



Pelican News



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Blue Skies Newsletter

Boris Johnson sees Blue Skies

UK Foreign Secretary, Boris Johnson, visited Blue Skies Ghana this month as part of a short tour of West Africa.

Mr. Johnson spent just over an hour at Blue Skies where he received a tour of the factory and spoke with Blue Skies Chairman Anthony Pile about the history of the company, its achievements and challenges. He was accompanied by the British High Commissioner, Jon Benjamin, UK Trade Envoy to Ghana, Adam Afriyie and Ghana's Minister for Trade and Industry Alan Kyerematen.

Blue Skies is seen as a model for development in Africa having grown to employ nearly 4,000 at its factory in Ghana thanks to the company's commitment to delivering fresh from harvest prepared fruit, value added at source.

Turn to page 4 for more pictures.



Anthony receives his MBE



Congratulations to Blue Skies Founder and Chairman Anthony Pile who received his MBE from HRH Prince Charles this month. Anthony is pictured with Jenny, Tom and Hugh at Buckingham Palace.



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New GM appointed at Blue Skies Brazil

Congratulations to Flavia Mometti who has been appointed our General Manager at Blue Skies Brazil. Flavia has been our Technical Manager in Brazil since 2007 and had developed a comprehensive understanding of the business. The company has been managed by a committee for a few years while we searched for the ideal situation. Now that we have found it, the Group's Board is confident that this subsidiary will be strongly led and achieve growth and bottom line success with existing and new products. Good luck Flavia and BSB Team!



Blue Skies gives pens to schools

Blue Skies Ghana have distributed over 100,000 pens to schools in the Eastern Region of Ghana. The pens were donated on behalf of the UK Charity Pens for Kids. Foundation Manager Alistair Djimatey is pictured below distributing pens to two local schools. You can find out more about Pens for Kids at <http://www.pensforkids.co.uk/>



Blue Skies sponsors local ski champion



Blue Skies Holdings is sponsoring local ski racer, Jess Anderson. Jess, 17, is from Hannington in Northamptonshire and has been skiing since the age of two.

Jess is currently a member of the GB U18 Alpine Ski team where she trains in Austria. Jess has recently recovered from a serious back injury to become the English National Alpine Champion in 2016.

You can read Jess's blog at: <http://www.jessicaanderson.co.uk>



Egypt hold a fire drill



Pictured: staff from Blue Skies Egypt assemble for a fire drill this month.

Blue Skies SA looks forward to new factory

Twenty years ago a man had a dream to build factories that would process fresh-fruit salads within the countries where the fruit grew, in order to provide people with real fresh-from-harvest fruit. That vision came to life and today we see the Blue Skies dream expanding, and changing people's lives for the better, every day. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the pioneer who had this vision and brought it to life. Mr Anthony Pile, if it was not for your dream, this would never have happened. Let the dream, vision, culture sail even further. The Sky is the limit. Halala Blue Skies Halala!!!!!! *By Waydu Nhlapo, Blue Skies SA.*



South Africa shines in SMETA ethical audit



Waydu Nhlapo our HR manager in South Africa (pictured) has completed a very successful SMETA (social compliance) audit organised by SGS South Africa.

Our South African factory has had many social compliance audits, and this was the best result that we have ever achieved, due to the hard work of China Mokoena our health and safety officer, David Moeketsi and Justice Vilakazi our production managers, Andre Veldsman our general manager, and Waydu herself.

Congratulations to all involved!
Report by Stephan Morris

Blue Skies supports Whizzkids in Ghana



Blue Skies Ghana have supported a Charity called WhizzKids Utd who work with organisations including the WHO and Liverpool FC to teach children about HIV using football. Whizzkids hold film nights as a fund raising initiative at their Academy in Ghana. Recently however their projector broke, so Blue Skies came to the rescue by donating a brand new projector! Whizzkids CEO Mohamed Dantani's picture above with Ruth Adjei receiving the projector at Blue Skies. You can find out more about Whizzkids at <http://www.whizzkidsunited.org/>

BS Ghana celebrates valentines



Pictured: Technical Staff in Ghana with food and a special cake to mark this year's valentine's Day!

Meet Ningi Dlamini



The lady in the black dress Ningi Dlamini. She is 42 years of age and grew up in KZN in Pietermaritzburg. Ningi is from a family of five. When she was studying her dream was to become a nurse but when she was in Grade 10 she fell pregnant and had to drop out of school and start to look for a job.

While she was desperately seeking for a job, an opportunity came up to become a trailer driver. She was not interested in this job but needed something that would put food on the table and help her bring up her child. Reluctantly she took the job, but with time she has grown to love it and has now been travelling across the country for 10 years.

According to Ningi, challenges that female drivers face include not finding female dormitories at truck stops because it is assumed that there are few female drivers, and receiving inhumane treatment from male drivers. The other challenge she mentions is having to change a flat tire.

Her message to ladies everywhere is that anything is possible as long as you have the heart for it. *By Waydu Nhlapo, Blue Skies SA.*

Students engage in Blue Skies thinking



Students from Maartenscollege, a high school in the Netherlands visited Blue Skies Ghana this month as part of a trip to Ghana. A total of sixteen students spent two days with Blue Skies touring the factory, farms and Foundation projects.

During their visit they took on the Blue Skies team at a game of volleyball, taught primary school students how to reuse their drinks cans and participated in an exercise to come up with a new product idea for Blue Skies.

Paul van Breukelen is pictured with the students by one of our juice vans. Paul accompanied the students throughout their visit to Blue Skies.

Photos of Boris visit



Anthony and Boris during a tour of the factory site.



Anthony showing Boris some products made by Blue Skies.

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