

Navigating Deep Water in Porth yr Ogof

Are you swimming through deep water in the cave? If so...

- **Are you wearing a buoyancy aid and wetsuit?**
- Have you checked the deep water for potential hazards, i.e. high water, fast flowing water, entrapping debris such as trees?
- Does your party have an experienced caver leading it?
- If you are an instructed group, is your leader a qualified BCA Local Cave Leader or a BCA Cave Instructor?
- Are you intending to fix a rope or carry a floating throw line?
- Are all your party members confident, strong swimmers in good health?

If the answer to any of the above questions is negative you should consider staying away from the deep water areas or coming back another time when conditions are better and you are more prepared.

A journey through the deep water sections of the cave is a serious undertaking. **11 people have lost their lives** in recent times in this cave and all but one of these deaths has been in the Resurgence pool.

The passage through to the Resurgence is particularly dangerous as it is deep, narrow and both side walls are smooth and severely undercut; swimmers have drowned under these ledges.



The policy of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, the Landowners, is that no groups or individuals are to enter the Resurgence Pool and that all warning signs within the cave are to be complied with at all times.

The journey through deep water can be a fun and rewarding experience but it is not a trip to be attempted without adequate planning and preparation.

Recognised best practice suggests that:

- **all party members wear wetsuits and buoyancy aids**
- water levels are low and the route is obstruction free
- a competent, highly experienced caver is in charge
- a fixed rope or floating throwline should be considered
- all party members are strong, confident swimmers in good health
- no pressure should be put on any party member to undertake this journey

If you have doubts, come back another day – the cave won't go away!

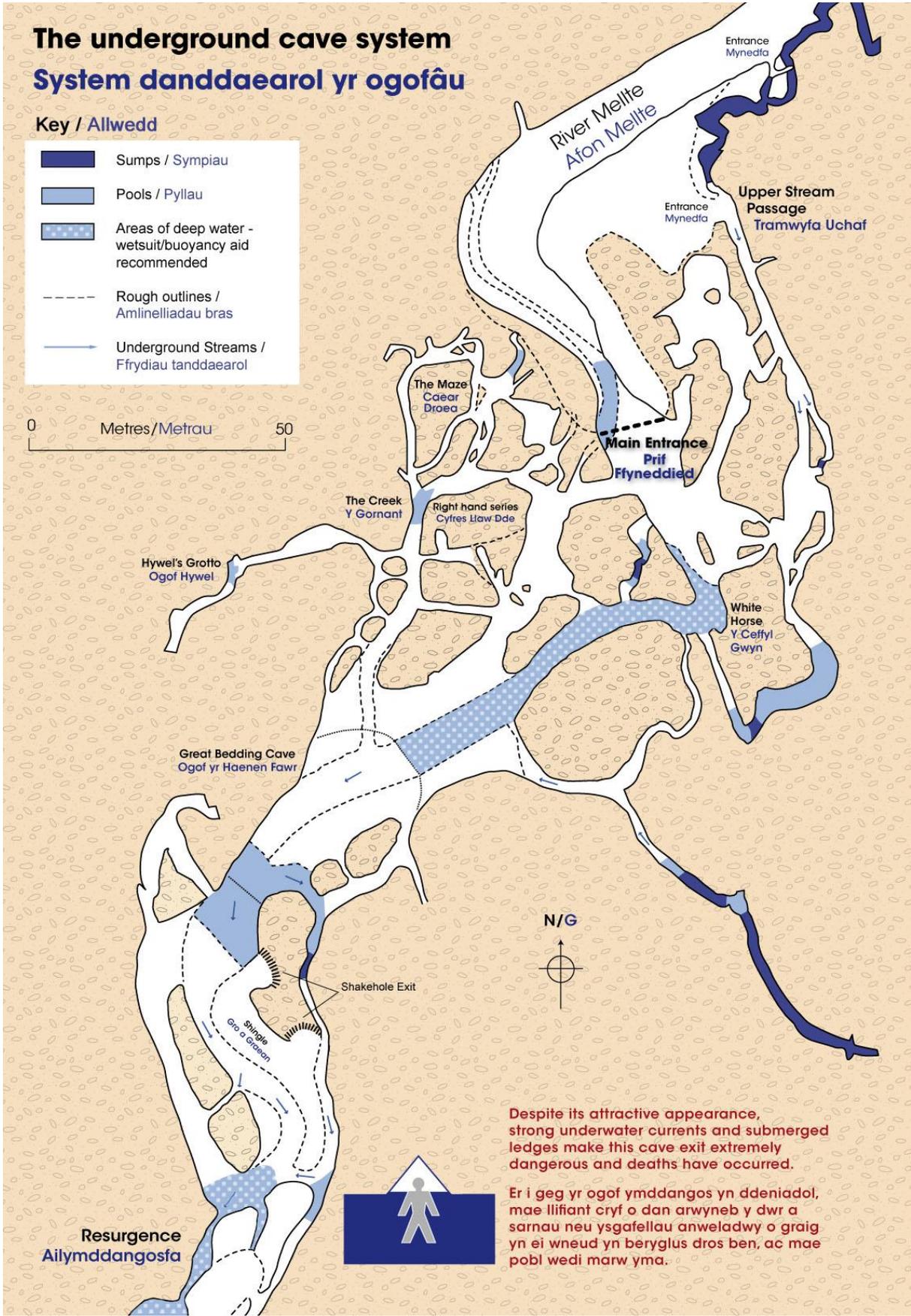
Caving and potholing are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Those who participate in caving and potholing should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.

The underground cave system System danddaearol yr ogofâu

Key / Allwedd

-  Sumps / Sympiau
-  Pools / Pyllau
-  Areas of deep water - wetsuit/buoyancy aid recommended
-  Rough outlines / Amlinelliadau bras
-  Underground Streams / Ffrydiau tanddaearol

0 Metres/Metrau 50



Despite its attractive appearance, strong underwater currents and submerged ledges make this cave exit extremely dangerous and deaths have occurred.

Er i geg yr ogof ymddangos yn ddeniadol, mae llifant cryf o dan arwyneb y dwr a sarnau neu ysgafellau anweladwy o graig yn ei wneud yn beryglus dros ben, ac mae pobl wedi marw yma.

Caving and potholing are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Those who participate in caving and potholing should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.