

Georgina, Camilla and Isobel Sait– Beccles

With mum and dad deciding to downsize coupled with a real desire to gain some independence (whilst still being close enough to their family and friends) sisters Camilla and Isobel decided to jointly buy a home of their own. Happily the benefits of living together far outweigh any arguments over whose turn it is to do the washing up!



After fruitlessly exploring several options the Sait family discovered MySafeHome (a unique business that offers people with a disability the support they need to get a mortgage and buy a home) on the Internet and were delighted to find out that Camilla and Isobel were able to jointly purchase a home of their own (through the Government backed NewBuild HomeBuy scheme).

This type of joint purchase, although currently relatively unusual for people with a disability, is perfectly possible and whilst it comes with one or two issues (specifically if one person decides to move out – in which case the loan arrangement must be transferred to the sole occupier) it offers close family members or partners the chance to have an equal stake in their future together. With the additional help and support of Flagship Homes (a leading Housing Association) and their New Build HomeBuy Agents, Orbit, the two sisters found and purchased their dream home. Both Camilla and Isobel are now actively involved in looking after it too, as Isobel proudly explains, they “cook lunch, make cake and do the hovering”. But it’s not just the housework that keeps them busy, they both have part-time jobs as well, Camilla has two, one in an office and one in a library and Isobel works at a local Stables helping to look after the horses. When they’re not busy at home or at work they’re going out and enjoying themselves or keeping fit and active at the gym, just like any other young people of their age.

“It’s been very interesting to see how capable they are” notes big sister Georgina (who, like mum, lives close by), summarising one of the many benefits that home ownership can bring. It’s not just about putting a roof over someone’s head, it’s often the start of a whole new life that’s richer and more rewarding for the individuals concerned. “Since moving in their living skills have really progressed, that will continue and they can live as independently as possible” continues Georgina “It’s nice to see them fulfilling their potential”.

Over time, as their skills develop further, the sisters may need even less support around their new home, reducing their reliance on friends, family and other carers, in turn making the best possible use of their Local Authority’s financial and human resources. Finally, for Housing Associations, supporting people like the Sait sisters opens up a new range of potential customers who often already have access to the funding that enables them to buy a home of their own. “A lot of people who are looking after young adults look around at the care homes and they’re not very happy with what’s on offer and don’t really consider this option and its really worked” concludes Georgina. With benefits to all concerned now’s the time to make it work for many more people.

For more information about MySafeHome and home ownership for people with a disability call us on 08000 121333, email enquiries@mysafehome.info or visit www.mysafehome.info