

## Homeshare accommodation in Oxfordshire – January 2021

### \*COVID-19 – CORONAVIRUS \*

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

**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.

**UPDATE:** We have several new opportunities coming up across Oxfordshire, to be listed here soon, including in Oxford (Jericho and Summertown), Abingdon and Deddington. Please contact us via [homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk](https://homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk) for further information about these opportunities

### Leaffield, near Witney (Ref 048)



**Would you like to wake up to this view, sharing the home of an active and engaging older person in the hill-top village of Leaffield, near Witney?!**

The Householder, now retired from careers in pharmacy, teaching and computer systems, has continued to lead a very active life. Only Covid-19 has got in the way of windsurfing weekends, sailing and skiing holidays. Caravanning and walking holidays are also in the frame,

along with cycling and golf.

The Householder's interests are varied and include art & photography, music, reading, languages, as well as gardening, growing food and cooking. He is also involved in voluntary work with Fieldpaths as a walk leader, and with the British Society for Research into Ageing.

First and foremost, the Householder is looking forward to having someone else around in the house to share company, interesting conversation and most evening meals together. The odd bit of local shopping (in between deliveries) would be appreciated and some light housework could be welcome. Help in the garden (with flowers and herbs) would be appreciated and there is the opportunity to help out on the allotment if of interest, not to mention cooking! If local cycle rides and walks together were of appeal, and potentially trips further afield, these could be a bonus.

This would suit a considerate, friendly and professional person who would enjoy lively, stimulating conversation and share some of the Householder's interests. Someone willing to help out in the ways outlined above and who would mainly be around evenings and weekends would work well.

The Householder is looking for a Sharer who is would ideally have immunity to Covid-19. Otherwise, their lifestyle would need to very Covid secure and they would either need to be working in a Covid-secure environment, or working from home.

### **Greater Leys, Oxford (Ref 049)**

#### **Would you like to share the spacious, clutter-free home of a calm, warm person in her 60s living in quiet cul-de-sac in Greater Leys?**

The Householder's career has been in social care, as a social worker and senior lecturer on a social work degree and masters course. She is currently working in commissioning for local government. Interests include theatre, travel, food (including eating out) and gardening, none of which are possible at the moment, due the pandemic.

Diversity, equality and social justice are very important to the householder both in her personal life and in her professional life.

Owing to a long-term disability since childhood and some recent health issues, the Householder can experience a high level of fatigue and needs to rest quite a bit, evenings and weekends. She enjoys a wide range of TV programmes (drama, current affairs, documentaries, soaps and films) and some reading.

The combination of living alone during the Covid pandemic, working from home, and friends having recently moved from Oxford has highlighted a need for company and conversation to prevent social isolation. Due to increased tiredness levels, the Householder would appreciate some help with light housework, hanging out washing and potentially a little help in the garden. Support with these tasks would be a great help in the helping the Householder to maintain her independence for longer.

Occasional help with shopping, to top up the Householder's online shops, might be welcome. Post Covid, a shared meal out, theatre outing or trip to a garden centre would be nice to look forward to.

This would suit an emotionally mature, tidy and practical person, who is considerate and calm in nature and not overly loud or boisterous. Someone with a good sense of humour, who enjoys good company, conversation and being with people, whilst at the same time is independent and mindful of the needs of others, would be very good. Someone who is open minded, socially aware and who shares some of the Householder's interests would work well.

Not least owing to health issues, the Householder needs to be extremely careful in the light of Covid-19 and therefore someone whose own circumstances and lifestyle were extremely low risk in terms of exposure to the virus is essential. Having initially been shielding due to her disability which affects the respiratory system, the Householder needs to be strict about hygiene and social distancing. The Sharer would either need to be working in a Covid-secure environment and avoiding public transport, or largely working from home.

### **Chalgrove, (Ref 050)**

#### **Could you be a reassuring presence, sharing the quiet, cul-de-sac home of an older person in the village of Chalgrove (approximately 10 miles from Oxford, Thame and Wallingford)?**

In the past this Householder has enjoyed being part of a friendly village community, attending clubs and taking part in events. Due to now living with dementia and being physically very frail, this is no longer the case. The Householder however still retains her good humour and calm personality and is by no means a demanding person.

Having been hospitalised with COVID-19, the Householder has recovered well, is settled back at home, but is mentally and physically more frail. Now in a wheelchair, she has help from carers 4 times day who take care of all her needs and meals. Family are actively involved and visit regularly.

Someone to provide a reassuring presence in the home is the main requirement of this Homeshare. Spending a bit of time together over an evening cup of tea or tv programme, maybe reminiscing about the past, would also be much appreciated. A scrabble player might help resurrect an interest in the game, the Householder having been a keen player in the past! In better weather, a gentle trip together down the road might be welcome.

The Sharer would have sole use of the upstairs of the dorma bungalow, comprised of bedroom, bathroom and a smaller bedroom with desk which could be used as a study.

There is also access and full use of the kitchen and lounge where they are shared with the Householder.

This would suit an independent person with a kind, caring and patient personality. Someone who is sympathetic to the Householder's circumstances, ideally with some understanding of memory loss and dementia, and who would be happy to spend a bit of time with the Householder each day would be ideal.

This Homeshare would suit someone who was out at work in the day. Equally, it would be fine if they needed to work from home some of the time. Being away some weekends, with advance notice, is fine. The Householder's family would keep in good contact with the Sharer.

### **Witney home, OX28 (Ref 035)**



#### **Would you like to share the home of a friendly older person in a spacious house in central Witney?**

The Householder is interested in art, literature, gardening, education, theatre and cinema. She has been involved in voluntary work with refugees, local politics and the Peace Movement. She has always been interested in other cultures, having travelled widely in Europe, Africa and China. Human rights and social justice are also important to her. The Householder has previously been successfully

involved in Homeshare.

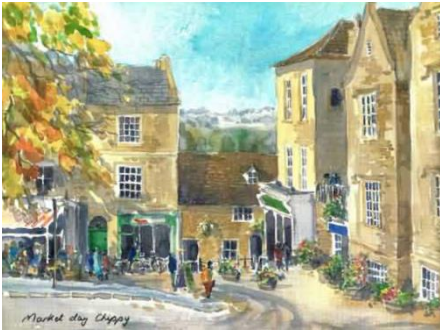
Due to health limitations and a recent fall, the Householder is looking for a little help around the home as well as physical assistance with moving the odd box or piece of furniture, putting out the rubbish bins, helping with some clearing and taking things to rubbish/recycling centres. Shared company and some meals together would also be a part of the Homeshare.

The reassurance of having someone in the house at night is important and a car driver is essential for help with the odd errand and taking things to the recycling centre.

This would suit a considerate, friendly, helpful person who would enjoy company and conversation and share some of the Householder's interests. Someone who would be generally around in evenings and overnight and would be happy to provide the support outlined above would be good. It could suit someone who needed to work from home some of the time.

Owing to age and health issues, the Householder needs to be extremely careful in the light of Covid-19 and this opportunity would most suit someone who will be wholly attentive to this, and whose own circumstances and lifestyle are very low risk in terms of exposure to the virus.

## Chipping Norton home, OX7 (Ref 034)



**Would you like to share the spacious, light and peaceful home of a friendly, welcoming couple in a quiet part of Chipping Norton, a short walk from the town centre?**

In the past the couple, both retired secondary school teachers, have both been active in the community and have enjoyed a variety of pursuits (theatre, music, walking, cycling, and volunteering). This activity is now much reduced owing to the wife now being physically frail, with poor mobility and living with dementia (primarily short-term memory loss and confusion). However, she still retains her lovely, gentle personality and sense of humour.

Having someone else in the house to provide extra gentle companionship and be a reassuring presence when the husband is not in the immediate vicinity (he maybe in the garden or garage involved with practical tasks) is the main requirement of the Homeshare. The timing of the help needed is flexible and can be agreed depending on circumstances. However, someone who would be able to be around for a couple of hours in the afternoon, a couple of times a week, to enable the husband to nip out for a walk, or down to the allotment, would be ideal.

Some assistance with shopping, light household chores, and gardening might be welcome. Someone who would like to cook a shared meal from time to time might be very much appreciated.

This would suit an independent, kind, and friendly female, who would be happy to provide the companionship and reassurance outlined above. Regarding COVID-19, your risk of being exposed to the virus would need to be extremely low. Someone who needed to work from home, some or all of the time, would be welcome.

There is plenty of space to park a car if need be and even the opportunity to help out on an allotment if so desired!

Visit [homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk](https://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 via the **'Register your interest' form** at [homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk](https://homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk)

Follow us!   

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Homeshare Oxfordshire is the local Homeshare provider for the county, operating on a not-for-profit basis as part of Age UK Oxfordshire [www.ageukoxfordshire.org.uk](https://www.ageukoxfordshire.org.uk)

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