

Blue Skies Newsletter | July 2018 | Issue 146 | www.blueskies.com

# Introducing the **Blue Print Awards**

This month, Blue Skies have introduced the Blue Print Awards to help us find our sustainability champions.



Have you been involved in a successful project or initiative that has helped the business become more efficient, inspire people, reduce our impact on the environment, or support local communities? Have you setup or participated in an Action Group that has helped us achieve one of our Blue Print targets?

If you have, then you could stand a chance at winning a Blue Print Award! Held towards the end of the year, the Blue Print Awards recognise achievement in working towards our Blue Print Targets and provide a platform for Blue Skies to share

best practice across the group. Awards are given to people who can successfully demonstrate how they have gone above and beyond to ensure the business brings benefit to the people, communities and environment that we rely on both now and in the future.

You can enter in any of the following categories: Protecting the Environment, Inspiring People, Supporting Communities and Driving Efficiency

You can apply as an individual or on behalf of a Department or Action Group

To enter, simply fill in the form at: www.blueskies.com/blueprintawards

Learn about our Blue Print Targets here: www.blueskies.com/blueprint

#### **Key Dates:**

- -Deadline for entries: 30th September
- -Judging takes palace in October
- -Winners will be announced at the end of November

### ▼ 102 Avg.Resting: 66 GARMIN

Win a fitness watch!

#### How do we recycle more water?

#### Send us your Big Ideas!

This month we're looking for ideas to help us recycle water. If you have an idea to help us achieve this, or any idea, please let us know at:



http://www.blueskies.com/ideas/

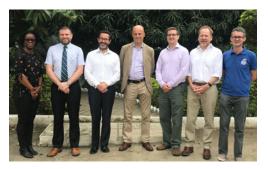
The best ideas will also be considered for our annual Blue Print Awards

### Blue Skies Ice Cream shortlisted for Grocer Award

Blue Skies Dairy-Free Ice Cream has been short listed for a Grocer New Product Award. Blue Skies are up against Ben & Jerry's, Alpro and Rebel Kitchen in the Dairy Free category. Winners will be announced on 5th October.



# **DFID & DIT** visit Ghana



Senior representatives of the UK Department for International Development and the Department for International Trade visited the Blue Skies Factory this month. The delegation included Tim Singleton, Communications Director at DFID, Toby Orr, Communications and Marketing Director at DIT, Philip Smith, Head of DFID Ghana, Selasi Nukpe, Deputy Head of DIT Ghana and Nicholas Baynham, Livelihoods and Climate Advisor at DIFD.



# **Egypt pass a string of third party audits**

Congratulations to Blue Skies Egypt who have passed a string of audits including ISO 22000 (food safety) and OHSAS 18001 (health and safety) where zero non conformances were achieved. In addition, a successful Fairtrade audit took place for the factory and there were unannounced audits for BRC and ASDA food safety. Well done to all the team on these excellent results, which continue to demonstrate Blue Skies high standards in food safety and ethical sourcing. The team are pictured above following the unannounced BRC and ASDA audits.

### **Albert Heijn visit Corby**



Pictured above: Willemine from Albert Heijn visiting Corby for an NPD session. Willemine had a factory tour, market review and NPD discussion for lots of potential future launches.'

### **Top BRC result for South Africa**



John Currie came to South Africa to do the BRC (food safety) audit on the 3 – 5th July. The team did exceptionally well with just two minor non-conformances. This is an AA result which is the best possible. All the team worked perfectly together and it was very nice to host such a professional audit from John. Pictured left to right: Lucia Mashinini, Sonette van Wyk, Carol Ramawa (new technical manager factory 1), John Currie and Isabelle Fisher.

## Introducing: Brian Bircham



This month Brian Bircham has joined us at Pitsford as our new Global Brand Manager. Brian's core role will be in supporting all markets on their local marketing and sales expansion, helping to develop the right marketing strategies, and ensuring excellence in execution. He has great strategy experience, having worked for the global consultancy firm Cap Gemini, and also in marketing at Kelloggs. We all wish Brian well in his new adventure with Blue Skies.



### **Meet Charles Adu**



Nominated by: Diederick Olijve of Blue Skies Netherlands.

When Charles Adu of the Technical Team in Blue Skies Ghana is not ensuring the quality of our fruit, he spends his spare time helping children in orphanages. He even took a weeks holiday in June to volunteer at an orphanage. We think this makes Charles is a real Blue Skies hero!

### **Badminton Ace visits Blue Skies**



Ghanaian Badminton Champion Grace Atipaka recently paid a visit to Blue Skies. Grace, a former employee of Blue Skies, has been playing professionally since 2012. She was named Badminton Player of the Year in 2017 and has ambitions to become the world number one.

### **A tale of two Promises**





Same smile, same loyalty to Blue Skies, same competence, friendliness and intelligence, two different Promises! Pictured above are Promise in South Africa (shown left) and Promise in Ghana (pictured right). Thank you to Stephan Morris for the photos.

### **Nominate your Heroes**

If you know someone who can be considered a true Blue Skies Hero, please let us know by sending a nomination at: <a href="http://www.blueskies.com/nominate">http://www.blueskies.com/nominate</a>



### **Blue Skies Babies**



Pictured above is Lion (Mthokosi Skosana) who works in fruit intake at Blue Skies South Africa holding baby girl Ziphozonke Hadebe, the daughter of Hengiwe Hadebe who works in high care at Blue Skies South Africa. Hengiwe is on maternity leave at present, but cannot resist coming to site every few days to chat with her friends and show off her lovely baby!

### Blue Skies Brazil introduces Occupational Gymnastics



Blue Skies Brazil recently introduced occupational gymnastics for its staff. Occupational gymnastics can improve the physical and psychological condition of staff; helps with integration (when practiced in a group), improves participation and team production; corrects postural defects; improves the willingness to work; reduces pathologies and cases of repetitive strain injuries and work-related musculoskeletal disorders. It can also help to decrease stress levels and tension in general. Staff are pictured above carrying out exercises in high care. *By Flavia Mometti* 

## **Blue Skies hosts Republic Day volleyball competition**



The Republic Day Volleyball competition which Blue Skies hosted at the request of the Ghana Deaf Volleyball Association was a success as all four Teams brought their representatives to partake in the activities. It started in the early hours of the day and ended in the evening at 5:45 pm. It was an 'all play all' system for both male and female teams. There were also indoor games happening concurrently alongside the main volleyball event. In effect it went very well with all the participants and they are eternally grateful by expressing their profound appreciation for the hospitality and care accorded them. The President of the Ghana Volleyball Association who recently won the vote and now doubles as the President of the African Volleyball Association Mr. Paul Atsoe, graced the occasion accompanied by the former National coach and still the coach for the Ghana Immigration Service, Mr. Benjamin Anye.

In the awards department, Blue Skies grabbed some individual awards with the Best Male Setter going to Darlington Cecil, Best Female Libero going to Grace Ashinyo and the Best Female Attacker given to Diana Azaglo. The ultimate BEST TEAM prizes for both male and female went to BLUE SKIES TEAM for winning first position in both categories. Kudos to all and thanks to all for the important role played in making this a real success. We say Ayekoo to management for the endless support. Report by Joseph Kpabitey, Blue Skies Ghana

# Blue Skies SA receives donation for local school



Blue Skies South Africa recently received a donation of educational toys for one of the local schools. We would like to say thank you to the donors as it has made a great impact on the grade RR learners. This was done on the 18 of July 2018 when we celebrate Mandela's Day and 67 minutes for Mandela. The aim of 67 minutes is to call out people everywhere to celebrate his birthday by acting on the idea that each person has the power to change the world. This idea was inspired by Nelson Mandela at his 90th birthday celebration in London's Hyde Park in 2008 when he said: it is time for new hands to lift the burden, it is in your hand now. By Waydu Nhlapo.



#### **Pelican News Appeal**

My name is Sally and I an Mervat's daughter. As some of you may be aware, I have just completed Ben Nevis, which is the tallest mountain in UK. I did it to raise money for SAFE Africa, which is to help make anaesthesia safer in developing countries. Myself and my colleagues have raised over our £3,000 target and I just wanted to thank everyone who donated so generously! It was tough but well worth it for a great cause and the views were amazing!

For my next charity adventure I am doing the Cancer Research UK half marathon Shine Walk 2018 with my dad, Khaled and my brother Shawki. We are once again asking for any donations for this great charity. Myself, my dad and my brother are medics are we have seen the effects of cancer on patients and their families and we feel it is important to raise money to fund vital research to cure those affected. On a personal level, we have had family members affected by cancer and we are doing this in their memory. If you would like to sponsor the El-Ghazali, please do so on this link: https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/el-ghazali-family-team

Thanks once again - any donations and your support would be greatly appreciated!