

Homeshare opportunity in Temple Cowley, Oxford, OX4 (Ref 110)

We are looking for a female Sharer to share the home of an artist and retired physics and maths teacher/ computer programmer who is recovering from a recent stroke which has greatly affected her speech and mobility.

The householder has been passionate and actively involved in left wing politics. Art and making art (primarily printmaking) has been part of her life. She shares an allotment and loves her greenhouse and garden. Her recent stroke has meant she is currently no longer able to do many of these things, but they remain important to her and are part of who she is.

Although her mobility and speech are now very much limited (with wheelchair and very limited speech) the Householder is fully aware and is making gradual progress with a programme of physiotherapy and speech therapy. Small steps. She has carers who visit daily to provide personal care and some meals, along with family members and close friends. The Householder has a very supportive family and she is closely involved in the lives of her three grandchildren, aged between 16 – 22 years.

The Homeshare arrangement would be part of a wider circle of support for the Householder and, most importantly, needs to provide a reassuring overnight presence. Other than this, someone who could spend a little shared time together over a cup of tea or evening meal on some days, and sometimes help with cooking, would work well. If someone would like to help in other ways, for example, in the garden, light housework, they would be very welcome but this is not a requirement of the Homeshare.

The Homeshare would suit someone who is quiet living, who mainly liked to stay at home in the evenings and who would be in the house overnight, except by prior arrangement. If they needed to work or study from home on some days, this would be fine. They would need to be understanding of the impact and effects of stroke. It is important that the Sharer would be comfortable in a house where the communal areas – kitchen and living room – are often busy, with regular visits from carers and health professionals, family and friends. The Sharer would however have their own space upstairs -sitting room/study area adjacent to their bedroom - and this Homeshare could work well for a friendly person who is also self-sufficient and happy to spend time alone.

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 service of Age UK Oxfordshire.



Nearby Shotover park – first bluebells!

Location and accommodation:

The home is in a quiet road in Temple Cowley, with good access to bus routes and a few minutes from local parks. An additional room, adjacent to the bedroom, is available for desk space/own sitting room.



fully
furnished



garden



Wifi



non-
smoking



On street
permit
Parking



bike
parking



Shared
downstairs
toilet/
bathroom



additional
room for
study/own
space

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: The odd cup of tea and potentially some evening meal times. At other times, as and when, to suit.

Help in the home and garden: Help with light housework every now and then. Help with garden if the Sharer would like to.

Help out and about: Odd bits of shopping possibly, but this is taken care of by family mainly.

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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Email: homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

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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.