

Remembering the Fallen

THE MALTA Maritime Museum hosted the unveiling of a memorial plaque commemorating the lives of 40 Maltese who perished in Norwegian waters when the HMS Glorious and her two escorts HMS Ardent and HMS Acasta were sunk by enemy fire during World War II.

In a moving ceremony presided by H.E Dr Edward Fenech Adami, President of Malta, those gathered at the museum paid tribute to those who perished at sea.

Guests were greeted by Dr Mario Tabone, Heritage Malta's Chairman and Mr David Woodcock, Chairman of the Glarac Association who explained how the association was formed and the chain of events which led them to visit Malta and present this memorial plaque.

Meanwhile, the President of Malta stressed on the importance of such memorial services which continue to pay tribute to all those brave heroes and heroines who lost their lives in combat.

It was a moving moment when the Reverend Joe Caruana, Archpriest of Vittoriosa recited a short prayer and Edward Butters' poem, Flowers by the Sea was read to the audience in both English and Maltese. Butters' father, Cyril, was among those who lost their lives on that fateful day in June 1940.

Following the Act of Remembrance, the President, together with Dr Tabone and Mr Woodcock unveiled the plaque followed by a two minute silence. The ceremony came to an end with the sweet notes of the Last Post and the Reveille which echoed all over the museum as those present stood in silence, some visibly moved with tears rolling down their cheeks.

With the formal proceedings completed, guests had enough time to mingle and meet old acquaintances while ensuring that they obtained a photographic record of the memorial plaque which will eventually be displayed at the National War Museum.



Photos courtesy of Photocity, Valletta

