

Homeshare opportunity in East Oxford, OX4 (Ref108)

We are looking for a kind and independent female, who enjoys cooking, to share the house of a good-natured woman, who is severely visually impaired, along with her much loved Sphinx (hairless) cat.

The Householder was brought up and educated in Russia, where she trained as a Librarian in a Research Institute. Part of her childhood was spent in French-speaking West Africa. She is bilingual in English and Russian, and used to speak French fluently too. She is also trained as a homeopath.

The Householder worked for many years in the public sector supporting people with learning difficulties. She had to retire a year or so ago on health grounds because of loss of eyesight and limited mobility resulting from long-term diabetes and kidney damage. Following a period of time in hospital her mobility is steadily improving. She receives help with medical needs and personal care and NHS staff come in each night to set up her dialysis. Family stay in close touch and help with personal needs and online shopping.

The key requirement of the Homeshare arrangement is around help with meal planning and cooking. Being available to help with early evening meals most days (to eat around 6pm) is important, as well as leaving out simple food or breakfast/brunch in the morning. The Householder eats quite simply - chicken or fish and fresh vegetables with potatoes, rice or noodles, often in the form of stews or soups - though she is also naturally adventurous and happy to try new things. Getting on with, and helping with the feeding and litter tray of, an exotic cat is also essential. Owing to the Householder's loss of sight, it is important that the Sharer becomes familiar with how this affects her and helps to keep things in familiar places.

This Homeshare would suit a female of any age or background so long as she is kind, considerate, mature and has common sense. As the Householder is generally happy in her own company, enjoying watching Russian TV in the company of her cat and talking on the phone to family, it would best suit someone equally friendly and helpful but happy to live quite independently, using their room as a bed/sitting room. So long as the Sharer is able to help in the ways outlined above, there is flexibility, in terms of routine, for the right person.

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.



Location and accommodation:

The house is between Cowley Road and Iffley Road, close to Florence Park and to bus stops. The bed/sitting loft room is peaceful, light and cosy..

	fully furnished		garden
	wifi		non-smoking
	off street parking		bike storage
	shared bathroom		1 cat

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 Householder is happy in her own company and this opportunity is for someone who is equally independent and self sufficient.

Help in the home and garden: Meal planning, cooking and help with the cat.

Help out and about: Help not really needed outside the house

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!   

Phone: 01865 410670

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.