

Newsletter # 5 August 2016

In this issue we report on the burden of malaria and on how Scouts in the UK are fighting this disease.

A new war on mosquitoes

is the subject of an editorial and article in this month's issue of National Geographic. The editor, Susan Goldberg, points out that 'none of mankind's battles have provided more enduring – or less successful – than the war on mosquitos. Around the world each year, millions of people die of

diseases spread by the insect which include not only malaria, but also West Nile, dengue and, yellow fever and chikungunya and Zika viruses.

Moreover people have drained cesspools, warned of the danger of standing water, sprayed pesticides, put up bed nets and window screens and yet it seems that we are losing this fight as the mosquito remains the most dangerous non-human animal on earth. She also voices the fear of many scientists that mosquitos may become more prevalent and virulent with the rise in global temperatures and international travel. *It is for this reason that Scouts are joining the global partnership to fight this*



disease whose victims are generally children under the age of 5

Trialling activities in a box

Sana Siddiqui and Sophie Rance, two PGCE teachers from Institute of Education, University of Reading have developed a range of leader resources which can fit in a box to provide a set of resources for sections willing to undertake this activity within the global programme zone. These were trialled with 1st Shinfield Cub Scout Pack, Reading on June 9.

Constructing a mosquito out of pipecleaners









Erecting an insecticide impregnated bed net

Earning the SAM badge UK

The number of groups earning the SAM badge is increasing and we have now distributed more than badges to Scouts across 13 (?) counties and the participating groups have raised more than \pounds of which the biggest bequest was \pounds from Group (District?)

Earning the SAM badge Uganda

With monies that we have sent to Uganda, Ugandan Scouts are activite in two Districts in distributing long life insecticide treated bed nets, educating and assisting in their erection, informing people how to recognise the symptoms and why it is so important to treat the illness rapidly and where assistance is available.



Distributing the nets in a District of Uganda.

About one third of the world's population is exposed to mosquitos carrying malaria and other related illnesses. If your Section/Group is willing to join the global partnership to fight malaria and earn the SAM badge, please visit our website <u>www.scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk</u> or email us at <u>info@scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk</u>. You can also see what is being done by visiting our Facebook page.