

Homeshare opportunity in Oxford, close to St Clements/Headington OX4 (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 – all the more so if they liked growing flowers. 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.

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.



The home looks out on to Oxford's beautiful South Park

Location and accommodation:

This peaceful, light and beautifully kept home is on Morrell Avenue, between St Clements and Headington, on public transport routes and not far from Central Oxford.

A small room with desk adjacent to the bedroom could be used as a working/study space.



fully furnished



garden



wifi



non-smoking



off street parking (for small car)



bike storage



separate bathroom



use of small study

Costs:

- Monthly fee payable to Homeshare Oxfordshire
- Contribution to household costs payable monthly to Householder

Summary of support needed in this Homeshare arrangement

Time together: Some shared meals, especially company and engaging conversation.

Help in the home and garden: Maintaining a clean/tidy house, tech help with the odd thing, if green fingered some help in the garden.

Help out and about: Perhaps a social trip out now and then, if have shared interests.

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.