

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 15th Sept.

by Ray French

A break in the hot weather last weekend showed a marked improvement in the fishing, with a good percentage of rods successfully netting a number of Bewl's quality Rainbows. Talking to Bewl staff it was also noted that success was not only exclusive to the regular and experience rods, but sport was also shared and enjoyed by new & inexperienced rods as well. However, it has to be said that the majority of success came to the Any Method boys and of them, the guys at anchor using static bait on a float were the most productive.

Due to lethargy, brought on by the high-water temperatures, the Trout have shown no desire to chase for food as yet. Neither is it overly necessary. There are plenty of fry and tiny Midge Pupae for cruising Trout to take at their leisure and whilst on the move. It is no wonder that they can get seduced by a couple of high protein sweet smelling balls of luminous paste bait. A delicacy which can be dangled at a convenient depth and put in their path! Needless to say, this delicacy seems infinitely preferable to the Fly mans' tasteless bits of fur and feather and brightly coloured tinsel. That by comparison are a meagre option, especially when they are often pulled away from them!! Yes, fishing on the fly is difficult at the moment, however all that I have said of the AM tactic can be applied to us.

No, I am not suggesting you apply Garlic paste to Buzzers suspended on a Bung, although it would almost certainly work! But I am saying slow everything down, even to a dead stop if possible. I have caught a lot of fish over the years at Bewl by not retrieving the flies at all, or at least incredibly slowly and in the current conditions it can be a saviour. At the moment I don't think the Bewl fish are that deep, no more than 25ft in the sun and much, much higher in cloud.

One of the best and basic ways to achieve a natural or static presentation is the BUNG, where flies, often 3, are suspended by 4 droppers 4ft apart on a fluoro leader 16ft long. To the top dropper is tied a buoyant mini float (the Bung). The flies are often Buzzers, but they do not have to be. A small Blob, Hopper, Diawl Bach, Cormorant etc, are often better.

If you want to cover depth, take the Bung off and replace it with a Booby* and extend the distance between top dropper to say 10ft. The size of Booby and weight of dropper flies will determine how fast the leader sinks but it can easily adjust to sink slowly. With four flies and 10ft to Fly line you have 22ft of leader.

Alternatively, put a Booby on each end of the leader, two flies on the middle droppers, and attach to any sinking line or tip from Slow to Fast. With two Boobies the leader will not sink much at all, the line will determine the sink rate.

Actually, I rarely use a Bung at Bewl these days, preferring the slow sinking Booby. Whatever option you choose it's best to fish either off the wind, attached to a buoy or at anchor. You really do need to be stationary when the fish are difficult especially at Bewl. It is very much a waiting game!!

*For Booby, read Buoyant Fly... At the moment I am using either a fry pattern: Cat Booby/Candy Man. and/or Daddy Longlegs.

STOCKING / INFO

Talking to Head Ranger Dan Baker this week:

- The water temperature on Tuesday was 22°C at 6ft down which is warm but cooling, although it has gone sunny again.
- The first load of Autumn stocking is scheduled for 25th of September (7 days). This, together with a cooler water base, should liven up the existing stock and kick off some exciting sport once again.

Have a good week and tight lines.

Ray F.