



Pelican News


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 Blue Skies Newsletter

Mary and Andre meet the Queen

South African General Manager, Andre Veldsman and Ghana Movements Manager, Mary Cudjoe represented Blue Skies at Buckingham Palace this month at a Queens Award Winners reception hosted by Her Majesty the Queen.

At the reception, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh greeted guests in the State Rooms which form the nucleus of the working Palace and are used regularly by The Queen and members of the Royal Family for official and State entertaining.

The reception was attended by all the winners of the 2015 Queens Award for Enterprise. Andre and Mary met with Palace officials and leading figures in British industry as well as members of the Royal Family.



Pictured above: Andre is greeted by the Queen and Mary in the background meets the Duke of Edinburgh.

Anthony picks up a GUBA!



Anthony Pile was presented with a GUBA Black Star Award for British Service to Ghana on the 4th of July at the Hilton Metropole in London. The award recognises the long-term positive impact that Anthony's innovative work has had in Ghana. The recipients of the Black Star Awards were chosen by GUBA's advisory board; including Jon Benjamin, British High Commissioner to Ghana; John Blavo, founder of Blavo & Co Solicitors Ltd; and Jonathan Howard, CEO of the Business Council for Western and Southern Africa.

Since its inception in 2010, the Ghana UK Business Awards (GUBA) has been dedicated to unearthing and acknowledging talent and throughout the years, many talented individuals have been awarded; Footballer Asamoah Gyan, Mogul Herman Chinery-Hesse, Musicians Fuse ODG, Mista Silva, to name a few.



Blue Skies inspire at Kids Country Agricultural show



Blue Skies were out in force with Waitrose at the Kids Country Agricultural Show in Peterborough, UK on Friday 3rd July.

Kids Country is the largest educational farming event of its kind in the UK. It is held on the East of England Showground and this year was visited by over 5,000 children from schools throughout the East of England. The event is supported by exhibitors from all over the country including food producers, retailers and brands with names such as

Albert Barlett and Kelloggs, Bartfords, Produce World and Anglia Water in attendance. There is also an African Village organised by the Marshall Papworth Fund which is designed to educate students on farming in Africa. This is where Blue Skies and the Waitrose Foundation had their joint stand.



Around 600 school pupils passed through our stand on the day. Every group was taken on a journey from farm to factory to supermarket – starting with a short talk on farming next to a pineapple plant, followed by a trip to a miniature representation of a Blue Skies factory made from a childrens play-house and then finishing with a look at the finished product at the supermarket and the impact it has on communities involved in the supply of fresh-cut fruit. Our hope is we will have inspired more young people to enter careers in food production and to understand the benefits of buying prepared fruit, made at source in Africa!



Pictured top is Denzil, Lana, Cath, Ally, Joe and Amali.

Audit Success for UK, Brazil and S. Africa



Congratulations to Blue Skies UK and South Africa on successfully passing their BRC audits. The UK team are pictured above. Congratulations also to Blue Skies Brazil on a very successful SMETA audit.

BS Ghana goes juice sampling



Pictured: The Ghana juice team were recently spotted sampling products at Paradise Rest stop on the Kumasi road. Thanks Juliana for the photo!

Name that bird



While eating lunch, Technical Manager Stephan Morris spotted this beautiful bird at our factory site in Brazil. But what type of bird is this? If anyone knows, please email simon.derrick@blueskies.com.

Waitrose Foundation celebrate ten years and unveil new logo



**Waitrose
FOUNDATION**

The Waitrose Foundation celebrated its 10th anniversary this month and unveiled a new logo during a reception at Lords Cricket Ground in London. The event was attended by Waitrose partners, suppliers and leading figures from NGO's and business working in the field of international development. Blue Skies showcased its business and products at a supplier expo for Waitrose Foundation producers. Foundation Manager Alistair Djimatey came over to give a presentation and talk to journalists on the Ghana Foundation and its impact. There was also a panel discussion featuring experts on ethical trade, followed by the official launch of the new Waitrose Foundation logo by Head of Sustainability Quentin Clarke. Quentin explained how the new logo is intended to illustrate how the

Foundation fits in to the Waitrose Way of treating people fairly and how it now seeks to do this globally as well as in Africa, which is where the Waitrose Foundation started. There was also a talk by the Commercial Director of Fairtrade Euan Venters who explained how Fairtrade hoped to work together with the Waitrose Foundation to increase its impact within global supply chains. The whole event was expertly organised by Amali Bunter who manages the Foundation for Waitrose.



Above: Blue Skies Foundation Manager Alistair Djimatey making his presentation beside the new Waitrose Foundation logo made from hundreds of flowers.

More pens donated in Ghana



Tom Hutton, son of Blue Skies Managing Director George, was recently in Ghana to see how Blue Skies works and visit some of our Foundation projects. Tom is pictured handing over some pens to a local school. The pens are being distributed by the Foundation for the UK charity Pens for Kids. In Ghana many children don't attend school simply because they don't have something as basic as a pen. In total over 70,000 pens have been given to school children in Ghana through the Foundation.

Foundation opens new classrooms for school



A new three classroom block for a primary school in Ghana has been officially opened during a delegation from Albert Heijn and the Dutch press in July. The classroom block also has a staff common room, a head teacher's office and room for an internet café. The official inauguration took place on the 18th of July and was attended by the Minister of Education, Professor Jane Naana Opoku Agyeman, the Chiefs and people of the Akuapem South traditional area.

Foundation publishes 2014 Report



The Blue Skies Foundation has published its 2014 Annual Report. You can download a copy of the report from www.blueskies.com/foundation2014.pdf

