

News from The So😊😊s

An update from Ewe Jin, Angeline, Kevin and Timothy as 2008 gives way to 2009

We have outgrown the tree!

Dear Family and Friends,

I had meant to personalise this year's Christmas and New Year card and despatched it by snail mail as I know how much more meaningful it can be to receive something in the postbox.

But so many things happened as the year came to an end that it is not possible for me to do so. So I hope you all won't mind getting the Soo Family update in this manner.

We took the family Christmas picture towards the end of November. Someone remarked that we had outgrown the tree and she is correct. It was not too long ago that our boys were that much smaller. This year, they did the honours and put up the tree while we watched. So let me start with news about these two boys first



Special birthday mee for Kevin's coming of age; Angie's sister Carol also present.

Kevin turns 21 on Aug 4

Kevin passed his 21st birthday on Aug 4 and is raring to live life as an adult. It was a quiet affair on the day itself and I prepared my birthday mee special. He finally got a new Mac having used a second-hand computer since he started college. Kevin will register to vote, knowing how a single vote can effect change as what happened on March 8 when Malaysians took to the polls and created history.



Thanks for the Mac!

Kevin is in the final year of his three-year psychology course at Help University College. He has been top student in both his first and second year and saved us a tidy sum by gaining the merit scholarship which pays for half the fees.

With one semester left, he is hoping to be able to pursue his postgraduate studies abroad. We are praying that his good results will enable him to secure some form of scholarship to be able to do so. But he is also prepared to work for a little while, either as a student tutor or in a church or para-church organisation. Kevin worships at a different Methodist church from us and is active in its youth ministry where he is one of the leaders. We are happy that he is walking with the Lord and growing physically and spiritually.



Top student second year running and dad even dressed up for the event!



Tim turns 18 on Dec 31

Tim will turn 18 on Dec 31, of course. He is doing a foundation year at the nearby Universiti Tun Abdul Razak and will embark on a three-year degree programme for a Bachelor in English, which is right up his alley. Tim is enjoying his studies and excelling in his year.

He is a wonderful young adult too with a very caring and loving nature. He celebrated his birthday early and although his circle of friends is quite limited, we are pleased that in this small group, he has friends of all races

and also his good friend, Albert, who is an amazing special young adult studying law. Oh yes, although reluctant to drive, Tim took his driving test and is one step from getting his licence.

Angie back to work... and back to home

Angie went back to the workforce this year.... for a while at least. She joined Emmanuel Care Centre which she has volunteered at all these years as a full-time staff. However, this was changed to part-time after two months, before she made her exit in December. She will now go back to volunteering. After so many years as full-time mother, getting back into the workforce was not as easy as she thought.



On her birthday, Dec 6, she had an appendectomy. Surely a birthday she will always remember.

Oh yeah, we celebrated our 22nd anniversary in more pleasant circumstances, at church camp up in the highlands.



And as for Jin...

As for me, much of last year (2007) I had been on medical leave to undergo and recuperate from chemotherapy following the operation to remove a malignant lump in November 2006. I only got back to work in May to a new position as Special Projects Editor as the Sunday Star editorship had passed on to someone else in my absence. In the new year, however, I was surprisingly promoted to be Deputy Executive Editor. Although there is no clear portfolio, I am currently involved with the Business section of the paper. I am writing more these days and I thank God for the opportunity to bring some heart and soul into the heart of Corporate Malaysia being where I am.



Flashback to the day I finished my chemotherapy for those who never saw me bald!

I am in good health and keeping to my routine checks. My regular oncologist is now in the US so I am shifting to another hospital to be under another oncologist. My faithful ENT surgeon will of course be with me.

Other news

My mother is currently back in Penang and staying with my youngest sister, Betty. She had a health scare earlier in the year due to back pain but she is in good shape now.

Angie's parents are still very much enjoying life in their 90s. Her mum also had her appendix removed late last year, probably the oldest patient the doctor had to remove an appendix from. Incidentally, this is the same doctor that removed Angie's appendix as well.



From Penang



Mum at the wedding of my old buddy from school days who is her unofficial godson. My 5th, 6th and 8th sisters are in the picture above. I remember all those years when Rocky, now called Danial Abdullah, would take my mum to Penang and back as he went back every weekend. His lovely bride is Aishah.

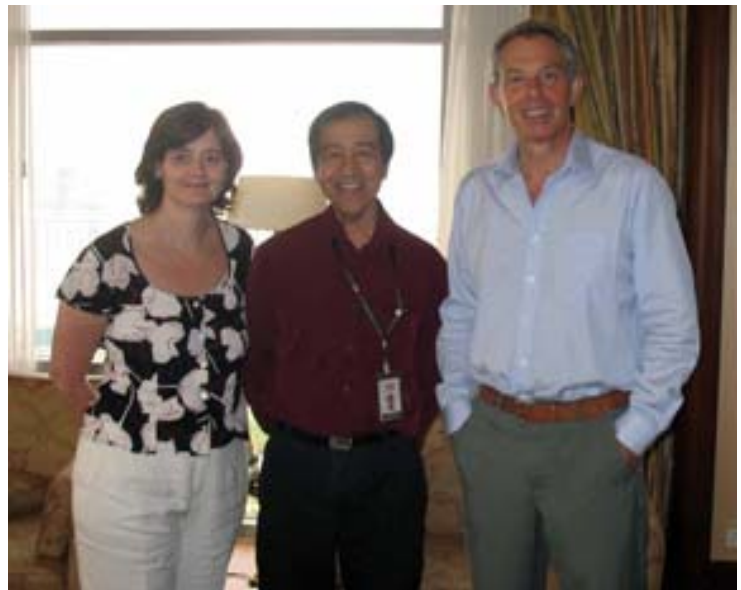


The Blairs and I

Met the Blairs in Kuala Lumpur. Cherie asked to see me to inquire about my health. How sweet of her.

We found time to attend a six-week marriage course and discovered that after 22 years, we still have a lot to learn.

I celebrated my birthday on Sept 25 with care group and neighbours. In this group photo are the many angels who cooked and cared for me during my cancer journey.



**Wishing you
Love & Peace at
Christmas and
Always.
Emmanuel.
God With Us.**

We'd love to hear from you.

Our address:
7 Jalan SS 5A/14
47301 Petaling Jaya
Selangor
MALAYSIA

Our emails:
ewejin@gmail.com
angeline.lim06@gmail.com
kevin.soo.87@gmail.com
lance_pandragon@hotmail.com