



Homeshare opportunity in Iffley, Oxford OX4 (Ref 124)

An engaging and independent Householder, musician, activist and 'life-long leftie' is looking for a self-contained, 'easy-to-get-along-with' female to join her in her Iffley home, a 15 minute cycle ride to central Oxford and a short walk to the river Thames.

The Householder is a young, active 90 year old to whom living in harmony with nature and an ecoconscious lifestyle is important. When at home the days are mostly spent working on the computer or practicing music, with a short walk and good nap in the afternoon. The large wildlife garden and birdlife are a joy and the Guardian and Positive News are the Householder's 'go-to' for news. Listening to audio books and the occasional game of Scrabble takes the place of TV which is rarely watched. Community is also an important aspect of life.

Although she leads an independent life, still driving, shopping and being out and about, the Householder notices that she is tiring more easily and would appreciate some practical help as well as light companionship from time to time. Someone who would be happy to take over the laundry and help carry upstairs would be very helpful along with small things like opening jars, reaching for things from high shelves amongst other household tasks. Ironing could also be a big plus. Help with carrying in shopping from the van would be appreciated. No gardening is required, but the garden is large and would suit someone who would enjoy wildlife or may like to grow vegetables. Cooking and sharing meals, maybe once or twice a week, could be nice.

The ideal Sharer would be female, possibly an academic, most likely 40 - 50 years old and who mainly works away from home during the day. Someone who would appreciate and contribute to a clean, organised, eco-friendly household. A car driver is essential, with the option of being put on the Householder's small van insurance. The opportunity would **not** be suitable for a fellow musician who would need to practice at home. A love of nature and gardening would be a bonus.

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.



A short walk to the river Thames at Iffley lock

Location and accommodation:

A spacious house in peaceful Iffley village, with community shop and close to bus route to Oxford and the river Thames. The large, bright room overlooks the wildlife garden.

≘ ‡	fully furnished		garden
Ŕ	wifi	8	non-smoking
	parking on drive	₩	bike storage
١٨٠	shared bathroom		

Costs:

- £ 200 monthly fee payable to Homeshare Oxfordshire
- Contribution to bills payable monthly to Householder

Summary of support needed in this Homeshare arrangement

Help in the home and garden: help with light housework, in particular the laundry, and help with small practical tasks around the house.

Time together: Easy companionship (but not all the time). Option to share meals from time to time if both enjoyed the same kind of foods.

Help out and about: help with shopping (lifting heavier items), occasionally providing a lift and picking things up.

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 are well-suited to this opportunity, please contact us in the first instance via the enquiry form at homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

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Phone: 01865 410670

Email: homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

Homeshare Oxfordshire is the local Homeshare provider for Oxfordshire, operating on a not-for-profit basis as part of Age UK Oxfordshire.

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

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

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.