

PELICAN NEWS

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BLUE SKIES LOOK AHEAD TO A BRIGHTER 2023

CONFERENCE

BLUE SKIES

People from across all of Blue Skies operations in Africa, South America and Europe, came together during the first week of December for our annual group conference. The virtual conference provided a space to invite more people from across the sites, and engage in lively debates in a number of key topics for the business. The challenges that have arisen has meant it has been another difficult year but there were some exciting plans presented on the group's ambition centered around the theme of 'Rethink, Rebuild, and Refresh'. This would see the group rebuilding upon existing strategies, diversifying into new products and markets, and really driving sustainable efficiencies across the business. The conference also provided a platform for our 2022 Above and Beyond Awards, which recognises people who have gone to extraordinary lengths to help the business work towards its strategic goals. The full list of our Above and Beyond winners can be found on page 2.

SEASON'S GREETINGS



SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM US ALL AT BLUE SKIES



ABOVE & BEYOND AWARDS 2022

CONFERENCE

ABOVE & BEYOND AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners of our 2022 Above and Beyond Awards. They were announced in a virtual awards ceremony during the Blue Skies conference which was hosted by Alistair Djimatey. The winners are shown below.



DRIVING EFFICIENCIES

Gulam Ramji from our team at Heathrow for driving initiatives to reduce the cost of waste and distribution.



ACCELERATING PROFITABLE GROWTH

Flavia Mometti and Caio Andrade from Brazil for unlocking capacity for watermelon production in Brazil.



ENABLING DIVERSIFICATION

Ekramy Kamal and Eid El Hossary from Egypt Juice for their tireless work to grow juice sales and profitability and enter the market in Dubai.



CARING FOR PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES

Alicja Popiel and Karolina Ciogliene from Blue Skies UK for their care and support for staff and development of our Blueprint Community Action plan for Corby.



BALANCING THE BUSINESS

Joe Revell for the work on the gas make-up trials.



BLUEPRINT AWARD

Prince Gokah in Benin for improving the water recycling plant and introducing measures to reduce water and plastic use.



Our 2022 ABOVE & BEYOND CHAMPION
Flavia Mometti and Caio Andrade!



CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

Sampson
Kwahukumey from
Ghana Branded



Congratulations to Sampson Kwahukumey from Ghana Branded on being awarded the 2022 Chairman's Award. Sampson is the Occupational Health & Safety Officer for the Branded factory and also the lead fitness instructor for Blue Skies Ghana. Sampson was selected as the Chairman's winner for his drive and commitment for championing fitness and wellbeing, engaging the team and looking after those in need. Caring, considerate and overall a true fitness champion... Congratulations to Sampson!



STUDENTS INNOVATE IN FBL CHALLENGE

FBL CHALLENGE

SUSTAINABILITY

On the 1st December, students pitched innovative ideas to support us at Blue Skies to enhance our sustainable business practices, at this year's FBL Challenge business competition. We saw the shortlisted 4 teams present their innovative ideas to a panel of judges, composed of senior figures from both Blue Skies and the University and assess the students on their creativity, innovation, and the quality of their business ideas.

The evening was a huge success, with many peers, family members and supporters coming to watch. The students presented various developments, from pineapple peel fruit tea to reduce the typical 40-50% wastage from the exotic fruit, to migrating the market for mango seed mukhwas into the UK, and exploring the potential of conversion of food waste to eco-bioethanol.

"The students of today will bring the solutions of tomorrow, and so we must work together to find these solutions and address the challenges that we all face.

The hard work and creativity that the students put into their presentations have been truly inspiring" - Simon Derrick, Head of Sustainability at Blue Skies

The winning idea, pitched by students Jinal Thakkar, Jennifer O. Okeoma and Charles Williams, presented a plan to introduce natural incense sticks using mango peel and banana leaf fruit waste into the Blue Skies brand, providing a less toxic, biodegradable alternative into homes and religious practices across the UK. Congratulations to the winners and all of the students who participated in this year's challenge!



BLUE SKIES PROMOTIONS ACROSS WEST AFRICA

BLUE SKIES

WEST AFRICA

Congratulations to Ruth Adjei and Janet Lutterodt on their recent promotions. Ruth has recently been appointed the Director of Blue Skies West African companies, and Janet is our new Director of Ghana Freshcut. A huge congratulations from us all on their highly deserved promotions!



Newly appointed Director of West African companies - Ruth Adjei



Our new Director of Ghana Freshcut - Janet Lutterodt

BRAZIL BRING THE FESTIVE CHEER

BLUE SKIES

BRAZIL

In December, Blue Skies Brazil held several activities to get into the festive spirit. A Christmas party was held to support those living with cancer. Blue Skies provided the food and fresh fruit and drinks. The team also got together for a special lunch where there was a prize draw in which several members took away some exciting gifts! Winners of last month's Health & Wellness challenge were announced, with the top 3 finishers who had the most weight loss crowned the champions. Congratulations to the winners!



BLUE SKIES SERVES UP TASTY TREATS

BLUE SKIES

RECIPES

AP-PEELING TART

Simon Northcott, a member of the Pitsford NPD team recently made this very appealing Apple Tart! This simple yet delicious dessert makes a great tasting quick dessert.

All you need is:

4/5 eating apples

A sheet of ready made puff pastry

1 Lemon

Brown sugar

Butter (Plant based butter works well too)

Vanilla extract



[CLICK TO VIEW VIDEO](#)

CUSTOMER LUNCH MENU



On the 15th December, Blue Skies Corby had a customer visit. Simon from the NPD team put together a Christmas and fruit inspired menu which went down a treat! A huge well done to all at Corby and the NPD team!

Starter (Vg, GF)	Savoury (GF)	Sweet (GF)
Mushroom parfait	Pave Potato	Mango,
Pickled mushrooms	Roots	Coconut &
Pea shoots	Caramelized Parsnip	Rum trifle
7 day - Pineapple	Puree	
Sourdough (GF)	Shiitake Sauce	
	Watermelon Rind	
	Chutney	
	Griddled Baby Gem	
	Roasted Chicken Scraps	
	Bon-Bon	



PITSFORD XMAS MEAL

CHRISTMAS

CELEBRATIONS



On the 14th December, Blue Skies Pitsford and several members of the European group got together to celebrate the festive season with a Christmas dinner! This was the first official Christmas gathering since Covid. It was a great evening which brought many of the team together where we enjoyed some good food, and of course not forgetting the traditional Christmas quiz! A big thank you to Louise for organising this along with the quiz master Joe Revell!

A ROYAL PARTNERSHIP

FELIX PROJECT

CHARITY



The current cost of living crisis is resulting in foodbanks, pantries and social supermarkets seeing unprecedented levels of need. The latest partnership for The Felix Project is a one-million-pound starting fund which will be used to supply fridges and freezers to hundreds of charities in London and the rest of the UK. This is being funded by The Felix Project and The Prince of Wales Charitable Fund, established by His Majesty The King in 1979.



BLUE SKIES SUPPORT AMAZON FRESH NATIONAL YOUTH CHARITY EVENT

AMAZON

CHARITY EVENT

Recently we were asked to send 150 bags of our Amazon Pink Lady Apple slices 350g product to a charity event at Legacy Youth Zone in Croydon run by Amazon. This was an event run in partnership with the national youth charity Onside, who provide long term support helping 50,000 young people across the UK. You can watch the video of the event on the IG account [HERE](#) and you should be able to spot a few of the kids with the green bags!

BLUE SKIES EGYPT SMETA SOCIAL AUDIT SUCCESS

EGYPT

AUDIT

Blue Skies Egypt recently completed their SMETA Social Audit which was met with success. Congratulations to all of the team involved in Egypt!



FOUNDATION APPROVES 15 PROJECTS FOR 2023

GHANA

FOUNDATION



Foundation Council Members with the Foundation team after receiving the news that their projects had been approved

Simon and Anthony have recently been in Ghana, where they have joined the Foundation meetings with the directors, representing Albert Heijn, Waitrose and Blue Skies to review and approve the plans for 2023. They were also joined by the new Foundation Director for Albert Heijn, Erik Vorenkamp. We were the first Foundation supplier that he has visited following his appointment, and he was keen to point out how he wants to build a closer commercial link to the Foundation. During the visit, the team saw some excellent examples of where the Foundation is having an impact, including Chinto School and the Mango Farmers Centre of Excellence, as well as seeing some of the major challenges faced in many areas. We are pleased to say there have been 15 projects approved for 2023, including 8 projects in Ghana. These include projects such as water initiatives, which will enable communities and schools to have access to clean water for drinking and washing. It also includes new classroom blocks to help provide better education facilities. Alongside this, the Foundation will also be providing a crèche for the local prison. This will enable the children of inmates to have access to facilities and be near their parents. All of the projects will have a positive impact on the communities, and together we are looking forward to having a positive year in 2023.



Erik with school children at Chinto



Paul presenting a football to the head teacher at Chinto School