**Oral History Transcription – Janet and Fiona – Heatherley**

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

**Filmed - 2016**

**Start of transcription**

[Text on screen: What is your background and family?]

00:00:11

[Janet]: I was born in Eastbourne.

[Fiona]: She was born in Eastbourne.

[Janet]: My sister…

[Fiona] Your sister, what's her name?

[Janet]: Susan.

[Fiona]: Susan, yeah.

[Janet]: Diane, my sister-in-law.

[Fiona]: Diane's your sister-in-law, yep. Who is she married to then?

[Janet]: My brother.

[Fiona]: Your brother. What's his name?

[Janet]: Russell.

[Fiona]: Russell.

[Fiona]: And who's the oldest?

[Janet]: Me.

[Fiona]: You.

[Fiona]: How many children did Susan have?

[Janet]: Two.

[Fiona]: Two.

[Fiona]: What about Russell?

[Janet]: Two.

[Fiona]: Just two?

[Janet]: Two boys.

[Fiona]: And then they've had lots of children as well, haven't they? 'Cause she's got great nieces and nephews as well. And she knows all their birthdays, don't you?

[Text on screen: When did you come to Heatherley?]

00:01:15

[Janet]: I've been here 31...

[Fiona]: She's been here 31 years.

[Janet]: It was better than what it is now.

[Fiona]: It's better than it is now. (Laughter)

[Fiona]: Did you live in a bungalow when you first came here?

[Janet]: No.

[Fiona]: In the home?

[Janet]: Yeah.

[Interviewer]: And why was it better then than it is now?

[Fiona]: What did they used to call you? Or what did you call yourself?

[Janet]: What?

[Fiona]: Do you remember?

[Janet]: No.

[Fiona]: You used to call yourselves the family, didn't you?

[Janet]: Yes.

[Fiona]: She said it was like being in a big family. I think a lot of it, when Janet's talked to me before, she said that like now, they're either classed as residents or then they were supposed to be called service users and then they were called people who use our services. And Janet liked the old version, where they were just known as family, and it felt more personal. Isn't it? That's what you've said to me before.

[Janet]: Yes.

[Text on screen: What is your experience of assistive technology?]

00:02:29

[Janet]: I used to have to stay in.

[Fiona]: You used to have to stay in.

[Janet]: Then my uncle...

[Fiona]: Your uncle?

[Janet]: Got me my chair.

[Fiona]: Oh, got you an electric chair. Oh, right. OK.

[Interviewer]: Did that mean that you could go out and about a bit more?

[Janet]: Mmm.

[Interviewer]: What did... How did you feel when you could have an electric chair for the first time?

[Janet]: Nice.

[Fiona]: Nice, you liked it. … What else do you have in your bungalow?

[Janet]: I don't know.

[Fiona]: Your possum.

[Janet]: Possum.

[Interviewer]: Oh, great. So can you tell me about that and what it does?

[Janet]: It puts my telly on.

[Fiona]: It puts her telly on.

[Janet]: And my radio.

[Fiona]: And your radio.

[Text on screen: Do you have any hobbies?]

00:03:44

[Janet]: I have got my needlework.

[Fiona]: Your needlework, yep. She does tapestry. Don't you?

[Janet]: I must get back.

[Fiona]: I know, you must get back to it.

(Both laugh)

[Text on screen: Do you have any particular memories of residents at Heatherley?]

00:04:08

[Janet]: Karen.

[Fiona]: Karen?

[Interviewer]: Is Karen a good friend of yours?

[Fiona]: She moved in after you did she, or before?

[Janet]: Before.

[Fiona]: Before?

[Interviewer]: Can you tell me a bit about Karen?

[Fiona]: Well, I can tell you a bit about Karen! (laughs) They're like partners in crime. (laughs)

[Fiona]: You used to always have the giggles with a man.

[Janet]: A man...

[Fiona]: Matt Allen.

[Janet]: (laughs)

[Fiona]: See? Giggles. That's what they used to do together, sit and giggle. Didn't you?

[Interviewer]: Can you tell me a bit about Matt?

[Janet]: He used to paint with his mouth.

[Fiona]: He did, he used to be a mouth painter. He did some amazing paintings, didn't he? But their sense of humour just seemed to click. So they were always together, mucking about, giggling.

[Janet]: (chuckles)

[Fiona]: And he was quite good at understanding Janet as well. So they used to sit and chat. Didn't he?

[Janet]: (Laughter) I remember... (Laughs)

[Fiona]: As soon as she remembers him, she just gets the giggles!

**End of transcription**