

FROM THE MD'S DESK

Dear Readers,

For the world, 1st October 2018 is The International Day of Older Persons. The United Nations usually has a theme for each year and this year their theme was 'Celebrating Older Human Rights champions'. But for us it was only and only about celebrating our members. We have come a long way since our inception and we are filled with joy at the positive impact we have created.

So, a big round of applause for all our members—for those who made it and for those who did not; for those who participated and those who did not—and the Support Elders team. Together we form the Support Elders family, which is changing the face of ageing and eldercare in Kolkata.

We have moved away from our usual format in this newsletter and chosen to remember this special day when we bonded and stood together.

Leaving you on this note and wishing you a very Happy Deepavali and Bhai phota.

Happy reading!

Apratim Chattopadhyay



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NEWS

Hi five!

As we stepped into our fifth year, we celebrated our fourth Raising day on 29th August 2018 at our New Town office. While the needs of each and every member were attended to, the staff enjoyed a lovely festive evening with their families. A cultural programme was organised, wherein the staff showcased their talent in singing, playing instruments, recitation, etc. The celebration ended with a delicious dinner. The highlight of the evening was how all the members of the staff came together with great zeal and spiritedly celebrated this evening, reinforcing our belief in the Support Elders family. **SE**



TSC Hilsa Fest

Kudos to our members of The Silver Circle (TSC) who organised 'Ilish Parbon' at CMIG on 25th August, 2018. This was a picnic of sorts that celebrated the queen of Bengali cuisine, the Hilsa fish. All the dishes were cooked by the enthusiastic TSC members. The menu included hilsa fry, kata chochchori with hilsa head, hilsa curry in Bengali style and most importantly, a chutney made of hilsa tails. While some of the members were busy in the kitchen, the rest took part in a game, in which different themes were written in paper chits and songs related to different themes had to be sung. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day. **SE**



PHOTO GALLERY



- 1.& 2. Members being welcomed
- 3. Our eldest member lighting the lamp
- 4. Members registering and receiving the Welcome Kit at the Welcome Desk
- 5. Ms Deepanwita Chattopadhyay, chairperson, Support Elders giving the welcome speech
- 6. The emcees for the evening
- 7. Our member, Ms Ruby Banerjee, and the children who performed
- 8. Mr Shishir Ranjan Paul reciting one of his own poems
- 9. Ms Aruna Sen reciting the poem, *Cheleta* and Ms Nibedita Dasgupta and Dr Shibani Moulik waiting onstage to perform
- 10. *Abhishar* being performed by children from an NGO to which our member, Ms Ruby Banerjee, is attached
- 11. Some of the TSC performers of the evening

- 12. Our members, Ms Shipra Chattopadhyay & Mr Akash Dutta, performing a shrutinatak
- 13. Members and invitees enjoying the cultural programme
- 14. Our member, Mr Sujoy Roy reading out a piece one about the Lodhi Gardens in Delhi
- 15. An evening of getting together for many of our members
- 16. Mr Apratim Chattopadhyay, MD & CEO, Support Elders giving the Vote of Thanks
- 17. TSC members who performed that evening
- 18. Shri Sounak Chattopadhyay giving an enchanting performance
- 19. TSC members performing a medley of melodious songs

WHAT KEEPS US GOING

Touched by the dedication

The meet on the evening of 1st October, 2018 at the Saturday Club was an excellent initiative. Primarily, it gave us a great feeling that we are members of a large and caring family and not alone in Kolkata. We also noticed with interest the bonhomie among some of the members (perhaps of The Silver Circle) and was greatly impressed by their performances. What, however, touched us most was the care and warmth shown by the Support Elders team, right from receiving the members at the entrance of the venue, making us sit in the hall, looking after all our needs throughout the programme, and finally seeing us off. We felt that they are our children and we have taken the right decision to place our lives in their hands in the absence of our daughters living abroad. We would have certainly liked to see all of them standing on the stage together, so that we could give them a big clap for their excellent, dedicated, and warm service—not only on that day but throughout the year. Our blessings will always be there for them. Lastly, we must say that the icing of the cake was the heart-touching songs of Sounak, who treated us like his family members and touched all of us by his earnestness to make the Day very memorable for us. Let Ma Durga bless all the members of Support Elders family.

- **Mr & Mrs Biswas**

Well-devised and well-executed

It was indeed our pleasure to witness the show. It was well devised and well executed by the entire Support Elders team. Our sincere thanks and gratitude to all concerned.

- **Cmdre N Mukherjee**

Appreciate the big heart

I'd like to sincerely appreciate your outstanding work in making this programme a very enjoyable and memorable one for all of us. I was very happy to see that as soon as I reached the venue, there were people waiting with a wheelchair for me. I didn't have to wait for a single second and they wheeled me inside, the welcome desk provided us with a kit, which was a really thoughtful gesture. The programme was wonderful, and I was surprised to see the enthusiasm of the members who participated in the programme. I know it encouraged several others and reinforced the belief that age is not a bar to enjoy life. I loved the dedication and empathy which each one of you have and I would definitely say that you have a big heart.

- **Ms M Talukdar**

Excellent planning

We congratulate you for the special dedication and perseverance in successfully pulling off such a demanding task. The enthusiasm of the participants was praiseworthy. The care and empathy of the Support Elders' staff and the attention to every detail, starting from the reception, welcome desk, sitting arrangement and food was commendable. The excellent planning made it a worthwhile experience for all of us. We are proud and happy to be a part of this organisation and look forward to more of such events.

- **Ms M Bhattacharya**

Security and peace

Thank you for a very enjoyable evening. Also, thanks for giving us the opportunity to meet all those young people who have given us a sense of security and peace. God bless all of you at Support Elders.

- **Ms A Chaudhuri**