
Sybil & Amanda

“We really do get on splendidly”


Sybil, a former manager of a large hospitality workforce shares her Oxfordshire home with Amanda, a retired nurse and writer.

Sybil and Amanda’s similar ‘take on life’ and very similar sense of humour makes for a good match. With much in common, including an avid interest in reading, they have plenty of stories to share and now enjoy a firm friendship.

It is a big step for many to reach the decision that they are needing a bit of extra support or the reassurance of another person in their home. Being able to maintain independence is so important to many older people, as is the case for Sybil: “My children weren’t able to help me in my home as much as they would have wished, and with me now living alone causing them concern they discovered Homeshare and thought it might be the ideal solution for us all”, says Sybil.

Also sold on the Homeshare concept, Amanda was happy to find an opportunity which would allow time and flexibility to dedicate to her writing whilst being able to help someone to live their best life. The location – a part of Oxfordshire which Amanda liked and knew well – was a bonus.

Homeshare has made a huge difference to Sybil. “Without question, my life has become easier” she says. “It’s the little things in life that are no longer little to me.” Cooking for each other from time to time has also been another plus. Steak and ale pie last week, this week, moussaka, and Mediterranean veggies.



Amanda talks about “enjoying good conversation as much as quiet companionship and being able to learn plenty from both.” She and Sybil now know each other well and Amanda recognises Sybil’s determination and what she needs help with. “The rest of the time I am either out or more likely upstairs writing my third book - which is going well”, she says.

For Sybil’s family, the Homeshare has made a big difference too. Her daughter explains, “Even though I talk to mum regularly, I worry about her much less now that I know Amanda is there.”

Homeshare Oxfordshire brings together compatible people, creating mutually beneficial matches based on needs, interests, and values. “Having Homeshare’s professional experience in matching people together lightens the decisions that I would have to make,” says Sybil. “The thought of doing it independently at this point in my life... I wouldn’t know where to start... you were a godsend.”

"Initially it's important to have a clearly set out detailed agreement of what the Homeshare will involve and a shared understanding of expectations. Sitting down and drawing this up with the Homeshare Oxfordshire team is an important part of the process. Keeping in touch with the Homeshare team to support us, as needed, is reassuring and a fundamental provision”.

Sybil and Amanda’s Homeshare arrangement is thriving, and both are very respectful of the other’s space. “We’re not 100% compatible but a good 95%”, says Sybil. “We really do get on splendidly”.



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