

Trout stocked Sunday 21st November!

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 19 November 2021

Again this week Bewl has fished really well to Any Method, Fly and Predator rods with lots of fish taken over last weekend. However as last week not everyone is catching, it is still very much a matter of some are doing well and others are struggling and that is often in the same boat !

As well, the successful methods change on a daily basis, some days the AM lads on floats and static baits do well and on others the Spinners win the day.

On the fly it's been similar only with us it is more a matter of depth, speed and fly size. Again this changes day by day but the Trout have definitely been on the smaller flies as opposed to the bigger lures ie; Snakes, Booby Minkies, Gold heads etc. I have talked to a few people this week and fished a couple of times myself but before I comment on tactics and flies let me first describe the overall picture.

Firstly the weather has been kind, there has been reasonable cloud on most days and also some bright sun. And although the wind has moved round the clock on direction it's speed has been mostly light and manageable. Good news is these conditions are likely to continue well into next week and although there may be a tad more sun than cloud, it shouldn't make much difference to your fishing.

THE FISH

Generally the Trout are holding at about 4ft which is about the bait depth for the AM Float rods. Having said that most of us on the fly are taking them very high in the water with evident bulging follows during periods of cloud cover. The continuing improvement in water clarity has helped prospecting fish immensely, of which there are some that are well spread out and others that are in pods of two and three and continuously on the move. The main bowl and basically all the water you can see from the lodge is the main areas to fish, although there are some further afield I recommend you make this area your starting point.

The Rosemary Lane area of Bewl Straight is still holding fish from the last stocking although it has been fished hard and the Trout have wised up. Small flies and stealth is the game up there and don't forget to check out the bays on the way up and the first 200yds of Tinkers Marsh.

FiSHiNG

As I said with the fish taking high in the water it is important to select flies and/or retrieves that ensure you are in that killing zone of 12" or less. Ok, at times they take the flies down at 4ft but this week with mild weather it has been 12" to surface. Favourite lines have been floaters to fast intermediate. Remember, it's not where the lines are at any one time it's where the flies are !! You can fish DI7 fast sink with success using two Boobies on long leader and retrieve straight back to keep the flies high or if you do want to fish the flies deep in a down and up mode just wait a few seconds and then retrieve. Good fish search method !

I was out on Wednesday with Chris Nunn, my old boat partner and the first time in ages and another first of the season was the return of Bewl legend Dave 'Bushy' Withers complete with Ghillie who I apologise now for forgetting his name.

We all fished the main bowl on the drift and had some good sport with Chris and Bushy having five fish each and myself with 3. I just couldn't keep the fish on the hook. (Bad angling). In our boat, Chris was on Fast Glass Intermediate with 'washing line' leader. 'Navigator' Cat Booby on point and two wets. I was on same set up with Two Navigator' Cat Boobies and 'wet' on middle dropper. 'Bushy' had just two flies on a Floating line with Navigator Cat on point and wet on dropper.

Retrieves were varied a lot but most successful was short rapid pulls or Rolly Polly. It was good to see Chris and Dave again, it brought back some good memories.

Out today (Frid) with club team mate Nick Cox, fresh from his recent success last Sunday as winner of a Tunbridge Wells Fly Fishing Society mini comp. Nick won with a fantastic 12 fish in bag against a second placed 3 fish.

He continued his rich vein of form today with 7 including a double up and putting me into second place in our boat with his winning set up of Fast Glass Intermediate, 3 flies, Navigator Booby on point, wet Bibio on middle dropper and Cat Booby on to dropper. All took high in water to Rolly Polly retrieve. I fished similar but switched to floater for a while, had a double up, lost the whole leader and fish on a sunken anchor rope and through a wobbly. By the time I got sorted it was 1.45pm. Nick had to go and I called it day too in disgust !

SUMMARY

Much improved fishing with good sightings and follows. Not easy though, you need a generous mixture of luck and skill but are rewarded with action if not always fish to the net.

At weekends the AM boys will mostly anchor in tight areas but there are fish out in open water and on long drifts you will come across pods of fish on the move. Good drifts on a SW at the moment is Beaumans Point to Chingley Point or open water to dam, Lodge to dam and Cages to and through the main bowl.

Keep the flies high, vary the retrieve, keep a sharp eye for tracking fish and remember to hang the flies prior to lift off. The times I have not done that lately and lifted off a following fish, especially on a hard day, has been inexcusable (more bad angling).

So again, as last year, late Autumn is proving to be challenging but rewarding here at Bewl and with boats available every day of the week and plenty during the week it's worth a trip as sport and stocking continues. And you Predator boys....those 'Toothy Critters' are on the move !!!

BANK

Difficult for me to comment on the bank fishing because firstly I fish exclusively from the boat and secondly I don't see anyone fishing the bank. Certainly the lodge to the dam, the dam at Chingley end and Ferry Point are worth a go. I have caught fish close in at each but they are few and far between at the moment. Contact me if you have any success and I can mention it here.

Have a good week and as always, tight lines.....Ray F.