**Oral History Transcription – Christine – Chipstead Lake**

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

**Filmed** – 2016

**Start of transcription**

[Text on screen: What was life like before your accident?]

[Christine]

00:00:11 - Everything that happened was such a shock to me when I came round from being unconscious, because I'd led such a busy life.

00:00:27 - After I left school and college, I became a secretary. I was always at work, earning money because I knew I was going to go away and do horses.

00:00:49 - My dad never really was never keen on me working with horses but my mum was. But I wanted to work with them because I loved them.

00:01:08 - Unfortunately, I was taking a ride, and I fell off. Oh, I didn't fall off. I was thrown off.

00:01:24 - I'd been in a hospital around about four years, you know. And then the social worker found this place. Chipstead Lake, Cheshire Home. And it sounded really great. And I was really looking for something for Mum and Dad because they weren't getting any younger.

00:02:05 - They're dead now. But when... My Mum and Dad were really pleased. I came here in 1980. A long time ago.

[Text on screen: What was it like when you first came to Chipstead Lake?]

00:02:26 - When I first came, there was about 16 residents and they'd just built another two rooms, and I was lucky enough to get accepted to go into one of the two new rooms. And I was really pleased!

00:02:55 - It was all very exciting. It was very new then. And gradually then we had to expand and it got bigger. I enjoy it here. I've seen a lot of people come and go over the years.

[Text on screen: What are some of your memories of your time here?]

00:03:27 - When I first got here, we used to have something they used to called a bazaar. And the bazaar used to be held over the sailing club, and my mum and dad used to run the flower stall. And that was all very exciting. They raised a lot of money.

00:04:03 - And then as time went by, times change, and when we made the money we built the activity centre. So here's to the next big project!

[Text on screen: What changes have you experienced in technology?]

00:04:34 - When I first came here, I had a manual double wheeler. And I stayed in that manual for ten years. I used to push myself around, and around town when I first came here. And I used to... Every year they used to say to me, "Do you want an electric?" I used to say no. I was glad because it kept my weight down, all the pushing work.

00:05:17 - After 10 years, I thought I've just got to get out and about!

**End of transcription**