

## **Tantrum of Abersoch - Our First Year at RHYC**

We have been so pleased with our first year as members of the RHYC that I felt we should put it in writing.

We live as far away from the sea as is possible. We spent over a decade racing Dart 18s and sailing a small cruiser on Rutland Water.

Then the penny dropped and for 3 seasons we sailed out of Tidemill on Sanderling a Hunter Channel 31 and our first real sea boat.

We bought Tantrum of Abersoch a Najad 380 from a lady in Pwllheli in 2006. This was a big step up for us, and we spent our first season (2007) based in The Menai Strait and sailing around Anglesey. The two main differences to the East Coast were Rain & Rocks!

Early last year we brought Tantrum back to the East Coast, to her new berth at Woolverstone. We joined the Cruising Association when we bought Tantrum and decided to contact The East Coast Branch now that we had returned.

I exchanged emails and telephone calls with Elspeth the local CA officer. She explained to me about the great ½ price offer to join the RHYC and her bottle of bubbly as commission!

We had to join!

It has certainly been one of our better decisions. We have been very fortunate for a number of reasons:

### **Training**

We did First Aid and Radar (Not Radiology but 2 separate courses!) with Sally. These were very professional, interesting and fun.

We have recently had 5 days tuition on Tantrum with Mike Graham. Simply excellent, we had a real mix of conditions and crossed the Thames to Chatham. Max achieved his Competent Crew, Mandy her Day Skipper and I, my Coastal Skipper.

The RHYC training is superb – thank you.

### **Cruise in Company**

Paul & Suzie Sear have transformed our sailing with CIC. We have met so many great people and a number of very enjoyable social events. But above all CIC has boosted our confidence to sail further afield. Thank you

### **Facilities**

Being able to pop up from our berth at MDL to use the facilities has been a great boon. The catering is very good, the beer is very good and the staff are really friendly.

The 10p paper back library has kept me in reading matter too!

### **Dinghies**

Max is a keen Topper sailor and regularly sails on our nearby Rutland Water. He is looking forward to finding out about saline & tides on the Orwell!

We are now actively looking for a building plot in the area (please let us know of any), so we can move from Grantham to nearer the RHYC!

We have had a great year – Thank you all at RHYC