

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 22 2022.

by Ray French

Like most of the UK fishing venues Bewl Water has been exposed to record temperatures this week which hasn't exactly enhanced the fishing prospects but at the same time did not create any fish fatalities or major algae problems. In fact, I was down today and surprised to find that the water, although not crystal clear, was not too bad at all.

The deep water of Bewl ensures that there is a sanctuary in the lower strata and that continues to be the best place to seek your sport which is why, myself, boat partner John and regular George H decided to have a couple of hours on the Towers.

Now the concrete towers at Bewl Water has always been an annual attraction for shoals of fry during the hot summer months, they congregate around them and usually at depth so are not obvious. Naturally, these attract some of Bewl's resident predators and you can expect trout, perch and pike to be there when the fry are in residence. They will be at depth too and on the fry. But the fry are not there every day, and neither are the trout, it's a bit pot luck, for they move up and down the dam and all around the main basin. But when they are there, it can be great fun.

Anyway, we went out there today. As I said the fish are currently deep and recently have been active at around the 20-30ft mark, especially on the tower. My best method for deep water fishing on the fly here has always been 4 static heavy buzzers spaced 4ft apart on a D18 line fished vertically extremely slowly.

We have caught quite a few trout here and close to the dam over the past few weeks but like I said there are no guarantees and although Wednesday was apparently good here in truth today was disappointing. Having said that between us we had a couple of trout, some beautiful hard fighting perch and George had a pike into double figures.

The any method boys continue to catch at Chingley, not in large numbers but steady and mostly on the bottom with bait. The lads with spinners and the flyboys pulling lures are not getting much at all, low and slow is by far the best option.

Oh yes, during cloud some fish do come to the surface near the dam and immediately dive deep again. "Oncers" we call them, they are almost impossible to catch and can frustrate you for hours. Ignore and stay deep.

Anyway, it was great to be out there again having given the really hot days a miss and relaxing to fish static and enjoy the chat.

Next week, I shall be back on the drift and on the wander. Until then...

Tight lines

