

# SHARE AND CARE HOMESHARE

## 2026 REPORT

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# SHARE AND CARE HOMESHARE REPORT 2026

We are delighted to be celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. We have matched thousands of Homeshares since we were established in 2006 and have witnessed first-hand how Homeshare gives a lovely balance of independence and interdependence that benefits both parties.

Share and Care Homeshare is a Community Interest Company and is the largest Homeshare organisation in the UK. We match Householders, who are usually older and would benefit from a level of practical help and company to continue to live safely, and as independently as possible, in their own home, with live-in volunteer Sharers who are able to offer that help and company in exchange for an affordable home.

Share and Care Homeshare is very low-cost to both the Householder, and their Sharer. The Sharer not only lives in the home, which gives someone older the reassurance of knowing someone is there at night in case of an emergency, but they also commit to offering up to 10 hours of practical help and up to 5 hours company each week.

Sharers are typically working professionals and normally give their support over the course of four evenings each week, plus a few hours at the weekends. Homeshare is not a job, and the practical help is usually all the normal tasks that anyone needs to do anyway, wherever they live - such as picking up shopping, cooking a few meals, taking out bins, changing light bulbs, hanging up washing, emptying the dishwasher - but they also do that little bit extra, such as sitting down and eating some meals together - which is so much nicer than eating alone - running errands, help with IT and simple tech (from finding TV programmes to setting up a Zoom call), prompts and reminders.

Homeshare brings together people from different ages, fostering meaningful relationships that might otherwise not have formed. There's a wonderful reciprocity which gives both the Householder and their Sharer a sense of purpose and value.

## Homeshare is beneficial to mental health and overall well-being



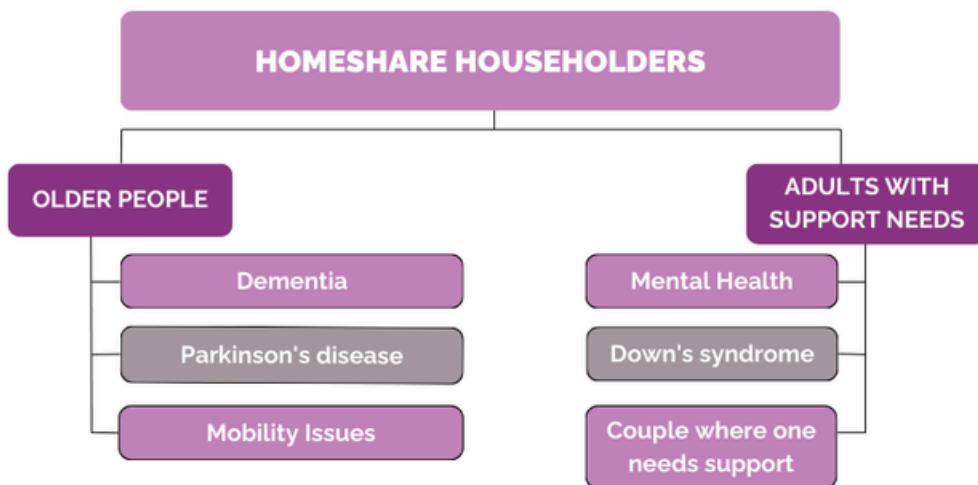
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## HOUSEHOLDER: WHO HOMESHARE HELPS...

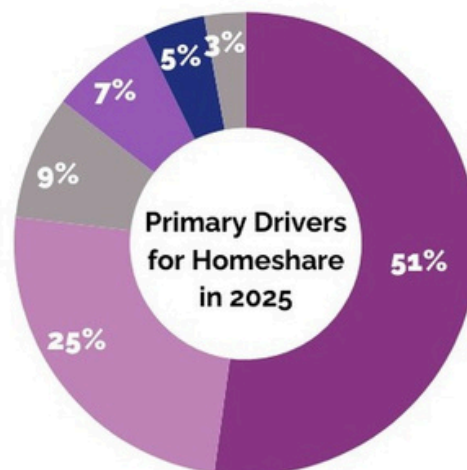
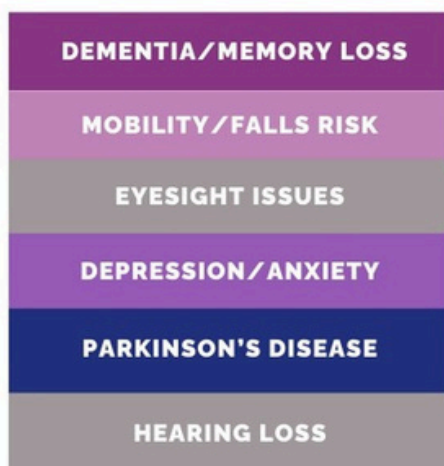
Homeshare is a flexible service; not only does it benefit different types of people, but it sits well alongside other support services too.

In 2025 Share and Care Homeshare supported people with the following conditions, including;



*Homesharing is a win-win for everyone involved and can benefit many types of people*

In some cases, Share and Care Homeshare has helped Householders stay in their own homes with the support of two Sharers, which means they get double the practical help and reassurance. This can be particularly helpful when someone is living with dementia. We don't charge the Householder any extra money for this service; as long as they have a separate bedroom to offer each Sharer, we can help!



Often there is more than one driver for seeking a Homeshare; poor mobility coupled with anxiety, for instance.

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## DEMENTIA: BENEFITS OF HOMESHARE

**The primary driver to Homeshare is dementia; 51% of our Householders in 2025 were living with dementia or memory loss.**

We understand it is devastating to start to lose, or lose, your memory. To add 'salt to a sore wound', the normal - in social care of the past - was to expect people to move into a residential home, away from their familiar home and community.

Thankfully, this narrative is changing as residential homes are increasingly expensive and most councils can't subsidise the cost unless the dementia is advanced and the person doesn't have funds. Homeshare offers an answer to this over-growing problem.



We are experts in supporting Sharers who are living with a Householder who has dementia. We ensure Sharers have information, tools and on-going support to make the Homeshare happy and positive. Caroline (our Founder) is a Dementia Friends Ambassador. Trained by the Alzheimer's Society to deliver Dementia Information Sessions, she runs sessions for our Householders, their family and their Sharers, as well as other community groups and charities.

A dementia diagnosis can be frightening and stressful for the person and their family but we have proven that Homeshare is an excellent solution to living with dementia as independently as possible; and it sits very well alongside other support services.

We understand how important it is to be a listening ear for the families of the Householder and our Sharers. Sometimes it's just about being reassuring, sympathetic and understanding and giving practical suggestions - such as clear signage, a quieter environment, or even suggesting the Sharer goes for a walk to get some breathing space.

*"I genuinely found the Dementia Information Session informative and important. It made it clear how many people are affected by dementia and the importance of discussing dementia and how we respond, observe and support people and their loved ones living with dementia."*

*MW - Adult Carers Support Worker and Dementia Carer*

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## DEMENTIA: A DAUGHTER'S STORY

Following the sudden death of Jessica's mum, she and her brother were suddenly looking after their 89-year-old father who has early onset dementia.

With little mobility following a fall, a stairlift was installed and three care visits were arranged each day. This worked well initially, but as her dad's mobility gradually improved, the number of different carers - at one point 13 in one week - led to his increasing frustration and confusion.

During this time, the idea of homesharing was introduced by a friend. Jessica's dad's transformation since homesharing has been incredible. Today, there are no carers, just one empathetic, understanding and kind sharer plus, whenever needed, the listening ear of the Share and Care team who have an in-depth understanding of supporting people living with dementia.

*"Life without Mum has been a big adjustment for Dad, but homesharing has helped him thrive and achieve a happy outcome. 10 out of 10, it's absolutely phenomenal."*

"My parents were married 62 years, and when my Dad was diagnosed with early-onset dementia, my mother took over all the admin tasks from him. When she died suddenly last year, it was a dreadful time. We didn't know what to do.

"Initially, it was decided that Dad should have carers three times a day and with their help, we realised he could do a lot more. After a number of months, he was happy to cut visits to twice a day but with so many different faces visiting each day, it was adding to Dad's confusion and he was getting increasingly frustrated. With so many names, it was difficult for Dad to build connections. We needed to change things.

"By chance, a friend introduced me to the concept of homesharing. I didn't know of its existence before, but as soon as I rang Share and Care Homeshare and explained our situation, and about Dad's dementia, there was a complete understanding.

"At that time, I was out of my depth and didn't know what would be best. It was a tough time. Share and Care Homeshare understood where I was at and explained what they could offer. I really liked what I heard and decided that Homeshare would work. We went to Dad's house and cleared two rooms so that the sharer could have one bedroom and a study.

"I knew that the first sharer I interviewed, M, was the one. He is a student in his 20s who has an enormous amount of empathy, kindness and respect for older people."

## DEMENTIA: A DAUGHTER'S STORY CONT'D

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"He also understood that he was dealing with someone who is experiencing grief. Since the sharer has moved in, Dad has gone from ok to brilliant. The person who we inherited at my mother's death, does not correspond with who we have now. The transformation is amazing.

"Dad now lives independently with M's help; he buys his own food, rings up about his own car insurance, uses a telephone, and he no longer needs to use the stairlift. It's been an absolute miracle.

"Incredibly, we have gone from paying £1,500 a month for carers three times a day to having no carers. What Dad now pays per month for homesharing, we would have had another zero on the end per week for live-in carers! The carers were absolutely what Dad needed in the beginning, but as he became more able, it wasn't working. He needed the continuous companionship and support that a Homeshare arrangement brings.

"I believe that Dad now lives the best life he can. Through homesharing, and not moving into a care home, Dad has all his familiar things around him in his own home. M and Dad sit and read the paper together in the morning. With his help, Dad is more active, and more able to do things himself. Dad's mind is still there, but he describes his dementia as a magnet that takes time to pull in words and things from the past.

"Dad and M are good chums; they go to the golf club to have coffee together, eat fish and chips and chat happily. M manages the house, helps organise Dad's medication reminding him to take his pills and Dad has even ordered two sheds off the internet which he has had installed at the end of the garden!

"M has a great sense of humour, and he just gets Dad. Dad is very lucky. Through their chats, they learn a lot from each other – it's a two-way street. I want Dad to have the happiest life he can, and I couldn't be where I am without Share and Care Homeshare. I really value what they do. They've been like a life raft – coming my way at the right time.



"As well as the reassurance of M living with Dad, I can also ring the Share and Care team with any questions around supporting Dad with dementia.

They put your mind at rest and help you understand that you are not the only one out there in this situation."

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## FALLS RISK: BENEFITS OF HOMESHARE

The second biggest reason people turn to Homeshare is because of reduced mobility. There can be many reasons why someone has reduced mobility and it is worrying when it happens.

When a person is deemed a falls risk, it is often after they have had a nasty fall and have had a spell in hospital. If they live alone, they may have been stranded on the floor for many hours, not able to get help, which is frightening and causes great anxiety.

Our recent survey shows that 77% of clients who came to us because they were a falls risk, haven't had another fall since a Sharer moved in with them.

We believe the reason for this is often very simple; having a Sharer negates the risks because there is someone else there who can reach for any high shelves, carry the bins down the path, and clear away trip hazards with ease.

A Sharer is not a Carer, but they can call for help and/or remind the person who has fallen to press their pendant alarm. Even though someone might still have to wait for an ambulance, it is always reassuring to have someone with you whilst you wait and this is what a Sharer can bring to the arrangement, plus of course letting the family know what is happening.

### 96% of family members agreed that Homesharing is a positive thing

Even if the fall is during the day, knowing that someone will be coming home at some point is very reassuring for the older person and for their family too.

We have sadly heard of situations when older people have laid on the floor for 24-plus hours, unable to reach the phone; Homeshare really does avoid this situation and families tell us that it is increasingly reassuring to know that there is someone sharing their parents' home.

*"It was very reassuring to know that my mother had company and help with practical tasks and in any emergencies if needed. My mother appreciated the support whilst maintaining her independence at home. The role of the agency was helpful in defining the roles and legal position."*

## FALLS RISK: A HOUSEHOLDER'S STORY

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The concept of opening her home to others is nothing new for 92-year-old Angela, who had happily accommodated lodgers for many years.

However, when downsizing from a larger home to a ground floor flat, Angela wasn't initially bought into the idea of Homesharing as much as her children were, yet she decided to give it a try. Angela's Sharer, Emma, has recently moved in and already the two are enjoying a very relaxing Homeshare experience.

"In the past, I'd had lodgers in my house for years, probably about 30 years in total. Therefore, the idea of sharing my home with someone else wasn't new to me, however, I had never heard of Homesharing before.

"Since my days of taking in lodgers, I have downsized. I recently lost my balance, and now use a walking frame for support, so I was unable to manage the stairs. I now live in a ground floor flat.

"My children insisted that I have someone else in the home in case of a fall, and my elder son initiated the idea of Homesharing. I hated the idea of having someone here but my sharer Emma, is absolutely wonderful! My children are relieved that I have someone else here to look out for me, and I like Emma very much.

"My Sharer leaves for work early in the morning so I do not always see her first thing. We catch up when she is back from work and at the weekends. She helps out with many daily tasks around the home such as emptying the dishwasher or picking up the shopping. Emma is always willing to help out with anything.

"I do also have a cleaner who comes in to change the bed, do the washing and ironing, and so on, so there is no need for Emma to help out with anything like that.

"Emma also offers to cook dinner, but I eat so little now that I like to put something together myself, however, while she's preparing her supper, I often sit with her in the kitchen for a chat. She has a sweet tooth and loves to bake; she bakes a very good lemon drizzle cake!

"I very much enjoy spending time talking with Emma; she's had a very interesting career and travelled a lot which I like to hear about. She also loves reading, which is something that I have done all my life as a writer – I have written 12 books, some on cookery and gardening."

## FALLS RISK: A HOUSEHOLDER'S STORY CONT'D

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"I spend a lot of my time writing poetry, originally encouraged to do so at an early age by my sister. Sometimes while I'm writing, Emma will pop in for a chat which is lovely.

"I do see more of my Sharer at the weekend, although she has a busy social life and is able to go out with friends too which means she is not dependent on me!

"Before Emma arrived, we made up her room nicely, and painted it – it used to be my storage room so it's now freshened up and is her bedroom. When the weather gets better, I think she'll enjoy sitting in the garden for supper.

"Even though I've never met her, I've even talked to Emma's mother on the telephone. She lives in New Zealand, and, as I used to be a garden designer, I gave her advice about a dying tree!

"Although I had never heard of Homesharing before, I personally think it's a really nice idea. I would absolutely recommend it to friends, and already have! It also gives my family a sense of relief and comfort.

"I'm still in the early days of my Homeshare arrangement, but I am already getting used to it and couldn't ask for a better person.

So far, I'm happy, and my Sharer is also happy.

It's a very relaxed relationship."

*Angela, London*



*"I like my sharer, Emma, very much and she's always willing to help out with anything. I couldn't ask for a better person."*

## OUR LONGEST HOUSEHOLDER

In our 20<sup>th</sup> year of offering Homeshare, we are delighted to still be supporting a client who came to us in 2013. Through her Homesharing journey, Eve\* has welcomed 11 different Sharers to her home, at some points having two Sharers living with her at the same time for extra support and company.

When we first met, Eve was 85 years old; her memory was starting to fade and this was making her anxious. She had always been, and was still, a very independent person with an active social life, including walking most days and playing golf. Her first Sharer was a musician and she enjoyed a few evenings out watching her Sharer perform at the 606 Club in Chelsea, London.

Another Sharer was a Research Fellow at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, and as a keen member of Kew Gardens, Eve really enjoyed hearing about the research that the Sharer was taking part in, and visiting Kew Gardens with her.

As the years passed Eve's memory declined and she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. One thing that was very important to Eve was that she remained in her own home. When her memory declined to a point that she couldn't cook for herself any longer, we found a second Sharer to live in the house; this meant that the two Sharers were able to co-ordinate their diaries to make sure Eve always had an evening meal and some company in the evening. Daily carers helped with any personal care needs, and lunches. This extended team enabled Eve to continue living in her own home.

A couple of years ago, Eve's journey with Alzheimer's progressed further and she became very anxious about being on her own at all, so a live-in carer joined the team.



One Sharer remained in the home too, as it was comforting for Eve to have the consistency of a friendly face she knew whilst the live-in carers switched in and out of the house on short-term placements.

Eve's journey shows the amazing flexibility of Homeshare, and how it can work as part of a mix of support. The most important fact is that Eve is still in her own home, which is where she wants to be living.

*\*Name changed for privacy.*

## OUR YOUNGEST HOUSEHOLDER

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Our current youngest Householder David\* is 45-years-old. He has lived with bipolar disorder since a teenager and has never lived alone. Sadly, his mother has Alzheimer's and she is no longer able to help; when she moved into a care home, we were asked to find a Sharer for her son.

David has had a Sharer for 2 years – his current (and 2<sup>nd</sup>) Sharer has been living with him the past 18 months. He is a wonderful support to David and helps him to live a more independent life, as well as ensuring he is reminded to take his medication which keeps him well.

We are constantly amazed about the wonderful people who become Sharers. David's Sharer is a play worker for young people and adults with SEN (special education needs). He has used his skills to help David learn to cook and keep house, whilst also supporting with technical issues, admin and booking appointments.

*\*Name changed for privacy*

**Homeshare is a flexible solution  
for anyone who needs support**

## OUR OLDEST HOUSEHOLDER

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Our oldest Householder in the 2025 survey was 98-years-old, a painter, illustrator and novelist, and in amazing physical and mental condition until she had a fall and fractured a vertebrae in her spine.

Diana\* was in hospital for four weeks and when she was discharged from hospital, her family told us she seemed more fragile physically and mentally; her memory seemed poorer and she was in considerable pain a lot of the time. Sadly, this is something we come across often. For older people, long spells in hospital can be life changing.

Diana used to walk confidently on her own to the shops with the aid of a walking stick, but after the time in hospital, became less confident. Homeshare was a great solution for her; sharing with an intelligent PhD student enabled conversation, someone to go shopping, and have a few meals with. As Sharers are not carers, domiciliary care sits very well alongside a Homeshare and most importantly, the two services enabled Diana to remain in her home which helped her to feel relaxed and less anxious, and to continue living as independently as possible.

*\*Name changed for privacy*

## HOUSEHOLDERS: DURATION OF HOMESHARE

In 2025 we had quite a lot of changes with many new Homeshares starting. The average length of a Homeshare match in 2025, and still matched, was 11 months and ongoing.

Sharers often stay in their Homeshare match for more than 12 months, but sometimes their life changes and they have to move on.

26% of our Householder clients changed Sharers in 2025; some being introduced to someone new for the second time, some for a third time and a couple of clients were meeting a fourth or fifth new Sharer to live with them.

The longest length of a Homeshare match with the same Sharer in 2025 was in it's 4th year and is still ongoing.

Sometimes Homeshare becomes unsuitable for a Householder. Our research shows that in 2025, 8% moved into a residential home and another 8% required a live-in carer. These clients and their families report how glad they were that, with a Sharer, they had remained independent in their own home for as long as possible thus saving money and, during that time, making a new friend along the way.

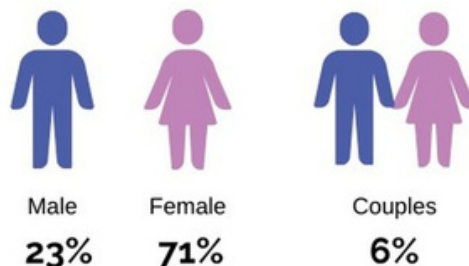
5% of Householders passed away in 2025 whilst having a Sharer living with them at the time. And 60% of those Sharers were asked to remain in the home acting as a 'property guardian' and ensuring that the home wasn't left empty whilst probate was in progress.

## HOUSEHOLDERS: STATISTICS 2025

### Householder's Age



### Householder's Type





## ACCEPTANCE OF SHARER BY THE HOUSEHOLDER

Meeting someone a few times, and then moving in with them, can be a daunting task, especially for someone from the older generation who perhaps isn't used to sharing their home.

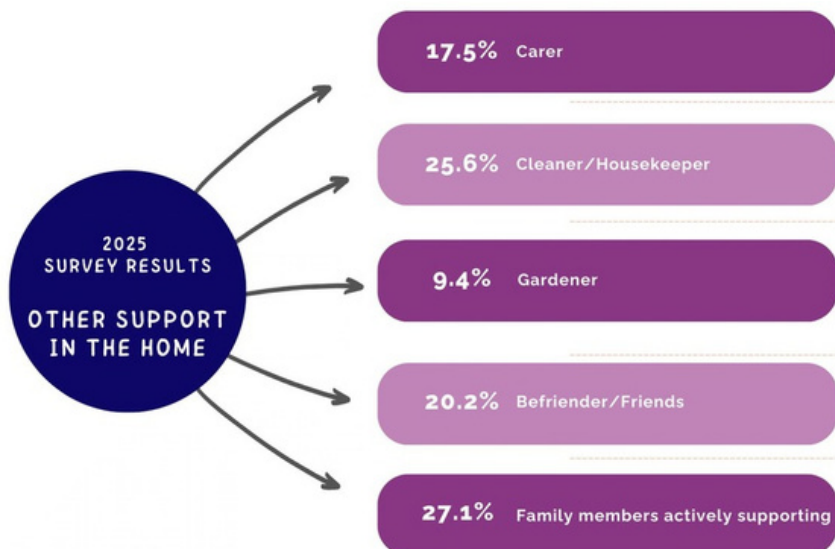
Our 2025 survey showed that Sharers were actually accepted by the Householder very quickly into their home, with our Householders reporting that they felt comfortable with their Sharer very quickly.



## OTHER SUPPORT AROUND THE HOME APART FROM THE SHARER

During each Homeshare, we stay in regular touch and support both parties, offering advice and ensuring that the Sharer isn't being asked to do too much.

When we take on a new Householder we also assess what kind of other support there is in place to minimise the chances of someone asking too much of a Sharer. Homeshare sits very well alongside other forms of support.



## HOMESHARE: A SHARER'S STORY

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**"Being part of the family and having a sense of belonging has transformed how I feel about living in London. Homesharing has brought many moments of joy."**

Pratibha (33) had been living in a house-share in London with a number of other people – an arrangement which was making her feel increasingly uncomfortable and causing her to question whether she wanted to remain living in the city. This is when her search for a different living arrangement began.

Today, she has been Homesharing with 88-year-old Ahmad, who she calls 'Grandad', for more than a year, which is providing the comfort and safety she sought. Pratibha is a valued member of the family and has found the perfect living arrangement – giving her a fresh perspective and helping her reconnect with the city.

"Before Homesharing, I was living in a shared house with other housemates. There were so many people, which was a discomfort in itself. Everyone came from different backgrounds, different nationalities, different jobs, and different lifestyles – for me it just didn't feel safe.

"I began looking for something else and discovered Share and Care Homeshare. It didn't seem real at first and I even wondered if it could be a scam as the description sounded too good to be true. I thought that there's no harm in trying so I applied and received a response from the team. I went through an interview and background check which gave me a sense of relief, and I realised that this organisation knows what they are doing. The team at Share and Care Homeshare were amazing at running me through the whole process and explaining what would be expected of me.

"They soon got back in touch to let me know that they had a great match with an older Householder who also shared an Asian background. This gave me great confidence that I was in safe hands. In India, I lived with my family and extended family, and I felt very comfortable that I was going to be moving from a shared house to something better and safer.

"It is also cost-friendly for me, which is important given the economic crisis and expense of living in London.

"When I moved into this Homeshare, I wasn't feeling the city or the space in London. I didn't think it was for me anymore, but after moving in, everything changed dramatically."

## HOMESHARE: A SHARER'S STORY CONT'D

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"Tanya, Ahmad's daughter, and Ahmad himself, made me feel like family, like a friend – not just someone living here. In fact, I call Ahmad 'Grandad' as initiated by Tanya's son, and I consider Tanya my second mother!

"Being part of the family and having a sense of belonging has contributed to how I feel about living in London, and Homesharing has brought many moments of joy.

"I work full-time in fintech as an account manager, and am able to work from home, enabling me to support Grandad throughout the day.

"Grandad goes for daily walks and I sometimes go with him. I also help with the laundry and cleaning and do the dishes – although he does them too and often asks me to leave them for him!

"I enjoy cooking Indian and Asian dishes and will often make dinner for us to eat together. Sometimes I may cook a pasta or noodle dish which he'll also enjoy trying. We even go to Tanya's house on occasions, and she's taught me different recipes and how to bake.

"Grandad and I both have an interest in football and we regularly sit down together to watch a game. I also like to play music and sing, and Grandad says that he likes the way I sing as it makes him so happy!

"I speak to my mum and sister who live in India every day, and when I'm on a call, Grandad might pop in and say hello which is lovely. He's met my family online, and they know all about him and Tanya. I like to boast to my family about how much fun I'm having here!

"At work, among colleagues, the number one topic of conversation is where do you live and how do you manage living in London. I have mentioned to a few colleagues that I live in a Homeshare and they think I'm making it up! They don't realise that Homesharing even exists, so I always show them the Share and Care Homeshare website!



"When I tell them about the close connection I have with Grandad and Tanya, and how much fun I have, I think it must sound too good to be true to everyone.

"No-one wants to believe it, but it's true!"

## HOMESHARE INTO THE FUTURE

With care costs escalating, and very little funding now available to support people as they get older, Homeshare is not only great value but it also sits alongside other support allowing the person to continue living at home.

In terms of vetting and safeguarding, we follow the same requirements as any other care provider so Homeshare is very safe.

### Cost Comparison example in UK 2025

Live-in Homesharer -v- Live-in Carer - v- Live-out Helper

	HELP OFFERED	UNIT COST	COST PER MONTH
<b>Live-in Homesharer</b>	10 hours of practical support around the home and 5 hours of company per week	from <b>£6.00</b> per day	from <b>£165</b> per month
<b>Live-in Carer Low Level*</b>	Meal preparation, housekeeping, assistance with daily activities, company	from <b>£165.00</b> per day	from <b>£4,600</b> per month
<b>Live-out Help at Home**</b>	Shopping, laundry, housework, preparing light meals, running errands, companionship	from <b>£25.00</b> per hour	from <b>£1,000</b> per month

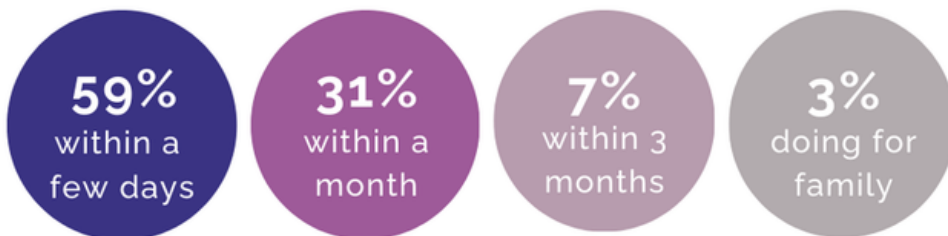
\* Live-in Carer (source Eldercare website Dec 2025)

\*\*Help at Home based on 10 hours of practical support per week (source Age UK website Dec 2025)

We find the main objection from older people to Homeshare is the thought of sharing their home, as many have only shared with family members and, understandably, maybe a little nervous about the idea.

However, in our 2025 Survey we asked our Householders how long it took them to feel comfortable living with their Sharer. It is wonderful to see that it didn't actually take long at all.

#### Everyone is a stranger...



...until they become a friend!

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## THE POWER OF HOMESHARE AND WHY SHARE AND CARE HOMESHARE IS IMPORTANT TO THE ARRANGEMENT

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### Homeshare works best when it is built on trust, clarity and support

We ensure both parties understand the agreement and ensure that Sharers provide companionship and practical help as agreed. We provide a formal Homeshare Licence Agreement which is specifically worded to avoid creating a contract of employment or complex tenancy rights, ensuring both parties are protected.

### Homeshare is about people, not just rooms

Share and Care Homeshare brings experience, safeguarding and impartial support. We specialise in careful matching, fostering genuine relationships for successful long-term arrangements. If a conflict arises, we provide mediation and a conflict resolution service, including re-matching if necessary.

### Homeshare can change lives – but only when it's done well

**Rigorous Vetting and Safety Checks:** We conduct vetting procedures including Credit Checks to look for CCJ's, Right to Rent and Immigration Status plus we undertake an Enhanced DBS check which is paramount for peace of mind.

We have stringent safeguarding procedures in place and offer the security of navigating the termination of any arrangement, if notice has to be served, ensuring the exit of any Sharer is completed on the date specified.

As we are not grant or government-funded, the monthly fee paid by both the Householder and the Sharer goes towards the operation of offering the services.

The Householder receives up to 10 hours of practical support and the reassurance of someone sleeping in the house at night. The Sharer receives accommodation and a place to call home.

The arrangement is valuable to both the Householder and the Sharer. We aim to keep the monthly fee as low as possible and treat both parties as our clients.

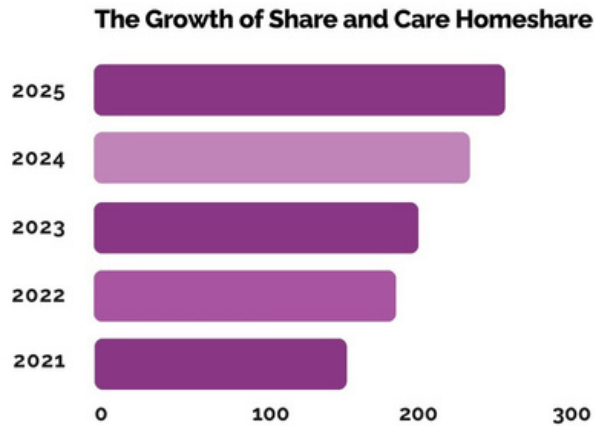
Our current fee is £165 per month, which we charge on monthly basis.

*"It was reassuring to know that my mother had company and help with practical tasks and in any emergencies if needed. My mother appreciated the support while maintaining her independence at home. The role of the agency was helpful in defining the roles and legal position."*

## CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESSES IN 2025

### Growth of Share and Care Homeshare

In 2025 we saw a continue uplift of people using our service, with the number of people in a Homeshare in 2025 the highest it has ever been.



### Media Coverage

We are delighted with the many wonderful articles we had in 2025. This coverage really helps us to grow awareness of the concept and benefits of Homeshare. A selection is shown below:

platinum

#### Would you share your home with a stranger?

Homesharing is the growing trend of pairing up people of different life circumstances as housemates. January 2025

itv NEWS

**Interview with Pratibha and Ahmad**  
about their unlikely lifelong friendship  
this Christmas, plus interview with  
Caroline Cooke about Homeshare  
arrangements. December 2025

The  
Standard

#### Multi-generational house shares: "I pay £150 to rent in Southfields with an 88-year-old."

Pratibha Dudani provides 15 hours of  
help around the home in exchange  
for a cheap rent. August 2025



**I'm 50 and live with a woman in her  
80s - I only pay £150 a month in rent**  
Monica Galante provides 15 hours of  
help in exchange for low rent to live  
in Essex. April 2025

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## THE FUTURE OF SHARE AND CARE HOMESHARE

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**Our Founder, Caroline Cooke, started Share and Care Homeshare from her spare bedroom in 2006; her vision was to find 'au-pairs for grannies'. Move forward to 2026 and Share and Care Homeshare is the largest Homeshare organisation in the UK and the Founding Member of the Homeshare Association.**

In 2012 Amanda Clarke joined Caroline and together they have built the organisation from supporting local residents into a nationwide organisation matching people across the UK from their offices in Putney, South West London. They are supported by a wonderful team of kind, caring and professional staff.

- Our future is to work towards greater collaboration, communication and practical scope for working together and encouraging implementation of a workable framework that supports leaders in integrated care systems (ICSs), NHS providers, local authorities, and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations to integrate organisations like Share and Care Homeshare to become system partners. At the moment we rely heavily on "word of mouth".
- It is also important to define that not all services need to be commissioned but can still support local authorities in offering services to their residents. From our interaction with local authorities, this is understood at the top level of authorities, but doesn't filter down to the people on the front line.
- Having had success in achieving Universal Credit housing benefit to recognise Homeshare as a form of housing that can be paid for out of UC, we will continue to lobby Local Authorities and Central Government to agree a Universal Council Tax 'Disregard' for Homeshare arrangements.

We strongly believe that Homeshare has a recognised place within the social care landscape and that the service should be offered to all older people because it is a quietly transformative model that fosters friendship and connection between people who might otherwise never meet.

It also helps find homes for a second group of people so, with the ever-growing housing shortage, it is a win-win solution.

Homeshare is so much more than just the practical help and a housing arrangement; it's a social innovation that genuinely brings people together while supporting independence.

**Share and Care Homeshare is expert in its field and follows a rigorous vetting policy with a proven track record of 20 years offering Homeshare.**

Share and Care Homeshare is a low-cost service which offers affordable live-in practical help, reassurance and friendly company to Householders.

Having a Sharer helps combat loneliness, anxiety and isolation and gives the Householder an agreed level of practical help and support in and around the home, plus regular friendly chats and the overnight reassurance and security.

*"It's a terrible thing, I think, in life to wait until you're ready. I have this feeling now that actually no one is ever ready to do anything. There is almost no such thing as ready. There is only now. And you may as well do it now. Generally speaking, now is as good a time as any."*

*— Hugh Laurie*

We want to encourage more people to

**THINK HOMESHARE!**

For further information, please call  
**Share and Care Homeshare**  
on  
**020 3865 3398**



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**Share and Care Homeshare 2006-2026**