

PELICAN NEWS

Blue Skies Newsletter | April 2024 | Issue 211 | www.blueskies.com



BLUE SKIES CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

EARTH DAY

SUSTAINABILITY

On the 22nd April, Blue Skies celebrated Earth Day with the aim to raise awareness and adopt some simple ways to live more sustainably.

The team came up with a number of pledges including tips to save energy, reduce food waste and become more nature aware. Those who made a pledge were also entered into our Earth Day prize draw, where we offered a luxury food hamper for the winner. Congratulations to Kathryn Turvey who was chosen at random as the winner!

Earth Day was celebrated across our sites, and the collaborative effort to initiate conversations about the urgent need for environmental action was evident. Every small step matters, whether it's using reusable products, supporting sustainable businesses, or advocating for eco-friendly practices in our communities. A big thank you to all who supported this day.

Find out what our sites got up to in their own initiatives on Earth Day in the article below.



BRAZIL TAKE ACTION FOR EARTH DAY

In celebration of Earth Day, our dedicated team in Brazil embarked on a mission of environmental stewardship, engaging in waste collection around our factory. This meaningful action not only cultivated a mindset of responsibility towards our planet but also served as an inspiration for others to join us in creating a sustainable world. The team also took the opportunity to share learnings on native trees in Brazil, sharing valuable insights on the characteristics and benefits of these trees, emphasising their crucial role in the restoration and protection of Brazil's natural heritage. They also distributed native tree seedlings to team members. The Earth Day initiatives in Brazil are not just isolated gestures, but a meaningful step towards fostering a collective commitment to environmental conservation. Through waste collection, tree planting, and knowledge sharing, we inspire others to take action in their own communities and contribute to a more sustainable world.



BLUE SKIES CORBY EMBRACES EARTH DAY WITH A BEE AND SUMMER GARDEN OASIS

In honour of Earth Day, the passionate team at Blue Skies Corby came together to create an enchanting Bee Garden and Summer garden. With dedication, they have transformed an area into a vibrant sanctuary, complete with a relaxing pathway and peaceful seating. The team have also lovingly planted an array of herbs, flowers, berries, and vegetables, adding a touch of natural beauty to their surroundings. A big thank you to everyone who played a part in bringing this vision to life, especially Indre Vaitkeviciute, Aneta Piwowska, Donatas Vareika, and Andrzej Warminski. The team at Blue Skies Corby eagerly anticipates enjoying the fruits of their labour in this stunning garden oasis, with a shared desire to unwind and find solace in the tranquility of nature.



EARTH DAY: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE!

On 22nd April, Ghana joined people around the world to observe and celebrate Earth Day, a movement that advocates for environmental protection and sustainability. This year's theme "Planet vs Plastic" emphasised the need to prioritise the planet over plastic. To demonstrate our commitment to the cause, Staff and members on the BS KeepFit Club embarked on a collective cleaning drive to remove all plastic waste around the perimeter of the factory. This initiative shed more light on the alarming amount of plastic scattered around Dobro. Mary Aka, our Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Auditor also used the occasion to educate members of the KeepFit about the importance of waste segregation.



MONTHLY UPDATES IN GHANA



EASTER FUN FIT EVENT

GHANA

KEEPFIT EVENTS



On Easter Monday, members of the Blue Skies Keep Fit Club gathered for a vibrant and energetic fitness event titled "Easter Fun Fit with Instructor Richard." This special occasion brought together fitness enthusiasts of all ages and abilities for a morning filled with fun, movement, and community spirit. The event kicked off under the clear blue skies of Easter morning, setting a perfect backdrop for outdoor activities. Instructor Richard, known for his infectious enthusiasm and expertise in fitness training, led the group through a series of engaging workouts designed to promote health and well-being. By combining exercise with seasonal joy, the Blue Skies Keep Fit Club created a memorable experience that left participants eagerly anticipating the next community fitness gathering. In the spirit of Easter and the celebration of health, the Club's Easter Fun Fit event was a resounding success, embodying the essence of wellness, togetherness, and joyful movement.



HEALTH FOCUS: TOGETHER AGAINST MALARIA

GHANA

HEALTH & WELLBEING

As part of its activities to celebrate World Malaria Day, the Clinic in Ghana dedicated the month of April to advocate for malaria prevention and control. Malaria remains a serious global health challenge. To raise awareness about the impact of malaria, departmental health talks were organised by Health professionals to sensitise Staff about the need for continuous effort to eliminate this deadly disease. Additionally, a mass screening program was conducted at the Daniel Safo Sports Complex for Staff and people in the community to identify cases and to enable prompt treatment of affected persons.

BLUE SKIES WISH ISAAC AND YAW FAREWELL AND A HAPPY RETIREMENT

RETIREMENT

FAREWELL

On 12th April, Isaac Odjam retired after 22 years of loyal service to Blue Skies. Isaac has been an integral member of the Agronomy team in Ghana, contributing significantly to various initiatives notably the Fairtrade certification for farmers in Ghana. Isaac's vast knowledge and experience in Agriculture has been invaluable to the successes of the Agronomy department. His kindness and patience always created a positive work environment and has been shining example of professionalism and commitment to excellence. Staff in the department came together for a short ceremony to wish Isaac a happy retirement. During a speech, Emily thanked Isaac for all his contributions to the business and for his dedicated service.



Similarly, on the 16th of April, Yaw Sarpong of Warehouse hung up his scissors and retired from Blue Skies after 15 years of dedicated service. Yaw worked as a tailor with the Warehouse department in Ghana. For years, Yaw has been the go-to tailor for the business, creating uniforms and bubble wraps with precision and care. He worked tirelessly to advance the course of our business. Beyond his technical expertise, he has been a mentor, a friend, and an inspiration to many.

As these colleagues embark on a chapter in their lives, we wish them a happy retirement and hope they stay in touch. We will deeply miss them, but we are grateful for the time we had to work alongside them.



APPRECIATION FOR THE BLUE SKIES FOUNDATION

AWARDS

FOUNDATION

On the 14th March, Blue Skies received a letter of appreciation from the department of Education in MPUMALANGA PROVINCE for their work in the Foundation and their support during the awards ceremony held on the 1st March 2024. Blue Skies has supported the education department by providing essential tools such as laptops which were awarded to the top achieving students, which have greatly assisted the students in their studies at universities. The department of education recognises the crucial support Blue Skies Foundation offers, and looks forward to a long standing partnership. To the right is the note of appreciation, and the certificate was presented to the Blue Skies Foundation at the awards ceremony. Congratulations to all!



Foundation Manager Ms Waydu Nhlapo

Grootvlei CHC, Clinic Committee and staff, would like to thank you sincerely for the donation you made towards our Open Day held on 1st March 2024.

Regards,

Mr O Njobe (Chairperson, Clinic Committee)

WEDDING CELEBRATIONS

BLUE SKIES

CELEBRATIONS



Ginni and I were delighted to attend the wedding of Sai Tarun and Cherishma in Bangalore in February. Sai Tarun is the son of Sri G.V.K Naidu. GVK has been a great supporter of Blue Skies over many years and his business, SamAgri, supplies us with Pomegranate fruits. The wedding took place over 3 days during which we enjoyed meeting many of the SamAgri team and we were entertained with wonderful celebrations. A huge “thank you” to GVK. The photo shows us offering a blessing to the happy couple, we wish them both a long, happy and successful life together!

-Written by George Hutton.

MONTHLY UPDATES IN BRAZIL



CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

BRAZIL

FRUIT DONATIONS

Blue Skies Brasil was honoured by the Municipal Hospital of Mogi das Cruzes for contributing to the municipality with donations of ripe mangoes, unsuitable for our process. Congratulations to the team for their hard work and supporting the local communities.



HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING

During April, the team held a few other training initiatives on Health & Safety, with a focus on firefighting training and training sessions surrounding health and wellbeing. Together, health and safety create an environment where individuals can thrive, businesses can prosper and societies can flourish, allowing us to enjoy every moment and face challenges with strength and resilience.



NEXT MONTH

GREAT GREEN GAMES

The Great Green Games kicks off at the end of next month! Look out for details on this as we aim to encourage us all to keep fit and have fun together, whilst raising awareness of the importance of protecting biodiversity,

