



# Homeshare accommodation in Oxfordshire – May 2023 v1

Homeshare Oxfordshire carefully matches an older person, or couple, looking for help, companionship or reassurance at home, with another person who is happy to lend a hand.

The Sharer gives the Householder up to 10 hours of their time each week as a combination of companionship and practical help, as agreed, and makes a monthly payment to Homeshare Oxfordshire of £200 pcm, as well as an agreed contribution towards bills to the Householder.

Please check our webpage <u>www.homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk</u> and follow us on <u>twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> to find out about new opportunities as they come in.

**COMING SOON...** We have new opportunities coming up in:

- Oxford
- Faringdon
- Bampton
- Kidlington
- Woodstock

# **NEW Headington, OX3 (Ref 079)**



Would you like to share the pleasant home and garden of a considerate, kind-natured, elderly gentleman living within easy walking distance of Headington shops and transport?

The householder is a retired, widowed French teacher, who led a full, active and independent life. He used to enjoy travelling to visit his daughters and used to spend long periods of time in the family holiday home in France. He still has good mobility but Alzheimer's disease and the isolation of Covid 19 lockdowns

changed things considerably for him and he is no longer able to live on his own. He used to have lodgers and currently has a wonderful Homeshare but, owing to this person needing to return to the USA, we are looking for a Homeshare replacement. (This person may return to the UK in August and there could be space for two Sharers in the house, and to share the duties).

The Householder has lovely neighbours and supportive family who visit regularly but do not live close by. He has daily help from carers mornings and lunchtimes and evenings, if necessary. The main requirement of the Homeshare would be to provide a reassuring presence in the home and quiet, gentle company on some evenings - maybe watching TV together – and helping with organisation, preparation and sharing of meals. The Householder has enjoyed cooking and good food but is no longer able to prepare food for himself. Help with some domestic duties and putting online food shopping away, putting out the bins and helping the Householder to communicate with family, some of whom live abroad, would be required. The reassurance of there being someone in the house overnight during the week and at weekends is important.

The Householder has always had an interest in theatre, cinema and literature and he still enjoys watching films and tv, listening to the radio and some light gardening when in company. He enjoys sitting in his garden, weather permitting. He has a keen interest in Scotland where he spent the early part of his life and still likes to chat in French whenever possible.

This Homeshare would suit a tidy, understanding and patient person whose routine would easily allow their Homeshare duties to be performed evenings and weekends. It could suit someone who works locally, works from home or who is studying and wishes to have a calm, peaceful working and home environment. The opportunity would work best for someone with an understanding of some of the issues that can be associated with memory loss. Someone caring and independent who understands that conversation would be fairly limited but is happy to be there to provide a gentle reassuring presence in the home.

The Householder is fully vaccinated and cautious in the light of Covid-19. The Sharer should also be fully vaccinated, similarly cautious and willing to take precautions to avoid exposure to the virus.

## **NEW North Oxford, OX2 (Ref 098)**



We are looking for a kind and caring female to share with a gentle-natured Householder in his early nineties in his spacious North Oxford home. An independent man who lives a quiet, gentle life.

Initially trained as a PE teacher, with a huge interest in sport, the Householder then changed course and became a physiotherapist in the NHS, and then in private practice. In more recent years he has kept himself busy in his garden (another passion) which is also a wonderful place for bird and wildlife watching. He enjoys reading a

daily newspaper, doing jigsaw puzzles, listening to talking books, and watching news and sport on TV.

The Householder is living well with dementia and with increasing short term memory loss. His adoring family are hugely important to him and, whilst they don't live close by, they visit on a weekly basis.

The main requirements of this Homeshare are to provide a quiet presence in the house and to take the responsibility for much of the cooking and mealtimes, lunch and/or evening. Help with stacking and emptying the dishwasher and putting shopping away would also be appreciated. Whilst some conversation, particularly around shared interests, would be welcome in short bursts, on the whole the Householder is happy in his own company and enjoys having his own space.

The Homeshare would suit a female Sharer, happy with their own company and who likes living quietly with a regular routine. Someone who would usually be home in the evenings (mainly just to provide a reassuring presence) would be ideal. And someone who needed to work, or study, from home would be welcome. Personality-wise, someone who is polite, quietly confident, patient and independent would be well suited. The householder thrives on routine, cleanliness and tidiness so we are looking for someone with a similar outlook. A Sharer sympathetic to, and with some understanding of, some of the issues that can be associated with cognitive decline and memory loss, would be ideal.

The Householder is fully vaccinated and cautious in the light of Covid-19. The Sharer should also be fully vaccinated, similarly cautious, and willing to take precautions to avoid exposure to the virus.

# **NEW Abingdon, OX14 (Ref 096)**



Are you a kind and caring female who could provide gentle companionship and be a reassuring presence to a friendly, kind older person in a quiet residential area of Abingdon?

The householder's early career was in nursing and, later, in education with children with additional needs. She is a committed Christian and involved in her local church and wider community activities. She is artistic and finds relaxation in drawing and painting. Singing, creative dance and swimming have been important in the Householder's life but, owing to arthritis, some limitation in walking and having less energy these

days, she has found these activities hard to keep up.

The Householder lost her husband some years ago. She has a network of good friends whom she sees regularly but has recently started to feel a little anxious at times about living alone. Just the simple presence of someone around in the house would be very reassuring to her. Someone to talk to about day-to-day things and to help make small day to day decisions would be very valuable. Help with the odd internet and mobile phone issue would be appreciated, as would the occasional lift in a car to activities or social events.

A cleaner and gardener regularly come to the house but help with the simple household tasks would be welcome – for example, help with changing bed sheets, putting out the bins, reading the meters etc. Whilst gardening help is not needed, if someone would enjoy helping in the large, natural, garden (which is a source of great pleasure to the Householder) that would be fine.

This would a suit a kind, caring and empathetic female, with Christian principles, who would enjoy spending time at home and would usually be around in the evenings. (There is the option to work or study from home if needed.) Whilst companionship is an important element of the Homeshare and the Householder would enjoy having a chat over a cup of tea, a shared meal or watching some tv together, this is not rigid and there would be plenty of space for both Householder and Sharer to lead their independent lives. A car driver would be ideal.

# **Church Hanborough, OX29 (Ref 070)**



Sharing with an active, independent and friendly retired architect, offering ensuite accommodation in the annex of a lovely Cotswolds cottage.

The Householder is interested in art, history and enjoys reading, radio and films, documentaries and news on TV. He regularly goes for long walks, plays golf and tennis on a regular basis and is a keen skier.

Although still active, having recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease the Householder finds certain tasks

more of a challenge. His current Homeshare arrangement is sadly coming to an end (due to the Sharer moving out of the area) hence this opportunity being available. The Householder values quiet time alone but also enjoys regular company and feels reassured that that there is someone around. He has a very supportive family who visit occasionally but who do not live close by.

Help with a few household chores, tidying and a little admin and IT help a couple of times a week would be great. Someone who enjoys food, would be happy to cook several times a week and share good

conversation over lunches and/or evening meals would be much appreciated. A dog-lover who would be happy to help with regular dog walking and occasional dog-sitting is essential!

This opportunity would suit someone easy going, friendly, independent and sensitive, who would enjoy interesting and good-natured company whilst being happy to help in the ways outlined above. It would best suit someone who worked from home and was around a lot, with both Householder and Sharer getting on with their own independent lives. Although the Householder is still currently driving, someone with a driving license and able to give the odd lift from time to time would be ideal.

The Householder is usually away few times a year for around a long weekend or week, during when dog-sitting could be welcomed. The dog is a very good natured 8-year-old rescue-Labrador who has two daily walks and doesn't like to be left alone. Owing to this, it would be idea to fine a Sharer who is able to work from home (or possibly take the dog to work!) for when the Householder is away and when dog-sitting is required.

The Householder is fully vaccinated and sensibly cautious. The Sharer should also be fully vaccinated, and willing to take precautions to avoid exposure to the virus and adhere to COVID regulations.

## Radley, Nr Banbury (Ref 091)



Sharing with an independent man in his midnineties, offering en-suite accommodation and, potentially, some separate personal space, in a farmhouse in the small, quiet village of Radway, 7 miles north-west of Banbury.

The Householder is a farmer by background and farmed in Kenya in his earlier life. He has been heavily involved with horses, very much enjoys the countryside and still does occasional work outside

and in the garden. An avid Bridge player, this forms a major part of the Householder's life – since the pandemic mainly playing online, but more recently attending a regular weekly club again. The Householder also enjoys watching a wide range of sport on TV, along with crosswords and puzzles.

Following recovery from a recent virus, although still fairly independent, the Householder is aware that he is a bit more vulnerable and would feel reassured by having someone else in the house. He tends to lack energy in the mornings, and although has a prescription hearing aid, does have some difficulty hearing. Otherwise, he is in reasonably good health. Having been bereaved almost a year ago, life can feel a bit lonely at times and someone sympathetic to this whilst, at the same time, recognising the Householder's need for his own privacy, would be important.

The Householder currently takes care of his own needs, shopping and cooking and has a very clear daily routine. He has help in the house twice a week, regular help outside and supportive family living close by. If help with outdoor tasks would be attractive to someone, whilst this is not a requirement of the Homeshare, an option to help occasionally could be desirable.

This Homeshare would suit an easy-going person who would feel at home in a quiet, rural location and would be happy to keep an eye, providing a fairly arms-length reassuring presence in the home.

Someone whose daily routine would enable them to check in with the Householder mornings and afternoons/evenings, to make sure everything is ok and perhaps cook and share lunch together (traditional food) from time to time, or share the odd cup of coffee, could be ideal. The Homeshare would not be suited to someone who was working away from the house every day. Someone who is clean and tidy and who would be in the house overnight are also important considerations.

Whilst the Householder is currently well and active, and the Homeshare expected to be fairly light touch, someone who might be in a position to offer additional help if and when needed in the future—e.g. help with cooking, shopping, light housework, occasional lifts — would be ideal.

### Witney, West End, OX28 (Ref 035)



Would you like to share the pleasant home and garden of a thoughtful and engaging elderly person living within easy walking distance of central Witney?

The Householder has wide and varied interest including art, music literature, education, gardening, social justice and human rights. She has been involved in voluntary work with the peace movement, local politics and refugees and has had a life-long interest in other developing countries and other cultures, having travelled widely in Europe, Africa, and China.

Due to health limitations, decreased mobility and being at risk of falls, the Householder would welcome a little help around the home and garden and assistance with, for example, putting out the rubbish bins.

Shared company would also be a key element of the Homeshare and someone who would often be around in the evenings, who would enjoy sharing some meals together, or watching the news together, would work well. In time, trips to the cinema or theatre together would be a bonus.

A reassuring overnight presence is important and therefore the opportunity would therefore best suit someone who was not often away overnight, with the exception of the odd pre-planned nights away, some weekends and holidays.

A car driver would be preferable, for help with the odd errand or lift and for occasional trips out together, but not essential.

This would suit a responsible, considerate, friendly and tidy person who would enjoy company and conversation and who shared some of the Householder's interests. Someone of a similar socialist political stance, open about their views and who enjoys debate and discussion could be very welcome.

The Householder is fully vaccinated against COVID. The Sharer must be double vaccinated. Someone who is similarly careful and concerned about the virus, whose general lifestyle is low risk and whose person-to-person contact is limited, would be well suited.

#### ON HOLD Witney, Tower Hill (10 minutes' walk from Witney Community Hospital) (Ref 069)



Sharing the tidy, well-kept home of a friendly and independent older lady who very much values her own company and privacy, is self-sufficient in many ways but owing to deteriorating eyesight, would now feel reassured knowing that there is someone else in the house.

The Householder has been a keen painter, a knowledgeable gardener, and a lover of the ballet but these things are less possible now due to failing eyesight. She currently listens to radio, has the

news on tv and has appreciated having a volunteer reader for books, articles and other written materials.

Help with small household tasks, IT matters and other things that crop up would be very useful. Although the Householder has always enjoyed cooking, it has become increasingly hard to prepare food, so someone who enjoyed cooking and would be happy to prepare a meal from time to time would be a real bonus. A reader to share books and help with the odd set of instructions would be much appreciated too. The Householder is very sociable and has a wide network of friends. She has regular help from a gardener and someone who helps with shopping. Her supportive family visit regularly but do not live close by.

This Homeshare would suit someone easy going, friendly and who likes to live a quiet life. It is important that the Sharer would be tidy and help to keep an orderly environment that is particularly necessary because of the Householder's poor sight. Someone who enjoys their own space, is content in their own company, is as happy talking as not talking, but who would equally enjoy gentle companionship would be a good match! It would be well suited to a good communicator who speaks clearly and is easy to hear and understand. A car driver who may be able to give the occasional lift would be a bonus.

The Householder is fully vaccinated and sensibly cautious. The Sharer should also be fully vaccinated, and willing to take precautions to avoid exposure to the virus and adhere to COVID regulations.

#### \*COVID-19 - CORONAVIRUS \*

We are taking all necessary precautions to ensure that we are operating safely, following guidelines and protocols, and taking into account individual circumstances and needs. Please contact us to talk this through if you would like to.

Visit <a href="https://homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk">homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk</a> for information about Homesharing and the application process which includes:

- Completing an application form and providing contacts for 3 referees
- An enhanced DBS check
- Interview

If you feel that Homesharing could be right for you and that you could be the right person for one of these opportunities, please contact us via the 'Register your interest' form at homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

Follow us! **(f) (o) (c)** Phone: 01865 410670

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