

Homeshare accommodation in Oxfordshire – March 2021 (v1)

*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.

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 who support the arrangement on an ongoing basis.

UPDATE: We have several new opportunities coming up across Oxfordshire, including in Oxford, Kennington, Woodstock and Wooton, Kidlington and Purley on Thames - to be listed soon
homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

Stanford-in-the-Vale (Ref 052)



Are you a considerate, positive, friendly and helpful female who would you like to share the home of a pleasant and interesting older person, 91 years old, in the peaceful setting of a retirement community in the centre of Stanford-in-the-Vale?

The Householder, 91, has a lively mind, is an Oxford University graduate and former teacher with interests in poetry, literature, art, gardening, education and alternative medicine. She also meditates daily and has always had a strong interest in religious and spiritual matters.

The Householder's health and mobility have deteriorated over recent months and she is looking for a little help around the home, including preparing some evening meals, occasional physical assistance with moving the odd box or piece of furniture, putting out the rubbish bins and helping with some sorting and clearing out. Shared company and some meals together would also be a part of the Homeshare. The Householder is supported by a care visits each morning and very supportive family are reasonably close by.

The reassurance of having someone in the house at night is important. The location probably makes a car driver essential as although there are local bus services they are infrequent. A car would also be helpful for assistance with the odd errand or occasional visits to medical or dental appointments.

This would suit a considerate, positive, friendly, helpful person who would enjoy some company and conversation about subjects of mutual interest and who shared some of the Householder's pursuits. Equally, someone who appreciates and values silence at times and who is happy with stillness could fit very well. Someone who would be generally around evenings and overnight would be reassuring for the Householder and her family. The space available in the house makes it a suitable location for someone who needed to work from home some of the time.

Whilst the Householder has now had the vaccine, owing to age and health issues, she needs to be careful in the light of Covid-19 and this opportunity would most suit a person who has also been vaccinated and/or who will be wholly attentive to this, and whose own circumstances and lifestyle are very low risk in terms of exposure to the virus.

Oxford, Jericho (Ref 055)



Are you an independent, patient and friendly female who enjoys cooking and who would like to share the home of an older person in Jericho, a short distance from St Giles and the city centre?

The Householder is a retired doctor. Her husband, who died recently, required complex live-in care for 17 years and she is adjusting to the new situation but is accustomed to having other people in the house. She tires quickly and her mobility is not good. She is easily confused. She is particular about some aspects of how the household is organised and values her privacy. Her daughters both live several hours' drive away so cannot drop in easily when there is an emergency. The family also intend to put mid-morning care visits in place to help with breakfast and to keep an eye on the Householder's health.

The Householder's has a range of interests particularly music (having until recently played both violin and piano) and has always been an active part of the community, including the local residents' association. Her own parents had dogs and, when her children were growing up, the family had a cat. Although unable to care for a pet herself, she would welcome the right pet in the house.

First and foremost, the Householder is looking for someone to help out with cooking in the evening, who could provide a bit of companionship on occasion. Help with occasional shopping would be appreciated. If someone's circumstances meant that they were be available at other times in the day, perhaps if they were working from home, this might also be helpful but not essential.

This would suit a confident, patient, and understanding female, particularly someone who enjoys stimulating conversations sometimes, but is also happy to spend evenings alone in peace and quiet. Someone who is sympathetic to the Householder's circumstances, ideally with some understanding of age-related cognitive decline would work well. With regard Covid-19, the person would need to be very diligent about risk and take all recommended precautions. The Householder's supportive family would keep in good contact with the Sharer.

Abingdon (Ref 054)



Are you a quiet, understanding and caring female who could provide a quiet and reassuring presence, sharing the peaceful home of an older person in a quiet close in the Oxford Road area of Abingdon?

The householder is a retired nurse and a matron of various nursing homes. Following a stroke 3 years ago life has become harder, and more so since the COVID pandemic. Prior to the pandemic the Householder would regularly attend church, play bridge through U3A locally and looked forward to meeting up with a friend each week, who also helped around the house when needed. All of this is currently curtailed.

The Householder enjoys murder mysteries and medical based series like Dr Martin on television, using subtitles due to being hard of hearing. She also enjoys reading romances and crime stories. When encouraged and motivated, she still enjoys sewing and jigsaws.

The Householder currently has a hot lunch brought in each weekday. Ready meals for the evenings, organised by the family. The Householder's son visits at the weekend and her daughter works nearby and usually stays over on a Monday evening. They are a supportive family and will keep in good contact with the Sharer. A cleaner visits on a weekly basis.

Due to memory loss and some low mood, prompts around the evening meal would also be an important part of the Homeshare. Spending a little together over a cup of tea from time to time would also be much appreciated, although the Householder is also used to living very independently. As the Householder's balance has deteriorated and she is at risk of falls, the family would like there to be someone else living in house who they could keep in close contact with.

This would be a suitably quiet, understanding and caring female who is also happy to live fairly independently. Someone sympathetic to the Householder's circumstances, ideally with some understanding of memory loss would be ideal. Someone who would usually be around in the evenings would be best and there is the option to work or study from home if that suited.

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, cycling and golf are also in the frame.

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 vaccinated against Covid-19 and is ideally looking for a Sharer who has also been vaccinated and/or who whose own circumstances and lifestyle are low risk in terms of exposure to the virus.

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.

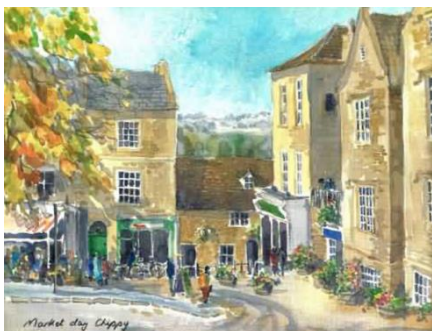
The combination of living alone during the Covid pandemic, working from home, and friends having recently moved from Oxford has highlighted a need for company and conversation to prevent social isolation. Due to increased tiredness levels, the Householder would appreciate some help with light housework, 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, and not having yet been vaccinated, the Householder needs to be extremely careful in the light of Covid-19. Therefore, someone whose own circumstances and lifestyle were extremely low risk in terms of exposure to the virus is essential. 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.

Chipping Norton home, OX7 (Ref 034)



Are you a kind, friendly and independent female who 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, someone who has had the vaccine would be ideal, or someone whose risk of being exposed to the virus is 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!

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.

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 via the **'Register your interest' form** at homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

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