

OIL SYNDICATE REPORT 2017

Oil Syndicate Report for the Parish of Redgrave cum Botesdale and Rickinghall, for the period Spring 2016 - Spring 2107.

The Syndicate has continued to be a substantial bulk purchase co-ordinator, buying nearly 44,000 litres in July 2016, nearly 43,500 litres in November, and almost 44,000 litres this last February. This was somewhat less in total than last year, however.

The last three purchases have all been from UKAY Fuels, of Hadleigh, who seem determined to beat any other price offered. Their method of business means that they do not keep a large store of oil on hand, but buy it after the order is placed. This means that they can take longer than other suppliers to deliver the last orders, but they do normally deliver everything by the Tuesday a fortnight after the day that the order is placed, which means the beginning of the third week.

UKAY Fuels, as well as other suppliers, have a problem with orders that ask for a Fill-up, so when this is requested, I add about 10% to the requested amount. This then forms the basis of the order when the supplier contacts each purchaser and takes payment. If less is actually delivered, then the excess money charged is refunded. In any case, only the amount delivered is charged for.

They have been very co-operative this time with some orders placed after the delivery date, so I am happy to keep including them in the bidding process.

This last session was interesting in that I asked another well-known supply group to quote, after removing them from the list some time ago, but their business model involves charging a high initial price, and then giving me a couple of rebates afterwards, for me to 'use however I want'. All requests for just a plain per litre price incorporating these 'rebates' failed, to the point where we were arguing over the 'phone, so they have now lost all credibility. If they ever did it properly, then I would ask them to quote, but not with some nebulous refunds that would then need apportioning to go back to each purchaser, if the money ever actually turned up. Apart from which, they are really a reseller, rather than a supplier.

The next purchase will be at the end of July, orders are to be with me by Saturday 29 July.

David Sloan