BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT Week ending Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2024 by Ray French

During the past week Bewl has continued to provide sport with the Any Method boys again getting the best of the action, using bait rather than lures. That is not to say us Fly rods are missing out. I think most are catching, especially from the boats, albeit the coloured water has not helped with Flies being very much a visual target. It has certainly slowed down our catch rate to the point where a brace and a couple of takes can be considered successful. Having said that, the good news this week is that the water now being pumped in from the River Medway, which in itself is carrying a lot colour, has considerably raised the level of the reservoir. It will of course settle as conditions calm.

In fact, John T and I was out today (Frid.) and noticed a slight improvement over last week on the water quality. Again, out for just the morning, it was, until the wind got up, almost idyllic with a bright relatively warm sun and ripple. We had 3 Trout and a couple of pulls between us, enough to keep us interested but also time to put the feet up on the gunwale and chew the cud. The fish were in excellent condition with the better of Johns' brace weighing a good 2 lbs.

Having heard that over the weekend some AM rods caught fish higher in the water as well as on the bottom, I spent some time on an intermediate line with three small white Minkies. Fishing them down to the lakebed, rather than on it. I didn't catch doing this and it was only when I put the DI8 fast sink back on with the white Minky Boobies did I get a fish and a couple of takes. John however, caught one fish fairly high and the other scaping the muscles off the bottom, using a Di3 medium sink line and also three small white Minkies. We were anchored in 12ft of water directly out from lodge. Just as well because the wind got up, it got cold and that became a relatively sheltered position!

## SUMMARY

The weather over the weekend and next week, although mixed, looks to remain relatively mild and although I think the majority of fish are on the bottom in a maximum of 15ft, the mild weather will bring a few up.

Remember next weekend, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February, is the last day of Bewl Water's 2023/24 season.

Bewl Opening day for the 2024/25 season is Thursday 14th March.

I will not be doing a report next week but will likely do an update prior to the 'Big Day'.

Meanwhile, tight lines... Ray French.

## Bewl filling up!

