Understanding Domestic Spaces from the Older Person's Viewpoint

The Bathroom

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Design solutions for assistive technology from the 1970’s??
Not a reality until later life
Left to our own devices photo competition – a way of confronting old ideas

http://lefttoourowndevices.org.uk/

Closing date for entries 31 January 2012
Good design to **promote** health, wellbeing and participation
Salone Internazionale del Mobile
Paul Chamberlain,
Gail Mountain,
Maria Burton
Heath Reed

Design and Health
ENGAGE
future bathroom

LAB 4 LIVING

EPSRC
Spa or function
Fun or fear?
The Future Bathroom Project

- Project management team
- Steering group/external advisors
- Lay researchers
- User groups/participants
‘if I’d known what'
Emergent issues

The house you are in at 65 is probably the one you will want to be in at 85 but a lot happens to you in those 20 years. It’s a time of great physical changes. The bathroom has to be very adaptable.

We had all this equipment provided by social services....it was a real pain because it’s difficult to clean...the grandchildren... They couldn’t use the loo when all this stuff was on....unsightly....well she never uses it.
More examples

Social services have been very kindly...given me an electric bath lift and I’m very grateful...it’s not ideal.

I’d like some sort of grab rail that wasn’t a permanent attachment....I was thinking things in an aeroplane seat where they go down flat but when you press the button they come up so that they are not stuck out permanently for anyone using the wash basin and catching themselves.
Developing a robust co-design methodology
Good design is fundamental

- Useful – usable - desirable
Prototypes and design concepts at stage of detailed development and further user trials

Development of portable bidet for people with shorter limbs (in collaboration ‘Speechly’)
supported by

Devices for Dignity

EPSRC
So what about our own later life?

What are our expectations?
It’s a personal agenda