Reaping the rewards of renewable energy

Orchard Cottage
Ware
Hertfordshire
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Charles Adams is enjoying not only the convenience of a HEATBANK® thermal heating system powered from renewable sources, but also the 25% to 30% savings he is getting on his annual heating bill when compared to using his old oil boiler.

The Adams’ family home is Orchard Cottage in Ware, Hertfordshire, a 500 year old detached property which used to be a Bed & Breakfast. Charles is the proprietor of Morley Stoves in Ware, a 40-year old business that supplies and installs around 400 wood and multi-fuel stoves annually.

"Initially, we decided to introduce a wood stove unit with a back boiler to increase the supply of hot water and help reduce our oil usage and the ongoing problems we had with access and cost," Charles explained.

"This then led me to research the options for heat storage via local specialist installers and, as an existing customer of Specflue, we came across the Xcel HEATBANK®."

The HEATBANK® is manufactured by Thermal Integration and distributed by Specflue, a leading supplier of renewable heat products and flue systems. Charles initially took advantage of Thermal Integration’s free online system designer service. This collects all relevant data and allows for an unlimited number of designs and automatically works out costs and savings, carbon footprints and boiler and pump sizes.

Charles continued: “The system designer service not only selects the ideal products and designs the layout, but also generates a quotation and gives you a list of installers who can carry out the work.”

The HEATBANK® consists of a high volume stainless steel cylinder with a 495 litre capacity. It provides high flow rates of mains pressure hot water, as well as being a heat source for radiators and underfloor heating. Combined with the oil, the energy produced by the wood burner and solar panels is transferred by a plate heat exchanger system, with the core connection linking in to supply all the water and heating needs.

“As well as the way it links to the wood burner, we love the instant hot water, the flexibility in the summer and the compact footprint. As we get more used to the technology, we know there will be even more cost savings and we truly feel that we are offsetting the energy poverty factor.”

Added benefits of the HEATBANK® include the peace of mind provided by the 25-year warranty and that the system generates three times as much hot water per minute as a wall hung gas boiler.

Charles concluded: “I am very happy with the end result and the installers did a very good and clean job. The process from order to installation only took 10 days. Our typical annual oil bills were in the region of £4,000 and I estimate that we will achieve savings of between 25% and 30% per annum, which gives us a rapid and effective payback on our investment.”

Thermal Integration products are distributed by Specflue.

For further details of Specflue products and services please call 0800 90 20 220; email sales@specflue.com or visit www.specflue.com

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