

**Derby, Burton & District Panel**



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### **Newsletter No. 63 – September 2014**

When the last newsletter was issued some 50 e-mails were rejected. There has been much reorganisation in the NHS so if you missed your copy or know of someone who would like one in future, please get in touch. Remap is 50 years old this year and there are a lot of changes in the air. Susan Iwanek, our CEO, retired and Adam Crowe has taken her place. David Martin has been appointed to a new post to liaise with all panels. He has also been charged with the job of bring uniformity in the organisation of individual panels.

Two years ago trustees John Wright and I resigned and at this year's AGM two more resigned. Now an OT and a publicist have been appointed. It is hoped that this will bring a better balance to the trustees rather than as in the past, the most effective panel chairman were invited to become trustees.

#### **DB-057-14, Steve Pilkington**

This elderly client had a modified zimmer frame and wanted a Buckingham caddy to fit onto the framework.

The caddy was provided and after some adjustment was made to fit the existing frame.



#### **DB-040-14, Keith Hunter**

This very large lady had very severe problems in breathing, mobility and she had delicate skin. The specially made armrests on her rotunda had worn away leaving sharp edges which cut into her skin. After several attempts new armrests were made using soft faux-leather PVC that successfully solved the problem.



#### **DB-061-14, Steve Pilkington**

This client had an electric mobility chair designed for use inside the house but he wanted to use it outside the house. This created a problem when crossing the threshold because it had very small wheels.

The house had just been fitted with new UPVC doors and the electric chair had to rise from kitchen floor level - some two inches to cross the threshold.

The available space meant that there was not enough room to make a ramp that complied with current recommendations. As the drive was narrow and full access was needed most of the times. A device had to be light enough to be folded up and stored when not required.

Suitable guidelines were issued to cover the use of this proposed steeper than recommended ramp. An access platform was made to be sited outside the door. This led to the ramp sloping down to the drive.

The ramp included a non-slip section of rubber mat glued to it to ensure the safety of anyone walking down it.



#### **DB-075-14, Keith Hunter**

This lady had badly worn padding and strap on her gutter crutch that needed either repairing or replacing.

The rubber arm pad was repaired by spraying it with 'Hard Hat' paint. The pad itself was replaced reversed so that the client's arm rested on its unworn portions. A new strap was made from the same material



**DB-048-14, Brian Barry**

This lady was completely wheelchair bound and had minimal strength in her wrists and fingers. She drank from a closed mug and straw that were held loosely around her neck by a cord. If the mug slipped the contents leaked onto her front leaving her both wet and distressed.

An earlier Remap device using an actuator, with a new suitable switching device, was used to move the mug to and from the client as required



Power was provided by a 12 volt battery which was recharged from the mains supply.



**DB-022-14, Keith Hunter**

This client used a rollator as a mobile 'shelf' to stow items such as his TV remote control and a drink. Unfortunately he had reached appoint where he was unable to reach them.

A shelf, higher than the original was made that could be clamped to the rollator. It included a support for his drinks. . It could also be slid towards him if he had problems reaching the drink support.

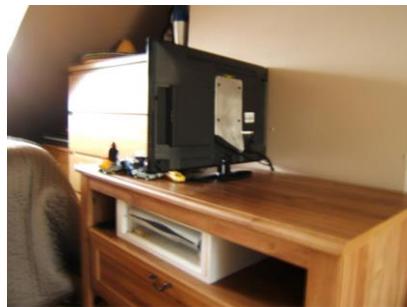


**DB-049-14, Allan Sutton**

A teenage boy with severe learning disability kept on disconnecting the cables from the rear of his TV and the Sky TV topbox.

His bedroom was in the converted attic space & wall mounting of the TV etc. was not possible.

The Sky box was enclosed in a ventilated contiboard box with a transparent plastic window. The open rear of the box was straddled with a narrow strip of plywood and served to anchor the mains scart and aerial cables. The scart connector to the TV was held in place by a small sheet of aluminium held in place by the TV's wall fixings.



**DB-046-14, Mike Banks**

This lady had severe arthritis and had difficulty opening her bathroom window because the catch was too high for her to reach.

An attachment was made which clamped on to the bathroom window handle. This handle is operated remotely by a rod carrying its own handle at one end and a universal joint at the other end thus connecting the rod permanently to the bathroom window attachment. The geometry of the assembly is such that the rod hangs unobtrusively when the window is closed.



**DB-073-14, Malcolm Logan**

This man was fed internally through a tube. He needed a support to hold the syringe attached to his feeding tube whilst the fluid was drained.

A steel tubular stand fitted on a wooden base was made that enabled the new feeding tube and flask to be supported a various heights as required..



**DB-021-14, Stan Edwards**

An elderly lady with very arthritic knees had difficulty bending down to operate the very low controls on her coal-effect gas fire.

The fire control knob was replaced with a solid golf ball and a golf-ball suction lifter that had been modified to produce additional internal grip.

A long tube with an umbrella type universal joint grip was made to mate with the control knob

A golf ball lifter on a length steel tube was also made that enabled the client to easily turn the separate "ignition" push-button.

These tools enabled her to adjust the control knob and operate the ignition control whilst sitting on a stool in front of the gas fire

