

17th March

Some happy news!

We've had quite an amazing couple of weeks.

It's been busy, and this week has been packed with (useful) activity. If you look a couple of updates down, you will see one that talks about the cost of journeys to London etc. Well, last week we were given a generous gift to cover quite a lot of those journeys. We are so very grateful!

And then another blessing.....

I'll give you some background before I say exactly what!

I love my wheelchair (known as Pippin)- it's perfect, especially the recline function! But if I have a meeting venue with just a couple of steps, I can't go. I can get up just a couple of steps, but the wheelchair can't (and it's too heavy for someone to lift it up) I can't just abandon the chair as it's very 'nickable', hence the reason I have to say no to those meetings. It's also difficult to negotiate taxi's in a wheelchair. I'll do it because I have to, but the ramp is too steep & it's too heavy to push up manually. Sitting in a wheelchair in a taxi is very painful, plus reversing out is dangerous because the front castors spin as you reverse, making staying on the ramp a delicate and stressful process.

So - I've been saving up for a lightweight folding power-chair for the days I have to use a taxi, or have a venue with just a couple of steps (Plus, I could catch the cheaper but narrower trains on the days I used it). There are many other things it would be useful for - The accessible loo is always at the furthest point of service stations, often with a queue and no chairs to sit on. The way accessible parking spaces work at service stations means I can't use my standard chair, but this one would be easy to get out and use...

And the other blessing was? We were given a further gift this week that has made it possible to purchase this chair. It arrives next week!

Pippin will always be my main chair for comfort and pavement driving, but considering the fact that the inaccessible building problem and taxi journeys always coincide...this is going to give me even more freedom and independence in my work, but personally too – it's easier to keep in the back of the car for those “just in case” moments.

We are so very grateful to the donor who saw the need and uniquely understood it, and to God for many answered prayers.