



Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association

BSANA's Big Lunch

Every year, in June, we close down Baker Street (from Carey Street to the IDR) and have a party. And you are invited!

Sunday 5th June — Noon to 5pm

The Big Lunch is about bringing people together. It is becoming a tradition and part of the annual calendar for communities across the UK.

Here in the **Baker Street Area** we celebrate the Big Lunch on **Baker Street**. This is a neighbourhood wide initiative, with everyone helping. This year, BSANA will be providing the entertainment, from bouncy castles to Swingball and a quiz; the Carey Baptists are providing the tables, chairs, Oasis (including toilets) and, most importantly, Live Music. Our local Tesco have offered us (soft) drinks for the day.

Please do bring some food for everyone to share—whatever you can bring will be appreciated.

Come along on the day and bring the whole family!!

If you would like to help us set up the event, please come along on Sunday any time from 10am as there is lots to do.



Neighbourhood Heritage Working Day – Saturday 12 March 2016

The Russell Street/Castle Hill Conservation Area is long overdue for reappraisal. The aim of the Day was for local residents to learn about and help conduct the appraisal. Around 30 people took part in the event, including Councillor Tony Page who gave a brief introductory talk. After this our chairman Karen Rowland took us through how Historic England suggests volunteers to carry out a Conservation Area appraisal. After this each group of volunteers was issued with a clipboard and appraisal forms to be completed. Our job was to appraise and record what gives our streets “special character” in terms of architecture or historical association, and to record any issues that add to or detract from that special character.



Thanks to the good attendance, we were able to form enough groups to cover the whole of the Conservation Area plus some additional streets that we think might be added, notably the Oxford Road from Prospect Street to Reading West Railway Bridge.

The groups returned to The Oasis in time for a fine afternoon tea. The completed appraisal forms handed in by the groups are informing the final appraisal report that will be submitted to the Council for approval and public consultation. Thanks to all who took part and made it happen!

Getting Involved

Get in touch with us (see back page) you would also like to get involved. The best way to start is by picking the group that you are most interested in:

- **Clean Streets** (helping to keep the public spaces and front gardens clean and tidy)
- **Communication Streets** (listening to residents, letting people know about what we do through newsletters, notice boards, our web site and social media)
- **Conservation Streets** (preserving and celebrating our neighbourhood's heritage)
- **Green Streets** (increasing the number of and looking after the plants and trees in our neighbourhood)
- **Fun Streets** (organising for residents to meet and spend time together)
- **Safe Streets** (helping solve community problems such as anti-social behaviour, crime)

Annual General Meeting report – Wednesday 20 April 2016

Progress this year:

- Secured a £25,000 grant from People's Health Trust for this year and next year with the sole focus of bringing residents together which has allowed us to:
 - ◇ hired our own part-time administrator
 - ◇ expand and develop our range of events-from fitness to special interest, running 2-3 events every week for local residents
- Worked others (e.g. Reading Borough Council, Thames Valley Police, Oxford Road NAG, Historic England) to improve our neighbourhood:
 - ◇ Partner in Anstey Road street bin project
 - ◇ addressed rat problems
 - ◇ Secured Article 4 for Jesse Terrace ("Article 4 means all conversions from a house to individual room lets need planning permission)
 - ◇ IDR planters
 - ◇ reducing antisocial behaviour resulting from street drinking and particular business practices
 - ◇ more trees in the neighbourhood
 - ◇ monitored area planning applications
 - ◇ integral in establishing Reading's first Conservation Area Advisory Committee (CAAC) to protect our heritage

Our founder and Chair Karen Rowland having lead BSANA since she organised the first meeting at The Oasis in 2012, has stood down as chair. Our officers are now:

- Monique Raats, Chairman
- Anthony Ihringer, Vice Chairman
- Lyn Fariello, Treasurer
- Richard Rowlands, Secretary
- Karen Rowland, Community Liaison Officer

Oxford Road Neighbourhood Action Group

The Oxford Road Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) is a meeting between local councillors, Reading Borough Council, the Police and other groups (such as BSANA) together with local residents. The objective is to identify the major issues in the area and get all parties working together to address these issues. All are welcome and free tea & coffee are provided. The next meetings are:

Tuesday 7th June 2016, 7pm at the Battle Library on Oxford Road.

Tuesday 19th July 2016, 7pm at the Battle Library on Oxford Road.



Join our mailing list

We will keep you up to date with opportunities to get involved and let you know about any upcoming events. Send your email address to contact@bsana.org

Upcoming BSANA Events

Every Monday evening

ZUMBA!

6:30pm in the Salvation Army, Anstey Road

Fitness for women. Just £2 for BSANA residents.

IDR planters summer planting

Saturday 4 June 2016

We are looking for volunteers to help with the planting effort - with four or five volunteers we'll be finished in just over an hour.

Start time will be 10:00am on the IDR bridge. Volunteers are also welcome to join in the shopping trip on June the 3rd.



BSANA's Big Lunch

Sunday 5 June 2016

12:00-5:00 pm Baker Street (from Carey Street to the IDR)



BSANA will be providing the entertainment (bouncy castles to Zumba, Swingball and a quiz)!

Please do bring some food for everyone to share—whatever you can bring will be appreciated.

Come along on the day and bring the whole family.

If you would like to help us set up the event, please come along on Sunday any time from 10am as there is lots to do.

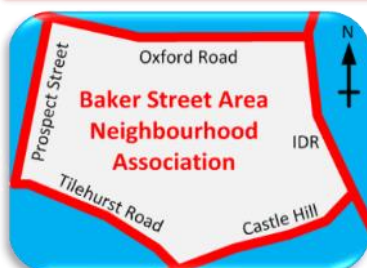
Every Friday evening – Games Night & Chat

7:00pm at The Oasis, Baker Street

Do you want a social game of chess? Scrabble? Do you remember Monopoly, but haven't played it in years? Or try any of the newer games such as TransEurope (building train routes), Apples to Apples (social word game) or Settlers of Catan (building towns and cities on an island).



The Oasis has a games library with many of your favourites and we usually bring a selection of games. The games are easy to learn, and there's always someone there to show you how to play. Free tea & coffee provided and there's a chance to chat about what's happening locally.



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BSANA