

## BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Sat. 8th January 2022.

By Ray French

What has surprised a lot of people so far this winter has been Bewl Waters ability to provide quality sport for each discipline, Fly, Any Method and Predator anglers throughout November and December. And now, in the second week of January, it continues to do so albeit this week has shown extremes of weather and the fish have been more difficult to catch than of late. I did say that was likely as temperatures dropped and the fish went down but that has not been totally the case. The fish are now at various depths depending on time of day and the conditions and being caught from very high in the water to hard on the lake bed. So in effect are more spaced out depth wise.

I have been out in the boat a couple of times this week, yesterday and today and have talked to several of the AM boys about their tactics of late. Today was a competition day on behalf of Tunbridge Wells Fly Fishing Society where we were encouraged to use floating lines albeit they was not compulsory. It was Catch & Release and to promote the spirit of the Comp fish caught on the Floater was worth 2pts per fish whilst fish caught on any other line only got 1pt each.

But before I comment on today. I will go back to yesterday.

Well, I have not been so cold for ages, heavy frost, freezing cold wind blowing hard and bright sun. And I was on a floater !! I have said before at this time of the year Bewl fish don't like a big wave and cold wind and although me and boat partner John Turner ventured into it we didn't catch. I eventually had three and John two fishing just off the wind.

It was at the end of play that I chatted to a couple of the regular AM boys. Up until last week they had been using small Spinners or more effectively Float fishing with protein paste at 4ft on the anchor ( they always anchor). Some had been catching deeper but 4ft was the most effective until the weekend where the most successful anglers were using the same paste hard on the bottom at a max depth of 12ft - 18ft.

They had caught yesterday close in off Beauman's point

So today conditions were different but just as awful with a much stronger wind gusting 30+ and at times torrential rain.

Again I managed to catch three and although it was a small field of 9 everyone caught, on the drift with the winner Keith Lawrence catching a very Creditable 6, all on Floater and off the wind in Bewl Straight.

## FLIES

None of us regulars are using big flies although we do try them from time to time . Small Blobs, Fabs, Cormorant Variants and Boobies are all you need.

## Summary

So Bewl fish are currently either in the top 2ft or the bottom 2ft 😊 and their doesn't seem to be much in between. In a strong wind try the sheltered areas with preferably a ripple. In light wind try back out in the main Bowl.

Best areas main Bowl, Bewl Straight, Beauman's Point, Playground.

Important, Fly boys look for clearest water, these winds colour the water quickly.

## Bank fishing

Best banks at the moment Lodge to Aqua Park or Ferry Point to Gorse Bushes. Either Floater or slow Sink Intermediate with washing line, or short leader of 6ft with two white Boobies at 3ft and Point on fast sinking line.

Cast, leave for five mins to settle on bottom, then inch slowly back until you see them at the bank. Also deadly from anchored boat.

## Predator Fishing

I hear there are still some beauties coming out so don't miss the opportunity of a Pike of a lifetime!

## CLOSES END OF JANUARY

The weather looks good next week and their are still enough fish to give you a good day whatever method you prefer and I can't think of a better or more healthier place to 'isolate'.

Tight lines, Ray