



PRESS RELEASE

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Historical Society visit Victoria Battery

On Saturday 16th May 2015, the Gibraltar Fire and Rescue Service hosted a historical talk and a guided tour of Victoria Battery to members of the Gibraltar Historical Society. A group of 26 members from the Society were firstly given a brief presentation into the history of the battery, the presentation explained why the battery was built on this location in 1883 and the visitors were each provided with a detailed guide which included photographs, plans and diagrams depicting the 100 Ton Gun in its emplacement and the battery's basement magazine.

The presentation and tour were conducted by Firefighter Kenneth Busuttil and Firefighter Francis Mena who both share a passion for the history of the Gibraltar Fire and Rescue Service and as such are the unofficial GFRS historians. Members of the Society were then given an opportunity to go into the labyrinth of tunnels that form the battery's magazines in the basement with detailed explanations on how armament was transported and loaded. Undoubtedly the highlight for some was going into the steam piston chamber, a confined space where during the late 1800's steam was produced as an essential part of the guns mechanism. Finally a tour of the Fire Station and a brief history of the Gibraltar Fire and Rescue Service was given ending what was an undoubtedly an interesting morning for all. Each visitor was also provided with a Historical guide of the Gibraltar Fire and Rescue Service.