



GOOD NEWS BE LOMBHARD

From which part of Italy we come: Lombardia

What have we done GOOD NEWS: Val Codera: Memory path on the resistance of Scouting in Italy during the 2nd World War

Keywords we have worked on: History

The patrol Be LombHard will accompany you on a journey to discover the history and the beauty of Val Codera. We imagined a double interview with Kelly, aka Giulio Cesare Uccellini, and the members of our training clan.

Who are the Stray Eagles “ARs”?

Kelly: “The ARs are scouts, just like me and you, who did their business during the '30s and '40s. They were composed of young people from the area of Milan and (its) surroundings, they were from 10 to 20 years old and from garments not much older.”

Be LombHard: “During the years of fascism, when all the associative organizations except those conformed to the regime were banned, the ARs continued to conduct their business in secret, organizing meetings, and camps for more than twenty years, without being discovered. “

Why did you choose Val Codera?

Kelly: “It is a very isolated valley, where you can only go by foot and it can be reached in a short time from Milan. This place is perfect to carry out the activities in peace without danger of being discovered. It often happened that Baden (Andrea Ghetti) set off on Saturday after work on a bicycle for the more than 100 km that separate Milan and Val Codera, arriving at the base camp only late at night, and then traveling the reverse route on Sunday. “

Be LombHard: “We want as many people as possible to know this history and this wonderful place. Val Codera has great importance for Italian and international scouting's history. It is located in the province of Sondrio and borders directly to Switzerland with the mountains of Pizzo Badile and Pizzo Cengalo. It is crossed by the river Codera which flows into the lake of Mezzola, overlooked by the valley. This valley offers a unique landscape, characterized by an alpine flora that is usually found only above 2000 meters. “

“What activities did you do?”

Kelly: “The aim was to allow children to continue practicing scouting: outdoor life and contact with nature, physical activity, play and moments of spirituality, hiking and service. Although it was a unique group, activities were calibrated according to age and were aimed at the growth of each of its components..”

Be LombHard “We were guests of ‘Amici della Val Codera’ the group who runs the scout base and is willing to tell the groups who come to see them about AR. To thank them we helped arranging the camps where tents are placed. They explained us that it was essential to mend the relationship with the valley's inhabitants. They were able to establish a fruitful collaboration with them. As a matter of fact, every year on Christmas Eve a Mass is organized in the church of Codera; it involves a lot of people. This is a sign of the importance that Val Codera still has.”



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