

INSTALLER'S CHOICE SPOTLIGHT

Wayne Taylor, Taylor's Property Maintenance Engineers Ltd.

When replacing the 40 year old heating system of a one-bedroom maisonette in West London, Camden-based installer Wayne Taylor became one of the first to get his hands on the replacement for the UK's most popular boiler, the Greenstar i. Installer's Choice caught up with him to find out about the installation.

The property's heating system consisted of a boiler nearly half a century old situated below an expansion tank, with a hot water cylinder and storage tank held in an airing cupboard in the kitchen. Having been called to the West London apartment on several occasions over the years, tasked with deciphering the cause of lost heating and hot water from such a complex arrangement, Wayne decided a complete overhaul was needed, and recommended a Greenstar i Junior to provide the upgrade.

After receiving a leaflet from Worcester announcing the impending launch of the Greenstar i however, he called his local plumber's merchant to find out when they would have the new boiler in stock. By the time the homeowner had approved the quote, the new Greenstar i had arrived on the shelves

and Wayne made the decision to install the new appliance at a small loss in order to make sure the homeowner was receiving the very latest technology Worcester had to offer.

The work was completed in just a few hours with the various benefits of the boiler's installer-inspired design becoming clear during the smooth installation. Wayne and the team drained and removed the existing appliances before connecting the new Greenstar i to the old pipework, which was taken away from view down through the kitchen work surface. For further efficiency, a Greenstar System Filter and a MT10-RF mechanical thermostat were also added.

On the project, Wayne of Taylor's Property Maintenance Engineers Ltd commented: "The previous system

was very inefficient. I was regularly being asked to find out why there was no heating or hot water, so a replacement was long overdue.

"We took out the storage tank, the hot water tank and the boiler, did away with all the pipework and capped it all off, so there's actually no more pipework visible in the kitchen and all you see now is the nice new boiler on the wall.

"We had originally provided a quote for a different Worcester boiler, but I wouldn't want customers to wonder why they haven't been offered the latest model and once we knew the new boiler was in stock we made the decision to install that. I went to the Greenstar i launch event the day after we installed the boiler, so I think we were one of the first to fit it!



"Unsurprisingly, my customer's over the moon. She's cut down on her fuel consumption, she now has a building compliance certificate and she won't have to call me every 12 months to work out why there's no heating or hot water, so there won't be any ongoing maintenance costs.

"At 68 per cent efficiency, the old system was in the lowest available performance category. Now the homeowner is looking at upwards of 90 per cent efficiency. That's a big difference, and with the price of gas at the moment, the savings on her bill over the next ten years will probably pay for the boiler. In fact, not only has the homeowner gained a more efficient heating and hot water system, but getting rid of the cylinder and the hot water storage tank, has also created more space in the kitchen. This has added even more value to the property - so if she does decide to sell, she'll get her money back.

"The new boiler's great in many ways. The expansion vessel comes pre-connected, and is easy to re-charge or change at a later date if necessary. The digital display is great, telling you what's going on with the boiler and allowing everything to be adjusted digitally. The flue is a lot easier to connect, and the side panels are fixed so that when you take the casing off you don't take the whole casing off - you just undo one little screw and the front cover comes off by itself which makes work easier and means that it isn't big or bulky.

"It's a beautiful boiler, really. Worcester has come a long way and the Greenstar i is second to none."