



Homeshare accommodation in Oxfordshire – January 2025

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.

The Sharer gives the Householder up to 10 hours of their time each week as a combination of companionship and practical help, as agreed, and makes a monthly payment to Homeshare Oxfordshire of £200 pcm and an agreed contribution to the Householder towards bills.

Oxford, St Clements/Headington (ref 116)

Are you an engaging person who enjoys stimulating conversation whilst also appreciating a quiet, peaceful lifestyle? We are looking for the right person to share the lovely East Oxford home (looking onto South Park) of a semi-retired scientist and teacher who leads a full and busy life but who would prefer to not be living alone.

The Householder, a widower in his eighties, trained in biology and veterinary science, has been working as an epidemiologist (infectious diseases) for the past 50 years mainly at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He currently spends three or four days a week in London with (plans to fully retire in summer 2025 or 2026) and so some weeks the Sharer would be alone in the home for half the week.

Fit and active, the Householder has broad interests – from the outdoors and natural history to science, history and law & government and keeps abreast of news and world affairs (usually watching the 10 o'clock news). He is a five-string banjo player and enjoys and appreciates music, including Radio 3 evening concerts. A member of a book group and a poetry group, literature and reading are also key pleasures. Travel and work overseas, including an extensive project in Malawi, are also in the frame.

We are looking for a someone who would also value shared time and engaging conversation, most likely an hour or two in the evening over a meal, perhaps taking it in turns to cook. Someone who could lend a hand with tech issues from time to time could be helpful and anyone green-fingered who like help in the garden, would be welcome – if they liked growing flowers that would be a bonus! The main requirement however is a compatible person for shared company, intellectual exchange and stimulating conversation.

This opportunity would suit someone who appreciates a quiet, calm environment and likes to keep a tidy, organised house. An enjoyment of cooking would be good. Politically the Householder is left of centre and likely to get on best with someone similarly positioned. Someone musical could be a bonus.

The living space is quite open plan, where the Householder likes to have time to be peaceful, reading or listening to the radio, but at other times this could be shared.

Oxford, North Oxford (ref 119)

Are you a caring 30 + year old female, gentle, kind and patient, who would enjoy engaging conversation whilst also appreciating a peaceful home life? We are looking for the right person to share the lovely North Oxford home of a widely travelled writer and artist, with a particular love of the natural environment.

The Householder, in her early eighties, has recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, which although not affecting her overall independence, has brought with it a few new challenges. Some practical help, particularly cooking, and the reassurance of having someone in the house would be much appreciated. Help with other small day to day tasks, that are now less easy for the Householder would be much appreciated. Regular help with cleaning and gardening is in place. Someone who would be happy to accompany the Householder on short walks would be good. Similarly, a driver with their own car, able to help with the odd lift, perhaps a trip to a garden centre, would be ideal.

The Householder has worked as a Conchologist (science of shells) and has a global perspective from extensive travelling. Her home environment is very important to her where she leads a quiet lifestyle, spending time writing, keeping up with news in the papers and listening to Radio 4. She keeps in good contact with friends and family.

This Homeshare would suit a kindred spirit, someone who also has a good sense of humour, who appreciates living a quiet lifestyle and who is organised and tidy. Someone working and with their own independent life. Someone who has an enjoyment of cooking is important and who would like to share most evening meals together. Car driver required.

Oxford, Iffley Borders/Rose Hill (ref 105)

An interesting and independent Householder is looking for a friendly, intelligent, female to join her in her Iffley Borders /Rose Hill home, with close links to public transport in one direction and short walk to Iffley village and the nearby river Thames in the other.

The Householder has a Social Work background, both as a practicing social worker and as a trainer/teacher at Oxford Brookes and at Ruskin College. She has many interests including reading, exhibitions, museums and gardens and, in the past, has enjoyed travelling. She has been active in her community and involved in a number of social initiatives and left-wing politics.

Owing to some decreased mobility and less energy, a little help around the house would now be very welcome, including putting out the bins each week. Regular support from a cleaner is also in place. The Householder enjoys food, and in the past has grown vegetables on an allotment. Someone who enjoyed cooking and may like to cook evening meals a few times a week could work well. An interest in gardening and a willingness to help with jobs in the garden would be great. Someone with good IT skills who could assist with the little things that crop up on mobile phones and laptops would be appreciated.

Whilst the Householder is happy in her own space and own company, time spent together every now and then with a compatible Sharer would be welcome. Having the reassurance of knowing that there is someone else around in the house, especially at night, is an important factor.

This Homeshare might best suit a female post-graduate student or an academic although the Householder is open minded about others who may work well too. The Sharer should be easy going, helpful and friendly and responsible. Someone with their own independent life, who also enjoyed their own space and was happy to live in a relaxed environment, would work well.

Great Rollright, nr Chipping Norton (ref 105)

We are looking for a 30+ female who would like to share the welcoming home of a friendly, Great Rollright resident whose independence is very important to her. The Householder is in her early nineties, and lives with her sweet natured, well-trained and much -loved Labrador. A love of dogs is key.

The Householder has a love for the countryside and of country life. Born and educated in Ireland with a lifelong love of horses, which has involved breeding and participating in various sports including hunting

and dressage. The Householder has lived in the UK for over 70 years and has a broad range of interests including gardens, sports, reading and current affairs and is a member of a local book club. She has friends across the generations and enjoys the company of younger people. With a background in education, Montessori trained, the Householder enjoyed helping with reading at the local primary school, until thwarted by COVID.

The Householder likes to do her own thing but would appreciate having someone around to chat with, at occasional times and for the occasional meal if the timing worked out. She is full of determination and energy while dealing with the usual frailties associated with her age. With less good balance and using sticks to get around, the Householder had a couple falls earlier this year and someone else living in the house would be very reassuring for the Householder and her family. Other help required may be some cooking if that is something the Sharer enjoys, and the odd jobs which are now more difficult for the Householder. A few local friends take care of the dog walking during the week but someone who could help with dog walking at weekends when family are not visiting would be ideal. Someone who might also be around first thing in the morning to let the dog out and feed her could also be very helpful.

This Homeshare opportunity would suit an animal lover, 30+, with an active lifestyle and who shared some of the Householders interests. A car driver would be essential. Someone who has a job, full or part time, and their own independent life, maybe with local friends or family would work well. And someone who would be happy in a household where the Householder's family often came to visit or stay and to be reasonably independent at these times. A good cook would be very welcome, though not essential, and a person who is happy to help keep the house tidy would be great. There is more than one sitting room to allow the sharer to have their own space as well as their bedroom with a beautiful view. There is also regular help from a cleaner.

Abingdon, OX14 (ref 96)

Are you a homely, kind and caring female, 30+, with Christian principles, who could provide gentle companionship and be a reassuring presence to a friendly, interesting and interested, kind older person in a quiet residential area of Abingdon?

The householder's early career was in nursing and, later, in education with children with additional needs. She cares about social issues, is a committed Christian and involved in her local church and wider community activities. She is artistic and finds relaxation in drawing and painting. Singing, creative dance and swimming have been important in the Householder's life but, owing to arthritis, some limitation in walking and having less energy these days, she has found these activities hard to keep up.

The Householder lost her husband some years ago. She has a network of good friends whom she sees regularly but does feel a little anxious at times about living alone. Just the simple presence of a someone around in the house would be very reassuring to her. A homely, warm person who enjoyed conversation and who would be happy to talk to about day to day things and to help talk through everyday decisions sometimes would be very valuable. Help with internet and mobile phone issues that crop up would be appreciated, as would the occasional lift in a car to activities or social events.

A cleaner and gardener regularly come to the house but help with the simple household tasks would be welcome – for example, help with changing bed sheets, putting out the bins, reading the meters etc. Whilst gardening help is not needed, if someone would enjoy helping in the large, natural, garden (which is a source of great pleasure to the Householder) that would be fine.

This would suit a kind, caring and empathetic female, 30+, with Christian principles. Someone who likes to mainly spend time at home in the evenings, rather than being out, would work best. And some company at weekends especially on Saturdays, would be welcome. There is also the option to work or study from home as well. Whilst companionship is an important element of the Homeshare and the Householder would enjoy having a chat over a cup of tea and sharing some evening meals or watching some TV

together, this is not rigid and there would be plenty of space for both Householder and Sharer to lead their independent lives. A car driver would be ideal.

Lower Shiplake, nr Henley on Thames (ref 114)

Are you a kind, considerate and friendly person with a quiet lifestyle who could provide light companionship and a reassuring presence in the home to a friendly, interesting Householder in the peaceful village of Lower Shiplake, two miles from Henley and with excellent public transport links to London, Reading and Twyford?

The Householder, in her nineties, has spent much of her life living abroad and has extensive life experience of travelling the world. She is young hearted and remarkably fit for her age (a former golfer and still attending pilates classes) and loves her garden, looking after the birds and fish. She has a broad range of interests including painting, music, reading, crosswords and playing bridge and enjoys relaxing during the evenings and watching TV.

Whilst the Householder prides herself on her independence and would like someone who would be happy to also live fairly independently – for example, sometimes cooking and eating meals at separate times - she recognises that a little support and light companionship would now be helpful and would enjoy some meals together. Someone who could help with a weekly shop, occasional trips and happy to have chats over a cup of tea, but who had their own interests and discreet lifestyle would be ideal. A reassuring overnight presence is an important factor. The Householder has close and supportive family living nearby and enjoys their regular visits.

This Homeshare opportunity would suit someone who is kind and helpful, prefers to live a quiet lifestyle mainly spending time at home in the evenings but with their own interests and independent life. A car driver would be essential. Because it is easier for family to visit over the weekend, it would be fine for the Sharer to be away at weekends.

The bedroom is slightly separate from the rest of the house, with its own bathroom and an attached dining room rarely used by the Householder day-to-day which could be used as a working space.

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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Webpage: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/our-services/homeshare-oxfordshire/>

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Homeshare Oxfordshire Accommodation Availability Jan 2025