

PELICAN NEWS

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BLUE SKIES CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

ANNIVERSARY

25 YEARS

Sunday 26th February marked a hugely momentous occasion in Blue Skies, as we celebrated our 25th Anniversary! This is the official date when Blue Skies delivered its first ever consignment of fruit from Ghana to the UK back in 1998. Fast forward 25 years, and we are now serving a global customer base, employing over 5,000 people in factories in Ghana, Egypt, South Africa, Brazil, Benin & UK, and continuing to deliver incredible fresh tasting fruit. This 25th anniversary really is a special one, which is why the celebrations will be continuing throughout the year, so look out for the main events happening across the week of 5th- 11th June. We'll all be celebrating our Founder Anthony Pile for his incredible vision for Blue Skies and all he has achieved over the years! Head on over to our Facebook page to see the Anniversary launch in Ghana. Here's to the next 25 years! <https://lnkd.in/eSjN75Fw>



Click or scan the QR code to take you to our '25th Anniversary Logo Unveil video'



HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY BLUE SKIES!

GHANA ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday 26th February, celebrations took place in Ghana to engage in the 25th Anniversary. A ceremony took place to unveil the Anniversary logo, as well as relive some moments building up to this historic day, including messages from staff, farmers, senior directors and pioneers from the business, and a moving video message from our Chairman Anthony Pile.

Click to watch video message from Anthony Pile



The symbolic tree planting signifies the growth and resilience of our incredible business, bringing together people who have made this incredible company what it is today.



HAPPY 3RD ANNIVERSARY BLUE SKIES BENIN!

BENIN

ANNIVERSARY



On Friday 24th February, Blue Skies Benin celebrated their third anniversary! The team enjoyed a special anniversary cake, as pictured here which was celebrated with all the staff on duty that day. Many staff off duty also came together to enjoy this special day. Friday also saw the final of the football pelican league both for men and women's teams. Congratulations Blue Skies Benin!



Football Pelican League



FRESH FLAVOUR IN RSA

RSA

NPD



Simon Northcott from our UK NPD team recently visited our South Africa site to learn more about local trends and gain a deeper understanding of our site capabilities. Simon was looked after by Andre and the team, and during his visit was able to get to work on a number of interesting concepts for the food to go sector, based around plant-based fresh ingredients and fusions of spices and seasonings.

There are plenty of opportunities for fruit mixes which Simon has been able to identify and feedback to the wider team. An exciting time for the NPD team and we're looking forward seeing what products may come from this.



Lightly spiced cous-cous, green salad - cucumber, apple, sugar snaps and peas, topped with fresh blueberries.



Mango Chia pudding pot is perfect with the Mango chia and yoghurt, finishing with a granola crunch.



Simon took part in his first RSA Parkrun and won, but in another running related story, whilst out on an early morning run on a trail, came across this track... (A few minutes later he was running in a different direction - could it be the elusive Caracal?)

FRESHPPACT: ON A MISSION IN GHANA

Five Solutions Shortlisted By FRESHPPACT To Mitigate Plastic Pollution In Ghana

FRESHPPACT, an Industry Research and Development Hub created by Blue Skies to find solutions to sustainability challenges, has shortlisted five solutions with the potential to mitigate plastics pollution in Ghana. Together with FRESHPPACT, the organisations behind each solution are currently visiting Ghana to conduct further research and develop detailed plans to show how their solutions will deliver maximum benefit for communities in Ghana. The winning solutions will go on to receive up to £200,000 each towards testing and implementing their solutions in Ghana over the next three years.

The Five Solutions shortlisted by FRESHPPACT include:

1. The use of food waste to create alternative materials, such as coconut coir for use on farms as mulch (Greenshopper)
2. Custom-built machinery to improve the mulch collection process (Data Solutions Hub)
3. Biodegradable workwear (Multiwrap)
4. Plant-based packaging materials (Kelpi)
5. Paper-based packaging materials (The University of Greenwich).

To learn more, watch the video here:



In Ghana with our shortlisted solution partners to conduct further research & develop detailed plans



Photo credit to
Beantalk.Global: Max
Macgillivray

To learn more, visit the
FRESHPPACT website below



BRAZIL SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES WITH FRUIT DONATIONS

BLUE SKIES

BRAZIL



Here are some photos of our support with donations of ripe mangoes to charities in the region. The Instituto Reviver was the NGO that collected the most donations last year. They commented that they were able to distribute the donations among 17 drug addiction recovery centers and dozens of families in need. Attached are photos of our contribution to the Social Fund of the City of Mogi das Cruzes, where we donated pots of mango to shelters for the elderly, which were delivered by some musicians from the local symphony orchestra, who took advantage of the occasion and performed for the elderly. At the end of December, the pest control service provider offered to take ripe mangoes that were available for donation to Afghan families who were sheltering at the Guarulhos airport in São Paulo. - By Angelo Silva, HR Coordinator Brazil



EGYPT BLOOD DONATION CAMPAIGN

EGYPT

WELLBEING



On the 23rd February, Blue Skies Egypt carried out a blood donation campaign for the benefit of the injured in the country and also to provide it any one in the business. Pictured below are some of the managerial members, and medical staff supervising the process.



BREAKFAST MORNINGS

Mohamed Bahgat, General Manager of our Egypt factory, recently introduced a breakfast morning to bring staff together as a way to keep moral up during challenging times. Maintaining health and wellbeing is critical to ensuring staff are kept happy and motivated. The team welcomed this breakfast and are enjoying these gatherings.



NEW ROLE FOR EKRAMY KAMAL

EGYPT

TEAM UPDATES



We officially announce the appointment of Ekramy Kamal as the Group Project and Processing Manager with effect from 1st April 2023. Ekramy will remain based in Egypt and will report to Andre. Ekramy will be working in conjunction with all sites and their leaders to move matters of process and project engineering forward. Additionally, he will be supporting the Innovation teams globally in helping to commercialise waste streams, as well as continuing to manage the sales and marketing of the Egyptian Juice Export business. Ekramy brings with him many years of Blue Skies experience in various roles which we believe will greatly benefit the group. Congratulations to Ekramy!

CORBY'S UNFORGETTA-BOWL EVENING

CORBY

TEAM ACTIVITY



Some of the team at Corby recently enjoyed a team night out bowling!

The team choose to spend the long winter evening productively by meeting after work to enjoy time together with a fun game of bowling. Pictured here are the group with some of their families.

THE FELIX PROJECT EMPTY PLATE APPEAL

DONATIONS

THE FELIX PROECT

Blue Skies are proud to be supporting The Felix's Project recent 'Empty Plate Appeal' as a way to combat hunger and fill millions of plates this winter. The awareness from this campaign has helped to raise importance of the critical work The Felix team do everyday in helping to fight hunger and tackle food waste. You can learn more about the project by clicking the image. In January, our surplus fruit contributed to providing 2,445 meals.



30 DAYS OF HAPPINESS

MEANINGFUL WORK

HR



Healthier, Happier People

At the start of the year, the '30 Days of Happiness' was rolled out across various sites as a way to create little moments of happiness that we can do to boost our mood, combat anxiety and depression, and live with less stress. Daily challenges were sent out each day, and this initiative was a great reminder of the little things we can do each day to bring about positivity.