

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 30th June 2023

by Ray French

The weather during this past week has been very similar to the previous couple with a mixture of sun and cloud, and like the majority of English reservoirs Bewl's fishing has continued to be difficult.

The high-water temperatures in the upper level have continued to keep the majority of Trout down seeking the cooler water, although there are still some prepared to show with the cloud especially in the Main Bowl. However, they don't stay for long. As soon as the cloud goes so do the fish.

I was out in a boat on Wednesday on the drift. Having started on the 'Washing line' with Booby and Nymphs in the top couple of feet, it was not long before I resorted to the 'Dark Side' and spent my time moving around the Main Bowl and Bewl Straight using a mixture of flies and lines, mostly heavy sinking and tip versions to search deeper. I would have liked to have spent longer than I did but was pushed for time and had to call it a day at just after 2pm having on this occasion, not connected with any Trout! The main reason being that due to an increasing wind and the speed of drift, my line was never long enough in the water at the depth I sought and was constantly moving with the boat. Ideally, I like the line and flies to come up as near vertical as possible and the slower the better.

Reluctant as I am to drop the hook I reckon that, short of flat calm, a modest ripple or keeping out of the wind, it is almost impossible to fish depths of 30ft with Buzzers, it was difficult enough with Boobies! With hindsight I reckon I would have done better to have anchored on Wednesday, certainly in the Main Bowl. The Any Method lads fish at anchor all of the time, especially at this time of the year, with bait either directly on the bottom or with a slider float and catch...

Having said all of that, I did see five fish break the surface on Wednesday during the course of my visit which coincided with a short spell of cloud cover and made me wonder why I was faffing about on a Di8 at all!!

FORECAST

So, for the next week it is very much a matter of trial and error for the Fly lads and more of the same for the Any Method rods.

Whatever your choice, vary the depth of your offering until you get a reaction and be prepared to go to 30ft (10m) if necessary. But the good news is that yesterday we had rain and we are due cloud over the weekend. This may well bring a percentage of the fry up and with it the Trout so keep an eye open for those splashy rises or surface disturbance.

Oh yes and look for the clearest water. It does vary and in cloud it is worth fishing the top couple of feet. In good water it is surprising how deep a Trout can be and still see surface activity...

At this time of year it is very much a matter of patience, and even though there are plenty of fish stocked it is easy to believe the place is completely void of them. I have learnt to handle these difficult days by remembering the easy ones, it is what it is and anyway it could all change in an instant, that's fishing!

Tight lines and have a good week.

Ray F.

