

Trustees Report for the Year 2023

Women's Council 50th Anniversary Year

(Presented at the 2024 AGM)

This has been a journey of celebration and accomplishment for the Women's Council as we marked our 50th Anniversary. We remained dedicated in our mission to improve the lives of children and young people living with disability throughout Asia, Asia Pacific and The Middle East.

From the vibrant Lunar New Year celebration that inaugurated our anniversary year to the engaging History of Carpets talk, quizzes and a memorable trip to RHS Wisley that kept our community connected, we celebrated diversity and fostered unity among our members and supporters.

Our Annual General Meeting took on a special significance as we commemorated the King's Coronation, reflecting on the values of leadership and service that define our organisation. We were honoured to host Dr Mithu Alur (Founder and Chairperson), Malini Chib and our partners from ADAPT as special guests, strengthening our collaborations and expanding our reach.

Our 50th Anniversary celebration at the Embassy of Nepal, courtesy of our esteemed Patron Madam Sunita Acharya, was a testament to the global partnerships and advocacy efforts that underpin our organisation. During the year, we were privileged to welcome Baroness Angela Browning as our new Patron for the House of Lords, whose leadership will inspire us in the years to come.

A successful Community Initiatives in Inclusion course was held at ADAPT in Mumbai strengthening our commitment to education and inclusion. The return of the Pan Arab Community Based Inclusion Development Course in Jordan, organised by SETI and UN ESWCA under the leadership of Dr. Alaa Sebeh, highlighted our dedication to disability and inclusion in the region. We are proud to announce that TWC provided scholarships to 11 deserving participants, enabling them to pursue education and training opportunities. This accomplishment was made possible through the generous support of our members and donors, who have played a pivotal role in sustaining our programs and expanding our impact.

The launch of our new-look website marked a modern era for our organisation, enhancing accessibility and engagement for our global community. Contact with members was also maintained through WhatsApp, Facebook updates and mailings.

As we reflect on this momentous year, we would like to thank our Patrons, President, Honorary Vice Presidents, Trustees, Committee and Honorary Training Advisor for their dedication and hard work. We extend our deepest gratitude to our Members and guests for their unwavering support. Together, we have reaffirmed our commitment to advancing training, and promoting inclusion.