



# PELICAN NEWS

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## Introducing Our Blueprint 2020 Top Ten

Blue Skies have published its 2020 Blueprint Priorities following its recent stakeholder engagement and 2020 survey. Over 119 people took part in the survey including staff, suppliers, shareholders, consumers, members of the local community, government and retailers. The results have been combined with the results of our leadership survey to give us our top ten priorities based on importance to our stakeholders and impact on the business. Our Blueprint 2020 top 10 are:

- 1 Economic Performance
- 2 Water and Effluents
- 3 Diversity and Equal Opportunity
- 4 Occupational Health and Safety
- 5 Employment
- 6 Materials
- 7 Effluent and Waste
- 8 Non Discrimination
- 9 Energy
- 10 Training and Education

Our 2020 Top Ten will be used to help the business focus its sustainability action plans for next year and will feature in our next Blueprint Report which will be published in September 2020. We will also feature updates on our 2020 Top Ten in our newsletter and on our website over the next twelve months.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in our survey. You are helping to shape the future of Blue Skies.

## Enter our 2019 Blueprint Awards

The 2019 Blueprint Awards is still 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! The awards close on the 31 October. You can enter at:

[www.blueskies.com/blueprintawards](http://www.blueskies.com/blueprintawards)



**BLUEPRINT**



## Blue Skies win Fruit Supplier of the Year at FPJ Awards

Blue Skies has picked up Fruit Supplier of the Year at the 2019 FPJ Fruit and Vegetable Awards. The award was collected by Hugh and Denzil at an awards social held at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry.

## Hugh speaks at 2019 FPJ Live



Blue Skies Chief Sales and Marketing Officer, Hugh Pile, was a guest speaker at the FPJ Live conference in Coventry this month. Hugh spoke about raising the profile of the food industry based on his experience with L'Oreal and Diageo. He is pictured above being interviewed by Max MacGillivray from Red Fox Executive.



## Going the extra melon mile for the love of fresh!



Our UK, Dutch and South African teams recently visited our melon farms in Waterpoort, South Africa to explore new product opportunities. The team drove 500km from our factory in Balfour to the farm, demonstrating the lengths we go to for the love of fresh!



## Senegal celebrates end of a challenging season



Staff at Blue Skies Senegal celebrated the end of a tough season with a trip to the beach near to Dakar. The team are pictured above. The last consignment of mango left the pack house on the 13th of September, bound for Ghana.

## Audit Report



Congratulations to Blue Skies Egypt on a successful Fairtrade audit result for the Pomegranate Association. The team are pictured above. Well done also to the team at Blue Skies Brazil (pictured below) on a successful SMETA audit, despite challenges with new customer launches, delayed construction work on their factory extension and new legal requirements.



## DFID Director visits Blue Skies



Nick Dyer, the Director General for Economic Development and International at the UK's Department for International Development, visited Blue Skies Ghana in September ahead of a meeting with the UK Ghana Business Council. Mr Dyer toured the factory and spoke to the team about the impact the business has by adding value at source.





## Foundation Focus

AN UPDATE ON OUR LATEST PROJECTS



### Work begins on new classroom block in Senegal

Work to construct the new classroom block and perimeter wall for Thilane School classroom block is in progress and is expected to be completed by the end of November.

### Work starts on new Resource Centre in Ghana

The construction of a new Resource Centre for the mango growing community of Agomeda in Ghana, is currently at lintel level (pictured) and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The centre will have an internet cafe and a library to help improve access to information for the local community.



### Future Farmers Radio Show goes Live

Our Foundation Manager in Ghana, Alistair Djimatey, is hosting a new live radio show every Thursday at 2pm called Future Farmers. The programme features lively discussion and music and aims to encourage more young people to go in to farming. You can listen to FAWF on 105.9FM or on Facebook or Youtube.



## Blue Skies supports Entrepreneurs Day



Blue Skies South Africa recently supported Entrepreneurs Day which was an assessment task for Grade 7 Economic and Management Sciences held at Balfour Primary School on the 6th of September. During this day learners use their knowledge and skills taught in their EMS classes to put into practice all they have learned and showcase their management and sales skills.

Learners worked in groups to come up with their ideas, write a business plan, do cost calculation, draw up a budget and advertise their products. At the end of the day they had to give proof of their expenses and profit by completing an income and expenditure statement. Great initiative was seen by all learners who were excited to see themselves becoming entrepreneurs for the day. A big thank you to the Economics and Management educators Mrs D, Matlatsi and Mrs D Zondo who made the day a success and well done to all the Grade 7 learners.

## Walk for Sara and Coffee Morning raise money for Macmillan



Blue Skies and the friends and family of the late Sara Brookes gathered on the 22nd of September (pictured top) to take part in the annual Walk for Sara around Pitsford Reservoir. Every year the walk takes place in memory of Sara Brookes. On the following day the office held two coffee mornings (pictured bottom) to raise money for Macmillan Cancer support. Thanks to everyone who took part in these events. In total over £775 was raised for Macmillan.

## Sally completes Shine Night Walk



WE DID IT! The El-Ghazali family have completed the Cancer Research UK Shine Night Walk 2019. On behalf of the El-Ghazali family I wanted to thank you all for all your generous donations, kind words of encouragement and great support - it really helped us get through the 13.1 miles! We really appreciate it all and thank you helping us to raise money for a cause close to our hearts. So far we have raised over £1600 for Cancer Research UK. By Sally El-Ghazali.



# Blue Skies Brazil opens new canteen



A new extension of the canteen at our factory in Brazil was finally completed in time for their 12th anniversary celebrations. Staff were treated to a special lunch organised to mark the occasion with a solo guitar singer playing while meals were served. It was a great team effort with HR organising everything within short space of time, Pegasus (the transport contractor) supported by collecting tables and chairs being stored externally, and the canteen contractor prepared some delicious meals and a nice new environment! The administrative team are pictured above enjoying their lunch!

## Ergonomics Committee formed at Blue Skies Brazil



Blue Skies Brazil have setup a new team called COERGO (Ergonomic Committee) who will be guided by our consultant Alicrim. The group will identify any ergonomic risks in the working areas and act to improve the health of our staff caused by incorrect practices. Pictured left to right: Leonardo from Alicrim, Angelo (coordinator of COERGO), Flávia (GM after the final speech), Cláudia, Karina (Secretary of COERGO), Franchesca, Marcos, Danilo, Leonardo, Geane, Fernanda (Vice Coordinator of COERGO).

## Blue Skies signs up to UK Food Waste Reduction Roadmap



Blue Skies has signed up to the UK Food Waste Reduction Roadmap and have committed to implementing WRAP's "Target, Measure, Act" in to our UK operations. As part of our Blueprint, our ultimate aim is to achieve zero waste to landfill. With WRAP we have targeted a 30% reduction in Food Waste by 2025.

## Pitsford bins its waste to landfill



This month people in the Pitsford office came to work to find all their waste-paper bins had been mysteriously removed, only to be replaced with funky new 'desk-top' bins made from some re-purposed old ice-cream pots!

Why? Because normal waste-paper baskets tend to get used for all kinds of different waste and usually end up being emptied into the general waste. This doesn't encourage us to recycle. So, we removed everyone's waste-paper baskets and replaced them with these new desktop bins which can be used to put rubbish in which can then be taken to the relevant recycling bin at the end of the day, or once it's full! The result should reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and the number of plastic bin liners we get through every week.



## Blue Skies staff run in Millennium Marathon



On the 7th September over a dozen members of staff took place in the annual Millennium Marathon, some ran 5k others ran 21k. We were sponsoring the event. The event takes place in the middle of

Accra starting and ending at Black Star Square. We also took part in the Corporate run on the 21st September, which we also sponsored. Victoria Asante (pictured inset) was the 3rd fastest female manager in the race.



## Baby News



We are pleased to announce that on the 1st of August, we welcomed to the world a little baby boy Jakub. Huge congratulations to Marta Gozdzik (Technical Manager Corby UK) for becoming a happy new mother.

## South Africa celebrates Heritage Day



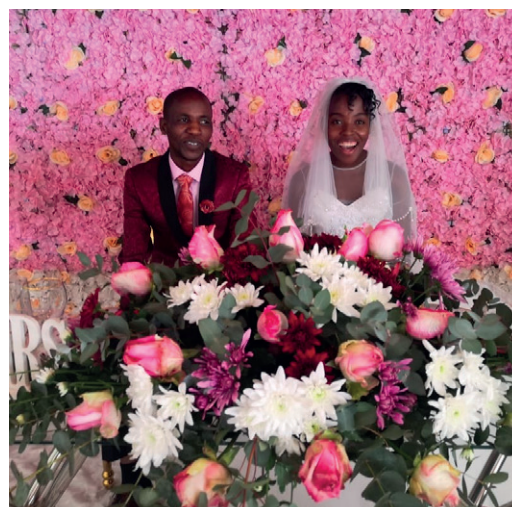
One of the main reasons is that we gain a new found appreciation and a reminder of our own culture and heritage on a personal level and within our South African identity. Heritage Day is an important national building tool and an especially exciting way of reaching out to young South Africans, to encourage national pride. The Blue Skies SA team are pictured above celebrating Heritage Day. By Waydu Nhlapo.

## Birchams complete Triathlon!



Brian and Sarah Bircham from the UK office took part in the Woburn Abbey Sprint Triathlon on 8th September. This included an 800m swim, 20km cycle & 5km run. Sarah finished 38th place out of 122 women, and Brian achieved the fastest sprint finish out of 804 participants over the whole weekend.

## Congratulations



Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Nxumalo from Blue Skies South Africa who got married on the 3rd of August 2019. We wish them all the best in their lives together.

## Blue Skies Win Enterprise Award



Blue Skies have been awarded Best Food & Drink Production Firm 2019 in Northamptonshire by the SME Midlands Enterprise Awards!