family was the best thing in his life. At Roger's funeral, Ben spoke a loving eulogy and Tim contributed a moving guitar rendition of a piece by J.S.Bach." There could not have been a more fitting epitaph.

Rodney Meadows (1924-2002) died in March. Jeremy Pratt gave the funeral oration:

The phrase “A Scholar and a Gentleman” is overused, and often misused, but for Rodney, the epithet is wholly apposite.

Rodney was an intensely private person, and it is only now that the many facets of his life are coming together. Even so, he was very sociable and always excellent company. He had a splendid subtle wit, which he used to great effect, but never maliciously. He was a perfectionist to himself, and would only take on activities or responsibilities if he believed he could do them well. What he did take on, however, he carried out with passion and loyalty, and with a competence to which many of us can only aspire. His manner was charming and unassuming, yet he commanded the respect of all who knew him.

He was a scholar of some distinction. From school he won an open scholarship to read classics at Exeter College, Oxford, and, after graduating, completed a post-graduate Diploma in Classical Archaeology. He continued his interest in this field, and in particular, Roman Britain. He had a number of papers on the subject published, although his last remained unpublished. It has been suggested that the reason for non-publication was that it ran contrary to received wisdom. He was not averse to controversy, indeed at times revelled in it. He was always prepared deliberately to take a contrarian view (often with a twinkle in his eye) simply to test the intellectual rigour of the principal argument.

After Oxford, he joined the Western Region of British Rail as a “Traffic Apprentice”, the management training scheme of the day. This allowed him to indulge in his passion for railways – it also took him to a number of parts of the country. He rose quietly through the ranks, changing region in the process, ending up based at Kings Cross, first as Divisional Passenger Manager and latterly as Marketing Manager for the East Coast Main Line. It is said that he had the capacity to rise further within British Rail – He chose not to. Stories of his working life abound: his attention to detail; his knowledge of, and passion for railways; his ability to communicate effectively at all levels, from the man on the footplate to the Board. It is said, however, that his first task in the office every morning was to speak to his stockbroker!

Outside his scholarship and his work he had many and varied interests. His passion for, and contribution to, British Music will be spoken of shortly by Anthony Lindsey. He was a keen Bridge player, and, having been introduced to golf in 1971 by his good friend Ralph Edwards, became a keen and competent golfer playing many of the major courses in the British Isles, particularly in Scotland and Ireland. It was during his regular visits to Southern Ireland that he indulged his hobby of horse-riding. He was also a keen football fan. Highbury may seem an unlikely place to find Rodney, but he was a lifetime supporter of Arsenal, a season-ticket holder, and indeed a shareholder. Today he would be happy – Arsenal two points clear at the top of the Premiership, and with a game in hand!

It was, however, from his Church Bell Ringing that many here today will know him. He was introduced to ringing as an undergraduate at Oxford and became an active member of the Oxford University Society. His enthusiasm was such that he also joined the band at the tower nearest to his parents then home, St Augustine's Kilburn. Apart from the inevitable breaks while working away from London he remained a loyal supporter of that band until his death, a period of over 50 years.

Early in his railway career he was posted to Snow Hill Station in Birmingham, and became a much respected member of the leading bands at St Philip's Cathedral and at St Martin's-in-the-Bullring. He was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1953, and, back in London in the late 1950's, he became an active supporter of the Society in London. He was elected Master in 1964, and was a Trustee of the Society for the last five years of his life. It was in that capacity that he attended a dinner for the Officers of the Society on the night before he died, an event which he clearly thoroughly enjoyed and to which he contributed in his own inimitable style. He was a supernumerary member of the St Paul's Cathedral Guild from 1971-1984. His links with the Oxford University Society were also maintained and he served as President from 1976 – 1982.

But his spiritual ringing home was Westminster Abbey. A supernumerary in 1959, and a Principal Member two years later, he gave over 40 years service to the Abbey. He loved the place, and was much loved by all involved with it. He rang for many great occasions, and how fitting that his body should have been received into the Abbey on the same day as that of HM Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and, that after the pomp and splendour of the State Occasion there should be a simple service for Rodney, and that the bells should be rung for him!

In ringing circles, however, he will be remembered not just as one of the most quietly competent ringers of his day, but perhaps most as a wonderful social companion, and as a brilliant and witty writer and speaker. His adaptation of Stephen Potter's "Gamesmanship" to ringing in his 1951/2 articles entitled Belfrymanship are classics, as was his speech at the Henry Johnson Dinner in Birmingham in 1961 when he wittily described the leading Birmingham ringers of the day in verse - "The Great Debunker". Some took offence at his Belfrymanship articles. A "Disgusted of Tunbridge Wells" correspondent wrote "...but to the creator of Meadowsmanship – keep your devilish art off ringing, return it to the home it doubtless has in Hades with the Friars of *The Summoner's Tale*." But for most, they were witty, they were amusing, and they were extremely perceptive!

Rodney was a man of many parts. Although he remained a bachelor all his life, he was a strong family man. He was devoted to his parents, Harry and Lois, and his elder sister, Jean, and was a regular attender at the biennial reunion of the wider family of cousins. He was kind and generous, a good friend and wise counsel. He was indeed a true Gentleman.

His final article on Belfrymanship included the comment “... That’s what I like about being a ringer. It’s not only the ringing itself, it’s the comradeship”. He was right – and he gave so much to both. He will be sorely missed.

Basil Almond died in October 2001. From the New College Record:

He was born in 1926, the eldest son of Sir James and Lady Almond (Indian Civil Service). He was educated at Westminster, but WWII meant the actual location was first Lancing then Simla. Returning to England in November 1942, he was torpedoed in the south Atlantic and spent fourteen days in an open boat. He was called up in 1944, joining the RAF as a navigator. Before entering New College in 1948 he did a course in Russian at Cambridge. He read French and Russian, and then taught languages at Aldenham before becoming an NHS administrator at St Mary's Paddington. He then taught Russian at Guildford University (sic) before moving to Blair Atholl. He finally ran the renal unit at Dundee Royal Infirmary.

Peter Wright died in November 2001. Born in 1927, he was educated at Maidstone Grammar, then read Maths and Physics. While at Oxford he met Kate Higgins, whom he later married. He taught in Croydon, Wells and Ampthill, at which tower he was captain.

Roger St John Smith died in January 2002 at the age of 89. He learned to ring at Yardley Hastings in 1928, where his father was Rector and where he rang his first peal three years later. In 1934 he went up to Selwyn, and was Master of the CUG from 1935 to 1937. In that year he came up to Oxford and became master of the OUS in 1938-39, a unique double. In 1939 he was ordained, and served as an Army Chaplain during the war. It was 1963 before he had a parish with bells, Darley Dale. He was CC rep for the Derby from 1969-74. Bad health made him give up peal ringing in 1973, and in 1977 he retired to Wales.

Peter Corlett, although not a member of the OUS, will be fondly remembered by those of us up in the mid 70s. A member of New College and then a house master at St Edward's, he learned to ring, and befriended Stuart Brant, who arranged some quarters for him. An ardent grabber, he collected 655 towers in the year of the oil crisis by maintaining a secret and highly illegal petrol dump 'at a location nearby'.

Mary Magdalen

The two new trebles given in memory of Peter Border have now been installed, giving the residents a Taylor ten as their home tower. An opening afternoon took place in October with Ruth Border present. As yet, they have been quartered but not pealed as a ten (although that should be rectified within days of me writing this). No doubt there will be many opportunities to do so in the future. It is interesting to reflect that Oxford now has three first class tens within walking distance.

OUS Peals

All the Society's peals are now available on the internet at <http://www.ouscr.org.uk/peals/>. To date, there have been 917. You may view them chronologically and also selectively by tower, person, method, stage, conductor, years, and tower or hand. Statistics are also available of totals by tower, person, conductor and method.

This is a first class facility and the Society must thank those who wrote it and loaded all the data. Please check it against your personal records and notify us (via the site's link) of any errors.

As a matter of interest, these are the key figures:

- Total number of peals - 917. Tower bells 666, handbells 251.
- Leading ringers: David Brown 186, Paul Mounsey 182, John Spice 111, Peter Giles 108, Andrew Stubbs 92, Quentin Armitage 90, Betty Spice 88, Stephen Whittleton 87.
- Tower bells - Paul Mounsey 126, David Brown 122, Peter Giles 108, Andrew Stubbs 92.
- Handbells - John Spice 81, David Brown 64, Betty Spice 56, Paul Mounsey 56, Wilf Moreton 37.
- Conductors - David Brown 131, John Spice 83, Paul Mounsey 60.
- Towers - St Thos 81, Mary Mag's 55, St Ebbe's 27, Dorchester 20, Kingham 18, Drayton 15.

There have been 14 peals in 2002:

Stedman Cinques, London Royal No3 (2), Yorkshire Royal (2), 4-Spliced S Major, Glasgow SM, Bristol SM (2), Cornwall SM, Superlative SM, Yorkshire SM (2), and 2-spliced Plain Major.

Compare this with 1999 (9), 2000 (19) and 2001 (25).

The OUS Online

The burgeoning of the internet means that the office of webmaster is likely to become a committee post shortly. One of Henry's earlier tasks may be to incorporate the Newsletter into the website in a more timely and appropriate manner: as most of this Newsletter now reaches me online, it seems sensible not to hoard articles for twelve months, then dump them to paper, then email the Word document to those online members, and then copy it to the website, but to post all appropriate material straight to the website as soon as it arrives.

About one third of the members now take the Letter electronically. This is distributed via John Camp's email list, which is a bulletin board and not a chat list. If you have not yet enrolled, we would be very grateful if you were to do so.

The website is very good: see <http://www.users.ox.ac.uk/~ouscr> for all current and recent details about the OUS, and a complete peal history.

To join the distribution list, contact ouscr-admin@bellringers.net

Gen. Secretary - pggiles@lineone.net or gilesp@bp.com or oldgrimes@hotmail.com

Troyte and Huntsham

Lester Yeo writes: I still have a few copies of the STS early history for sale at £1 each.. I will bring them to the dinner, but if anyone would like one before then, I can be contacted on lyeo@supanet.com I had hoped to write something about John Troyte but haven't had the time. It may be worth mentioning that it is hoped that the bells of his home tower Huntsham will be rehung and some bells recast to make a lighter eight (when completed, the ropes of the trebles will not have to run in grooves cut into the wall and around rusted pulleys). The appeal has been launched, but the Troyte family are no longer in the big house, and the church has an electoral roll of four. Details of the plans are available on the Devon Guild website, in the newsletter for September 2001.