

Porth yr Ogof

{Requim for the drowned cavers}

0 metres 100

recesses / secret

out of earshot

cracks and fissures

joints

bedding planes / between / sandstone marls and millstone grit

slow seepage

in-

D

to-

R

the-

I

cracks

P

form passages / debris grinds away the floor / fossilised gastropods / 340million years from the clear tropical sea / crinoids and corals / compacted / rocks lifted from the ocean bed / tilted to strata / dip / faults /

D

R

I

P

I have observed several remains of Cockles half worn by the swift current of the river Mellte

D

R

I

P

Suspended stalactites and other calcerous creations in great abundance

D

R

I

P

another branch of the cavern said to extend for many miles in length where persons have lost their way and never returned

D

R

I

P

June 1957, Leonard Garroway, aged 20, experienced caver, drowned.

DRIP

June 1968, B. Speakman, age unknown, experience unknown, drowned.

DRIP

August 1968, Anthony Stannard, aged 28, experienced caver, drowned,

DRIP

October 1970, Stephen Sedgewick, aged 18, novice caver, drowned.

DRIP

February 1971, Paul Esser, aged 21, trainee cave diver, followed the wrong line and ran out of air. Remains retrieved 2010.

DRIP

July 1973, Graham Alston, aged 15, cadet soldier on exercise, novice caver, drowned.

DRIP

Resurgence

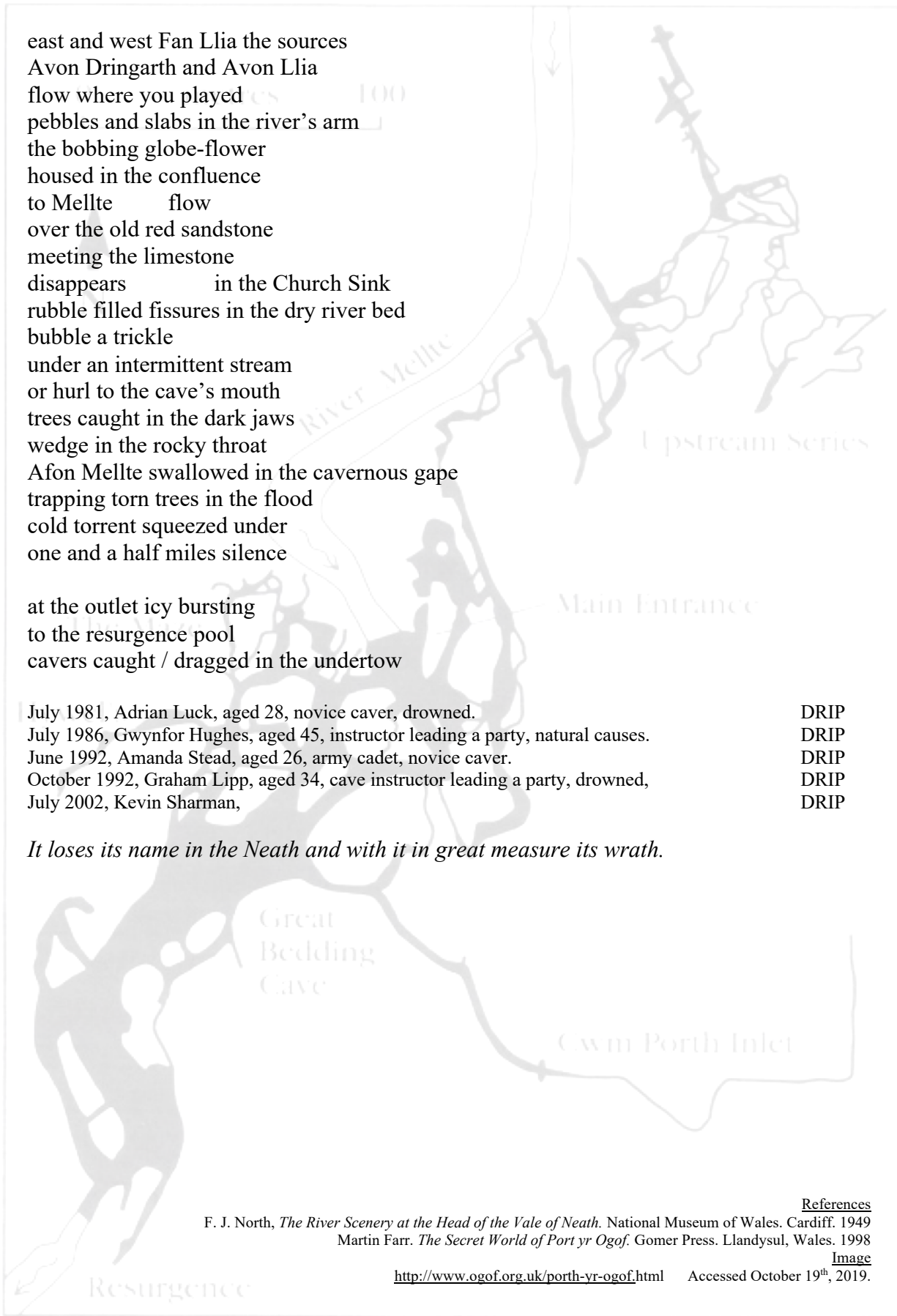
east and west Fan Llia the sources
Avon Dringarth and Avon Llia
flow where you played
pebbles and slabs in the river's arm
the bobbing globe-flower
housed in the confluence
to Mellte flow
over the old red sandstone
meeting the limestone
disappears in the Church Sink
rubble filled fissures in the dry river bed
bubble a trickle
under an intermittent stream
or hurl to the cave's mouth
trees caught in the dark jaws
wedge in the rocky throat
Afon Mellte swallowed in the cavernous gape
trapping torn trees in the flood
cold torrent squeezed under
one and a half miles silence

at the outlet icy bursting
to the resurgence pool
cavers caught / dragged in the undertow

July 1981, Adrian Luck, aged 28, novice caver, drowned.
July 1986, Gwynfor Hughes, aged 45, instructor leading a party, natural causes.
June 1992, Amanda Stead, aged 26, army cadet, novice caver.
October 1992, Graham Lipp, aged 34, cave instructor leading a party, drowned,
July 2002, Kevin Sharman,

DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

It loses its name in the Neath and with it in great measure its wrath.



References
F. J. North, *The River Scenery at the Head of the Vale of Neath*. National Museum of Wales. Cardiff. 1949
Martin Farr. *The Secret World of Port yr Ogof*. Gomer Press. Llandysul, Wales. 1998

Image
<http://www.ogof.org.uk/porth-yr-ogof.html> Accessed October 19th, 2019.