When I started here 1½ years ago, there was no indication of balloon referencing or parts list on the drawing at all. The parts list was a separate excel spreadsheet, and there was no link between that spreadsheet and the autocad drawing at all.

Thanks to feedback from this discussion group, I am now using multi-leaders with circle blocks, with attribute tag numbers, which I change manually.

**STEP 1**
I create the parts list in excel as was done before.

**STEP 2**
I highlight the required cells and then copy paste them into my autocad paper space layout, then scale that embedded ole to a suitable size to fit.

**STEP 3**
Label the part using a multileader.

**STEP 4**
Change the attribute tag to the required number.

**STEP 5**
Copy this multileader to new positions, drag the arrow head to the required part, and change the attribute tag to the required number again.

Finally, I do an count to check the quantities, putting a tick on a non plot layer to show myself which ones I have checked.

This is a very tedious, time consuming and prone to error method.

In my inventor drawings, balloon referencing and parts lists are automated and extremely easy to do.

There must be a better way in Autocad, which is sort of semi automated.

Possibly using attributes, listing the attributes in a table, linking the tag number to the attribute???

All my parts are inserted blocks.