

Homeshare accommodation in Oxfordshire – October 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.

Some great **NEW OPPORTUNITIES** in **Witney, Church Hanborough, Oxford and Newbury** to be listed **imminently**. It's worth checking our webpage www.homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk and following us on social media for new opportunities as they come in.

Woodstock (Ref 057)



Are you a sociable, kind and easy-going person, who enjoys cooking, and would have time and energy 4 or 5 evenings a week to share a meal and spend time with a 'young at heart' older person, in her 80s?

The accommodation available is in a comfortable self-contained annexe attached to the main house in a quiet lane, with a beautiful garden, in the heart of old Woodstock.

The householder is a widow who enjoys company, conversation and outings on her scooter around Blenheim. She is very well-travelled, having lived overseas in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and loves meeting people from around the world, reading, films, music, theatre and gardens.

The Householder is mentally astute but physically frail, with limited vision and mobility and some health issues. With her children now living abroad, she would like to find a warm, friendly, patient, and kind person to share her home with, who may have similar interests.

The Householder has existing support in place to help with housework, gardening and paperwork as well as additional local support that she can call on on ad hoc basis. In Homeshare she is looking to find someone who would be happy to check in on her each morning, and to prepare and share evening meals, and spend some time together four or five evenings a week. Help with a weekly online shop would also be part of the arrangement and, ideally, the Sharer would be happy to cook a larger meal to share with friends from time to time.

Not essential, but if someone had hours over and above the 10 Homeshare hours to help with odd jobs about the house/garden or IT issues that crop up, this is something that could be of interest and could be discussed on a separate basis. Similarly, someone who might enjoy a walk or expedition together on occasion could be a bonus. A car driver is not essential but would be helpful.

This position would suit a friendly, sociable person, whose schedule and lifestyle would be relaxed enough for them to enjoy the role described above.

The Householder, usually a very sociable person, who enjoys meeting friends for meals, walks and cinema/theatre outings, has had to limit her social activities over the past 18 months due to COVID. She is vaccinated and continues to be cautious. The Sharers would also need to be vaccinated, with a low-risk lifestyle.

Oxford, Old Headington (Ref 068)



Would you like to share the peaceful home of an older person in Oxford's Old Headington, just a stone's throw from the John Radcliffe hospital?

The householder has led an active life and originally came to Oxford to teach Crafts on an Occupational Therapy course - including pottery, basketry and even letter press printing. She has an interest in music and singing and has enjoyed attending many different classes and concerts

over the years. She is a member of her local church and has been active in the local community.

The Householder's husband has recently moved into a care home and she is not accustomed to being on her own. She would enjoy company and would value the reassurance of someone being around, especially at night. Poor balance, risk of falls, and poor mobility prevent the Householder from doing much of what she has done in the past. The Householder also has poor eyesight owing to a rare eye condition. She has daily support visits to help with some meals and practical tasks and has a regular assistance with cleaning and gardening.

Primarily, the householder is looking to a Homeshare arrangement for companionship. Some help with things around the house, bits of shopping, potentially some cooking and other errands would also be appreciated. A car driver is essential in order to be able to provide lifts from time to time.

This Homeshare would suit someone who is sensitive and attentive and who shared some of the Householder's interests – books, crafts and music. Someone who was mainly around in the evenings to provide some companionship and maybe watch some TV together (some reality tv shows, current affairs and documentaries, and some film and drama) would be ideal. Equally, both Householder and Sharer would need have their own space too.

The Householder has had two vaccine jabs but is still being cautious in the light of Covid-19. The Sharer should be double vaccinated and would abide by all COVID regulations.

Checkendon (Ref 067)



Would you like to share the lovely home of an engaging and friendly older person in the peaceful South Oxfordshire village of Checkendon, 8 miles from Wallingford, Reading and Henley and 20 miles from Oxford?

The householder is an ex-primary school teacher and campaigner who latterly worked at the Citizens Advice Bureau, CAB, for 27 years. She is very interested in local

history and has written a couple of books. She is also interested in history, philosophy, current affairs, reading and crafts and in the past enjoyed travelling, walking and exploring new places. She has been very involved in her local community for the past 47 years.

The Householder lost her husband just under two years ago and she is missing companionship. Increasingly poor balance and a loss of some mobility causes a degree of anxiety and prevents her from doing practical, simple jobs around the house, for example taking rubbish out to the bins. Assistance for cleaning and gardening is already in place.

Primarily the householder is looking for someone to provide companionship and spending time with, enjoying good conversation. Sharing some meals and an interest in cooking would be desirable. An odd game of scrabble or cards would be appreciated too. In time, trips to the cinema or shopping expeditions would be a bonus.

This Homeshare would suit a considerate, caring and tolerant person who would be happy to help out in the ways outlined above but who would also enjoy their own space. The householder would like the Sharer to feel very at home and they would be welcome to share all the living space and garden. It would suit someone with a love of the countryside rather than the hustle of the town or city.

Checkendon is in a small, rural location which provides a variety of walking opportunities and cycle rides. There is no local bus service so this would probably only suit someone with their own transport.

The Householder has had two vaccine jabs but is still being cautious in the light of Covid-19. The Sharer should be double vaccinated and would abide by all COVID regulations.

Leafield, 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 Leafield, 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 has had both Covid-19 vaccines 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.

Witney, West End, OX28 (Ref 035)



Would you like to share the pleasant home and garden of a thoughtful, elderly person living within easy walking distance of central Witney?

The Householder has wide and varied interest including art, music literature, education, gardening, social justice and human rights. She has been involved in voluntary work with the peace movement, local politics and refugees and has had a

life-long interest in other developing countries and other cultures, having travelled widely in Europe, Africa, and China.

Due to health limitations, decreased mobility and being at risk of falls, the Householder would welcome a little help around the home and garden and assistance with, for example, putting out the rubbish bins.

Shared company would also be a key element of the Homeshare and someone who would often be around in the evenings, who would enjoy sharing some meals together, or watching the news together, would work well. In time, trips to the cinema or theatre together would be a bonus.

A reassuring overnight presence is important and therefore the opportunity would therefore best suit someone who was not often away overnight, with the exception of the odd pre-planned night away, some weekends and holidays.

A car driver would be preferable, for help with the odd errand or lift and for occasional trips out together, but not essential.

This would suit a responsible, considerate, friendly and tidy person who would enjoy company and conversation and who shared some of the Householder's interests. Someone of a similar socialist political stance, open about their views and who enjoys debate and discussion could be very welcome.

The Householder is fully vaccinated against COVID-19. She is looking for a Sharer who has also had two vaccines, who works in a low-risk environment with few daily contacts and whose lifestyle, in general, would be low risk in terms of exposure to COVID. Someone who is similarly careful and concerned about the virus, and whose social life is limited in terms of person-to-person contacts, would be well suited.

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 and that you could be the right person for one of these opportunities, please contact us via the **'Register your interest' form** at homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

Follow us!   

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