

# The Sir Winston Churchill Society of Vancouver Island Speakers' Bureau



**Sidney Allinson** is a Canadian novelist and military historian, author of six books, numerous magazine articles, film scripts and book reviews. His newest book, out in 2008, is called *The Bantams: The Untold Story of World War One*. Sidney is a lifetime admirer of WSC, starting with boyhood memories of hearing Prime Minister Churchill's inspiring voice on the radio in England during the Second World War. He has made a continual study of this extraordinary statesman and writer ever since.

**Olive Bailey**, was a young, 20-year-old Olive Gore in 1940, newly graduated from London University, living with her widowed mother in London, when she was "called up" and sent to work in a factory producing sections of Halifax bombers. It was shortly after she started to work there that she received a summons to report to an office in Covent Garden and offered another job. That's how she became part of the team of code-breakers who worked in utter secrecy for the duration of the war at Bletchley Park. The word "Enigma" was never spoken until the war's end.



Now that the period of secrecy has been lifted Olive has a wonderful collection of stories of life in England during those critical days of the WWII, and the tense and history-altering days at Bletchley Park when they cracked the German Enigma code. Olive, who has lived in Victoria with her husband Norman since the 1960's, will be one of the "heroes" of Bletchley Park to receive a new service medal from the British government later this year.



**Timon Ferguson** is a student at Camosun College who has admired Sir Winston Churchill since he first read his autobiography "My Early Life" at the age of thirteen. He believes Churchill had the charisma and spirit of a super hero- especially when you consider his escape from a prisoner of war camp during the Boer War in South Africa - by hopping the fence and

taking a train! Timon enjoys discussing Churchill's humour, sense of adventure and unique perspective on life found in many famous quotes such as "The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see."



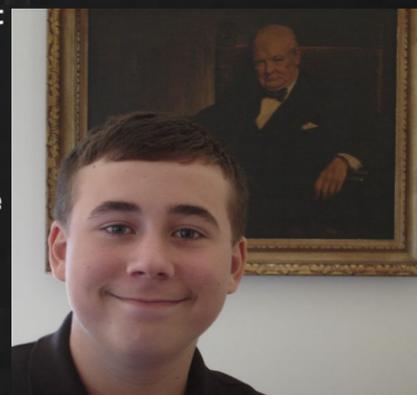
**Chris Gainor**, a historian and writer, specializes in the history of space and aviation technology, and has worked as a history instructor at University of Victoria. His most recent book, one of four, is titled *To a Distant Day: The Rocket Pioneers*. He is an ardent and knowledgeable Churchill fan and has appeared locally as a Churchill "look-alike".



**Stan A. Orchard** is an amphibian and reptile specialist and conservation biologist. He is currently working on research problems associated with the management and eradication of alien invasive amphibians. In his spare time he studies the origin, evolution and ecology of Sir Winston S. Churchill.



**Kieran Wilson** is the youngest member of the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Vancouver Island. He is currently a Grade 9 student in the Challenge Program at Esquimalt High School. Kieran participates in the Effective Speaking Program in the 89 (Pacific) Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadets and has been interested in Sir Winston Churchill for many years. Kieran is an avid reader and writer and enjoys history very much.



[www.churchillvictoria.com](http://www.churchillvictoria.com)



The Sir Winston Churchill Society of Vancouver Island is devoted to ensuring the inspiration of this great global statesman, from the last century, will motivate even greater leadership today. Run by volunteers, the society provides events and activities for members and for the general public.

If you would like to book one of our speakers, please talk to Mary-Jane at (250) 658.0771 or [gordmj@shaw.ca](mailto:gordmj@shaw.ca) with your preferred date and time and a description of the group.