

# PELICAN NEWS

Blue Skies Newsletter | April 2019 | Issue 154 | [www.blueskies.com](http://www.blueskies.com)

## New Blue Skies fresh-cut range introduced in France

Blue Skies have introduced a colourful new range of branded fresh-cut fruit in Carrefour in France. The 'Naturel et Bon' range is available across a variety of lines including pineapple, mango, coconut, pomegranate and melon. The range is supported by some new point of sale material including branded shelf edge signs and wobblers'.



## Blue Skies up for four 2019 FPC Awards

Blue Skies have been short-listed again for four awards in this year's FPC Fresh Awards. This year we are up for awards for CSR Excellence, Best Place to Work, Supermarket Supplier of the Year and Innovation of the Year. The Fresh Awards are organised by the UK Fresh Produce Consortium. The winners will be announced in June.



Do you have an idea that can help us improve?

**Send us your Big Ideas!**

It could be an idea for a new product, ways to become more environmentally friendly, ways to enhance how we work together or ways to become more efficient. Send us your ideas by completing the online form at:

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



## Blue Skies showcase at Delhaize Expo in Belgium



Pictured: Henri and Diederick meet with the Delhaize lion mascot during a product expo in Belgium. The expo was a success and provided an opportunity for Blue Skies to sample their fresh-cut fruit to store managers at Delhaize.

## Blue Skies juice a big hit at Cairo mega expo



On 4th to the 6th of April the Blue Skies Egypt team took part in a mega exhibition in Cairo called Cafex. Cafex is one of the biggest exhibitions in Egypt specialising in food and beverage products and equipment for hotels, coffee shops and restaurants. The team are pictured above with Global Brand Manager, Brian Bircham, from the UK. *By Amr Emad Abouzaid, Blue Skies Egypt.*

## Blue Skies Avo found in France



Pictured: Avocado prepared at our factory in South Africa can now be found in a number of products in France, including this chicken salad!

## Brand team plot Brazilian sales boost



The team in Brazil recently had a very productive week with Hugh and Brian (pictured) running a planning session to agree a new strategy for exploding our branded juice sales in Brazil.



There was also a visit from the Chairman, Anthony Pile, who is pictured relaxing after lunch in the canteen at Nascente. Angelo, the HR Supervisor on right commented that morale was high at Nascente.



# Photo of the Month



Pictured above: staff at Blue Skies Ghana gather outside Factory 2 for a group photo taken by a drone. The drone was being used by a film crew who have been in South Africa and Ghana in April to make a short video about the Foundation. The video will be released as part of the Foundation's Ten Year celebrations, which will be held on June 18th in Ghana.

## Hella completes Polarbear swim challenge in aid of Balfour Primary School



### Report by Hella Lipper, Head of Technical, UK

During the months of November to end of March I did the Polar Bear Challenge to help and raise funds for schoolbooks for Balfour Primary School in South Africa. The challenge entailed to swim twice a month at least 250m in a river or the sea in the UK and a total of 5000m during those 5 months. The swim had to be done just in a swimming costume without gloves or neoprene socks. I swam as much as possible in November to get the required distance while the water was above 10 degrees Celsius. Especially in January and February the temperature dropped and the coldest swim was at 3 degrees Celsius – it was a rather quick swim! It was all worth it, we managed to get over 150 books, which also included a big sponsorship from Waitrose.



## Enter our 2019 Blueprint Awards

The 2019 Blueprint Awards are now open! If you've been involved in a project that has helped make a difference to people or the environment, or you would like to nominate someone who has, please share the good news by entering our Blue Print Awards and stand a chance of winning a fitness watch! You can enter the awards at: [www.blueskies.com/blueprintawards](http://www.blueskies.com/blueprintawards)

## Farewell Mohamed



This month we say farewell to Mohamed Abdul Razik who has run Blue Skies Egypt from its inception sixteen years ago. The Group will miss our General Manager, Mohamed who has done a remarkable job over 16 years to build a profitable business that has been one of the mainstays of our company. He will hand over the reins of his business to Osama and Ekramy who will manage Blue Skies Egypt, Fresh-cut and Branded respectively.



# Blue Skies UK start Football Fridays



Blue Skies UK came out with an initiative to play football every week with the aim of integrating all Factory Teams and enjoying time spent together outside work duties. Pictured above are all attendees, representing all different departments. We do hope that co-operation created on the pitch will profitably impact teamwork in our day-to-day tasks at work!

# South Africa highlight the importance of our culture



Blue Skies South Africa General Manager, Andre Veldsman, recently gave a talk for staff about how we operate in Blue Skies and our mission and objectives. We believe that if we respect each other for who we are, we will feel happier about our work and proud to do a good job. We employ people from different backgrounds and cultures because we believe in the spirit of Ubuntu, oneness, working together to reach our goals with no prejudice. Together we stand and together we can.  
*By Waydu Nhlapo, Blue Skies South Africa.*

# Welcome to Kirsty Haynes



This month Blue Skies Pitsford welcomed Kirsty Haynes to the NPD Team as Assistant Product Developer. Here, Kirsty gives a brief introduction to herself...

I have been working with Blue Skies for a month now in the role of Assistant Product Developer. I graduated from my Masters in Nutritional Science in December 2018, so this is my first full time role! I am really enjoying the new challenges and opportunities this role offers and I am looking forward to growing with the business. Here are a few (hopefully!) interesting facts about me...

- Competitive swimming was my life for 10 years growing up
- I love music & going to music events
- I've been singing since before I learnt to talk
- My favourite fruit is Pineapple

# Nominate your Blue Skies Heroes

If you know someone who can be considered a true Blue Skies Hero, please let us know by sending a nomination at:

<http://www.blueskies.com/nominate>