

## BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

For week ending Friday 25/10/24

by Ray French

The Southerly winds and mild weather over the past week have ensured some good fishing for all methods, especially with the addition of cloud cover. Having said that it is definitely not a fish a chuck, you have to work for them, but surely that is the most rewarding bit. When I say work for them, I mean first find them and then get them to take your offering, which depending on your method could be Fly, Spinner or Bait. I am pleased to say that at the weekend a lot got it right!

### FISH DEPTH

I am still of the opinion that the majority of Bewl Trout are split into two main bands. There are still a lot of fish down hugging the lakebed, not necessarily as deep as they were in high summer but still preferring to bottom graze, albeit in no more than 30ft of water and sometimes as little as 5ft. These fish are mostly the spring and early summer stock that went down in late July.

Then there is the second band of Trout. In the main smaller fish stocked from the end of September and early October that are swimming much higher in the water probably no deeper than 5ft. This higher band of fish are the prime target for the Fly Fisherman as often they can be seen in the surface looking for food i.e. hatching Flies & Fry.

Whatever, there are good options for all methods. The anchored boats primarily are Any Method rods who can easily fish at both levels with Bait or Spinner, whereas the fly boys will target the surface feeders. This week fish have been caught at both levels.

### THE FISHING

As I have said there are a lot of fish running high in the water, but they have not been easy to spot. Many of the fish are coming blind, with either just a tightening of the line or boiling under the flies at lift off. I have been out two mornings this week, on Wednesday with John Turner and today (Friday) with George Brown.

On Wednesday morning we had 7 fish to the boat and a few who looked but didn't buy! I fished floating line with three flies. Two small size 12 Orange Blobs on droppers and a Yellow/Pink Booby on the point. I caught 2 on the Booby fig 8 retrieve and 2 on the Blobs pulled. I continuously alternated the retrieve. John had a similar set up and had his fish on a White/Pink Booby with short pulls on a Hover Line.

This morning (Friday) there was more cloud, and I was out with George B. Again, I was on floater, same set up and had six. I also lost a double up when my leader and Fly line parted at the leader loop (bad knot, operated error) and lost one of the fish of another double up! George also had six, very similar set up but had the majority of his fish on the Booby. The same Pink/White fly pattern that John T used on Wednesday. We each have the fly it works well at Bewl; it is similar to a Candy Booby.

Just to whet your appetite for the weekend... also out this morning was fellow Bewl Club member and regular Fly rod Nick Cox, who by his own admission has struggled lately as we all

have. He also had 12 Trout including 2 double ups, all returned, pulling his Flies across the top on a Floater!!!

#### FISH AREAS

The fish are as last week, well spread out which makes it difficult to suggest a particular place and it is always dependant on wind direction at Bewl. On the aforementioned Southerly wind, I have caught all the fish on my last three trips starting from about 300yds up Bewl Straight and drifting out and across the Main Bowl, finishing at the Lodge Boat Jetty. On these long drifts you may go for some time without anything and then just like the traditional London Buses, two will come along together.

BEWL is very much like that at the moment with fish almost everywhere but unpredictable. I suppose if through impatience or limited time you need a banker it has to be the Main Bowl. Today the best area was the Southeast side of the Bowl away from the lodge. There was also a hot spot in the middle and out from Chingley Wood towards the old Bubbles Reports this week have also shown fish at Hook House, Beaumans and the old Cages to Bramble Point.

#### SUMMARY

A lot more fish being caught this week, but patience and observation is a plus. Any Method doing well at anchor fishing all depths. Fly rods doing better on the drift fishing high in the water and in cloud pulling across the top with colour is getting some action. With little wind or rain the water is very clear which is allowing fish to see your offerings at some distance.

Looking good for the weekend and winter with more stocking to come.

Enjoy your fishing. Ray French.

Picture. Yours truly, first of the morning, up Bewl Straight!

