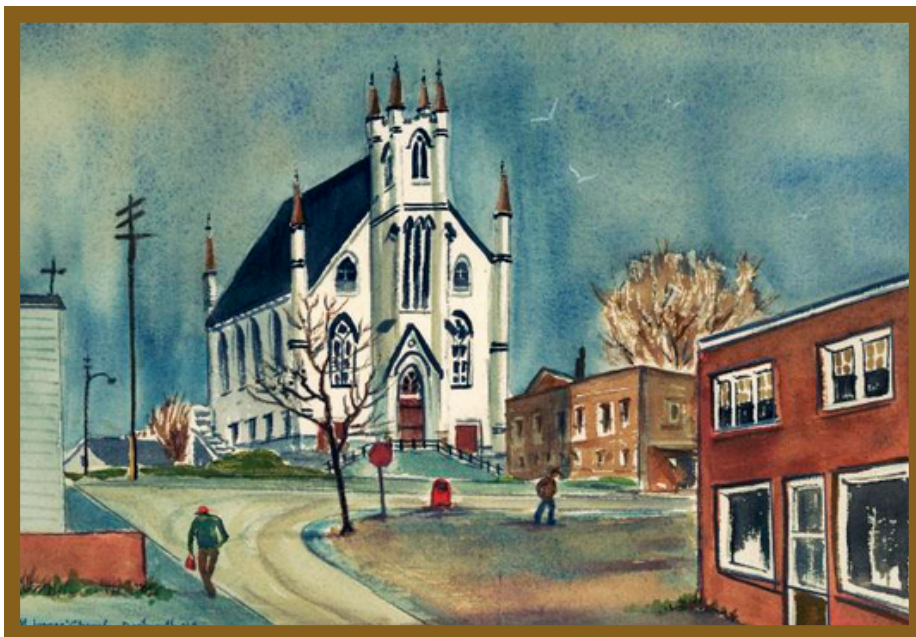




DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM'S

# THE GAZETTE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



**Top:** A colorized postcard of a Fall scene, titled “Scene of the Dartmouth Lakes.” DHM 2011.193.492.

**Bottom:** A watercolour painting of St. James Church, Dartmouth. The painting was created by Holland-born Canadian artist Margaret Van Gorp, date unknown. DHM 1985.044.002.

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# COLLECTIONS CORNER

## A Glimpse Back in Time - Diaries in the Collection

BY SHANNON BAXTER, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

One of the biggest projects that I have been working on as the Collections Manager here at the Dartmouth Heritage Museum is digitizing our extensive archival collection. This work has been assisted by hundreds of hours of transcription work done by dedicated volunteers. The work varies from letters, postcards, to old newspaper articles. The largest projects of all however are often the most personal items that can be found in the collection: personal diaries. In the museum's collection, there are over a dozen personal diaries, both from what at first glance may seem like unexpected sources: That of two local businessmen. The diaries span from the early teenage years of these men, when they were initially assisting their fathers with their work, to when they took over the businesses themselves. The diaries overlap in years, offering a unique opportunity to glance back at Dartmouth in the mid-1880s to 1890s from at least two perspectives. Commentary on the weather, sports, joys and tragedies are all mentioned between these pages. This article delves a little deeper into who these men were.

### J. Edwin Sterns

James Edwin Sterns was the son of Luther Sterns, well-known businessman in Dartmouth. The Sterns family owned one of the earliest dry-goods stores in the town. The business began in 1849, with the original business being on the corner of what is now Alderney Drive and Portland Street. Luther Sterns was both the owner of the store and the postmaster of Dartmouth. By 1879, the family built a brick

building - one of the first in town - to continue business there. That building is now 73 Alderney Drive.



**Left: J. Edwin Sterns. DHM 1983.055.018.**



**Right: Luther Stern & Sons Storefront.**

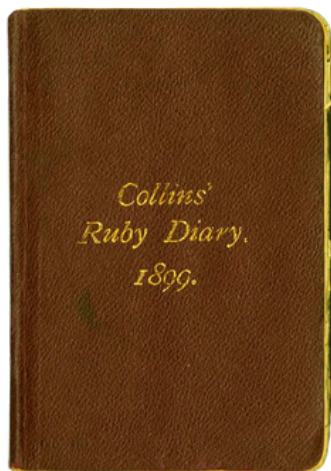
James Edwin Sterns was born January 21, 1859. The two earliest diaries of his that we have are from 1874 and 1875 - the years he was 15-years-old and 16-years-old, respectively. Within the diaries, Edwin generally notes the weather throughout the year, paying particular attention to storms, and whether the lakes or even the harbour freeze over. Dance lessons, sleigh rides and parties were noted as being attended by either himself or any of his siblings: William Henry, George Albert, and Kate Louisa. More dramatic happenings in Dartmouth and Halifax, such as cases of robbery or arson, were also recorded. He notes in 1875, on March 15th, that he was able to close the shop on his own for the first time, since his father and sister, Louisa, were out at an evening event.

*continued on next page...*

## A Glimpse Back in Time - Diaries in the Collection, *continued...*

He would later become an official partner of the family business in 1884. That same year, his father purchased the land that their first business originally stood at, on the corner of Alderney Drive and Portland Street, with plans to expand the business with an additional storefront. Unfortunately, he passed away in 1892, so it was up to Edwin to complete the task which was done in 1894. This colloquially was known as “Sterns Corner” for many years, and now is 81 Alderney Drive. The building was considered very modern, and the family extremely professional. J. Edwin Sterns continued with the business until he retired in November of 1922. He would later pass away September 22, 1941, at the age of 82.

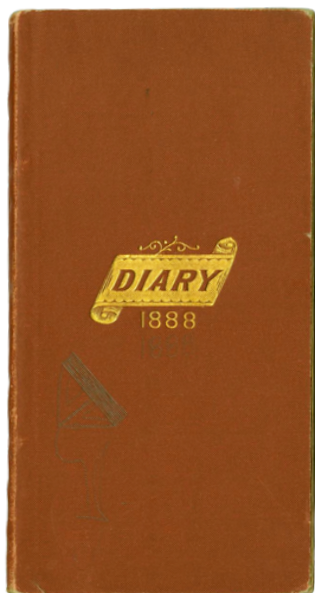
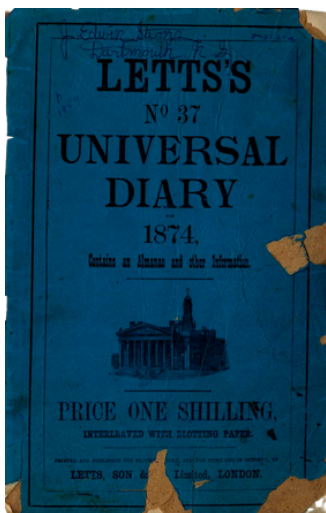
Edwin Sterns had a very particular style for diary keeping: Brief and to the point. The one subject he always wrote about in some manner was the weather, in certain diaries he had even attached articles regarding severe or unique weather patterns. He also frequently wrote about the activity of his business. He often wrote the monthly revenue and expenses, and while he was rather frugal overall, the highest spending was often reserved to purchase things for his wife, Carrie. The family often would go on picnics either on McNabs Island or one of the islands on Lake Banook. They had a daughter, Marion, and Edwin often wrote about her in his diaries. Either regarding her health or highlighting milestones such as her starting kindergarten. While often dry and precise in his writing, the diary showed a man who was thinking about his family just as much as he was his business.



**Left (top): Collins' Ruby Diary, 1899. DHM 1981.021.003.**

**Right: Diary, 1888. DHM 1981.021.002.**

**Left (bottom): Letts's Universal Diary, 1874. DHM 1981.021.027a.**



### Harry Reginald Walker

Harry Reginald Walker was born August 3, 1872 to Edmund Morris Walker and Emma Elizabeth (nee Glendenning) Walker. Their house was on the corner of Ochterloney and Prince Edward Street (now Edward Street) at 58 Ochterloney.

Edmund Walker was a grocer, and Reginald joined his father's business around 1890, until the business was sold in 1910.

**Right: Harry Reginald Walker. DHM 1960x.002.005.024**

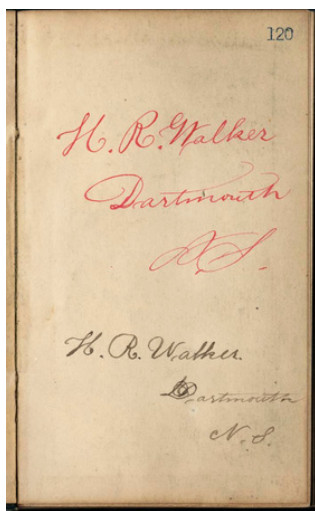


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## A Glimpse Back in Time - Diaries in the Collection, *continued...*

Around 1912, Reginald was a tea and spice packer, still working and living on Ochterloney Street. By 1917, he was a wholesale merchant, remaining with tea before becoming a more general wholesaler. The business was at 52 Ochterloney Street, and he continued to live with his parents at 58 Ochterloney Street

By 1919/1920, he transitioned his career to become the manager of the Royal Theatre, and later the Classic Theatre. The Royal Theatre was originally the Reform Club Hall in Dartmouth, and it was known as a “picture show” theatre specifically. He would eventually have a chain of theatres across the Province. He ran a carnival, and operated a motor car carnival. Well into the 1920s he remained a bachelor and was a member of the MicMac Rowing Club.



**Left: Interior of a Reginald Walker Diary, including his signature. DHM 1980.049.022e.**



**Right: Exterior of the Reginald Walker diary, printed with Excelsior Diary on the cover. DHM 1980.049.022e.**

As Reginald Walker was a younger man in comparison to Edwin Sterns during the years of overlap of the diaries, he was much more active in the community. He would often write about

whether he would be skating on the lakes, or at the Dartmouth Rink. In the summer months, he would be rowing on the lakes, or taking care of chickens and rabbits and entering them into local fairs also held at the Dartmouth Rink since it was also the local Exhibit Hall. He was a teacher of a local Sunday School, and would take note of how many students were in his class each time. He also took note of any deaths in the community, often listing the cause of death if known, and when the funeral took place. He would also excitedly note whenever extended family came to visit, or whether his family would go on holiday trips themselves.

Having the diaries of these two men from Dartmouth's past is a unique snapshot to look at the community during the mid 19th century. All of these diaries have now been digitized, and can be viewed on the Dartmouth Heritage Museum's page on NovaMuse.

## Meet your new DHM Executive Director

BY AMANDA FURNISS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Amanda welcoming guests at the opening of the Sally Horsnell Art Gallery in Berwick, Nova Scotia.**

If you've stopped by for a tour, attended one of our events or programs, or checked out our content on social media during the past two spring/summer seasons, you may already know me better than you thought! *Continued on next page...*

## Meet your new DHM Executive Director, continued...

I am Amanda Furniss, formerly a heritage interpreter at DHM for two seasons, a current member of the DHMS, and as of September 3rd, 2024, I am the new Executive Director of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum.



**Left:** Amanda waving next to the DHM sign at Evergreen before the Historic Places Days Walking Tour, 2024.



**Right:** Serving ice cream sundaes and strawberry shortcake at the DHM Emancipation Day Social, 2024.

If we haven't yet had a chance to meet, please allow me to share a little bit about myself. I began working in the heritage field during a summer job at a small community museum – as a Visitor Information Centre Attendant at the Apple Capital Museum and VIC in Berwick, Nova Scotia. A year later, I returned as the organization's Museum Manager. Since then, I have worked professionally, as a volunteer, and as a student, within many other museums and cultural institutions around Nova Scotia and Ontario. As of June of 2024, I have completed my Master of Museum Studies degree from the University of Toronto.

When I started working at DHM back in 2023, I knew this place was special; the dedication of the DHMS Board and their support to the staff, the volunteers and their generosity, the active members and their interest in community events & programs, and the

locals & visitors who I have been privileged to share so many meaningful conversations with. As most of you know already, DHM is also very lucky to have incredibly hard-working, kind, and welcoming staff, who you have already had the chance to get to know. I am honoured to be working alongside them, and cannot wait to see what we can do together.

Now that you know a little bit more about me, I hope you stop by the museum and introduce yourself! We already have some special events and projects coming your way, so make sure to check out our social media, our website, or visit us in-person to keep up with updates.

## Upside Down Apple Cake

*From the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association and the Department of Agriculture 1978 pamphlet, p. 8.*



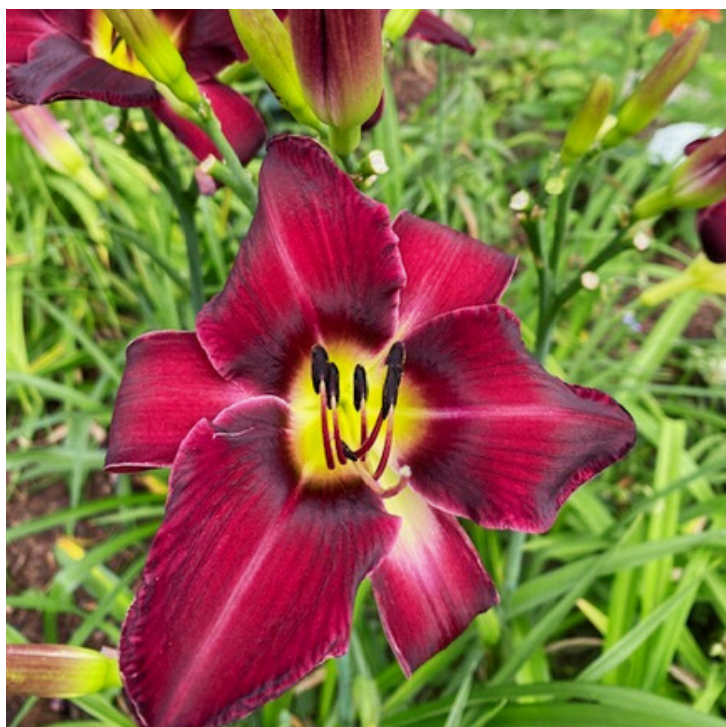
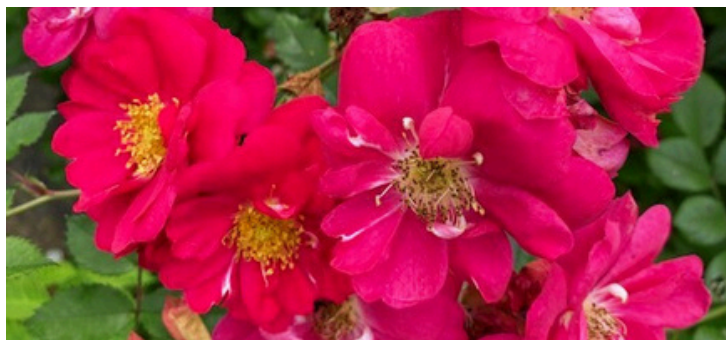
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 & 1/2 cups flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/4 cup sugar
- NOVA SCOTIA APPLES

*Cream butter and sugar together, add well beaten egg. Mix and sift flour, baking powder and salt, and add alternately with milk to first mixture. Add vanilla. Peel, core, and slice apples. Spread thick coating of butter on bottom and sides of a baking pan. Place apples regularly on bottom, overlapping pieces slightly, sprinkle with mixture of cinnamon and sugar, repeat. Pour Cake mixture over top, spreading to cover all the apples. Bake in a moderate oven over 3/4 to 1 hour. When cooked, turn on hot platter. If a firm fleshed apple is used, the top will be covered with a transparent layer of apples. Serve at once with a hard sauce or whipped cream.*

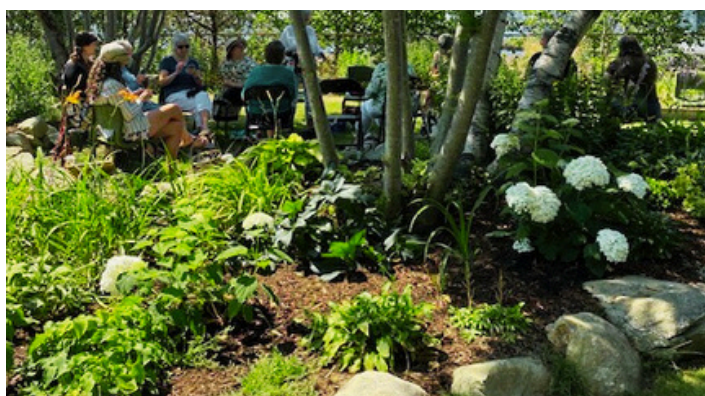
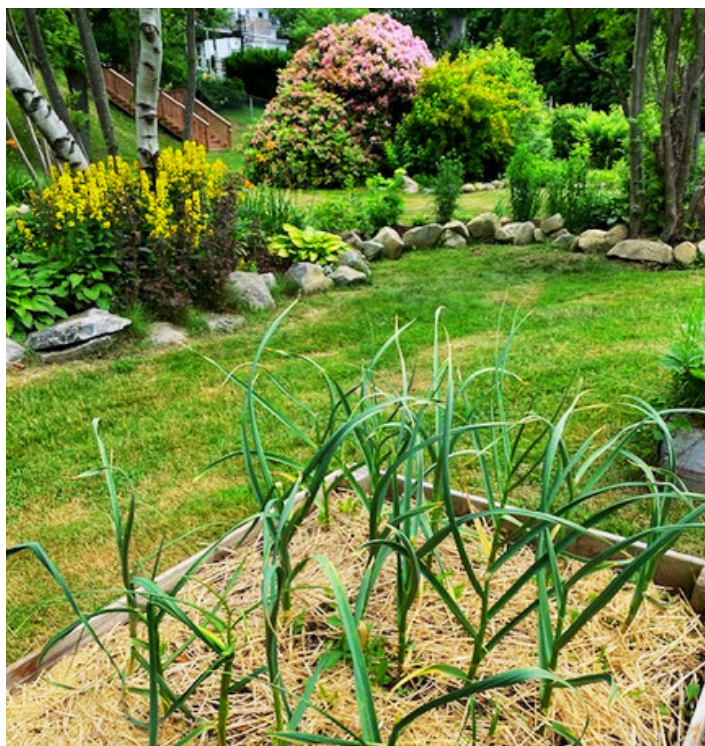
## News From the Evergreen Garden

BY TAMMY MATTHEWS, DHM GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Soon the gardening season will be winding down and the fall clean up will begin in the Evergreen garden. We have made great strides this season. Experienced gardeners have volunteered to help out and we have learned from one another and shared our tips for gardening with the community. The south-facing aspect of the garden has given us fabulous growing results and made all the hard work worthwhile. Things are really thriving and we are just getting started!



We encourage you to visit the Evergreen garden. Spend some time and consider booking your next social event here. Join us in making this garden a vibrant and active part of our community. Don't forget - members of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society enjoy one free half day rental per year at Evergreen House. There has never been a better time to become a member and take advantage of this opportunity!



*Images showcasing the Evergreen Gardens.*

*Right (bottom): An image of the Knit and Swap event held in the Evergreen Garden during July. Attendees were encouraged to swap yarn with one another, and provide a donation to the Dartmouth Community Fridge.*

## Good Reads from the Gift Shop

BY MICHAEL CRAVEN

*In the Wake of the Alderney - Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, 1750-2000*

Copyright © 2000 Dartmouth Historical Association

Author: Harry Chapman

Dartmouth Historical Association, Dartmouth NS

ISBN 0-96966-46-7-2

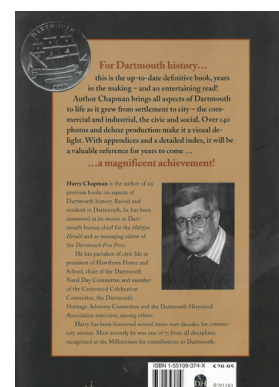
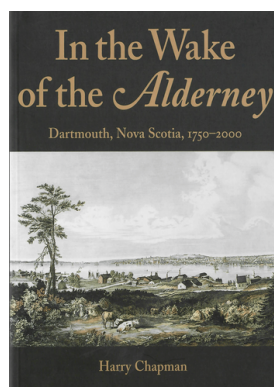
562 pages

*In the Wake of the Alderney - Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, 1750-2000*, was but one part of an extensive output of activity in the year 2000 overseen by the HRM Millennium Committee (Chair, Jack Keith) and the Dartmouth 250th Anniversary Committee (Chair, Audrey Manzer). Effectively, it forms the third part of a trifecta of works concerned with Dartmouth's history, the earlier two being Mary Lawson's 1893 *History of the Townships of Dartmouth, Preston and Lawrencetown* and Dr. John P. Martin's subsequent *The Story of Dartmouth* in 1957.

The timeline adopted by Chapman begins at Part 1 with a nod to the Indigenous presence in the area prior to the 1749 arrival of English settlers at Chebucto (Halifax), and commences in earnest with arrival of the English transport *Alderney* and discharge of 353 souls to the opposite harbour shore in late-summer 1750. Chapman traces Dartmouth's development up to the year 2000 in ten subsequent Parts, by which time the City of Dartmouth, legislated out of existence four years earlier by a provincial government headed by a former Dartmouth mayor, no longer existed legally or politically. The book concludes with seven appendices, six of which focus on lists of various Dartmouth citizens notable for their role in the development of the community, and a seventh providing a useful chronology of significant events in Dartmouth's history.

By his own admission, Chapman's history focuses "more on the people and events of twentieth-century Dartmouth" rather than on the eighteenth- and nineteenth-centuries, periods he was willing to cede to Mary Lawson and John Martin. Fair enough. *In the Wake of the Alderney* has no pretensions to being an exhaustively researched and attributed historical treatise – rather, it is a comprehensive general chronology of the people and events that advanced, and sometimes hindered, community development. It is neither a gripping nor easy read, but does achieve Chapman's stated aim, which was "to look back and and celebrate the men and women who helped fashion the City of Lakes and look to the future with the hopes and dreams of the Alderney settlers and those who followed in [her] wake."

Available in hard- and soft-cover format, with numerous black and white photographs and illustrations, almost twenty-five years after the fact Chapman's history of Dartmouth presents, in Audrey Manzer's prescient words, "as a suitable testament to the long line of extraordinary people who have made Dartmouth the fine city I am proud to call home." A must-have for Dartmouth enthusiasts and nerds, it is available from the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Evergreen House gift shop at a tax-free price of \$30.00 (hard-cover) and \$20.00 (soft-cover).



**"In the Wake of the Alderney - Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, 1750-2000" by Harry Chapman.**



# FALL EVENTS 2024



BY DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM

## DHM Gift Shop Raffle Variety Basket



**Date:** Tuesday, October 1st - Monday, October 28th

**Time:** During Operational Hours

**Location:** Evergreen House

**Cost:** See raffle ticket prices below

Purchase at least one raffle ticket to enter our Gift Shop Raffle. All items are from the Dartmouth Heritage Museum, and proceeds help us to create community events, programs, and more! Our winner will be contacted via email on October 29th.

1 Raffle Ticket.....	\$2
5 Raffle Tickets.....	\$5
10 Raffle Tickets.....	\$8

## Alderney Landing Pumpkin, Food & Folklore Festival



**Date:** Every Saturday in October

**Time:** 10:00am - 12:00pm

**Location:** Alderney Landing Community Solar

**Cost:** Free

Come see us in one of the Community Solar Extension buildings at Alderney Landing to hear tales of strange and mysterious phenomenon from the folklore collection of Dr. Helen Creighton. We will have a raffle basket with spooky books and other items from our gift shop, kids can pick up a page for our Fall Colouring Contest (see details below), and we'll be giving away free Halloween treats!

## DHM Colouring Contest & Display



**Date:** Tuesday, October 1st - Friday, November 1st at 5:00pm

**Time:** During operational hours

**Location:** Evergreen House

**Cost:** Free

Pick up a colouring page from our booth at the Alderney Landing Pumpkin, Food & Folklore Festival (every Saturday in October 10am-12noon) or during open hours from Evergreen House (Tues-Fri 10am-5pm). Show us your best colouring skills and return it to the museum by 5pm on November 1st for a chance to win some cool art prizes. Winners will be announced on Monday November 4th.

## Halloween at Helen's Pumpkin Hunt



**Date:** Friday, October 25th

**Time:** 1:00pm - 4:00pm

**Location:** Evergreen House

Looking for something to do with the kids on this 'No School' day? Join us for a pumpkin hunt in Helen's Garden at Evergreen House. Costumes welcome! We will have Halloween crafts and treats! Pick up or complete a colouring page for our Fall Colouring Contest while you're there (see above for details).



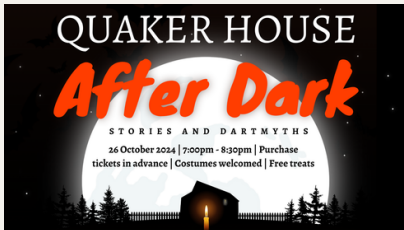


# FALL EVENTS 2024



BY DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM

## Quaker After Dark: Stories & DartMyths



**Date:** Saturday, October 26th

**Time:** 7:00pm - 8:30pm

**Location:** Quaker House

**Cost:** \$10/ticket. Purchase tickets in advance.

Tour Quaker House after dark with experienced guides. Learn about ghostly tales and supernatural stories from the folklore collection of Dr. Helen Creighton, along with some of their own spooky and unusual experiences working in this almost 240 year old building.

Tickets will be \$10 per person sold in advance. This event quickly sold out last year so keep an eye on our social media for further details!

## Crafting Christmas Gift Tags



**Date:** Wednesday, November 20th

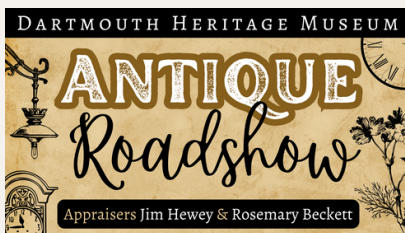
**Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

**Location:** Evergreen House

**Cost:** Free

Join us at Evergreen House to make Christmas gift tags. Just in time for Christmas, these charming tags are made from recycling old Christmas cards. Supplies will be provided however, if you have old Christmas cards you would like to contribute, bring them along and we will put them to good use. This event is free to join and we will be collecting donated winter items for Margaret's House.

## DHM Antique Roadshow: Antique Appraisals



**Date:** Wednesday, November 30th [tentative\*]

**Time:** TBD

**Location:** Evergreen House

**Cost:** \$10 per item ticket, tickets required in advance.

Join us at Evergreen House for an Antiques Roadshow-style appraisal and information session, in collaboration with appraisers Jim Hewey and Rosemary Beckett. Jim has extensive knowledge in general antiques, jewelry, glass, and more, while Rosemary specializes in baskets, jewelry, and antiques. Tickets are required per-item in advance, and will be available in-person at Evergreen House and online at [dartmouthheritagemuseum.ca](http://dartmouthheritagemuseum.ca).

*\*date subject to change. Check our website and social media for an official date and time.*

For more events, programs, and up-to-date details, visit our website or social media accounts.



### Event Tickets:

Visit [dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/product-category/event-tickets/](http://dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/product-category/event-tickets/) or scan the QR code to the left.

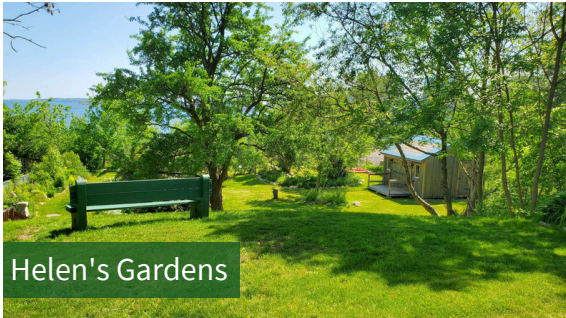
### Social Media:

@dartmouthheritagemuseum

Dartmouth Heritage Museum - Evergreen House & Quaker House



# EVERGREEN RENTALS



Helen's Gardens



Reference Library



Red Parlour



Sun Porch



Green Parlour

Did you know the Dartmouth Heritage Museum has room rentals for small events and gatherings? Are you looking for a charming space, full of historic character AND a fantastic view of the harbour? Evergreen may be the space for you! This glorious mid-Victorian manor was a family residence before being restored and converted into a museum. Since then, the house has played host to several movies and television shows, including *The Lizzie Borden Chronicles* and *Chapelwaite*, a Stephen King inspired series. Currently, for private functions, we rent out rooms in the museum for small events, as the Victorian charm also comes with limited space. In the warmer months, there are also the Gardens. Directly behind the house, the sloping green hill rolls down to a lovely garden complete with stone fences and a gorgeously blooming rhododendron. Reach out to us directly or head over to our website under "facility rental" !

## Standard Pricing\*:

- **Private booking: \$25.00/hour**
  - For individual booking such as baby showers
- **Non-Profit booking: \$20.00/hour**
  - For booking from non-profit or other charity organizations
- **Corporate booking: \$30.00/hour**
  - For government, for-profit companies and others

\*Pricing current at time of printing, based on a per room basis. Visit our website for up-to-date pricing and availability please.



# DHMS MEMBERSHIP



## Why become a member?

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society operates the Dartmouth Heritage Museum on behalf of the Halifax Regional Municipality, which owns both historic houses and the collection. This allows interested community members to have a real and impactful voice in what happens with the DHM. One of the easiest ways to use your voice is by attending and voting at our Annual General Meeting (AGM). Society members have the right to vote for Board Director nominees and on changes to the Bylaws, both of which have incredible influence on the Society and the museum itself.

## We have 3 categories of membership:

- **Individual Membership** is for one (1) person
  - Price: \$20
- **Family Membership** is for a family unit, consisting of at least one (1) adult and one child under the age of eighteen (18)
  - Price: \$30
- **Group Membership** is for societies, museums, universities, libraries, corporations, firms, partnerships, foundations and governmental departments.
  - Price: Please Contact

## Membership Opportunities and Benefits:

- **Voting!** Society members have the right to vote on important issues at each Annual General Meeting.
- **A 10% discount from the gift shop.** This discount is applied by our staff in-person with a valid membership card, or online by using your unique discount code.
- Exclusive **early-bird access to event and program tickets**, and **ticket discounts for museum events**.

## DHMS Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:	Annual Fee	# of Years	Total
Individual	\$20.00		
Family	\$30.00		
Donation (tax receipts are issued for donations)			

**Cheques should be made out to:** Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society, 26 Newcastle St, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3M5

**May we have your permission to add your email to our mailing list?** This mailing list is used to send updates about our news and upcoming events, as well as send out our quarterly newsletter). Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**May we use your name in public recognition of our donors?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

# THE DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM

*"We commit to engagement, education, and storytelling."*



## Evergreen House

26 Newcastle Street | Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Open Year-round | Fall/Winter  
Hours | Tues - Fri | 10am - 5pm

\*Holiday hours may vary.

## Quaker House

57 Ochterloney Street | Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Open Seasonally | June - August  
Wed - Sun | 10am - 5pm

\*Closed for the season.



*The Dartmouth Heritage Museum wishes to recognize that we exist and operate on Mi'kma'ki, as the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. The Mi'kmaq have long been the traditional custodians of this land, and the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society would like to pay our respects to the elders both past and present of the Mi'kmaq Nation.*

*This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which the Mi'kmaq, Wəlastəkwiyik (Maliseet), and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. This relationship continues today. **We are all treaty people.***



## CONTACT US

26 Newcastle Street | Dartmouth, Nova Scotia | Canada | B2Y 3M5

**Email:** [info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca) | **Phone:** (902) 464 - 2300

**Website:** [dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca](http://dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca)



Dartmouth Heritage Museum -  
Evergreen House & Quaker House



@dartmouthheritagemuseum