



### **Churchill Home Listed for \$28 million**

One of my role models, in many ways, is Winston Churchill, who wrote to pay for his lifestyle. His home is listed for sale for \$28 million but two things may surprise you about Winston.

First, he was flat broke most of his life, even though he had a good income from writing. Second, despite the life he led; gambler, drinker and cigar smoker, he was 90 when he died, one year after retiring from parliament.

Churchill spent a lot of money, even when he did not have it, on everything from polo ponies to Havana cigars. "It is no wonder, then, that Churchill spent most of his life leaping from one cash flow crisis to another." One of the ways he eventually paid off his debts was writing.<sup>1</sup>

Churchill went from being a young army officer to being Britain's highest-earning war correspondent.

Visiting Cuba in 1895, during its war of independence, he travelled through the island's most dangerous territory while writing for the Daily Telegraph. The next year his regiment was transferred to India, where he fought Pushtun tribesman and wrote for the Telegraph.

From there, he became war correspondent in South Africa for the Morning Post during the Boer War of 1899-1902. He became part of the front page when he was captured but he escaped and travelled almost 300 miles to safety in Portuguese East Africa.

The review quotes from author Simon Read, "By the time of his return from Africa, Churchill had saved more than 4,000 pounds, equivalent to 400,000 pounds today (twice that in dollars). 'With judicious economy,' he told his brother, 'I shall hope to make that carry me through the lean years.'"

But he returned to old habits and blew through the money through things like a gambling trip to Monte Carlo, fine whiskey and, in general, the high life.

His quotes were often funny.

"Although prepared for martyrdom, I prefer that it be postponed." Note: Churchill lived to a ripe old age before dying. During these election days, I share with you one last quote, Churchill: "The truth is incontrovertible. Malice may stall it, ignorance may deride it, but in the end, truth will prevail."

In a few weeks, the election will be over!!!

<sup>1</sup>The Economist, November 21, 2015 page 77