



Pelican News



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Blue Skies Newsletter

Blue Skies awards 2016 School Farm winners in Ghana



Blue Skies has awarded the winners of the 2016 School Farm of the Year during a ceremony at St Martin's Senior High School in Nsawam, Ghana on the 25th of November.

Over 600 students attended the ceremony representing sixty schools who participated in this year's School Farm of the Year Competition.

The School Farm of the Year competition was launched by Blue Skies in 2015 as a way to encourage more young people to take an interest in farming, and help raise the profile of agriculture. This year it was sponsored by Cleave and Co, Kosmos Energy and supported by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Ghana Education Service.

In the competition, schools are required to setup and manage their own 'School Farms' and submit business plans to ensure their sustainability. Teams of inspectors made up of agricultural experts visit the participating schools periodically to assess their performance and ultimately determine the winners.

This year the SHS School Farm of the Year was awarded to Christian High SHS, and the JHS School Farm of the Year was awarded to Anoff MA JHS.

The full list of winners can be found on the School Farm of the Year web page at www.blueskies.com/schoolfarm



Above: Best Senior High School awarded to Christian High SHS

Blue Skies makes the Fast 50 list

Blue Skies has come in at number 24 in the 2016 Catalyst Grocer's 'Fast 50' list of the UK's fastest growing food companies, reporting a two-year annual compound growth rate (CAGR) of 19.8%, just ahead of Charlie Bigham's ready meals. Top of the list is BrewDog with Sales of £44.7 million and a two-year annual compound growth rate of 57.3%.



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Work begins on new SA factory



Work is now underway to construct a new factory for Blue Skies South Africa. The factory will give South Africa additional capacity to supply fresh-cut fruit and freshly squeezed juice and is expected to be completed by February 2017. Thanks to Stephan Morris for the photograph.

Leaders debate the future of Blue Skies



Blue Skies held a GM's conference in the UK this month to discuss plans for 2017 and debate the company's strategy for the next five years. The pictured shows members of the Blue Skies Executive, General Managers, Senior Managers outside the conference room at Highgate House in Northamptonshire.

Fair Poms for Egypt



Congratulations to Blue Skies Egypt who underwent a successful audit to achieve Fairtrade certification for the Pomegranate Association. The result means that Egypt can continue supplying Fairtrade certified pomegranate for our customers.

Blue Skies Ghana win AGI award

Congratulations to Blue Skies Ghana who were recently named Agribusiness of the Year at the 2016 Association of Ghana Industry Awards (AGI).

Important cargo flies in to Ghana



Pictured above: Flavia and Daniele arriving in Accra on a Cargolux 747 from Petrolina, Brazil.

Blue Skies Foundation to consider project in Egypt for 2017

Representatives of Albert Heijn and the Blue Skies Foundation visited Egypt this month to look at how the Foundation can be extended to implement projects here in 2017. Ge Happe and Henri Zondag from Albert Heijn along with Frank Brinkman from Bakker joined Anthony Pile and Simon Derrick in a visit to the factory, hosted by General Manager Mohamed Abdul Razik and his team. Together they visited the factory and stopped off at a mango farm in the town of Belbes before looking at two potential projects including an education centre and a clinic. The Foundation Board will meet in January 2017 to approve projects to support next year and hopes to be able to consider its first project from Egypt.



Above: Anthony and Mohamed at an education centre in the town of Belbes



Above: Ge, Henri, Frank and Mohamed tasting melon at the factory

Photos of our School Farm Winners



*Best Junior High School awarded to
Anoff MA JHS*



*Best Female Student (SHS) awarded to
Jasmine Dede of Christian High*



*Best Female Student (JHS), Irene
Agenyo of Ankwane Dobro Basic Sch*



*Best Male Student (SHS) awarded to
Edward Brown of Aburi Sectech*



*Best Male Student (JHS) awarded to
Agbesie Frank, of Anoff Basic School.*

See all the photos at:
www.blueskies.com/schoolfarm

Blue Skies judges juice competition



Blue Skies recently judged the final of a Sixth Form Business Studies competition at Guilsbrough School (near to the Blue Skies HQ) to come up with a business proposition for a new brand of fruit juice. Two groups of students reached the final with two juice brands, Pack-a-punch and Vusa. Both groups made exceptional presentations, but the winning team 'Pack-a-punch' (pictured above) impressed the judges with their good market knowledge and their excellent awareness of their target market. Hilario and Sarah from Blue Skies HQ are pictured above with the winners.

Anthony becomes a Ghanaian citizen



Congratulations to our Founder and Chairman Anthony Pile who has been granted citizenship in Ghana. Anthony is pictured with Mrs. Adealaide Anno-Kumi, Chief Director at the Ministry of the Interior, after being officially recognized as a Ghanaian citizen.

Farewell



Farewell to Fred Forson of British Airways in Ghana who is leaving after sixteen years. Blue Skies has enjoyed working with Fred during his time at BA and wishes him all the very best for the future. Fred is pictured above with Mary and Amel from the Blue Skies Ghana Airport Office.

Supply chain students visit Egypt factory



Blue Skies Egypt were visited by Supply Chain students from Marine Academy. General Manager, Mohamed Abdul Razik gave a session explaining how the Blue Skies supply chain works.



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