

## BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 27th Oct. 2023

by Ray French

### BEWL FISHING WELL!

Boosted by some recent stockings, a rapid drop in temperature and good clear water, the fish are responding well. The past week, especially the weekend, has seen plenty of fish caught to both Any Method and Fly. The last couple of days of sun has slowed sport a tad but even so they are still catchable. Generally, the fish are high in the water especially with cloud albeit they drop down a bit in the sun.

### FLY FISHING

Had a good morning's fishing with regular partner John Turner this week in the sun with five to our boat, having dropped another three or four including one of a double-up which John had but lost at the net. We were fishing Flies on the drift using 'Hover' (slow sink) lines with three fly leaders. The flies were a mixture of small orange Blobs, Cormorants and Fry pattern Boobies. Retrieves were fairly slow. There was very little wind, calm at times, and nothing reacted to a fast retrieve. The two flies that did best for us was a Green ribbed Cormorant for me and a small orange Blob for John.

### ANY METHOD

In cloud with the fish high in the water, small metal "Fry" Spinners have been successful on light spinning rods. In the sun though many have found the float and bait to be favourite.

### FISH LOCATION

As was the case last week the fish are well spread out in area but many of the recent 'Stockies' are still shoaled up in pods of three and four and moving about a lot. There have been several wind changes this week which has made exact Trout location unpredictable. Obviously, the usual hot spots are worth a look with Chingley Wood, the Dam, the Lodge bank and the old Cages always having resident fish. But much depends on wind direction at Bewl and the aforementioned places are at their best in a South West wind.

During the week we were out in a Northerly wind coming over from the Dam. We found the most catchable fish hard on the grassy bank next to Ferry Point in Bewl Straight (bank angles note) or drifting out in the middle of the main bowl.

What we have been seeing is fish movement, either jumping or moving in lots of places but they are not easy to catch, especially on the Fly. I see them occasionally follow the fly to the boat. I hold and tease at lift off but they don't take, especially in the sun. On another day they would take the Fly or Lure on the retrieve!

### SUMMARY

What we do know is that there are plenty of fish to be had but the weather plays such a vital role in a successful day and of course so does your preferred way of fishing.

The Any Method boys tend to stick to areas they know and trust to then drop the hook, which if you are a gambling man is probably the best bet. Particularly if it's a sunny day and certainly if it is blowing hard. However, for me, on a light wind and/or cloud cover I think Loch Style drift fishing takes a lot of beating and often is the best way if the fish are surface feeding and/or on the move. Whatever, at this time of year we get lots of changing weather often by the hour so react best accordingly.

Tight lines, have a good week...  
Ray French.

Below: John T. with a double up.

