**Oral History Transcription – Linda – Sobell Lodge**

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

**Filmed** -2016

**Start of transcription**

[Text on screen: What was school like for you?]

[Linda]

00:00:11 - I liked school, actually. I did go to Richmond Road, a little primary school in Gillingham. I went there when I was five. I was very happy at school.

00:00:31 - And then when I was eight I had to go away to school. I had to go to Valence because Valence was the only senior school after Richmond Road. But I didn't get on there. I missed my brothers and mum and dad.

00:00:56 - Mum and Dad took me home because I wasn't developing. I wasn't happy, and I wasn't doing anything because I missed my family. So Mum and Dad took me home, and I had a home tutor.

[Text on screen: When did you move to Sobell Lodge?]

00:01:22 - I came here… just before my care changes. Well, we had a few visits when … this home was here, and then I was sort of... I came sort of quite quickly.

00:01:58 - [Interviewer] Can you remember how you felt about moving into Sobell?

00:02:01 – [Linda] I was very nervous because I hadn't been away from home before. The only place I'd been away from home was boarding school and I didn't stay there 'cause I wasn't happy. But I love it here. I'm very happy here.

00:02:33 - [Interviewer] You enjoy the company?

00:02:35 – [Linda] Yeah, I enjoy the company. Everyone's very friendly, we all help each other as much as possible. And we've got good care staff. We're all happy here.

00:02:53 - There's lots of us, there's 20 residents. We all get along together, we play games, we have physio, we have activities every day.

00:03:16 – [Interviewer] Can you tell me more about some of the activities that you've done?

00:03:20 – [Linda] Well, there's physio, poetry, crossword.....art, crafts, sewing.

00:03:38 – [Interviewer] Do you have a particular favourite? Out of all of those?

- [Linda] No...

- [Interviewer] That you enjoy?

- [Linda] I enjoy it all.

[Text on screen: Have you been on holiday with people from Sobell Lodge?]

00:03:47 - We went to Whitecliff Bay on the Isle of Wight. I went from here. And it was a lovely holiday. They took the carers from here. They had some chalets, and there was me, Julie, Katherine. Oh, we get up to all sorts. I went with Mum and Dad as well, before I came here, and we went 'cause Mum had a few aunties on the island.

[Text on screen: What other special memories do you have?]

00:04:34 - When I lived with Mum and Dad, I went to a fancy dress party at Twiddle. It was in a hall. It was in a small hall at Twiddle. And I was dressed as a punk rocker. I had a long stripe... No, it was a short, stripy, blue and white, long T-shirt. And I went, and my hair was bright pink! [laughs]

**End of transcription**