

Bewl Bridge Flyfishers' Club Closed Boat Championship - Sunday 5th June 2011

Fresh from her Gold Medal on Bewl in the England Ladies Home International, Hilary Tomlinson continued her rich vein of form a week later by winning the BBFC Closed Boat Championship.

50 Anglers caught 275 Rainbows and Blues for a rod average of 5.5 to record the best results in this event for several years in cloudy overcast conditions. What had promised to be a horrendous day of high wind and heavy rain never materialised albeit there was one or two showers. Most competitors fished in the main bowl where the dam wall reduced the North wind to almost a ripple.

It was no secret that the area was full of fish and most boats caught steadily during the morning session with rods bending from Canoe Club corner to Chingley corner and up to Chingley Point and the Yacht Station, a huge area.

A lunch break was taken at 1pm-2pm and a Barbecue served at the rear of the fishing lodge, with beers and soft drinks provided by the club. It was a bit wet but it didn't dampen appetites and the food was both appreciated and enjoyed.

As for the fishing, three people had already bagged up including two from the same boat fishing as a team.

The afternoon session was not as good as the morning but many more anglers managed to catch their eight and by the finish at 6pm several boats were already back in dock.

The weigh in was conducted by Ranger Vince Brooks and there was some top quality fish on view, the best a nice Blue of 3lb 2oz caught by Mark Owen. With the fish remaining high in the water all day most of the normal methods were successful; Washing line, pulling disturbers, floating line Nymphs and Wets, plus a few rods had real success on the dries. In fact, it was just about as good as it gets. What was also so good this year was the number of women attending and how well they did. England regulars Jane Robinson, Janice Sharp, Joan Russell and overall winner Hilary Tomlinson along with Mairi McFarlane, Yvon Webb, Choy Andrews and Jill Owen.

By the look of satisfaction at the end of play I am sure everyone enjoyed the day and Bewl delivered once again.

Results

Overall Individual Winner

Hilary Tomlinson

20lb 2.5 oz

Biggest Fish

Mark Owen

3lb 2oz

Boat team 1st

Colin Alexander

Norma Eve

Combined weight 38lb 6.5oz

Boat team 2nd

Mick Priest

Mark Tremain Coker

Combined weight 38lb 6oz

Boat team 3rd & Best Ladies

Hilary Tomlinson

Mairi McFarlane

Combined weight 37lb 6oz