

Homeshare opportunity in Sonning Common, RG4 (Ref103)

Would you like to share the family home of a lovely, independent lady and her dog (a friendly 10-year-old cockapoo) in the popular South Oxfordshire village of Sonning Common (<5 miles from Henley and Reading, and about 20 miles from Oxford)?

Until the COVID-19 lockdowns, this Householder, who is just turning ninety, enjoyed an active life playing golf, gardening, and walking her dog, with many related social activities. Back and shoulder pain/stiffness and increasing frailty have limited these activities and her life is consequently much quieter – although she still walks her dog in the beautiful countryside surrounding the village.

The Householder values her independence but also enjoys company. She still drives short distances so is able to get out and about locally. Her hearing is not so good now and any potential sharer will need to be patient and speak clearly. She has a supportive family who visit regularly but do not live close by.

The main requirement of the Homeshare is to provide company and a reassuring, empathetic presence in the home. In addition, help with IT/technology would be much appreciated, as well as help with household tasks requiring manual dexterity/strength/balance.

This Homeshare would suit an easy-going, cheerful, proactive person who loves dogs and is kind, caring, sensitive and patient. Ideally someone with an interest in sport and who will play the occasional game of cards/scrabble and provide genuine companionship. It would be appropriate for someone who is out at work during the day - although working from home some of the time is also fine.

Family members will often visit/stay over at weekends (and occasionally during the week) so this Homeshare would work well for someone who needs or wants to be away some weekends (but is equally welcome to stay 7-days a week!).

The Householder and her family are fully vaccinated and cautious in the light of Covid-19. The Sharer should also be fully vaccinated, similarly cautious, and willing to take precautions to avoid exposure to the virus.

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.








Sonning Common

Location and accommodation:

A detached, 5-bedroom house with surrounding garden in a quiet residential road. An adjacent footpath provides quick access (4-minute walk) to the village centre with shops, pharmacy, health centre, dentist, and public transport.

In addition to a bedroom and bathroom, there is the potential to use another room as a study/personal space.

	fully furnished		garden
	wifi		non-smoking
	parking		bike storage
	Separate bathroom		pet dog

Costs:

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

Summary of support needed in this Homeshare arrangement

Time together:

- Company, conversation and a reassuring, gentle presence in the house
- Occasional shared meal, but not essential
- Help and encouragement with the daily crossword
- Occasional game of cards or scrabble, or the odd trip out.

Help in the home and garden:

- Occasional light housework (hoovering, changing light bulbs etc); help with IT/technology.

Help out and about:

- Occasional company on dog walks or alone if Householder not feeling up to a walk.

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

Follow us!   

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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.