

Homeshare opportunity in Abingdon, OX14 (Ref 096)

Are you a homely, kind and caring female, 30+, with Christian principles, 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 does feel a little anxious at times about living alone. Just the simple presence of a someone around in the house would be very reassuring to her. A homely, warm person 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 suit a kind, caring and empathetic female, 30+, with Christian principles. Someone who likes to mainly spend time at home in the evenings, rather than being out, would work best. And some company at weekends especially on Saturdays, would be welcome. There is also the option to work or study from home as well. Whilst companionship is an important element of the Homeshare and the Householder would enjoy having a chat over a cup of tea and sharing some evening meals 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.

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.



Location and accommodation:

The house, with a lovely large garden and backing on to a park, is in a quiet residential area off the Oxford Road, close to bus routes to Oxford and a 15 minute walk to Abingdon town centre.

The room is medium size and with own bathroom.



fully furnished



large garden



wifi



non-smoking



off-street parking



bike storage



separate bathroom

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: Chat over the odd cup of tea or shared meal. Maybe watching some tv together in the evening. But nothing rigid and plenty of space for both to get on with their own lives. Friendly, kind presence is important.

Help in the home and garden: Help small household chores eg putting out the bins, helping change bed sheets and a few other things that are more difficult for the Householder these days. Help with internet and mobile phone when issues crop up.

Help out and about: Occasional, but someone who drives and could help with the odd lift would be ideal.

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

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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.

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

NB. The risk of the Sharer's exposure to COVID-19 sometimes needs to be taken into account.

• 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.