

# Upcoming Events

## BSANA Barbecue

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014

All residents are welcome to the BSANA Barbecue. See insert / front page for details.

## Front Garden Makeover

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014

See page 3

## Reading Rescue

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014

A weekend to clean-up our “green/open space” areas in our neighbourhood. In cooperation with Reading Borough Council. Meet at 10am at the corner of Howard Street and Baker Street. Everyone is welcome to help make our area a nicer place to live in.

## Annual Holiday Social

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014

A chance to relax, meet local people and join in the holiday activities. You are welcome to bring along some food or drink (non-alcoholic) and we can all share in the festivities. Note: this is not linked to any one religion. Whatever your beliefs, you are all welcome. Location: The Oasis.

## Senior Trip Out

Are you over 60? Are you interested in a trip this autumn with other local seniors from your front door for a day or afternoon out? Would you prefer to go to the beach? A country house? Afternoon tea at a local beauty spot? All for no cost to you! Please let us know what you prefer. Email [seniortrip@bsana.org](mailto:seniortrip@bsana.org) or call/text to SAM at 0755 7957 462.

## Our Area



The Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association (BSANA) covers the area of west Reading between the IDR and Prospect Street.

In our area, we have shops and businesses, places of worship and social centres, Bed and Breakfast and public facilities.

Our area boasts also a wide range of other buildings, from the Reading Association for the Blind (in Carey Street) to the Cranstoun Community Drug Agency on Oxford Road.

## Contact Us

The best way to get in touch is by email.

Email  
[contact@bsana.org](mailto:contact@bsana.org)

Via post, to the secretary  
Richard Rowlands,  
28 Anstey Road, RG1 7JR

Web Site  
[www.bsana.org](http://www.bsana.org)

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# Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association

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## BSANA's Aim

The objects of the Association shall be to improve the quality of life for present and future residents of the Area by promoting a sense of community and by action to conserve, protect and improve the character of the Area.

**Free Front  
Garden Makeover!**  
**Free Senior Trip!**  
**See Inside**

## Welcome to BSANA Newsletter

This is the Late Summer Newsletter for the Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association (BSANA). We are a group of local people who live in the area (see map on back page) who are keen to make the area better. And you are welcome to join us. Just come to any of our events. Or, if you want to volunteer, just get in touch (details on back page).

## BSANA Barbecue

We are holding our first BSANA Barbecue on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Everyone in the area is welcome.

There will be (Halal) sausages, vegetarian food, and soft drinks.

It should be a lively evening and a chance to chat about what BSANA is up to.

More details in the invitation that came with this newsletter. If you didn't get one and live in our area, email us at [barbecue@bsana.org](mailto:barbecue@bsana.org)



## Volunteers Wanted

We are all local residents, with an interest in helping to improve the area.

Whether you can help with the street clean, our street party, delivering newsletters or any of our activities you are most welcome.

See page 3 for some suggestions as to how you can get involved.

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## Planning Applications

Recently there has been an application made for the area behind 57 Baker Street (on the south side) to clear the area and build nine 2 & 3 bedroom new houses. Do you live near the site? What do you think?

There are constantly new developments going on in the neighbourhood that come before the Reading Borough Council Planning Committee. If you are concerned about something happening near you, contact us at [planning@bsana.org](mailto:planning@bsana.org). BSANA regularly sends in feedback to the council on planning proposals in our area. If you have any suggestions, please let us know so we can represent your views.

## Clear Pavements

Some of our streets are lined with wheelie bins. Of these, streets such as Anstey Road are so narrow so that the wheelie bins block half the pavement (with there being no front yard to place the bins). The pavements are difficult to navigate and this causes a problem for people with prams or wheelchairs, and for blind people and others.



BSANA has been working with Reading Borough Council to find a solution. One option is to take all the grey bins off Anstey Road (all 46 of them!) and replace them with much larger communal bins that could be locked down on the street and release the pavement for pedestrians.

The current stage is that we have a document which explains the plans and BSANA members are knocking on every door in Anstey Road to explain the scheme to residents and see what they think. If there is enough support for the idea, Reading Council will implement this for a few months and then we will gather feedback on whether people felt it worked or not. This is just a trial scheme. If this works, this could become long term and implemented on other streets in the area.

You can also send in feedback (even if you don't live on Anstey Road) to [bigbins@bsana.org](mailto:bigbins@bsana.org)



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## Summer Spruce Up

Thanks to everyone who came along to help – even Bet Tickner (our local councillor) helped out. Thanks also to Streetcare for their support during the day.

On the Saturday we collected items from the local area (working through the pouring rain), and on Sunday we did gardening and hoeing.

Overall we filled a huge skip and two garages! We're happy to do this once a year and improve the area for all of us. We also gave out leaflets on how to dispose of large items the rest of the year.



## Community Organisers

A group of 4 community organisers have started work in Reading in a bid to get people across the town more involved in where they live.

Hosted by Reading Voluntary Action, Freya Walker will be talking to people in this area, finding out what they love about the area they live in and what things they would most like to improve. She will then be looking to support local people set up solutions over the next year.



The aim is to listen to hundreds of people and build a network of volunteers and interested people to encourage them to become more active in their communities.

Freya will be working for a year as a part of a government funded scheme to encourage more people to take action and get involved within their communities. The overall goal is to get 5000 people from across England to take action around the things that they care about and transform their neighbourhoods, and this programme has now spread to Reading.

Freya will be working in the town end of Oxford Road, which includes the BSANA area. So, if she knocks on your door, please do have a chat with her and give her your ideas.

## Front Garden Makeover

Coming to you on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014. As part of our efforts to improve our areas' appearance and general feel, we'd like to offer our residents the chance to have us 'makeover' your front garden - at no cost.

In the spirit of the TV programmes you see, we'd like to help with the general weeding, bulb planting and tidying of your front garden. It's only a light refresh really but we'd be happy to come put some work into your space. We have limited resources so it really is first come - first served. let us know asap by email to [makeover@bsana.org](mailto:makeover@bsana.org) or call/text to SAM at 0755 7957 462 if you'd like a visit from our crew – or if you'd like to be a part of it.



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