

## BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 14th April 2023.

by Ray French

Plenty of Trout caught over Easter with pretty much all the 50 boats out on each of the four days.

All methods caught in a variety of places but once again Bewl Straight, Rosemary Lane, the Dam and Chingley Wood proved to be the most popular, and also provided the best bags. Sport slackened off a bit during the week due to the huge area of low pressure over the SE, heavy showers and winds gusting 30mph+ at times. A few of us did manage to get out on Tuesday but not all day!!

One of the best things about Bewl is the number of opportunities there are to fish out of the worst of the wind due to the many Creeks and Bays accessible. However, in a big wind it does mean the boats are often restrained from crossing the main Bowl. Not a major problem as this still leaves a lot of water to fish including the whole of Hook Straight... Looking directly out from the boat jetty all the water you see to the right of you and as far as you can see is Hook Straight.... It includes Hook House, the old Cages, Seven Pound Creek, Pine Bay, Brown's Inlet and the 'Three Rivers' at the very top end.

### More STOCKING!!!

I mentioned Hook Straight for two reasons, the first a reminder of its option if the wind makes other areas difficult to access and secondly, the STOCKING BOAT went out on Tuesday and concentrated on this whole area covering many of its Creeks and Bays including those mentioned above.

This is the second time Hook Straight has been stocked this season and this time the results should be noticeable. Of course, there will not be the shoals experienced in the Main Bowl and Rosemary Lane, but there are now sufficient Trout to provide sport for those that are patient and enjoy the chase as well as the capture. Set in one of the most scenic parts of the Weald the top of Hook Straight is well worth a visit if you have not fished there before. Take advantage of the top water level at the moment and go see!!

### Free, WIN, BONUS!!

During the stocking the Bewl Rangers slipped a few 'Blue' Trout in, these fish have a distinct blue sheen and fight really well. See picture below.

For each Blue Trout caught, Bewl will give a FREE 8 fish ticket and day boat to the captor. Just take a picture of you and the Trout and/or show it to a Ranger on duty. For further information ask at the Lodge on arrival.

### FISHING

Not a lot has changed since last week, although the majority of Trout are now mainly off the bottom in the deep water and have moved inshore into water with a max depth of 20ft or less which means nearer the banks in most cases. Certainly, the new Stockies will. They are foraging on the reflooded lakebed & grass and will stay on this as the water warms for about another 3-4 weeks, gradually moving out.

Fresh Bewl Stockies always like to congregate on banks anyway, especially ones that the wind is blowing into... food deposits etc... However, at the moment the winds are cold and this season I am finding there is a reluctance to do that. So, it is well worth looking on the opposite banks off the wind in the calm water where there are often Buzzer coming off. Not very big ones but still food to a

Trout and worth a try, especially along Bewl Straight. We did exactly that on Tuesday catching our fish 25yds off the green bank and sheltered by the trees on the Ferry Point side of Bewl Straight!

Most of the AM boats anchor to Spin and Float fish whilst, weather permitting, most of us fly boys are back on the drift with a 'Drogue' (water parachute to slow and control the boats drift) using intermediate lines or floaters and various favoured flies from Nymphs to Snakes.... each to their own!

Personally, I am still using a DI5 40+ line with three hook leader, 2 Nymphs with Booby on point fished as slow as I can. The water is reasonably clear for the most part and recently the majority of fish have come to a Cormorant rather than Booby but then I haven't tried anything else. Not even thought about pulling colour as yet. But I will.... soon.... very soon!!

Tight lines, Ray French

Below: 'Bluey' in the Stocking net.

