Elaine Turner, President of the Northern Branch, writes:

A very Happy New Year to you all and your families

Mission was successfully accomplished last night when, for the first time in living memory, the New Year was rung in on the Claxby church bells. What was even more special is that the team were all Claxby residents, 2 of whom have only learned to ring in the past 12 months and another of whom was a third generation Claxby bell ringer. See below photo (George, Michael, Helen, Hefina and John).

It was a splendid, moonlit evening with a light covering of snow and about 20 villagers stood in the church yard (with a little something to warm them up!) to hear the ringing ......and there have been no complaints so far!!

Michael Sharp, who rang the tenor, has lived in the village all his life and his Grandfather and Father rang at Claxby (indeed his grandfather died up the tower!). Michael has no recollection of ringing in the New year before, so it was a wonderful moment.

Well done to all the ringers and supporters and I hope that those of you who also rang in the New Year at your churches enjoyed it too.

Hopefully a good start to the New Year ......and our very best wishes to you all for 2010

## Elaine and Chris

