

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT  
For week ending Friday 8/9/2023  
by Ray French

Over the past week we've had a lot of sun and although the Trout fishing has been difficult, some of the Any Method rods have been taking fish. One boat last weekend bagged 8 using 'Garlic' paste suspended on floats. That was indeed an excellent return in the current conditions where 3 fish have been a result. Unfortunately, the Fly fishing has been really tough and takes have been few. There have been the odd fish up even in the sun, but they have not been keen to take a fly and one fish has been regarded as good.

Having said that, although hot, there has been just about enough wind to form a light breeze and ripple and I find when it's like that, being in a boat, fishing, is as good a place as any to be. So, after a couple of weeks off fishing with back trouble, I was glad to be back on Bewl yesterday with regular partner John T.

Fishing wise, it was interesting. The water surprised me in that I had half expected it to be heavily coloured, but in fact the majority of it was not too bad with visibility at about 6ft. There were areas of high algae but mostly confined to the downwind banks. Anyway, we used a mixture of lines and flies, to fish both high in the water and deep. We spent a lot of time fishing high in the water during the morning as on the two previous trips our fish were taken in the top 8ft and we were seeing the occasional fish.

However, by mid-day there was nothing showing at all so we changed to the 'dark side'. I had done this many times in recent weeks and although it had brought the occasional fish to the net it has not fished 'deep' anything like it normally does in Summer. The fact that Southern Water never switched the 'Bubbles' on this year probably hasn't helped, rather than get drawn to the main bowl the Trout may well have stayed in the deep areas at other parts of the reservoir.

I fished Di8 with two Pearl Cormorants sandwiched between two Fry patterned Boobies with the top Booby only 2ft from the fly line. John fished similar. Within minutes this brought immediate success. No, not Trout unfortunately, but Perch!! Inching up the flies in about twenty feet of water we got Perch from 4 inches to some beauties of over a pound. In fact, on one occasion off Chingley Point my rod doubled over to what had to be a cracking Rainbow and boy did it go.

What eventually came to the net was a 'triple up' of Perch whose combined weight would have flattered a Bewl Trout. We caught these regularly whenever we finished at 20ft, when we moved into deeper water there was nothing.

We did have small Roach as well and figured there had to be Trout close-by, but we never caught one, although I am sure I had a Trout on at one point. Well, good fun but obviously not our main quarry. However, to any of the AM regulars that I know do target Perch with Spinnerrs at Bewl, there are plenty about this Season.

#### SUMMARY

There were not many boats out yesterday, but we did see one AM angler anchored near the Dam land a fish on the float and possibly another boat over by Chingley had fish. He stayed there all day which suggests he had some action. A couple of boats down the Cages and another up Bewl Straight was I think about it. But we were back in early so didn't have a chance to check them out.

Obviously, over the hot weekend it is going to be hard, but you never know.....

Have a good week and tight lines.  
Ray F