



# The Cavaglia Glacier Garden

Complete documentation of the website: [www.ghiacciai.info](http://www.ghiacciai.info)

## The Association

### Birth of the Cavaglia Glacier Garden Association and start of work

Thanks to the initiative of a group of enthusiasts, it became clear during the early Nineties that there was a serious interest in the Cavaglia potholes and a strong will to bring these wonderful «sculptures of nature» back to light.

Giovanni Lardelli, who knew and admired the Moti da Cavagliola from a young age, was the most enthusiastic promoter of this initiative. In 1993 he defined the main guidelines of the future course of action and was joined by Aldo Fanconi, Gianni Zanoli and Romeo Lardi.

In 1995 a working group formed by Romeo Lardi, Hans Jorg Bannwart, Aldo Fanconi, Agnese Iseppi, Giovanni Lardelli, Gianni Zanoli was set up with the support of the Poschiavo Municipality and the Poschiavo Tourist Board. The idea was to form an association whose scope would be to make the beautiful natural works of



The Garden Committee during an inspection of the works in 2005

art of the Moti da Cavagliola visible to the public and to find the necessary financial means to do so.

On June 8, 1995 Ing. Ragaz of the Office for the protection of nature and landscape of the Graubunden Canton carried out a site inspection to the Moti da Cavagliola and made the following recommendations:

- maximum care for the environment ;
- absolute respect by visitors of this wonderful natural site ;
- signs for visitors indicating the potholes, the biotope and the panoramic lookout ;
- the Glacier Garden should not become an «amusement park» ;
- all work must be carried out with maximum care and respect for nature.

In 1996 a working group emptied two



Emptying of a pothole

potholes and prepared a budget for future operations.

A year later the Municipality of Poschiavo made a 3'000 square meter area in the Moti da Cavagliola officially available for a period of five years at the following conditions:

- to promote the educational value and touristic attractiveness of the Cavaglia Glacier Garden while maintaining its natural value;
- to complete the emptying of the potholes and construct a suitable access;
- to organize an educational itinerary with the necessary support and information structures;
- in carrying out all the above work, to fully respect the natural characteristics of the location;
- to safeguard the area of the Glacier Garden as agreed with Ing. Ragaz;



The Committee also organizes guided tours to the Garden

- to find the funds necessary to meet the scope of the future association.

The Cavaglia Glacier Garden Association was created on November 6, 1998. It is financed through contributions by its members and supporting institutions. The Association is guided by a Committee whose members operate on a voluntary basis, i.e. without pay.

In 1999 the necessary preparations were made to start work on the potholes and on the itinerary that would lead to the panoramic lookout. In 2000 activity began in earnest and in subsequent years great progress was made, thanks also to the contribution of many groups of volunteers.

Today the potholes and their related itinerary present themselves to the visitor in a most favorable fashion: an extraordinary corner created by a mysterious, almost mythological, natural evolution. A place where nature amused itself and has, as a result, offered us these splendid sculptures.



2006 Glacier Garden party: concert on a platform placed over a pothole

## The Cavaglia Glacier Garden Committee

The Committee is currently composed of:

- Romeo Lardi, President
- Giovanni Lardelli, Vice President
- Aldo Fanconi, Treasurer
- Remo Tosio, Secretary and Public Relations Officer
- Bernardo Tuena, Member
- Federico Crameri, Member
- Gianni Zanoli, Member and Representative of the Poschiavo Municipality
- Sandro Marchesi, Member and Representative of the Poschiavo Tourist Board.

All members of the Committee are volunteers. Most of them have been and still are directly involved in many activities related to the Garden, in particular its maintenance and the regular removal of rainwater from the potholes.

In addition to its individual members (700 in 2007), the main supporters of The Cavaglia Glacier Garden are: Ernst Göhner Stiftung Zürich, Rätia Energie, Fondo svizzero per il paesaggio, Comune di Poschiavo, Gruppo Guide Escursionistiche Val Poschiavo, Ente turistico Valposchiavo.



From left to right: Sandro Marchesi, Aldo Fanconi, Federico Crameri, Remo Tosio, Romeo Lardi, Giovanni Lardelli, Gianni Zanoli e Bernardo Tuena