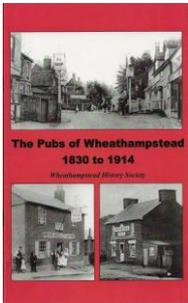




## News and events



The 'big news' is of course the publication of the Society's first book ***The Pubs of Wheathampstead 1830 to 1914***. Inspired by Jon Mein's talk about the pubs of St Albans in 2016, a small group of members have laboured long and hard to research the history of the 26 pubs that existed in the parish and to place them in their wider historical context.

The book was launched at The Reading Rooms last week and has been very well received; we have already had to order a reprint.

You can buy your copy this evening or from the Post Office, The Reading Rooms, The Swan, The Cross Keys or the Farr Brewery, or order it by post via the Society's website. The individual stories of the 26 pubs are on the website.

- **Next meeting:** Our next meeting will be at 7.30 on Wednesday 17 July when Jon Mein will give a talk *From Pint Pot to Coffee Pot: The Temperance Movement in 19th century St Albans*

## Notes and queries



The third edition of Nikolaus Pevsner's '*Hertfordshire*' was published in March this year by Yale University Press.

Not many authors have become a brand name but 'Pevsner' is one of them. The 'Buildings of England' series was created and largely written by Sir Nikolaus

Pevsner and the first editions of the 'county' volumes were published by Penguin Books between 1951 and 1974. 'Hertfordshire', the seventh in the series, was published in 1953 with just over 300 pages in standard paperback format and 91 black-and-white photographs. A second edition, much revised and expanded and co-authored by Bridget Cherry, appeared in 1977. This new edition is credited to James Bettley, Nikolaus Pevsner and Bridget Cherry.

Pevsner did his research in Hertfordshire in 1951 and, according to his biographer Susie Harries, complained that there was little solitude in the

county 'with buses reaching into every corner, light industry mushrooming in all directions and an inordinate number of mental hospitals'.

Despite that, his verdict on the landscape was that it was 'naturally friendly, green, gently rolling, with no large river, uneventful but lovable'. What would he have made of it today?

The new hardback edition, with 728 pages, is about 30% longer than the second edition, with 122 superb colour photographs and a wealth of figures and maps. The Introduction includes essays on Geology and Building Materials, Prehistoric Hertfordshire, Roman and Post-Roman Hertfordshire, The Middle Ages, Timber-Framed Buildings, Secular Buildings, Churches and Chapels 1540-1840, Architecture 1840-1914, and Architecture Since 1914.

For Wheathampstead, the 1977 edition included two pages about St Helen's Church, seven lines about Water End Farm and nine lines about Roman Remains. The 2019 edition includes much more material, is impressively up to date and includes descriptions of the Church, the High Street, six of our great houses, John Bunyan's Chimney and Devil's Dyke.

At the time of writing, the book can be bought online for £27.63.