

Installation and use of Rayburn Cookmaster 212 SFW

Case Study 2

Rayburn installation

For the last 6 years we have lived in Exford in a 400 year old cob built 2 bedrooomed cottage quite happily with our oil fired Rayburn, although fairly expensive to run (around £800 a year) it suited our needs taking care of the cooking, domestic hot water and heating, it also of course lent a hand with the ironing.

In August of last year (2006) we were advised that we should replace our metal oil tank, we looked into this and the costs were astronomical due to new legislation we would need a bunded tank and it would have to go to the bottom of the garden meaning a pump and new pipes, a total cost of well over £4000.

In January of this year (2007) we decided to look for an alternative, John (my husband) has access to and works with wood, so we decided to look towards a woodfueled boiler, I did look into the options from Clearskies to see if grants were available - which of course they are - but to my amazement not for any type of boiler which cooks. We decided that we would look to have a Rayburn anyway and were delighted to find out that the Exmoor National Park would look at our case. The Rayburn we have chosen is a Cookmaster 212SFW.

The Rayburn

The model is a Cookmaster 212SFW this comes with 2

grates one for multifuel use and the one we have installed which is for woodburning only. The temperature is manually controlled by a spinwheel on the front of the ashpit door, and in conjunction with an adjustable flue chamber damper plate to control the chimney draught; thus making this very flexible and easy to control.

The appliance meets all the requirements of BS 1252 and is fully approved by the HETAS Ltd Appliance Approval Scheme.

Work carried out

The new Rayburn was installed into the fireplace in the kitchen, the chimney was lined with a grade one flexible stainless steel flue liner. A new indirect cylinder was fitted and an extra tank was installed in the attic. A radiator was fitted into the second bedroom.

Fuel

We burn only hardwood logs which have been seasoned outside for a minimum of 2 years. They are then cut and split to size using a converter which is run from the P.T.O on a tractor, they are then taken to our barn where stored until used.

The Rayburn was installed in May 2007 and we have had it alight ever since, I tend to keep it on tickover during the day and open it up late afternoon for cooking then shut it right down again overnight, I find this gives us

all the hot water we could use, whilst keeping the cottage aired and warm, this also keeps log usage down filling up about 3 times a day

Estimated savings

We estimate that we will save in the region of £800 a year on fuel bills; £700 from not using oil and £100 on servicing.

Conclusion

The cost of the Rayburn and the installation was £4051 which was the amount it was going to cost to have a new oil tank installed. We now have a very flexible and easily controlled method of cooking and heating which is costing us very little to run. We are fortunate as we have wood available to us through Johns work, however, calculating the wood used in the last two months we estimate that even if we paid full price for wood we still would have at least saved 1/3 of costs. We also have the pleasure of more space outside where the old oil tank once stood.



(above): Installation - Roof - Fireplace - Stacked wood - Converter - Woodstore

Rayburn (left)

If you would like information on how to go about claiming from the SDF fund for your boiler installation or to check your eligibility, please contact South West Wood Fuels



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