



# Scotian Hiker

www.scotianhiker.com  
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There's No Place Like Home To Roam



## A Wonderful Waterfall Weekend!

A total of 26 adventure-seekers took part in the very first Waterfall Weekend, held May 2 - 3. Beginning under overcast skies and shrouded in fog, the sun soon broke through as the group toured 5 scenic waterfalls over two days, crossing a few streams, climbing ropes, getting wet and muddy, making new friends and enjoying the camaraderie while in the presence of some of the best waterfalls Nova Scotia has to offer. The dry weather will cause these falls to diminish, so another excursion is being held May 16 - 17. See scotianhiker.com for details.

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## York Redoubt National Historic Site

Overlooking the entrance to Halifax Harbour is a defensive fortification originally built in 1793 to protect a young Halifax from its enemies, mainly France at that time as Great Britain and France were at war. York Redoubt sits on a high bluff near Fergusons Cove (recently affected by wildfire), an ideal spot for placing large guns to bombard any approaching naval vessels with hostile intentions. The guns were never fired in anger, but the Redoubt continued to serve an important role in harbour defenses. In the 19th century, it communicated with the Citadel via flags to monitor harbour traffic. Troops were assigned here in the First World War, many of them awaiting deployment overseas. During the Second World War, searchlights and an anti-submarine net stretching to McNabs Island protected Halifax from enemy action. York Redoubt was in military use until 1956. Today, it is open to the public, a great place to view the harbour, learn some history and to have fun exploring its buildings. Take Herring Cove Rd from the Armdale Rotary, turn left onto Purcells Cove Rd at the lights and drive for 8 kms. York Redoubt will be on the left.



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## The Last Hanging In Kings County

In May of 1904, a gruesome murder took place on the North Mountain near Burlington. Theresa and William Robinson were a couple who had a volatile marriage. One morning, after a heated argument, the Robinson farmhouse was found burned, and in the rubble were Theresa's bludgeoned and dismembered remains. William, who was not at the scene when neighbours arrived, escaped a lynch mob by turning himself in to the authorities. He went to trial, was found guilty and sentenced to hang, despite his claims of innocence. The case against him was largely circumstantial as there were no witnesses, and there is now thought that someone else in William's family actually did the killing. When he was executed on the gallows in Kentville, drunken spectators rushed to cut souvenir pieces from the rope used in the hanging. This loutish behaviour prompted the decision to hold executions in Halifax from that point on. Today, the Robinson farm is abandoned and the property is under the care of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust. The rock foundation of the house is still there, but is slowly being reclaimed by nature. If you walk the lonely trail back to the scene of the crime, you'd better not go alone, and be sure to be out before dark...if the ghost stories are to be believed.

*Opportunity is knocking.* *You should probably answer it.*



**Advertise with Scotian Hiker.**

## Scotian Hiker Photo Contest

The Photo Contest submission deadline has been extended to May 31. Grab your camera and get shooting! [www.scotianhiker.com/photocontest.htm](http://www.scotianhiker.com/photocontest.htm)



## Homegrown Trivia

1. Where did the first airplane flight in the British Empire take place?
2. How many counties are there in Nova Scotia?
3. What famous Nova Scotian sailing vessel appears on the Canadian dime?
4. What city is the "Warden of the North"?
5. Halifax harbour is the 2nd largest in the world. True or False?
6. In what year did King Charles I grant Nova Scotia its Coat-of-Arms?
7. What NS river made it onto Earthwild International's list of Canada's top ten endangered rivers in 2002?

*(Answers at bottom of page)*

## What's New @ Scotianhiker.com

- A Cave Crawl is in the works! Yes, a Cave Crawl. There ARE caves around here. TBA (likely in June).
- Video and photos from the Waterfall Weekend will be posted soon at scotianhiker.com and Facebook!
- Read the Blog for outdoor ideas and submissions from readers. Add Scotian Hiker as a Facebook friend for photos. Follow Scotian Hiker on Twitter!



## Outdoorosophy

*"The whole secret of the study of nature lies in learning how to use one's eyes." - George Sand*

*"A traveler. I love his title. A traveler is to be revered as such. His profession is the best symbol of our life. Going from--toward; it is the history of every one of us." - Henry David Thoreau*

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Nova Scotia. Outdoors. Photos. Videos. Fun. Adventure.  
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## In Case You Haven't Noticed...

...the Scotian Hiker printed newsletter is now in black and white! To see the full colour version, visit <http://www.scotianhiker.com/newsletter.htm> and download any current or past newsletter as an Adobe PDF file. All you need to view them is the free Adobe Reader, available online.

## What's Going On Out There!? Event Listings

**Another Waterfall Weekend! May 16 – 17.** Visit 5 amazing waterfalls in one weekend- for free. For more information and to sign up, visit: [www.scotianhiker.com/waterfallweekend.htm](http://www.scotianhiker.com/waterfallweekend.htm)

**Orienteering Meet: AVOC Challenge Meet. Saturday May 9, Lumsden Dam.** Onsite registration from 11AM to 12PM. For more information, visit <http://orienteeringns.ca> or download the PDF file from <http://www.scotianhiker.com/events.htm>



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