**Film Transcription**

**Rewind – Leonard Cheshire Disability, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund**

**Film Title:** I’ve Got Wheels

**Duration:** 19.50

**Transcription date:** 10th August 2016

**Summary of main points**

1:24 – Joe discusses the arrival of his new wheelchair with a woman

3:06 – A man describes the production of the wheelchair

7:37 – Joe talks about the effects of his new electric wheelchair on his life

13.20 – Joe talks about the need for mass produced paravans

15.35 – Joe talks about the continue difficulties in access in certain places

**Start of transcription**

0:00 [no speech] to 0:11

0:11 [beep] to 0:15

0:15 [no speech] to 0:44

0:44 [music] to 1:23

1:23 [birdsong] to 1:24

1:24 **Woman:** I reckon a lot of this is wild garlic. It stinks to high heaven.

1:27 **Joe:** [unclear]

1:29 **Woman:** This is this bright green leaf here see that's why [unclear].

1:32 **Joe:** Yes that's wild garlic.

1:33 [music] to 1:41

1:41 **Joe:** Nearly there look.

1:43 **Woman:** Good [laughs]

1:43 [unclear] to 1:49

1:49 **Woman:** That'll be nice

1:50 **Joe:** Yep. All on my own.

1:53 **Woman:** I can stand at the bottom of the hill and watch you go up all by yourself.

1:56 **Joe:** Yeah.

1:57 **Woman:** Better. Can I pause here please?

2:00 **Joe:** Yes we can. Rest your feet.

2:03 **Woman:** Rest me bones. Me aching bones.

2:11 **Woman:** Oh dear let me have a sit down now. Well when is it coming anyway?

2:15 **Joe:** A couple of days’ time I hope.

2:17 **Woman:** They're delivering it?

2:18 **Joe:** Yep.

2:20 **Woman:** And then you're off under your own steam.

2:21 **Joe:** Then I'm off under my own steam. I won't need anybody's manpower. I'll make my own.

2:25 **Woman:** [laughs] What do you reckon you're meant to do with it?

2:28 **Joe:** Uhh.

2:29 **Woman:** [laughs]

2:30 **Joe:** Soup it up!

2:32 **Woman:** [laughs] Oh dear what a thought.

2:33 [machinery noise] to 3:06

3:06 **Man:** After my department have completed tests to finalise the design, the new electric wheelchair is put into production. The first stage of manufacture is to cut the tube into appropriate sizes. Having cut it, it's deburred, the ends are cropped to make them fit each other where necessary the tube is drilled, bent, indented or anything else that needs to be done with it. Then it's degreased and it goes onto the brazing section. And there many, though not all, of the machine components also join tubes to form complete brazed assemblance. They can be big or small [unclear 3:49 to 3:52] cross-braces, brake parts, anything like that.

3:56 [no speech] to 4:08

4:08 **Man:** While this brazing stage is happening, other machined and ball [unclear] parts will be being assembled [unclear] wheels [4:21 to 4:24 unclear] wheels will be built, spoked up and piled up ready to join the frames after they've been [unclear] plated or painted if they uh [unlear] chair and built up into a final chair.

4:37 [no speech] to 4:48

4:48 **Man:** Obviously even the assembly different stages go on at once. Um we may have a couple of teams of people making foot rest assemblies while others are assembling sulfane cross bases. Yet again at the same time the sewing section are making upholstery. The foam section are making arm packs.

5:16 [no speech] to 5:45

5:45 **Man:** All finally come together and are put into are built into a wheelchair which is passed to inspection.

5:52 [no speech] to 6:03

6:03 **Man:** There is a complete inspection schedule and an inspection card which the inspector can sign at each stage. Finally every power chair is run through every possible manoeuvre, fast and slow, for at least 10 minutes and after that he signs for it and it's ready to go for cleaning, packing and dispatch.

6:29 [music] to 6:38

6:38 **Male singer:** I've got wheels and you can't hold me now that I know what it's like to be free. I've got wheels just watch me glide, I need nobody by my side. I've got power, I've got style, I can do a 20 minute mile. A fully independent entity, technology has set me free.

6:58 [music] to 7:04

7:04 **Male singer:** I've got wheels and you can't hold me now that I know what it's like to be free. I've got wheels just watch me glide, I need nobody by my side. I've got power, I've got style, I can do a 20 minute mile. A fully independent entity, technology has set me free.

7:26 [music] to 7:31

7:31 [no speech] to 7:37

7:37 **Joe:** Basingstoke's got the shopping precincts. There's no cabs at all really. There's up and down slopes but the power of the chair will take you up and down the slopes just like that.

7:51 [no speech] to 7:55

7:55 **Joe:** One of the things what used to annoy me in taxis when you're being pushed you're always being pushed into the back of people's ankles, people always walk too slow, but with the chair I have now I can just nip round people, I don't have to wait for them to walk along and you have to walk along behind them all the time.

8:13 [no speech] to 8:23

8:23 **Joe:** Another big problem with an ordinary chair if you were shopping people would be pushing you along saying oh look in that window, you're pointing down the road and they're looking in the shop. But now with [unclear] I can just turn around and look in the shop myself.

8:37 [no speech] to 8:43

8:43 **Joe:** I can remember going round Basingstoke once before and not one person took a blind bit of notice of me. If I had somebody with me that would be totally different, they look and look and look. The only person I can remember the first time looking round Basingstoke I had a little boy behind me saying to his father look dad can I have a go on it?

9:07 [no speech] to 9:34

9:34 **Joe:** When I was in a pushchair or transit chair call it what you will, one of the things I used to hate was going shopping but now I've got this electric chair I love wandering around looking in the shops. If I see something and I've got the money I know I can go in and have a chat with whoever's there.

9:55 [no speech] to 10:13

10:13 [music] to 10:14

10:14 **Male singer:** I've got wheels and you can't hold me now that I know what it's like to be free. I've got wheels just watch me glide, I need nobody by my side. I've got power, I've got style, I can do a 20 minute mile. A fully independent entity, technology has set me free.

10:36 **Joe:** And that is since oh you know since I've been riding round. People stop all the time and talk to you. It's a thing never happened never done when you used to be pushed around they never talk to you. It's funny you know people who pushed you they won't talk to you yet when I'm out by myself people will stop and talk because I think they see they see you more as a person, if you're being pushed it's the person behind you.

11:08 [no speech] to 11:14

11:14 **Joe:** I can get up and up a 5 inch curb without anybody with me which is very useful at times, although the... most councils are trying to get rid of their curbs in places for wheelchairs there's still a hell of a lot. Too many places still where you can't get up or down.

11:34 [no speech] to 11:40

11:40 **Joe:** You're hungry and you're going down the street. You feel like something to eat. What do I do? I look through the windows, if I see too many people in a restaurant I- I never go in because, it's only happened once, where I've been refused entering because there was too many people in. Another excuse is too oh we can't be bothered to move the tables. People should put themselves out to, I mean my money's as good as anybody else's.

12:10 [no speech] to 12:15

12:15 **Joe:** Now there's one big problem and that's loos. Now you're all battery driven so we can't afford to tear around for 2 or 3 hours to look for a loo and I think that every council in the country should be made to build a loo for disabled in a place where we can all get to.

12:37 [no speech] to 12:40

12:40 [music] to 12:44

12:44 **Male singer:** Now that I've got mobility, the whole wide world seem welcome to me. Except for the lady in the local cafe says wheelchair people go away. [unclear] manager says the same, fire regulations what a terrible shame, one of these days if the chance comes round me and my mates are gonna run them down.

13:05 [music] to 13:11

13:11 [no speech] to 13:20

13:20 **Joe:** Now we are getting decent electric chairs on the market we are looking for our... some sort of van where you can just drive an electric chair into without being lifted in and out in a carseat. The paravan is.. or what we call paravans, are really minivans with the top cut off, then built up. So it's made higher and then the floor has to be lowered too. If you've got the money to buy one you've got to buy the minivan say that's 2500 pounds and then if you're going to convert it, it's going to cost you another 1500 pound at least to convert it. I'm sure if somebody would invent one and build it it'd be a damn sight cheaper than buying a new minivan and then converting it from there. If you want a paravan nowadays, today, and you've got the money to buy one you have it designed to suit you. And this is where the expense comes in. But going round looking at the paravans that there are on the road, which have been converted from all sorts of different garages, they've all been built to suit their owners. But you can take the best from bits of all them and build a production model. Cos I mean most of the requirements are exactly the same as everybody else's.

14:54 [no speech] to 15:35

15:35 **Joe:** But you're not allowed to stay in the wheelchair when you go to most cinemas or theatres. They'll say just throw the fire regulations out [unclear] I think if a cinema can take their seats out and two theatres I know of where I've been if you let them know you're coming will take seats away so you can drive in more ... your wheelchair. they, you know, fire regulations what are they they... some cinemas ... will throw them at you say you had to be lifted out of your chair. but you're a bigger risk anyhow because if there is a fire how the hell do you get out? I don't see why some theatres and cinemas will be so helpful and others just couldn't care less.

16:20 **Woman:** Can you see alright? [unclear] Ok?

16:25 [no speech] to 16:42

16:42 [music] to 17:24

17:24 **Man:** This is no tragedy. No careless product of wild imagination.

17:31 **Joe:** To get out outside and drive up some country lane all by yourself, stopping when you want to, sunning yourself when you want to, you ain't got a care in the world and that's how it should be. I mean years and years ago the disabled were kept out of sight, this is the trouble which we've been fighting ever since. Because you were hidden away and nobody would hardly ever see a disabled person. I won't say now it's like rats coming out the holes but now as I said more and more people are being disabled, they've got to be catered for so I think as time goes on more and more people start buying electric chairs they're going to go out more and more. So there's got to be access made for all of them.

18:19 **Woman:** Oh right. That's a bit better isn't it?

18:21 **Man:** Yeah.

18:23 **Woman:** Impressive.

18:24 [music] to 18:28

18:28 **Male singer:** We've had enough of being hidden away, wheelchair people are here to stay, we only want to be like you, do all the things that you like to do. Give us a chance and we'll join you in the pub, theatre and the cinema queue, why should anyone turn us away, we're usually sober and we pay our way.

18:51 [music] to 18:56

18:56 **Male singer:** I've got wheels and you can't hold me, now that I know what it's like to be free. I've got wheels just watch me glide, I need nobody by my side. I've got power, I've got style, I can do a 20 minute mile. A fully independent entity, technology has set me free.

19:18 [music] to 19:25

19:25 [no speech] to end

**End of Transcription**