



Dear Fellow Canadian Churchillians:

New Members

A very warm welcome is extended to Barry Bussey, Russ Little and Gerry Divaris.

Past Events

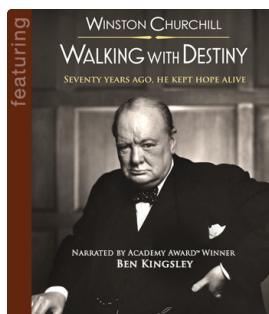
An Evening with Sir Winston – October 12th



Sixty five members and guests attended this event at the Albany Club of Toronto. The theme was “Churchill’s Deadly Decision,” which concerned the July 3rd 1940 attack on the French Navy. Three speakers addressed themselves to the operation. Dr Eric McGeer spoke of the terrible dilemma facing Churchill. In the summer of 1940 France had signed an armistice with Germany. This agreement stated that the French Fleet “shall be collected in ports to be specified and there demolished under German and Italian control.” It was

essential that the French Fleet not be used by Germany and therefore the decision that if necessary it would be destroyed. Gord Walker continued detailing the events of July 3rd with various options given to the French, none of which they accepted, thus the decision to put the Fleet out of action, with the resultant deaths of 1,300 French sailors. Terry Reardon covered the aftermath with Churchill receiving a standing ovation after he advised the House of Commons. Also President Roosevelt changed his opinion as to Britain’s chances of surviving and he concocted the “Leases for Bases” agreement to provide 50 WW1 destroyers to Britain. The speakers and the audience participants agreed overwhelmingly that Churchill made the right decision. The event concluded with an excellent PBS documentary on the same subject. Feedback was that the event was one of the best ever.

Next Event



The AGM of the Society will be held on Leap Year day of February 29th 2012. After the business part, which we always keep short, there will be shown a film which has received rave reviews – “Winston Churchill: Walking With Destiny” narrated by Sir Ben Kingsley. The formal notice of the AGM is enclosed. A flyer will be sent out in due course, and details posted on our web site.

Annual Dinner

Will be held on Thursday May 10th 2012, the 72nd anniversary of the day when Winston Churchill became Prime Minister of Britain. A flyer will be sent out with full details in due course.

Atlantic Charter Commemorative Event



For the 70th anniversary, the Atlantic Charter Foundation organized a special event on August 14th. Our Chairman Randy Barber attended and advised that it was a spectacular success. He presented Alphonse Griffiths, the self appointed curator of the Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, memorial site, with our annual recognition award for his great work in preserving the site. Further details at www.atlanticcharter.ca

Chartwell Bulletin

Is now produced monthly and is downloaded to our web site. The October issue is on the site and includes a fine interview with our Chairman, Randy Barber.

29th Annual Churchill Centre Conference

As previously advised we are delighted that next year's Conference will be in Toronto, at the Royal York Hotel, from October 10 to 14, 2012. Further details will be advised in due course.

Library of Parliament Display: March – June 2012

A Partnership between the Churchill Archives Centre, the Library of Parliament, the Churchill Centre and ICS Canada, will present a display in the Library of Parliament in Ottawa to commemorate Churchill's "Some Chicken: Some Neck" speech which he delivered in our House of Commons, 70 years ago, this 30 December 2011. Further details will be shown on our web site.

Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy

Our sister society's annual dinner will be on Tuesday, November 29th at the Four Seasons Hotel, 21 Avenue Road, in Toronto. Guest Speaker is Allen Packwood the Director of the Churchill Archives Centre at Cambridge University, and Executive Director of the Churchill Centre – United Kingdom; also on the Editorial Board of the *Finest Hour* magazine. Their annual award is to be presented to the Rt. Hon. Paul Martin, PC. Always a highly anticipated event. Further details at www.churchillsociety.org.

From the Library

"Mike" the memoirs of Lester B. Pearson, when with the High Commissioner's Office in London

"I went to meet the First Canadian Division at Greenock on 11 December, 1939...with the Sergeant Major was the regimental mascot, an Aberdeen terrier called Corky...a zealous official in the Board of Agriculture noticed the dog, and Corky was quarantined...The effect on the regimental morale was bad...The regiment vowed they would not go to France without their mascot...the proverbial enterprise of the Canadian soldier came into play and a plot was hatched...A local Aberdeen was secured, which might have been Corky's twin...Two Canadian soldiers were told to scrape up an acquaintance with two of the girls at the canine internment camp at Basingstoke. That was easy for our men were young and handsome. They were to ripen that acquaintance into the kind of friendship which would make it safe to tell one or both about a plan to substitute Corky 11 for Corky 1...All went smoothly according to plan. It may have been the most perfectly executed operation of the war. So it was not long before Corky 1 was back with the regiment where, at the end of the quarantine period, he was joined by Corky 11."

Comments, suggestions, articles would be appreciated. Please write or e-mail to Terry Reardon, 182 Burnhamthorpe Rd, Toronto, Ontario, M9A 1H6. Tel. 416 231 6803. E-mail: reardont@rogers.com.