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Derby, Burton & District Panel
Serving Derbyshire & East Staffordshire

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REMAP had a stand at the Derby Mini Maker Faire held in the Intu Centre Market on Saturday 27th Oct. Mike Banks and Allan Sutton set the stand up on the Friday evening. Nich Holberton, Steve McCordick and Bernard Killeen helped to man the stand during the following day. There was a steady flow of shoppers passing the stand through the day with a lot of interest in the display. Nich also made contact with the Rotary Club to arrange a talk.

After our January meeting the REMAP annual lunch was attended by 20 members and partners. The lunch was hosted by the Hilton House Hotel who provided a three-course meal. Maurice Elliott was presented with a long service award courtesy of the panel members and Vic Brown was presented with the Mike Aston award (for the aid considered most beneficial to the client) by guest of honour, Anne Aston.

DB-042-18, Nich Holberton



A young Borrowwash child needs steps so he can independently access the toilet and washbasin. The child has Hypochondroplasia and developmental delay. He requires some portable steps to reach the toilet and sink in the bathroom. The solution is a set of 3 steps for the sink. The top step is removable and the 2 remaining steps allow access to the toilet. The 2 vertical posts

assist the child to use the steps safely. The back of the steps have a circular cut-out allowing them to fit closely round the front of the toilet and ease transfer. The steps are covered with a thin foam layer for better grip. The top step has angled edges and wooden strips so that it is easily and accurately placed into position and is secured in place with a hook and bolt to stop it from moving. The bottom of the steps have foam feet in each corner to reduce the likelihood of the steps sliding in use.

DB-077-18, Paul Gillians



A 17 month old Alvaston boy with cerebral palsy needs foot restraints on his tricycle pedals to keep his feet on. The Cerebral palsy affects one leg and one arm. His foot falls off the foot rest on his pushchair/trike and drags on the ground. To hold the foot in place Paul Gillians fitted a sandal with adjustable straps to the footrest with a cable tie.

DB-063-18, Brian Barry

A young Darley Dale student with cerebral palsy needs an attachment to hold and use a protractor and a pair of compasses. The student is a teenager in the GCSE year at Highfields School in Matlock. The consequence of the condition is that the student has little use of the left hand side limbs and is confined to a wheelchair. The GCSE Maths course includes geometry; and is a problem because the student cannot hold a normal school compass sufficiently centred and steady enough to 'spin' a circle of the desired radius, nor can set squares or protractors be held sufficiently steady to make/take accurate measurements.



The solution provided by Brian Barry was to give the student a set of 'large' architect's instruments. The protractors are fitted with additional ribs which make it easier for the student to control their movement and the compass radius setting is controlled with a knurled screw and its 'centre' located by means of a separate marked perspex target plate.

DB-094-18, Malcolm Logan



A Long Eaton blind lady needs a 'template stand' to hold the items she uses to prepare hot drinks in a known set arrangement. A paper template was provided by Sight Support staff. Malcolm Logan cut and fitted a matching plywood template.

DB-096-18, Nich Holberton



An Elderly Derby lady with muscle weakness struggles to grip the handles on her rollator frame. The handles needed to be altered to make them easier to

hold. The rubber handle grips of the rollator frame were removed by Nich Holberton. 2 x 150g of Multimorph plastic pellets were melted in hot water and moulded around the 2 bare handles of the frame. The client gripped the softened plastic (it was about 60 degrees celsius) to produce a matching hand-grip imprint as it cooled. The cool grip fitted tightly onto the frame. The client was pleased with the set handles and felt that they were more comfortable to use than the previous ones.

DB-074-18, Brian Barry

An Elderly Littleover road accident victim with brain injury requires supports on his wheelchair for the left side of his body, including his neck. When the client is sitting in his wheelchair his body slumps onto the LHS and his head falls to the left.



The latter failing makes it very difficult to feed him. The client's wife wanted his chair modified so that his upper body is supported under the left arm-pit and his head is held straight, allowing him to be fed without choking. Brian Barry acquired a head rest similar to the one lent to the client by his day centre and added 2 additional side cheeks to give more head support. A similar headrest was modified and fitted to the client's wheel chair to provide the necessary under arm lumbar support

DB-098-18, Paul Gillians



A Heanor man with MD needs the foot control he uses for his PlayStation mounting MD on the foot rest of his new wheelchair. The man has very little movement and sitting in his wheelchair can swing each foot about 3cm. By positioning micro switches between his feet, he can control a PlayStation. The micro switches were attached to part of his old wheelchair by Velcro. Paul Gillians decided that rather than modify his new wheelchair it seemed simpler to mount the switches on a simple independent wooden structure. This comprises a board resting on the floor supporting a small upright "tombstone" for the attachment of the micro switches. The board is held securely by pushing it between the front castors of the wheelchair.

DB-111-18, John Gellatly



An Alfreton disabled lady needs threshold ramps at her patio door so she can access the outside paved patio area of her garden from the living room. The UPVC door threshold is approx. 60mm high and, as the wheelchair is a heavy powered model, a simple continuous ramp was not possible. To clear the threshold the ramp was made in 2 parts; an inner section and an outer one, so that the carers could easily dismantle and handle it. The main frame was fabricated from 25x25x3mm angle iron.

DB-106-18, Mike Banks



An Elderly Hulland Ward wheelchair user is transported by his wife in their mobility vehicle sitting in his normal wheelchair. He needed a head rest attaching to the back of his wheelchair so the risk of whiplash would be reduced if they were involved in an accident. A second-hand commercially available padded headrest, with adjustable wings to resist sideways movement of the client's head, was used. Mike Banks mounted the headrest on a horizontal steel crossbar supported at each end by two vertical steel "goal posts" attached to each of the wheelchair handles (see photo). The headrest is adjustable fore and aft and the goal posts are adjustable vertically. To enable the wheelchair to be folded, the cross bar is attached at each end to the goal posts by means of wing-nuts to allow easy removal. There is a warning sign on the cross bar to say the wing nuts must be checked for tightness before use of the wheelchair. All steel components have been powder-coated black

DB-126-18 Vic Brown



Millie is a young girl who suffers from cerebral palsy. She has been provided with a stair lift but the standard straps do not fit her small size. The solution to this problem was to shorten the harness straps to provide a closer fitting for the little girl. After measuring for the required adjustments, the crotch strap was removed and shortened then re-stitched as it is an endless strap. The side straps were shortened in situ, to a suitable length and the cut ends heat sealed.