



Pelican News



October 2013
Blue Skies Newsletter

Blue Skies wins Great Business Bake Off contest

Cath, Ally, Jenny and Carrie from the Blue Skies HQ were selected to compete in the final of a nationwide UK competition at the Seasoned Cookery school in Swadlincote. They baked against teams from Npower and the Meningitis Trust for over £5000 worth of prizes... and they won!

They baked an afternoon tea of Caramel and passion fruit sandwiches, Tropical shortbread bites (with mango and coconut), Nutty cheese scones with beetroot chutney, Raspberry & mascarpone macaroons.

The judges said: "What really stood out were the flavours and the consistency of the bakes. There were no soggy bottoms, no burnt tops and the taste of each bake was superb. The presentation of everything was in-keeping – nothing fancy, but simple & elegant. The technical element was also good and there was some great originality". The team dedicated their win to the memory of Sara Brookes, whose macaroon recipe Jenny adapted for the competition.

Report by Cath Maskell.



Above: The winning bakers proudly show off their winning bakes.

Cath & Ally complete charity run



On 6th October Ally and Cath (the NPD team from the UK Head Office) ran 13.1 miles for charity around some of the finest scenery London had to offer. They each raised over £1000 for Mind (a mental health charity) and Clic (a children's cancer charity).

Well done to Ally and Cath on this fantastic achievement.



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Common causes of back injuries

Many back injuries cannot be attributed to a single causal factor; in other words, they tend to be the result of cumulative damage suffered over a long period of time. However, certain actions, motions, and movements are more likely to cause and contribute to back injuries than others.

Anytime you find yourself doing one of these things, you should think: **(DANGER! My back is at risk!)**

- Heavy Lifting
- Twisting at the waist while lifting or holding a heavy load
- Reaching and lifting
- Lifting or carrying objects with awkward or odd shapes
- Working in awkward, uncomfortable positions
- Sitting or standing too long in one position
- Slipping on a wet floor or ice

Also, some people suffer back pain because they sleep in a bad position or because their mattress is too soft or do not provide enough support. Change all these attitudes and be safe.

Remember, you and I are responsible for our own safety.

By Blue Skies Ghana Health and Safety team

Farewell to Ekramy



In October Ekramy Kamal from Blue Skies Egypt Technical team said farewell to the company after ten years of service. On his final day, Ekramy said "I had 10 wonderful years in Blue Skies and I'll leave a bigger and better professional. It has been a successful journey, one with many ups and some downs too.... but one that left me richer in so many ways." Ekramy is pictured above at his farewell party with the team in Egypt.

News from Blue Skies in Egypt



Pictured: staff evacuate the factory during a fire drill (top) and students visit the factory for some training (bottom)

Blue Skies baby news



Gurvinder Singh from Blue Skies UK is a valued employee as he works in the yard all year round to keep it nice and tidy whatever the weather, on top of loading and unloading vehicles. Gurvinder recently had a baby boy and they have named him Arshjot.

UK Primary Schools create new products at Foundation Day

Students from two Primary Schools in Northamptonshire were set a challenge this month; create a new freshly squeezed juice product and come up with a brand and marketing strategy for it using fresh-cut fruit from the Waitrose Foundation.

Over 100 students from Harlestone and Brington Primary Schools took part in the challenge at Brington School as part of their Foundation Day, which is held every year for students to learn about different people and cultures around the world.

This year the students learned all about the origins of prepared fruit from the Waitrose Foundation in Ghana and how it supports local communities by providing employment and funding projects such as schools and clinics. The students then worked in groups to make their own freshly squeezed juice products in their school hall, which for a few hours had been turned into a make-shift production line!

Will Mountain who is the Head Chef at the Saracens Head in Little Brington and the Carlsberg Northamptonshire Young Chef of the Year came long to demonstrate how to prepare different types of fruit for use in fresh juices and fruit salads, and sixth form business studies students from the near-by Guilsborough school were also on hand to help the primary school students develop their juice product ideas and offer some tips on how to create a successful marketing campaign.

Guilsborough School run a similar competition every year for business studies students to come up with a natural fruit drink, the winners of which are judged by Blue Skies. The group which attended the Foundation Day was led by Head of Business Studies Tim Grogan and made up of Ed Nicholson, Imogen Potter, Tom Howard, Keiran Wilson, Connor Brooks, Connor Watkins, Will Ashby.

The whole day was supported by Blue Skies who donated prepared pineapple, mango, papaya and passion fruit to the schools from its factory in Ghana, much of which had only been harvested the previous day! Three people from Blue Skies Ghana, Fruit procurement Managers Rose Azumah and Gloria Asare and Chief Accountant Eric Ampah, also came along to answer questions from students about the factory and what it's like to live in Ghana.

Head Teacher Jan Abrams said "The whole day has been a great success. The students have got to learn about Ghana while finding out what it takes to produce and market their very own juice products"



Above: Students from Harlestone and Brington Primary Schools assisted by students from Guilsborough Secondary School working on their new juice products

Foundation Day Photos



Will Mountain demonstrates fruit preparation techniques



Eric, Gloria and Rose at the entrance to Brington school



Students get to work on developing their freshly squeezed juice products



Designing posters for the juices



Students from Guilsborough School who were on hand to help out.

Blue Skies launches campaign to inspire young Ghanaians to “be the change”



Blue Skies have launched a campaign to inspire the next generation of Ghanaians to be the change they want to see in the world. Called ‘Get Inspired, Be the Change’ the campaign provides a new activity book for schools to make young students more aware of the challenges facing our planet, and inspire them to play a part in creating a brighter future for the world.

Alistair Djimatey who is the manager of the Blue Skies Foundation said “Our world is changing and we are face difficult challenges such as climate change, resource depletion and species extinction. We want to show that young people can make a difference by pledging to do something to make the world a better place”

The launch involved 200 pupils from 10 schools and was held at the Acropolis Marantha School in Pokuase.

It also coincided with the introduction of a new 250ml format for Blue Skies juice. Marketing Manager Juliana Agyemang explained “the smaller sized bottles are perfect for kids and we hope they will help revitalise and inspire our young minds to study hard so they can be the best inventors, entrepreneurs, teachers and leaders of the future”

More news on the Get Inspired campaign will be featured in the next edition of Pelican news.



Like You, Hamet Rose Devereux Piz and 1,179 others like this

You can make a difference Make a promise today for a better world tomorrow [Click here to make a promise](#)

Grey skies ahead?



What are the big challenges facing the future of our planet?

Get inspired



How can you make a difference and help to make the future bright?

Be the change



The future of our planet is in your hands. What will you do to be the change?

Above: The activity book can be downloaded from the Get Inspired website which can be accessed at www.blueskies.com/inspired

Wedding bells ring for Sussie



Congratulations to Sussie from our Ghana Airport Office who recently celebrated getting married. We wish Sussie all the very best and a happy life together with her new husband.

Anthony in award finals

Blue Skies Founder and Chairman Anthony Pile has been selected as a finalist in the Great British Entrepreneur Awards. Anthony is nominated in the Eco and Social Entrepreneur of the Year category. The winner will be announced at a gala dinner on November 19th.



GREAT BRITISH
ENTREPRENEUR
AWARDS 2013

FINALIST

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