

Homeshare opportunity in Lower Shiplake, nr Henley - RG9 (Ref 114)

Are you a kind, considerate and friendly female 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 live fairly independently too – 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.

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 from the house to the river Thames

Location and accommodation:

The house is within 10 minutes' walk of the village shop, a pub, train station and the river Thames. The bedroom is quite separate from the rest of the house with an attached dining room rarely used by the Householder day-to-day which could be used as a working space.

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|  | fully furnished |  | garden |
|  | wifi |  | non-smoking |
|  | Off street parking |  | bike storage |
|  | Ensuite shower | | |

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: Chats over a cup of tea with plenty of space for both to get on with their own lives. Friendly, kind presence is important.

Help in the home and garden: Occasional bits and pieces

Help out and about: Occasional, but someone who drives and could help with the odd lift to appointments and shopping, if the family are not available, would be ideal. Perhaps a social trip out now and then.

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 **'Make an enquiry' form** at homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

Follow us!   

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