

Coorparoo
& Heritage Group
Districts

Invites you to hear

Andrew Hill

Speak about

James Stone and his Ginger Beer

Born 1838, James Stone immigrated from England to Australia at age 19 with a dream of establishing his own Brewery & Hotel. In 1872 James purchased the corner block on which Stones Corner now stands for £100. On that site he built a modest home & Brewhouse & became the first person to commercially brew and sell ginger beer in Queensland. Locals referred to James's Brewhouse as the 'Ginger Beer Shop' & its corner location 'Stone's Corner' The historic Brisbane suburb of Stones Corner is named in his honour. James lived in Stones Corner until his passing in 1924, however his famous Stone's Ginger Beer & legend live on thanks to his descendants Andrew & Rubens.

Andrew Hill is James Stone's Great, Great Grandson and has revived the legendary Stone's Ginger Beer. Andrew will speak about James Stone, Founder of Stones Corner and his ginger beer and how the product has seen a revival in recent years.

Come along and listen to Andrew speak about James Stone and the legacy with his Ginger Beer.

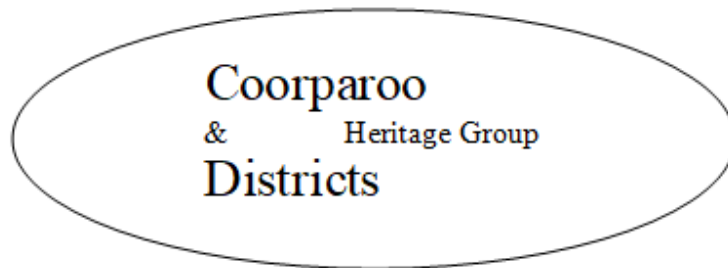
Where? **Kingsbury Room**
Queen Alexandra Home Community Centre
347 Old Cleveland Rd. Coorparoo

When? Saturday **1 June 2024** at 2.00 pm

Non-members are welcome, but why not join our group? A small donation to offset hiring charges would be appreciated.

Contact President Ron Baker OAM 0412 944 095 Vice President Richard Jeffreys OAM 0411 511 369
Mail: Hon. Secretary. PO Box 263 Coorparoo Q 4151

This flyer kindly copied by the office of the Member for Greenslopes, Joe Kelly MP



MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

At the April meeting the group's president Ron Baker, OAM spoke about how Coorparoo Junction has changed over the years. In his presentation, Coorparoo Junction Then and Now, he showed a collection of images of the junction, some dating back to 1876. He also showed a collection of images taken by past members, sisters, Margaret Johnsson and Lorna Jenkiins in the 1950's. Ron then showed what buildings now occupy the sites. This talk generated many fond recollections of the old Coorparoo.

Our guest speaker at the meeting on 1 June 2024, will be Andrew Hill, the Great, Great Grandson of James Stone after whom Stones Corner was named. Whilst wanting to brew beer at his premises he could not obtain approval from the Licensing Board and the best he was allowed to brew was ginger beer. This enterprise grew into the Stones Ginger Beer which was marketed widely. Andrew will speak about James Stone and the re-emergence of Stones Ginger Beer which is marketed widely in Brisbane and elsewhere.

For our August meeting we have Dr. Deborah Jordan speaking about Female Suffrage. More information will be provided in the next Newsletter.

Planning for the October Bus Tour around New Farm is well advanced. President Ron has done a preliminary reconnaissance of the area and identified many of the buildings of historical significance. He is now finalising the route and where to have afternoon tea. It is hoped that this tour is well supported this year. There is a wealth of historic buildings in the area. This tour has been put back a week to avoid a clash with the King's Birthday long weekend. Expressions of interest will be called at the June and August meetings.

The Committee was advised that all the Honour Boards at the Coorparoo RSL Sub Branch have been taken down and stored in the basement which is prone to flooding. Our Group wrote to RSL Queensland expressing our concern about this loss and requested that they be reinstalled for Anzac Day. Instead of investigating the matter themselves, they referred our letter to the Coorparoo RSL Sub Branch. The matter was discussed at a committee meeting of the Sub Branch with the Committee blaming previous Presidents for the removal. They will be responding to our complaint. We will await the content of the correspondence.

Our group has been working closely with Councillor Fiona Cunningham regarding signs in parks. Many parks have a sign with a name but no further information about the park. An example is Barston Place on Norfolk St. Our group has been able to provide the Council with information about Barston Place and hopefully in the near future the existing sign will have further information. Information on other parks is currently being researched.

Your committee is always on the lookout for interesting speakers. Does anybody know of someone in the Scouting and Girl Guide movement who could speak about the numerous clubs that once operated in the Coorparoo and Districts area. Names that come to mind are the Coorparoo Group, Mt. Bruce, Victor and Majestic Park, the Wembley Park Girl Guides and probably more. Any more information would be greatly appreciated.

The Committee is also researching the locations of former Service Stations that seem to be once on every corner. Would members bring their recollections to the next meeting so that a comprehensive map can be compiled. If you also know the brand of petrol on sale that would also be helpful.

Continuing our articles on prominent Coorparoo identities in this Newsletter we feature Samuel Harries and his family and the property Avondale Estate.

SAMUEL VALENTINE HARRIES & FAMILY

Samuel Valentine Harries (1830-1876) and his wife Maria Louise Harries (nee Holdsworth), purchased the whole of Portion 56 (originally purchased in 1856 by John Bridges) and part of Portion 55 (originally purchased by Thomas Blackett Stephens) in October 1864 and called the property Avondale after the river Avon in England. This 66 acre, 2 rood, 12 perch property stretched from Old Cleveland Road down Cavendish Road (then called Pine Mountain Road) to Norman Creek, along Norman Creek to Coorparoo Creek and up to Old Cleveland Road almost opposite Wellington Street and back along Old Cleveland Road to Cavendish Road, what is now known as Coorparoo Junction. The Harries named this property Avondale Farm after the River Avalon back in England.

Samuel Valentine Harries was born in 1830 at Bath, Yorkshire, England, and became an engineer. After migrating to Australia, he met and married Maria Louisa Holdsworth. They were married in St. John's Church, William Street Brisbane on 22 May 1862. Samuel and Maria had five children, Percy, Elizabeth Mary (Lilly) born 2 August 1865, Kate Helena, Maude Maria and Charles Alexander born 27 July 1874. The five children were enrolled at the Coorparoo State School and their names appeared on the school's first roll when it opened in 1876. With the exception of Percy, who was born at West End, all the children were born at Coorparoo.

The Harries first home on the estate was a four-room weatherboard, gable roof cottage with shingle roofing. The home was later extended. In 1873, Maria Harries built a larger home. This house had a stepped roof and verandah, French lights provided egress and ventilation to the rooms. The front elevation faced South and Old Cleveland Road. The Eastern side was dominated by a large living room, that had V.J. walls and an arched panelled room divider, and fireplace. The internal fittings and mantelpieces in the living rooms of both houses were cedar. To the left of this home was the original cottage which was used as additional bedrooms. The home was named "Avondale".

Samuel Harries died in December 1866 and the estate was transferred to his wife Maria in December 1866.

In 1887, the Northern section of the estate, from Riddings Street down to Norman Creek was subdivided and a Public Auction held on 23 April 1887 to sell off the residential properties.

The Coorparoo Railway Station was built on some Avondale Estate and was then known as the Avondale Station. Before the coming of the railway, the bottom end of Avondale was often used for sporting events. In fact, the first Coorparoo Football Club enjoyed the use of the vacant land. In later years, a paddock near the house was used as the gladiatorial site for Coorparoo State School boys to settle their differences.

When the first tram arrived in Coorparoo in 1915, this was the only home on the large estate. On the other side of Old Cleveland Road, further up the hill was "Eastleigh", the home of Frederick Thomas Brentnall. There were no buildings along the Old Cleveland Road frontage.

Elizabeth Mary (Lily) Harries, in the 1880's, was in charge of the Coorparoo Post Office when Headmaster J.C. Towell, (the Postmaster as well as school Headmaster) went on Christmas holidays. She died in December 1930 at the age of 63 years .

Charles was a well-known and respected solicitor who was admitted to the Queensland Supreme Court in June 1900 and practised as a solicitor until shortly before his death in 1954, aged 81 years.

In 1823, Charles Harries subdivided the remainder of the estate, the land from Riding Street to Old Cleveland Road, into one hundred and forty-three, 16 perch lots. After this section was subdivided the streets were named after the family. Harries Road was named after the family name, Holdsworth Street, after Mrs. Harries maiden name, Bath Street after the home town of Samuel Harries and Holdsworth Street after Mrs. Harries hometown in Yorkshire, England.

By 1932 most of the subdivided land had been sold off, so that *Avondale* and about 2 acres surrounding it, were all that remained of the Avondale Estate. The house remained until after Charles Alexander

Harries' death, when the house and remaining land were sold. The house was demolished, trees and shrubs rooted out, to make way for a small Myer (then Allan & Stark) complex at the Coorparoo Junction.

At the Bulimba Cemetery, up on the hill near the ornate Wecker family memorial is the Harries family monument. It gives the following information;

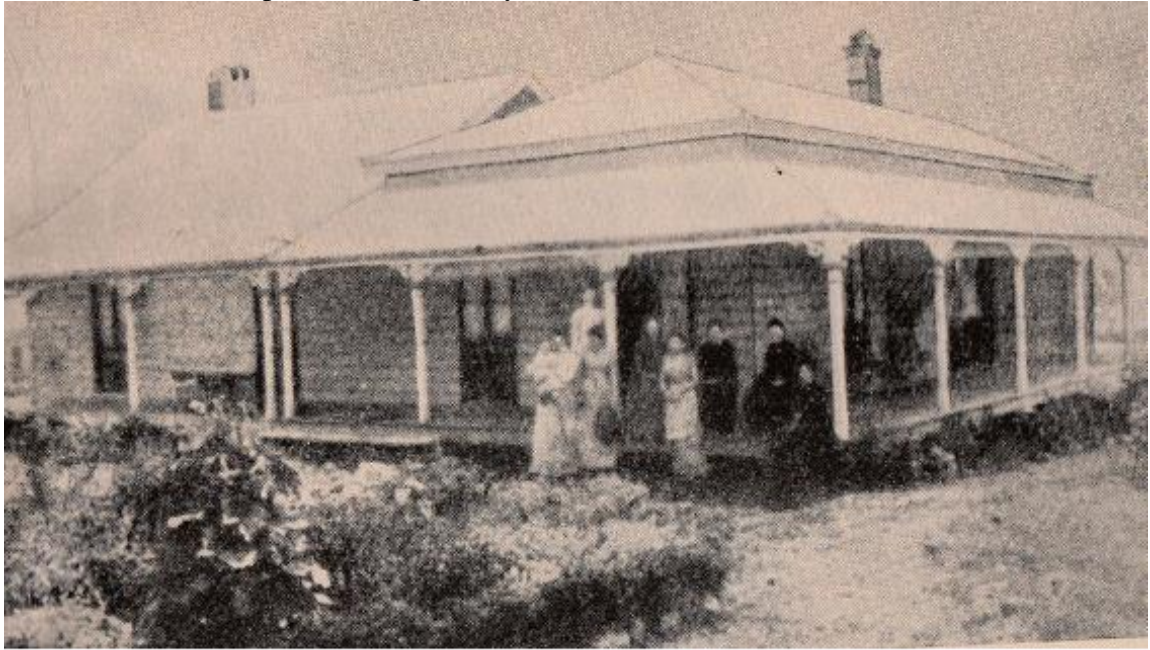
Samuel Valentine Harries, born at Bath, Sommerset, England, died 13 July 1876, aged 46 years and his wife.

Maria Louisa Harries, born at Wakefield, Yorkshire, England, died 26 January 1914, aged 71 years, also

Samuel Percy Holdsworth Harries, died 17 June 1943, aged 79 years,

Elizabeth Mary Harries, died 20 December 1930, aged 63 years,

Kate Helena Harries, died 12 April 1944, aged 75 years.



Avondale (Harries home)



Samuel Valentine Harries



Elizabeth Mary (Lily) Harries

