

A Year in Retrospect: The Adapt-IT Journey

2023 was a notable year for the disabled community, and as a business only 2.5 years into its journey, Adapt-IT are so blessed to have been a part of it, through the good times and bad. Below are some of the amazing things achieved this year.

This has been the year where so many of our friends and community have driven awareness further than it has ever been. We have seen the Dr Who Tardis become completely accessible, although some of the angles of the ramps we think would be one amazing rollercoaster! The Arts has been a good advocate for the disabled community starting in March with the amazing talents of James Martin who became the first person with Downs Syndrome to win an Oscar; we also saw the actor Ed Larkin become the first wheelchair user in 350 years to lead a West End musical. Moving on from the Movies and Theatre we have the Gaming industry and as you know we love our Gaming at Adapt-IT! So, let's start with Blind Warrior Sven who won a Street Fighter Match at EVO 2023, showing not only that anybody can Game but that anybody can be a champion. There is so much to discuss around Gaming, but we will leave that for another time 😊. But the biggest highlight for us was the Inaugural [**Disability Expo #IMatter**](#).

We spoke to [Jade Godier](#) and [Alan Wallace](#), the founders of the Disability Expo back in September 2022, after an introduction by [Chris Leasmith](#), The Grumpy Dad himself, where we discussed the idea of a stand that showcased some accessible gaming. Through all of our shared passion for growing awareness and creating a community of Gamers we were given the opportunity for something bigger. We still can't believe they trusted us and gave us freedom to create what we did. The Gaming Zone was born, a 12m x 7m area dedicated to accessible Gaming. If you missed it check out the video here:

<https://youtu.be/Ev0q90t0TKI?feature=shared>

The Gaming Zone showcased all the best elements of Gaming and the latest accessible hardware and mounting systems as well as featuring some of the latest games that enabled everybody who wanted to play games to play.



We made so many friends through 2023's journey who helped make this possible [Pretorian Technologies Ltd](#), [Rehadapt](#), [Ceratech Accuratus Limited](#) and who can forget Rocket League being played through the [Tobii Dynavox](#) eye tracker.

Our People Behind the Technology series uncovers the companies and people within the industry building accessibility for our community.



But of course then we had the people that brought the Zone alive with their content creation and advocacy for all things Gaming, [Melody Powell](#), [Mathew Allcock](#) and Adapt-IT's very own Chad Bouton of Unsyted Radio. Then of course [Three Guys and a Console](#).

We also had a wider range of entertainment from Twitch Streamers: The [@CaringLlama](#) and [the Wobbly Gamer](#) and Podcasts from [Unsyted Radio](#) with Chad Bouton. Not forgetting [Three Guys and a Console](#) consisting of our very own Simon, The Grumpy Dad Chris Leasmith and also Chad Bouton talking about all things Gaming and the most topical areas such as, "Who is your gaming character crush as a kid"? Through this we hope we have started to drive better awareness of the benefits of Gaming both as a social activity but also for Mental Health. If you haven't checked out these fantastic content creators find their interviews below and check out their channels linked above or videos of them below.

[Caring Llama](#)
[The Wobbly Gamer](#)
[Unsyted Radio](#)
[Three Guys and a Console](#)

Remember the battle Streamer vs Podcaster on Mortal Kombat: The Wobbly Gamer and the Podcaster Chad Bouton. We won't say too much other than mistakes were made!

As part of the run up to the Disability Expo we also released a Beginners Guide to Assistive Technology, an overview of the different types of accessibility and how they can support IT use and Gaming.

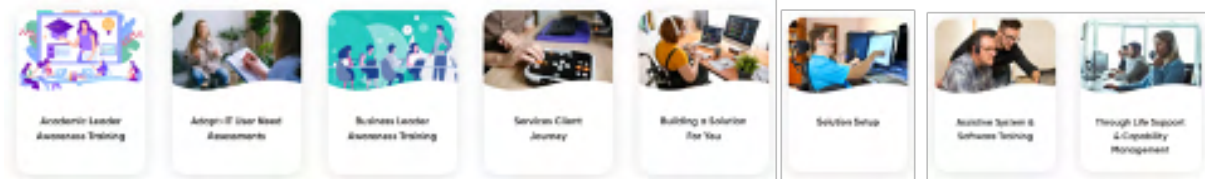
<https://adapt-it.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Adapt-IT-Beginners-Guide-to-Assistive-IT-and-Gaming-1.pdf>



2023 has been amazing, and we have made so many friends and found a community where we feel we belong. We wouldn't be where we are if it wasn't for our clients of which we have been lucky to support differing people whether in a home perspective or a business one. Hopefully living up to our vision of:

'Making IT and Gaming Accessible for All'

Adapt-IT couldn't provide its 'through life services' and do what it does without its amazing suppliers of hardware and software.



Big thanks go to long term relationships we've had with TextHelp for their text to speech software, Dolphin for their magnification software that helps people with sight impairment and Inspiration for their mind mapping software which is going from strength to strength.

We are building relationships with CareScribe and their Caption.Ed live captioning software and Glean with their notetaking and recording software.

Ceratech has been a fantastic supplier over the year, providing us with their fantastic keyboards and desk solutions – especially for the Disability Expo, as did Pretorian Technologies. Thanks also to Inclusive Technology, for supplying all our additional buttons, switches and the Skyle eye tracker that our lovely customers order on our website.

Then there are new suppliers Cosmo, with their versatile switches, that we are keen to get lots of our clients using for rehabilitation, IT navigation and Gaming purposes, as well as Voiceltt with their Inclusive Voice AI that opens the world of voice technology for people with speech disabilities, aging adults, and accented speakers.

That leads us to thank our friends in Germany, Rehadapt, for their continued support in helping us create our 'Complete Solutions' for clients, with their extensive range of mounting solutions for everything IT.



cosmo 

 Caption.Ed

 TalkType

Inspiration[®] 

 Glean

 voiceitt

We mustn't forget our relationship with the Child Brain Injury Trust. Yes, we are on their MarketPlace app so families and professionals can find Adapt-IT if they need support in sourcing specialist IT and Gaming solutions for a child who has a brain injury, or who acquires a brain injury, but Mark Holme and his team are always interested in what we are doing as a company and supports us in all our endeavours.

We are also excited to have started a new part of our journey with our friend and now US partner Chad Bouton and together we will be bringing the Adapt-IT approach to making IT and gaming accessible for even more people.



Adapt-IT can be found in the following places.

www.Adapt-IT.co.uk

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

The Disability Expo can be found in the following places.

<https://www.thedisabilityexpo.com/>

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

We are so looking forward to 2024 and what this Journey brings. We have the Disability Expo 5th and 6th July in London ExCel with the Gaming Zone returning bigger and better with some amazing things planned. Follow all the excitement on the [Disability Expo](#) and [Adapt-IT Limited](#) social media channels to learn more over the coming weeks.

In 2023, we also moved out of our little shed office into a new office where in 2024 we will open a new Information Technology, Gaming Resource and Training centre in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, just 5 minutes from J9 of the M5!

It has been designed to provide an easily accessible and inclusive environment where people with differing disabilities can try out the latest hardware and software.

The ability to trial and understand assistive technology is vitally important to ensure that available funds are only used on items that work for the individual.

With that being said, we would like to thank everyone for their support that allows us and pushes us to do what we do to the best of our ability and in the name of inclusivity and accessibility.

