

The Derby and Burton panel is continuing to operate despite the limitations caused by current virus restrictions. We continue to hold regular panel meetings using Zoom technology. Meetings are well attended and function well. This month saw the annual Mike Aston award given to Mike Banks / Bernard Killeen's collaborative solution for a motorised mouse transport specially designed for a client with MS. The details are in the March 2020 newsletter.

DB-017-20 – Vic Brown

A Heanor boy needed a new glideabout chair lowering and making narrower. Sections of tube were removed from each "cross tube" and handle and the tubes were then reconnected using stainless steel inserts.



The casters were replaced with smaller ones with stainless adapters to accept the replacement castors, threaded fixing M12, thus lowering the chair by 50mm.

DB-039-20 – Alan Sutton

An Ashbourne boy uses a stair lift but the standard seat harness is not suitable for his present size and needs adapting. The main problems with the 7 year old using the stairlift were the shoulder straps fell off his shoulders, the footrest was far too low and he swung his legs so his feet caught between the stair balusters.

The solution to the shoulder strap problem was a clamp to hold the straps together. The foot problem was solved by making a raised platform to the shape of the footrest with a rubber edged lower rim that located round the footrest edge. The base plate and top were of plywood and the surround formed from a bent strip of 1.6mm thick aluminium sheet screwed to the base and rebated top edge. The assembly was held on the footrest by a webbing strap which passed underneath and fastened with a cam-buckle bolted to the side. To hold the child's feet down the top of the platform had a raised rear edge and an adjustable webbing strap that clips to an eyebolt on each side.



DB-045-20 – John Galatly

Ilkeston, autistic girl needs a means of stopping her putting her fingers under closed doors. The requirement was to provide a simulated bottom of door which Georgia could use to get the same sensation as that from pushing her fingers under an actual door, and alleviate the risk of injury if someone opens the door on her.

It was a simple task of trying to copy the door arrangement, which was achieved by having a base with the carpet/floor and a bar over the top to simulate the door. As Georgia has Pica a paint suitable for toys was used and there were no parts that can come off. The bolts used were tightened within a recess to prevent Georgia from unscrewing them.

The only question was whether Georgia was going to find this a suitable alternative to the actual door. This was answered by a text the next day saying "Georgia has been using the finger squash thing that you made her, she really likes it and has taken to it well. She is even trying to get her toes in it for a squash"



DB-050-20 – Vic Brown

Alfreton lady needs modifications to the communication board provided under DB-086-18. The Carer purchased a new lightweight padded lap-tray which was then modified. The corners were rounded off and all the top outer edges were also rounded, this was to prevent the client's arms from chafing.

Holes were drilled through both sides of the tray frame to which securing cords were fitted, these were used to attach the tray to the wheel chair which prevent the tray from falling to the floor when in use. The completed tray was painted white.



DB-051-20 – Alan Sutton



Kirby-in-Ashfield girl with autism and epilepsy needs a security door at the bottom of the stairs to prevent her climbing them. The girl has autism and epilepsy and cannot safely use the stairs. She and her parents live downstairs, but an elder sister has an upstairs bedroom. The OT asked for a ‘barn door’

across the bottom of the stairs so there was nothing she could get hold of. She also asked that it was secured by two thumb turn bolts operating in opposite directions. The door was around 1.5m tall and fixed so it came to within 1cm of the floor. It was made of tongued and grooved 14mm cladding board and spanned the stairwell opening. It was assembled using screws with the heads filled over to give a smooth appearance. Because the stair handrail came down to the end of the left wall the mounting on that side had to be on the front face. The walls were solid so the mounts could be fixed with screws and plugs. Two standard security bolts were used, one halfway up and the other at the top with thumb turns on both sides. The one on the top operated in the normal sense and the lower one in reverse.

DB-053-20 – John Galatly

Elderly Allenton lady with reduced mobility needs an aid to access her bath, which has a rim too narrow for a swivel bather. The objective of this referral was to provide a more



rigid bath seat that would allow the client to use the bath to have a shower. The existing bath seat could not locate on the wall side of the bath due to the curvature of the edge of the bath. The seat provided comprised a larger plywood base that fitted across the bath and into the back corner of the bath and a strut underneath the front end that was profiled to match the sides of the bath. The combination of the size of the seat and the profiled strut prevent the seat from moving. The design was to ensure that the weight was taken on the top of the bath and not on the sides of the bath. The strut also providing more strength in the sitting position

The wood was sealed and then painted to minimise the risk of the wood degrading when wet. Also advised that the seat should be raised to aid drainage after use.

DB-062-20 – Nich Holberton



Elderly Heanor lady needs a low wicker chair she uses raising to aid transfers. The original chair legs were removed by unscrewing the securing nuts. Four new legs were turned from a recycled oak bedstead. The new legs were 3 inches longer than the originals. The top and bottom diameters matched the originals. Central channels were drilled into which the spiked attachment bolts were screwed in. The new legs were bolted securely onto the chair.

The chairs stability was not adversely affected by the longer legs due to its heavy and wide base. The client is pleased with result.

DB-018-20 – Bernard Killeen

Elderly Burton-on-Trent lady needs a moveable ramp to negotiate a 7” step between rooms in her house. The client required a ramp to push a chair over a 170mm step between bedroom and living room. The ramp was to be stowed conveniently when not in use.

The ramp design from a previous referral was used which has two sections that clip together to form a 1200mm long ramp. The pictures show the ramps prior to delivery.

