



Website: www.derbyremap.info

Remap Newsletter No.95 – September 2022

Derby, Burton & District Panel
Serving Derbyshire & East Staffordshire



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Mike Banks has recently passed the twenty year mark as a REMAP volunteer. Mike is a member of IMechE and the institute has recently published an article about Mike's work with REMAP. Following a career in the Aerospace industry, working mainly on the design of jet engines, Mike became a REMAP volunteer to use his skills for the benefit of people with disabilities. Since volunteering Mike has made a substantial contribution with his page turner and kitchen lift truck among the most memorable.

We are now receiving referrals using a website portal. To send a referral, log on to the Remap website, <https://www.remap.org.uk/referral-form/>. Please select to submit a referral for yourself, or on behalf of someone else, and then fill in the form as best you can, giving the same level of information as before. Please pay particular attention to your contact details, specifically your email address and phone number and the client's postcode, which will be used to determine the Remap panel to which the referral will be sent if you haven't selected one.

DB-22-007 – Allan Sutton



A lady had difficulty staying upright when seated in her wheel chair and her feet slipped off the footrests. The wheelchair belongs to Mediquip so no holes or permanent changes were permitted.

The solution to keep her more upright was to provide two covered foam pads. The pads just rest in place so she can remove them when

entering/leaving the chair. To keep her feet on the footrests, extension plates have been made that clamp on the existing plates. They have a rear stop to help keep her feet in place. The pads had a plywood backing and the footrests were made from kitchen cutting boards that were source of suitable plastic sheet. The pads are clamped to the footrests using countersunk bolts into tapped aluminium bars. The footrests fold as normal.

DB-22-021 – Steve McCordick

The client has very little strength in his hands and wants to be able to cut food at meal times. A Victorinox tomato knife was modified and fitted to a holder. Once it was strapped to the client's hand he can now cut steak and other foods. A fork holder was then made and the client can now eat meals without assistance.



DB-22-030 – Mike Banks

A wheelchair bound child wanted to play with sand in a tray. The school was not able to meet the child's needs and approached REMAP for help.

The school provided a 44ins X 22ins table and it was agreed that a tray assembly could be fitted on top to enable the child to play with sand and water whilst sitting in his wheelchair. The lip on this tray had to be about 30mm high.



A suitable plastic tray was found which is 44ins X 22ins with a lip height of 25mm. A steel frame was made from welded 30mm angle to contain the tray. The frame locates on to the table top by sliding it in from either side and has locating pegs which prevent the tray/frame from being lifted when in place. The steel frame was spray painted red to match the top of the table.

Four wooden blocks were also made to raise the table height. These have rubber bases for stability.

DB-22-033 – Peter Brien



Client has MS, and is beginning to use a powered wheelchair more. She needs ramp access to the house. Both front and back doors have significant access problems with porch / sills, drain pipes in the way, etc.

A door from the kitchen to the garage, with a couple of steps in the garage, had much fewer problems. A recently removed ramp was reused. The steel frame, 14mm plywood deck and side-boards were recovered. A

strip of carpet was fitted. Screwed batten to top step support the upper edge, and the ramp was screwed to the batten to hold it in place

Client was delighted with the result.

DB-22-046 – Mike Banks

A client is a vintage pram enthusiast but struggles with stability. A mechanism was required to prevent the pram from tipping up when the handle is leant on.

Two rearward projecting steel arms were installed at axle height, one each side, each carrying a castor wheel at its outer end. The arms splayed outwards to give maximum width for foot space and the castor wheels were positioned rearwards to be nearly under the pram handle so resisting



over-tipping of the pram. The castors were positioned clear of the ground and so only operate if the pram begins to tip downwards. There is scope to adjust this ground clearance to best suit the client and she has been briefed on how to do this.

DB-22-032 Bernard Killeen & Dennis King

Client uses a trolley to administer medication but as the trolley has no overhang it is awkward to use. The solution is to fit an additional top to the trolley. The client requires that the top can be adequately sterilised and so a waterproof material is required that will not trap dirt. A sheet of acrylic was chosen such that it can be removed and effectively cleaned / sterilised. The top is located in place using spring clamps.



DB-22-050 Mike Banks



A client with significant muscle deterioration spends a substantial amount of time in a wheelchair.

Although the client requested removal of 20 mm from the side of his armrest in the referral, he had reduced this requirement to 5 mm when I visited. He also requested that the front edge of the armrest be modified and a curved

radius introduced. He additionally requested that his “wrist-rest” be replaced by one comprising a cylindrical shape covered in foam. The “wrist-rest” attaches to the arm rest top surface by Velcro tape.

DB-22-061- Allan Sutton



An autistic 7 year old client, was provide with 3 x 1.5m high safety gates in April 2021. One of the gates is in a narrow corridor between two rooms and he has found a way of climbing over it by holding on to the vertical bars and walking his feet up the adjacent wall.

The gate height was increased by simply adding extensions to all the vertical members with appropriate linking members. However, the extra height added some flexibility to the vertical bars, and after a couple of days the boy attempted to squeeze through by pulling them apart and got stuck. His mother needed help to get him out!

The solution was to fit a bracing cross member just over half-way up (below the original top hinge and above the security bolt) to provide extra stiffness. An additional hinge was also added at the top of the extension to improve overall general stiffness. The notched bar locations also gave added lateral strength.