We were surprised and pleased (both for Maurice and the panel) with the news that: "With Remap for services to the people of Derbyshire", Maurice Elliot has been made a Member of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

In 1997 Maurice sold his company – Telespection Services Ltd and retired - to immediately join the Derby, Burton & District Remap Panel. Over the last eighteen years the panel has seen the number of referrals rise from around 20 to an average of 140 each year. It has been in the top three panels for referrals done in a year for around eight years including four as top panel. In 2004 the panel won the Nationwide Building Society Award for Voluntary Endeavour. In this period Maurice was Panel Chairman for 11 years and became a Remap Trustee. As a trustee he re-created a Remap panel in the Sheffield and Rotherham area. Approaching his eightieth birthday, Maurice decided to take it a bit easier and stood down from both posts but became Panel Vice Chairman and carried on producing this newsletter. He also organises and gives talks about Remap and continues to make aids for disabled people. Over the eighteen years he has completed well over 200 referrals and won 2nd, 3rd and 5th prizes in the annual Remap National Awards.

Back to our normal news, here are some of the referrals completed in the last few months.

DB-074-14, Ralph Anderson

This 7 year old girl with cerebral palsy needed modifications to her shower chair to make it suitable for her small size. Any changes made had to be reversible.

The chair back swab was modified to suit the client's upper leg length. Nylon and stainless steel spacers were included to provide facility for adjustment as the client grows. The additional swab supports allowed height adjustment of the rear swab..

The original headrest was not used, but may be refitted in the future if required.
A spacer block was positioned between the seat frame and the footrest frame to raise the footrest to suit the client's lower leg length.

Adjustment was included and the option to return the arrangement to the standard configuration was retained.

DB-007-15, Allan Sutton

This mother with only one properly functioning arm needed aids to help her change her new baby and to make carrying her more secure.

An adjustable 'goalpost' frame was made with a hook at its centre, which spanned the changing mat was adjustable for height. A small sling was made from climbing rope that could be looped round the baby's ankle and attached to the hook. This put the baby in the correct position for removing a dirty nappy and cleaning up.
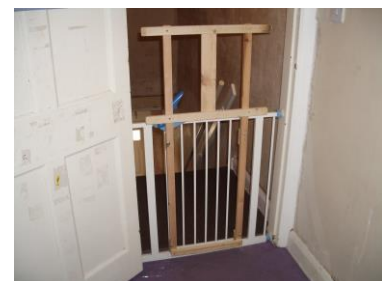

A harness with a ring at the front was made that could be hooked on to a lanyard round the mother's neck. The harness could be adjusted as the baby grows and was fixed using a cam-buckle which was relatively easy to fasten with one hand.

DB-124-14, Steve Pilkington

This autistic boy learnt to undo the lock on the safety gate at his bedroom door and kept climbing over it.
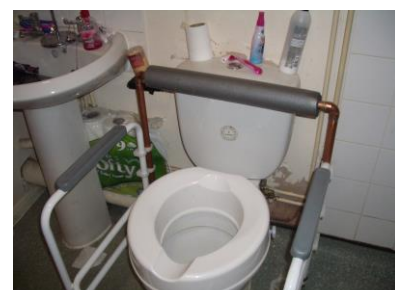
The gate was modified to make it approximately 18 inches taller by fitting an extra frame to it. The lock mechanism was repositioned so that he was unable to see it and therefore was unable to operate it.

DB-012-15, Steve Pilkington

This lady with Huntingdon's disease kept falling when getting on or off her toilet. She needed the cistern to be padded so she wouldn't hurt herself when she fell.

A supplementary frame with padding was fitted to the Medequip frame around the toilet– without altering it at all

DB-116-14, Ralph Anderson

This left handed amputee was a keen fisherman who wanted a device fitted to his wheelchair to store his tackle etc.

An aluminium tray was made that could be fitted to his wheelchair in several orientations. It could be positioned alongside the chair where his various bits of tackle were to hand. Another position was in front of him on the wheelchair and finally the tray could be turned through 90 ^{o} and stored beside him. It was held in position with wingnuts.

DB-123-14, Maurice Elliot

This lady with Parkinson's disease and many other problems tended to slide down in her armchair until her head rested almost on the chair arm rest and her left leg chafed against the chair front.

A wooden upholstered cushion was made with an arm that fitted down between the seat cushion and armrest kept the new cushion in position on top of the chair armrest. It supported the lady in a much more upright position.

DB-025-15, Robert Little

This client with MS had difficulty getting in and out of the passenger seat of her car. The seat was quite deep with raised edges that got in her way as the she tried to swivel around to get in or out. She had tried several commercial options including swivel seats without success.

A foam filled infill covered with easy-slip material was made. It raised the seat height to up above the seat edges. This allowed the client to easily slip on and off the seat.

DB-009-15, Malcolm Logan

A 6 year old boy with hemiplegia was unable to ride his bike properly as his right foot kept slipping off the pedal.

The pedal was removed and a modified toe-clip fitted that had an extension at the rear end to support his heel.

DB-016-15, Malcolm Logan

This lady used a humidifier and ventilator to control her breathing all the time but her humidifier was mains powered and could not be used when she moved around in her wheelchair.

The solution was to provide a mains ac voltage using a 300 watt pure sine wave inverter supplied from a 12 volt DC deep cycle 22 Ah battery.

DB-021-15, Steve Pilkington

This 2 year old boy had no awareness of danger and his parents were frightened that he might injure himself by trying to move the four large high quality heavy wardrobe doors in their bedroom.

Two pieces of profiled wood strip that could be fitted in the tracks of the wardrobe doors effectively jammed the doors in position. They could only be removed using a special tool made by Remap.