



PELICAN NEWS

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BLUE SKIES WIN BIG AT THE FRESH PRODUCE AWARDS IN LONDON

FPC AWARDS

On the 29th September, Blue Skies attended the FPC Awards in London, and we are delighted to have been awarded 'Best Place to Work' and 'Sustainability Excellence' on the night! These awards truly highlight the amazing work of our people across the business, so a huge well done to everyone at Blue Skies! The Sustainability Award was in recognition of the progress we have made with the Blue Skies Foundation over the last 15 years, and we are honoured to receive this prestigious accolade but we cannot do so without acknowledging the close involvement and support of our partners at Waitrose & Partners and Albert Heijn who have been with us since the Foundation started in 2009. So a big THANK YOU to all the people involved in our Foundation across our business, and a special thank you to Waitrose and Albert Heijn, who have made it possible for us to transform so many lives.

BLUE SKIES ARE FINALISTS IN WEETABIX SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

FOOD & DRINK AWARDS

SUSTAINABILITY

Blue Skies have been shortlisted for the Sustainability Award in the Northamptonshire Food & Drink Awards 2023. The awards evening will be taking place on Wednesday 1st November where the winners will be announced on the night.





ANTHONY HONOURED AT PAPA 2023 AFRICA AWARDS

AWARDS



Anthony Pile, the founder and chairman of Blue Skies was honoured at the Prestigious Annual Predecessors Awards 2023 in September. Anthony received recognition under the Leadership Category for his contribution to the long-term positive impact his work has made in Ghana.

With a theme "LEGACY: Impart before You Depart", the Founding President of the Awards stated the objective of the project was "to celebrate predecessors from various walks of life who have left their footprints in the sands of time". Other honorees from Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Benin, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Angola received recognition for their contributions to Africa in their respective fields. Congratulations Mr. Pile!



WELLNESS MONTH

The health theme for the month in Ghana was "Fitness for Improved Health". The Blue Skies clinic collaboration with the Keep Fit team organised a Health Walk to crown all the physical wellness activities scheduled in the month. In addition, a departmental health talk on the importance of fitness was held to encourage staff to be more active. The team in Ghana were privileged to have Anthony join the Health Walk which crowned all the wellness activities for the month of September.



BLUE SKIES WIN AT CORPORATE WALK AND RUN

Blue Skies Ghana was invited to a Corporate Run and Walk event. The event is scheduled every year in September aimed at promoting regular exercise amongst corporate Ghana and serves as an opportunity for businesses to connect. The Branded factory used the opportunity to sell and exhibit its wonderful products. Agnes Bayor of production took away the prize for the fastest female in the race. The branded factory partnered with Respect Health to exhibit and sell at the Made In Ghana Fair on the 21st September which commemorate Nkrumah Memorial Day.



MONTHLY FOCUS IN SA



HR INITIATIVES

FUNKY SOCKS DAY FOR FINANCE TEAM

The BSSA finance team joined-in the “Funky Socks Day” initiative , which is all about walking the walk for good in communities, by purchasing stickers. The proceeds from the Funky Socks stickers will go straight towards building new school infrastructure for Lusemanzi Early Childhood Development Centre. A play-based, Early Childhood development organisation that gives little ones in South African communities the head start they deserve.



BSSA FINANCE TEAM CELEBRATES HERITAGE DAY

Heritage Day is a South African public holiday celebrated on 24th September. On this day, South Africans are encouraged to celebrate their culture and the diversity of their beliefs and traditions, in the wider context of a nation that belongs to all its people.





UK COMMERCIAL TEAM EXPLORE BENIN SUGARLOAF

Recently some of the commercial team took a trip to our Benin site, where the team were hosted by our General Manager, Elisee and team. Mark Crawford, Mark Moody, Kathryn Turvey and Matt Farebrother all spent time at the factory and out on farms reviewing the many opportunities Benin has to offer when it comes to pineapple production. Benin is widely known for its diverse culture, stunning landscapes and the delicious fruits grown within its rich soil, and it's also a place where sustainable farming practices have made it a respected leader in the region. We are excited for the potential that Benin has to offer, along with the expansion and various projects we have in progress for Benin. A big thank you to Elisee and the team for hosting this wonderful trip.



BLUE SKIES BENIN SUPPORTS LOCAL SCHOOLS WITH TEXTBOOKS

The factory in Benin has donated over 750 mathematics and French textbooks to the district Education office in Allada to support local schools in the area. This gesture was in response to a request by the Mayor of Allada in his bid to improve teaching and learning of Maths and French. The Director of Education in Allada, who received the books on behalf of the schools, expressed his appreciation to Blue Skies for its prompt response to their need and for prioritising education within the area.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MATT FAREBROTHER



Sending birthday wishes to Matt in our UK Commercial team. Matt celebrated a big birthday in September and celebrated by sharing the day with family and friends and also went to the opening game of the Rugby World Cup in Paris as his present. We hope you enjoyed your day Matt!

SAMPSON LEADS THE PITSFORD TEAM IN A KEEP FIT SESSION



On the 26th September, Sampson led some of the team at Pitsford for a Keep Fit session. Despite the rain earlier in the morning, the session went ahead and was great fun! A special thanks to Sampson for bringing his energy and passion to the fitness session!



PITSFORD HOLD MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

On the 26th September, the Pitsford team supported the MacMillan Coffee Morning to raise funds for Cancer Support. This event also coincided with International Week of Happiness at work which runs from the 25th to the 29th of September. The team were joined by Fleur De Wit who was over from Ghana, and Amanda Frisby who recently joined the technical team. We also hosted our 2022 Chairman's Award Winner, Sampson Kwawukumey who came over from Ghana. Sampson led the team during a Keep Fit session in Pitsford.



To help celebrate diversity, staff were encouraged to bring in foods with an international theme which proved to be very successful! All together, we managed to raise £635 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to everyone who donated and supported with their bakes and treats for all to enjoy, and thank you to Hella for organising a magnificent reservoir swim in the evening, where Katherine and Fleur also joined in the fun!

SUCCESSFUL RESULTS IN BRAZIL



BRAZIL

AUDITS

BRC AUDIT

The team in Brazil celebrated a successful BRC Audit, and passed with AA+ grade and only 3 minor NCs. Congratulations to everyone for your hard work!



CUSTOMER AUDIT

Brazil completed another successful customer audit where we were approved with 4 minor non-conformances and GREEN status. The Brazil team is pictured below with Susan Fulcher, the auditor.



FOUNDATION MONTHLY REPORT



FOUNDATION INAUGURATES A NEW TEACHERS ACCOMMODATION BLOCK



FOUNDATION

Located in Adusuazor, in the Jomoro district of the Western region, this project aims to address a critical need for suitable housing for teachers in the local farming community. By providing comfortable and safe accommodation, we believe it will significantly enhance the quality of education and attract and retain highly qualified teachers, thereby positively impacting the educational outcomes for the students. One of our lead farmers in the community, Abanga Asando on behalf of the community, expressed his sincere gratitude to the Blue Skies Foundation for their generous support and commitment to improving education and the overall well-being of communities in Ghana. Without the support, this project would not have been possible, and the implications for the community would have been significant.

This accomplishment signifies a significant milestone in our shared mission to create positive and sustainable change. By investing in education and addressing the housing needs of rural teachers, we are not only improving the quality of learning but also enhancing the overall socio-economic development of the community. - By Alistair Djimatey

