

Homeshare opportunity in Abingdon, OX14 (Ref 074)

Sharing with an elderly gentleman, who since being widowed 10 years ago, continued to lead a full, active and independent life. A stroke in March 2021 changed things considerably for him and whilst certain challenges remain - including some speech and memory issues particularly when more tired - overall things have improved significantly and it is important to the Householder that he remains as independent as possible.

The Householder is passionate about Sport – golf, football, motor racing, cricket, tennis and enjoys watching any or all of these on TV. Prior to his stroke he played both golf and bowls twice a week. Exercise and the outdoors continue to be important to him and he likes to get out for a walk each day, longer walks when accompanied and shorter walks when alone. Reading is another interest – mainly crime novels, some military non-fiction and the newspaper. Through his work an industrial chemist the Householder has travelled extensively.

The Householder has supportive family who visit regularly but do not live close by. He has weekly help from a cleaner and a gardener. The main requirements of the Homeshare are to cook a good evening meal and to provide quiet company in the evenings (maybe watching TV together, sharing a cuppa, reading alongside each other – relaxed company rather than constant chat!). A sociable person by nature, both the stroke and pandemic have made this harder. The reassurance of there being someone in the house overnight is also important although help is not needed at night. Someone who would be happy to accompany the Householder on a stroll along the river or who might also enjoy visits to national trust properties or gardens on a weekend, could be very welcome.

This Homeshare would suit a warm, friendly and caring person, a good cook and someone who likes spending time at home and who would be around evenings and overnight. It is important to the Householder to find someone clean and tidy who would help maintain the tidy and orderly environment. If they had an interest in Sport that would be a bonus! A car driver would be ideal for help with the occasional lift or visit. Owing to some level of deafness, this would best suit someone who is clear communicator and easy to hear and understand.

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.

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, and who needs low-cost accommodation. **The Sharer gives the Householder up to 10 hours of their time each week as a combination of companionship and practical help, as agreed.** Each party pays a monthly fee to Homeshare Oxfordshire.



Just off the waterfront, the home is a ten-minute walk from the town centre

Location and accommodation:

The home is in a lovely location, just a 10-minute walk from the centre of Abingdon in a quiet, friendly neighbourhood of just eight houses and a stone's throw from the river Thames



fully furnished



own bathroom



wifi



non-smoking



parking



bike storage

Costs:

- £ 200 monthly fee payable to Homeshare Oxfordshire
- Contribution to bills payable monthly to Householder

Summary of support needed in this Homeshare arrangement

Time together:

Quite evening companionship – watching tv together or e.g. reading alongside each other
Company on local walk would be welcome
Trips out e.g. at weekends, to a National Trust property or similar would be a bonus.

Help in the home and garden:

Cooking evening meal most evenings

Help out and about:

Odd bits of shopping

Visit homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk 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 (see opposite), and that you could be the right person for this opportunity, please contact us in the first instance via the **'Register your interest' form** at homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

Follow us!   

Phone: 01865 410670

Email: homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

Homeshare Oxfordshire is the local Homeshare provider for Oxfordshire, operating on a not-for-profit basis as part of Age UK Oxfordshire www.ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

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Could Homesharing be right for you?

• Age

Sharers are aged 21 or over (and eligible to live in the UK)

• Support commitment

Sharers can happily give up to 10 hours each week as practical help or companionship to the Householder.
(No personal care is involved).

• Shared living

Sharers would enjoy and value living with an older person, or possibly an older couple. Sharers are emotionally mature, clean and tidy, kind and considerate.

• Circumstances

Sharers have an established work/study pattern. The risk of the Sharer's exposure to COVID-19 usually needs to be taken into account.

NB Homeshare is not usually suitable for people working long hours or shifts. Sharers are generally not expected to be away overnight unless pre-arranged, with the exception of weekends away, holidays etc

• Duration of Homeshare

Sharers are able to commit to a minimum of 9 months, although most Homeshare arrangements last considerably longer.

• References and checks

Sharers are able to provide three referees (usually character, employer or institution and landlord). Sharers must tell us about any spent or unspent convictions and undergo an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check.

• Financial commitment

Sharers should be able to demonstrate that they can meet the monthly fee requirements plus the contribution to household costs.