

OIL SYNDICATE REPORT 2023-24

The Syndicate again produced some good savings for its members, always achieving a reduction from the non-discount price of at least 3 pence per litre, often more.

Goff started the year off, but then for July and November, Watson's were able to beat them. Goff seemed to have a hard lower limit, and would not go below that point, which was unusual for them.

From 2016 to 2019, UKAY Fuels of Hadleigh were our continuous supplier, always beating the Big Boys. Then they had a big personnel change, and lost their interest, and even though I always asked them for a quote, they didn't seem concerned. Then for the current February 2024 order, they have suddenly shown interest again. They beat the other suppliers, and got the order. Then they had problems with their tankers. The first had an accident, the second's oil delivery pump stopped pumping, and the third, of three, had its steering go bad. Deliveries were delayed until the following week.

There is no question that the suppliers' margins are being squeezed, but that is true of everything nowadays. At least the Government has decided to delay or even eliminate the proposed 'Boiler Tax' that would have penalised oil boiler manufacturers for not selling enough Heat Pumps, which penalty would of course have been passed on to purchasers of new heating equipment.

I saw today a tanker from Broadland Fuels, who were competitive for this order, delivering to the house over the road from me. The tanker is huge. I would hate to see that come down my lane, there would not be room. Luckily it seems to be staying away from me.

If only we could convert rainwater into heat.....

David Sloan