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## Celebrations for new look church at Redlingfield, near Eye

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Rebecca Murphy

The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich was the special guest at a church service held at Redlingfield church, near Eye, as it celebrated the dedication of its new roof.



The village of Redlingfield was joined by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich the Rt Revd Martin Seeley to dedicate St Andrew's Parish Church's new roof. Picture: Janet Norman-Philips.

The restoration work at the 1,000-year-old St Andrew's Parish Church, which included a new roof, gutters, downpipe and drains, cost almost £94,000 and took a year to complete.

More than 130 people from the village attended the service which welcomed the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich the Rt Revd Martin Seeley - the first bishop to visit the church for 500 years.

He said: "I am really grateful to all of you who have made the celebration possible. For all the extraordinary hard work and all the people who raised money to secure this place."

The church received a grant of £71,800 from the government's Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund and strong community support for fundraising events saw £6,000 raised locally.

It is launching a new fundraising drive to further repair and update the church, including new toilets and a kitchen, to make it a community building for everyone to enjoy.

The work will cost an estimated £200,000.



The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich the Rt Revd Martin Seeley and the vicar of St Andrew's Parish Church Michael Womack at the dedication of the Church's new roof. Picture: Janet Norman-Philips.

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