

Derby, Burton & District Panel

Newsletter No. 61 – March 2014

Our events programme has now been finalised with indoor events at the Ashbourne 50+ Forum in March; the Etwell Well Dressings in May, the Disability Direct event at the Roundhouse in October. Outdoor events are the Belper Steam & Vintage Event, Derbyshire County Show and probably the Chesterfield Medieval Show all in June. If you or any of your colleagues go to any of these, we would be very pleased to meet with you.

DB-138-13, Maurice Elliot

This man had multiple sclerosis and was a permanent wheelchair user. The referral said that the problem was that he had difficulty transferring onto his own double profiling bed and there were no commercially available “monkey poles” that were suitable for his particular bed.

An all welded “monkey pole” was made from 1.5” dia steel tube with a stand-off section to pass over the skirting board and an 18 inch base. It was to be secured to the house by four No10 x 1.5” screws through the base and two 10mm “rawlplugged” screws in the wall.

When delivered the client declared that he had no difficulty in transferring from his wheelchair to the bed because it could be raised electrically to a suitable height. What he wanted was for the “monkey pole” to be positioned part way across the bed to enable him to roll over during the night. This change of position meant that the bottom of the unit had to be modified to fit behind the bed.



DB-062-13, Stephen McCordick

This active 68 year old tetraplegic used palm grips to hold things and to propel his wheelchair. Unfortunately as his current palm grips wore out, no replacements were available.

A pair of leather palm grips secured with Velcro was fabricated.



DB-142-13, Mike Banks

An elderly lady needed a means of supporting her telephone and TV remote control when she is using them.

Steel frames to support her phone and TV remote were made and mounted within easy reach on an adjacent wall



DB-117-13, Keith Hunter

A lady with limited muscular strength needed an over-bed table that could be easily moved aside and was compatible with the limited under bed clearance.

A stand with feet under the bed, had legs anchored to the nearby wall mounted a cantilevered arm pivoting about the vertical axis with a plywood table fitted to it.



DB-097-13, Keith Hunter

A very heavy lady needed her folding walking frame modifying by fitting stronger wheels & a tray to create a trolley to transport utensils such as plates etc. to and from her kitchen.

Two trays were made, one at the level of the handles and the other to replace the seat. The framework supporting the upper tray incorporated two diagonal members between the cross brace and the rear wheel. Each tray was fitted with non-slip matting.



DB-096-13, Allan Sutton

This elderly polio victim used a leather belt about 1" wide which went around the chair back and then around his chest to keep himself upright in his wheelchair. He found the belt tended to cut in and become uncomfortable after a time and he wanted something more comfortable.

The belt was replaced by seat belt webbing that was both wider and softer than his original belt. The harness was held in position by support strips with washer spacers fixed using existing chair back screws and it was tightened by means of a cam buckle



DB-095-13, Allan Sutton

A disabled lady with a small child needed safety gates at the top and bottom of her stairs. One complication was the stair lift between the two sites.

The lady was advised that suitable safety gates were available but the openings needed modifying to allow the stair gates to fit. The client agreed to purchase two wooden gates and Remap carried out the necessary adaptations and fitted them.



DB-135-13, Stan Edwards

An elderly man with Alzheimers disease kept raiding the fridge-freezer and leaving the doors open. A device was needed to stop him opening the doors

It was decided to use combination padlocks to secure the doors but modifications to the fridge-freezer were necessary to enable them to be fitted.

To avoid drilling the side of the Fridge/Freezer 'L' shaped brackets were fitted to the door sections with self-tapping screws. Similar brackets were fitted to PVC channels, the inside surface of which were fitted with strips of self-adhesive magnetic tape. At the opposite end other 'L' shaped brackets were fastened to the rear of the appliance.



DB-136-13, Keith Hunter

This lady wanted a device to support her as she walked down her long narrow garden path to carry out her hobby of gardening.

A boggy was made completely from recycled items. It had two 'fixed' wheels and two castors with a track which was narrow enough to traverse her path. It incorporated storage trays for tools etc.



The ex-zimmer frame superstructure carried a hinged seat which acted as an automatic brake to the front wheels. These brakes were disabled by means of a cycle cable brake mounted on the upper tube, so that it was necessary to grip the brake to enable the frame to be moved. The castors also incorporate foot operated brakes. The frame allows the lady to access her raised beds and she can sit on it to carry out her gardening tasks.

DB-004-14, Keith Hunter

A 4 year old boy with dwarfism wanted a cycle to suit his size. Not only was he very short but his legs were abnormally short for his reduced stature.

A 12" child's cycle donated by the recycling centre at Darley Dale was very substantially modified.

The entire frame was redesigned so that the saddle could fit below the level of the original position.

The bottom bracket had to be reduced and the crank arms shortened by around 40% necessitating the pedals being replaced by ones that fitted the modified cranks. The handlebars were shortened by 100mm and brakes refitted.

Finally the cycle was painted bright red and "Spiderman" stickers attached as specified by this young client.

