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5 min read



What started as a simple act of support soon turned into something much bigger.

You're probably familiar with **Hair for Hope** — the iconic annual campaign that sees brave souls across Singapore shaving their heads in solidarity with children battling cancer.

But have you ever wondered what keeps some people coming back year after year?

Meet Jason Ong. He's a father of two, a consulting manager in the telecom industry, and one of Hair for Hope's longest-running ambassadors. For 13 years, Jason has shaved, shared, rallied, and repeated — turning a single act of compassion into a lifelong mission to support families facing one of the toughest battles imaginable.

As Singapore celebrates its 60th birthday, the Children's Cancer Foundation is spotlighting

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The First Shave and the Unexpected Chain Reaction

Jason first picked up the clippers back in 2008. What started as a simple act of support soon turned into something much bigger. Not only did he keep coming back to shave, but he also began organizing satellite events to grow the movement.

“When I first shaved, my kids were still very young. I don’t think they really understood what was going on,”

he recalls.

But over time, the ritual became a teaching moment — a way to pass on values like empathy, resilience, and purpose. You know how it’s usually the organizers who chase people down? In Jason’s case, it was the opposite. His fellow “shavees” (yes, that’s a word) would beat him to the punch—emailing him months in advance to ask when the next satellite event was happening.

That’s when he knew: this wasn’t just a one-off effort. It had become a community.

“Each year when I shaved, I explained to them why I was doing it — to support children with cancer and their families.”



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Source: Hair for Hope

In 2010, when Jason organised his first Hair for Hope satellite event, he tried to get his son and daughter — then 10 and 8 years old — to join him on stage.

“I kept pressing them to shave, but they kept refusing,” he laughs.

Until one day, his son surprised him.

“Just before the event, he told me he wanted to shave. I asked him why he changed his mind, and he said a classmate had cancer — he wanted to support him. I was really touched. It meant the message had sunk in.”

That same day, Jason’s daughter joined her brother in solidarity.



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What Keeps Jason Coming Back?

Motivation is a funny thing. You'd think after 13 years, the enthusiasm might fade. But for Jason, it's only grown. When people around you believe in a cause so deeply that they nudge *you* about the next event, that's something special.

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someone like Jason to make it stick.

And if you're wondering what it's like to shave your head for the first time, Jason gets the hesitation. Will the hair grow back the same? Will I look weird bald? Valid concerns. But as he likes to say, it's worth doing at least once—if not for the look, then for the lesson.

More importantly, you're showing children battling cancer that they're not alone.



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Busting the Bald Myth

Let's address the elephant in the room. Yes, shaving your head is a bold move. And no, it's not a "get out of shampoo free" card.

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"I know many people want to support, but they're afraid," he says.
"Some worry their hair won't grow back. Others worry they won't look good bald."

His advice? Give it a try — just once.



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Source: Hair for Hope

Jason laughs about how people often assume shaving means less effort. But in reality, scalp care is still a thing—especially in sunny Singapore. Even with a smooth head, you'll need proper washing, sunscreen, and yes, shampoo.

The key message? Don't let vanity or myths hold you back from doing something good.

Together, We Can... And Should

This year's theme for Hair for Hope is "Together, We Can" — and it perfectly sums up Jason's journey.

Through his efforts, Jason has not only supported children with cancer — he's rallied a community, instilled lifelong values in his kids, and shown what it means to be an everyday hero.

“... ..”

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Written by

Miko Pagaduan

Home / Health / This Dad Has Been Shaving His Head for 13 Years & He's Not Stopping Anytime Soon

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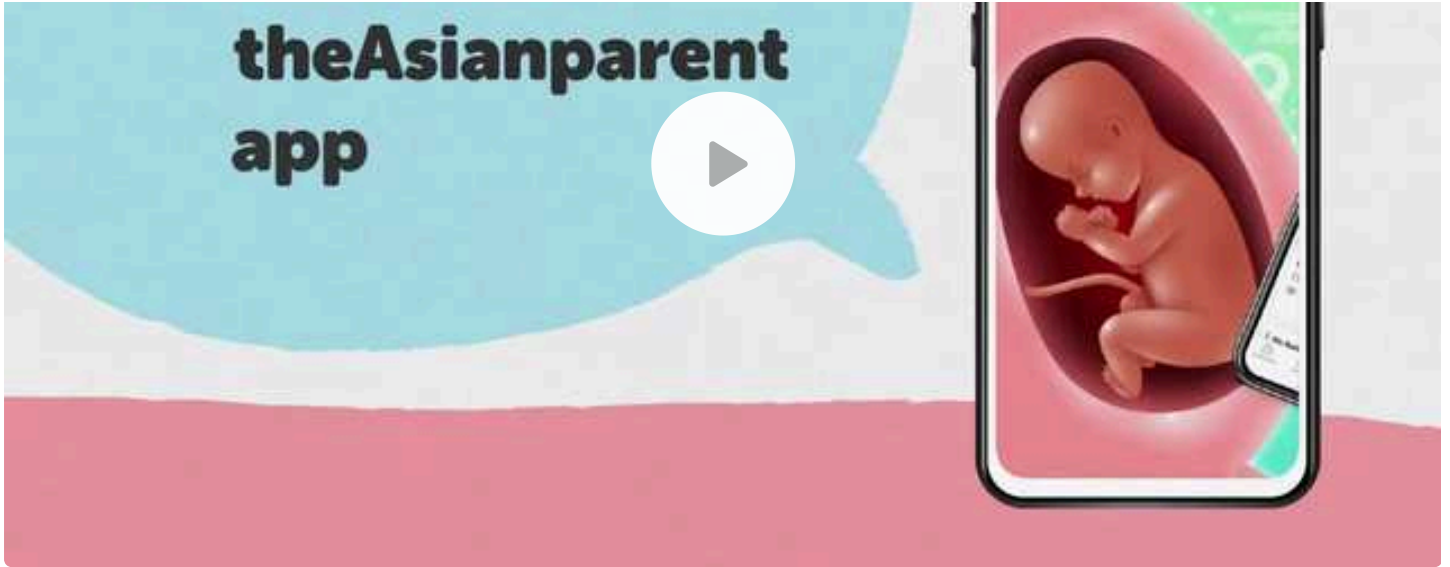
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The symptoms of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 are said to be similar to the common flu. However, experts have recently called itchy eyes a symptom of Omicron. What is the explanation?

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