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Derby, Burton & District Panel
Serving Derbyshire & East Staffordshire

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Mike Banks and Malcolm Logan organised a stand at the Charity and Community Market Heanor. Although footfall was disappointing several useful contacts were made at this event.

Etwell Well Dressing – We had our usual spot in John Port School and there was a steady flow of visitors through the weekend.

Talks – Nich Holberton and Brian Barry have arranged talks to the Chesterfield Arthritis Society and the Derby branch of Parkinsons UK.

Mike Banks assisted at Rotary in Great Britain & Ireland Conference and Showcase. This event was organised by David Martin of the REMAP head office.

DB-010-19 - Mike Banks

Small Brailsford boy needs a sand/water tray with low sides and small lip so he can comfortably reach over.



The school loaned a 40ins X 30ins table on castor wheels which is adjustable for height. It was seen that a tray could be provided which fitted the top of this table to enable two children in their wheel chairs to play together with sand and water.

A suitable plastic tray was found online and a steel frame was made from welded angle to contain the tray. The frame locates on to the table top by sliding it in from either side and has locating pegs which prevent the tray/frame from being lifted when in place. The steel frame was powder-coated silver by CJ Ward of Burton to match the frame of the table.

DB-023-19 – Malcolm Logan



Pregnant Toton lady with MS needs an aid to help her operate the release button on a baby carrier and unclasp a rucksack style strap.

The lady has very poor finger grip was not able to operate the release the clips on her baby seat straps.

A spring clamp was modified with extended operating handles. These then made it possible to operate the clamps allowing the spring force to release the clips.



DB-011-19 – Bernard Killeen

Willington lady with a chronic hip condition needs a modified bed lever with an adjustable handle to aid transfers.

A handrail was formed using copper tube. End caps were fitted and fixed to original hand rail using rubber sleeved P clips. The tube supplied by client and powder coated by CJ Ward.



DB-014-19 Mike Banks



Disabled Tutbury man needs tailored bed raisers to fit the large feet of his bed and lift it to a comfortable height.

A joint visit was made with the OT and it was decided the bed should be raised by 3ins. There are feet at each corner, and a further four feet under the bed (to support the cross slats under the mattress) requiring a total of eight raising blocks of three different designs.

For economy, the blocks were made from a 4X4ins fence post and incorporated slots on top into which the bed feet fitted. An old tin of mahogany varnish was used to finish the outer four (visible) blocks. The client tried the new bed configuration and found it to be exactly what he wanted – he could now get on to and off the bed much more easily.

DB-013-19 Vic Brown

Elderly Tibshelf man needs to re-cover the arm rests on 2 trolleys, to replace the existing ones which are no longer adequate. The request was also to fit a tubular foam sleeve to his toilet handrail.

The tubular sleeve was made from 5mm thick dense foam which was formed around a tube with the edges glued. This was then slid firmly onto the toilet handrail. The trolley arm covers were made from 10mm thick medium density foam, cut to size and glued around the box section armrests.



DB-124-18 Paul Gillians

Elderly Loscoe man needs an aid/step to lift his left foot up to enter his car. He can lift it enough if stood on a pavement. The gentleman had largely solved the problem by buying a plastic folding step from the internet. However, once he had got into the driver's seat, he could not retrieve the step. A hook was made for him to reach and lift the step.



In addition several other issues were considered as part of this referral. A lightweight folding garden chair was somewhat dangerous as it could tip backwards. Fortunately the way the chair unfolds lends itself to locking into a "sledge" that extends beyond the back of the chair bottom rails and reduces the risk of tipping backwards. The sledge is hinged in the middle, so it takes less space.

DB-018-19 Steve Pilkington

An elderly Nether Heage man who uses a CPAP breathing machine, needed the tubing protecting so he can't twist and damage it.

This client uses a breathing machine and he finds that the tube for delivering the oxygen becomes damaged. Steve replaced the tube that goes into his mouth so that the tubing does not twist as it is handled and therefore does not affect the performance.

Steve has also helped a young Derby child who constantly self harms by biting herself. Steve researched suitable industrial gloves and provided the OT with a catalogue so that a suitable size and fabric can be chosen.

DB-123-18 Allan Sutton

Codnor boy with autism and Downs syndrome needs a removable screen fitting in the back seat of his parents car so he can't hit and kick his sister in the adjacent seat.



DriverShields UK Ltd. were very helpful and, as well as discussing the problem, arranged to provide one of the company's commercial driver protection side screens free of charge. This solved the main problem of what was a suitable screen material and configuration. This left the problem of how to mount it.



The only practical way of achieving this was to mount the screen over the right hand seat armrest, where the sister sat. Therefore, the first step was to profile the bottom of the screen to match the armrest. The top of the screen profile was later modified to remove sharp corners and the edging strip refitted. The complete installation is shown in the photo with the girls child seat in place.

The main attachments to the car seat and roof are by bolts with butterfly nuts so they can be released without tools in an emergency.

DB-028-19 Vic Brown

Elderly Buxton stroke victim needs the retaining straps on his pedal exerciser altering to make them big enough to keep his feet on the pedals.

The requirement for this referral was to modify the clients floor mounted pedal exerciser such that his feet stayed on the pedals, he is confined to a wheelchair having had a stroke and cannot control his right hand side.



Footplates were formed and shaped to accept wide fitting bicycle toe-clips, the right one having to be longer to grip his affected foot more securely, these plates were also slotted at the sides to which long Velcro straps were fitted. The plastic pedals were drilled and the footplates bolted on.

The client was very pleased with the result, and can successfully exercise his legs.