

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 27th May 2022

by Ray French

With the enigma that Spring always is in terms of Bewl fishing and the weather, this last week has been pretty much 'Par' for the course.

Some days have been very good and some extremely difficult. We have had Sun, Wind, and torrential Rain and often on the same day!

On the good days it was very much like last week with fish showing in the main Bowl and still patrolling the Dam wall and Chingley Wood in numbers, but not all the time, they are switching on and off the feed most days and not always at the same time. Of late the main Bowl and Hook Straight have tended to fish well AM, where Bewl Straight is better PM. This is most noticeable in our prevalent South Westerly winds which often build up during the day into the Dam, whereas Bewl Straight is mostly protected on an SW and remains relatively calm. I have also noticed that our stockfish in recent years don't particularly like a cold wind and don't react favourably to it. You are better off just on the edge in ripple rather than in the big wave. However, in warm weather or with a warm wind the opposite can be true with the fish enjoying the oxygenating water.

Lots of anglers are out over the weekend in all categories but during the week numbers have been restricted by the wet and windy conditions which have made fishing unpleasant and the fish at times unresponsive.

But it has been the same over many of our national Reservoirs this week where catches have been significantly down.

On a brighter note, the wind is forecast to drop over the weekend and conditions should very much improve tomorrow. There is still the likelihood of clouds with the sun so the fishing should quickly return to the action we had in abundance early last week. To ensure it does Bewl has programmed another stocking early next week so June should be a bumper month, it normally is!!

Although the Bewl water temperature rose noticeably in the few days of hot sun (it was warm to the hand) and the fish may well have been disturbed by it, this week's conditions have almost certainly done the fishing a favour.

I still expect the fish to be up in the top 6ft and 'having it' so your normal flies, spinners and bait should be fine. If you're a fly angler, make sure you have a bright colour on your leader with Nymphs and/or Wet flies in combination. If you are a single fly angler a small Goldhead Tadpole in White/Lime, Black/Lime or Orange with various retrieves should do the trick.

So, if the Gods are all facing the same way, next week should be good. If you go on the bank, try and fish into the wind. Or if you prefer to fish from the comfort of a boat... book early!!

Tight lines, Ray F.