

Property reference number: - 098-809 (HIGHAM)
 Home to a couple who are looking to house swap and are flexible as to the timing.

KEY INFORMATION

Bedrooms available:-	Double -1, twin -1, single -1 on ground floor. (max -5 people)
Children welcome?	Yes, but no specific facilities available
Pets that live here:-	No pets live here
Re-dogs:-	They could not consider a dog staying here.
<i>Special note!</i>	<i>An allergy to animal fur means this couple cannot stay in a home where any pets live.</i>



This detached house was built as a bungalow in the 1950's, and enlarged into a house in the 80's. It is situated on the outskirts of the Dickensian village of Higham, a rural location with wide views over rolling fields down to the River Thames and Essex beyond. Visitors comment upon the lovely views especially from the upstairs lounge. It is a peaceful area with countryside walks from the doorstep. Higham is a mixture of commuter belt and agriculture, has a few local shops, 2 churches & doctors' surgery. The train station is 15mins walk away (down hill) giving easy access to London, Canterbury, Rochester & the North Kent Coast. It is 4 miles from the riverside town of Gravesend, and 15mins drive to historic Rochester with its magnificent Cathedral, Castle, Dickensian Centres and much more.

Due to it formerly being a bungalow, the ground floor has the kitchen, dining room with patio doors into the garden, single bedroom, 2 toilets, shower room & small lounge, while upstairs is the main lounge with a telescope, great for watching River Thames shipping, & Sky TV etc., plus 2 other bedrooms & another bathroom.

The medium sized ornamental garden is enclosed on all sides. However the pedestrian entrance has no gate. There is a pond which is netted for herons, (not children!) and house-swappers are asked to please feed the pond fish daily, top up the bird feeders & water the flower pots. The couple are keen gardeners, but children can run round on the grass & paths... taking care not to damage the plants please!

Gravesend Methodist Church & Community Centre tends toward contemporary in its worship style and roughly 80 people meet for Sunday morning worship at 11.00am. More info on their excellent website: - www.gravesendmethodistchurch.org.uk



There are 2 churches in the village of Higham, a high Anglican church & a congregational; both are about 5 mins walk from the house. Rochester Cathedral is 15 mins by car.

Sport and Leisure	Gravesend-2 swim pools/leisure centres, other sports in the region:- golf, dry ski slope, ice skating rink, tennis & 3 country parks for walking cycling & enjoying!
Free park for under 12's:-	10 mins walk to local rec. with some play equipment
Local places of interest	Many! Digger Land, Naval dockyard outdoor museum-Chatham, Cobham Hall & N.T. gardens & houses within an hour's drive; London only 25 miles away & Canterbury under an hour by car or train. Seaside at Whitstable, Margate about an hour's drive. 2 RSPB sites.
Entertainment/ Arts	Sweeps & Dickens Festivals in Rochester, Local cinemas & theatres...see local websites for info.

https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g7104495-Activities-Higham_Kent_England.html

<https://www.visitgravesend.co.uk/> <https://www.visitkent.co.uk/see-and-do/>

<https://www.visitgravesend.co.uk/home/villages-near-gravesend/higham/>

https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g186278-Activities-Essex_England.html

2024 from Helen and Chris in Norfolk ref 1286

Really enjoyed our house swap with Hazel and Eric. Their house in Higham, Kent was superb and their garden was outstanding. We loved the views looking towards the Thames. Great location for exploring the Medway towns, the Isle of Grain and locating the local links including those in Higham village to Charles Dickens. Great helpful neighbours also.

2023 from David and Judy in Cornwall ref:- 1681

We had a really lovely holiday. This house, and especially the garden, were beautiful and we enjoyed the village too. We greatly enjoyed the view from the upstairs lounge over to the Thames and we spent time watching and identifying the shipping! The area was very busy but that was expected, and there are lots of places to visit. We especially recommend Chartwell, Winston Churchill's family home, now a National Trust property.

2022 from Brigit in Devon ref:-1507

We thoroughly enjoyed the garden. Our children loved running around, looking at the fish and Eric and Hazel had even prepared some little things for them to do too! We gave our children clear instruction where (not!) to go. We were warmly welcomed into one of the local churches and Eric and Hazel's neighbour kindly showed us around. In close proximity to larger towns/cities and Higham itself has a couple of shops for any necessities. Eric and Hazel were very helpful in answering any questions we had during our stay. **We would highly recommend visiting this home in Higham. The house offers a great respite and the area offers some beautiful outings!**

Autumn 2021, from John and Jackie in Notts (ref 1560)

We've recently returned from a lovely week in Kent swapping with Eric and Hazel . Everything worked really well and we had a good rest as well as exploring part of Kent we hadn't visited before.