



Newsletter #3

06/11/2015

Mosquitos are found throughout the world but it is the bite of one particular type, the female anopheles mosquito, which injects a parasite into the blood stream which results in malaria.

Malaria is not the only disease spread by mosquitos as bites of other types of mosquitos can result in West Nile fever or dengue fever, which can also cause grievously bodily harm.

Malaria occurs through the parasites called plasmodia finding their way into the cells of the liver where they multiply and subsequently invade the red blood cells

which transport oxygen around the body, which can result in severe anemia.

Protection As no vaccine exists, the long term prevention is the use of insecticide impregnated nets, which must be correctly hung up, be free of tears or holes and be tucked completely under the mattress so there are no openings.

Around the home, important to remove mosquito breeding sites which include pools of stagnant water

Symptoms include high to very high temperature (fever), sweating, headaches, nausea and diarrhea. If one or more these symptoms are observed, immediate medical treatment must be sought to prevent symptoms getting worse especially in young children and pregnant mothers.

Did you know that in Africa alone, one child dies every minute from malaria

Initial trials These will be held in Uganda as we have reached an agreement with Ugandan Scouts to identify ways of involving the local Scouts to prevent the incidence of this disease. It is proposed to set up a subcommittee involving a global partner like Unicef, the Ugandan Ministry of Health and the Ugandan Scout Association. Methods will be evolved to train the Scout Leaders so that their Scouts will be able to

- develop methods of distributing and raise awareness of the correct usage of these nets
- recognise the symptoms and be able to explain where and how immediate treatment can be sought

Funds raised in the UK through earning the Scouts against Malaria badge will be sent to Ugandan Scout Association to pay for purchase of nets, their distribution, leader training and educating families in their usage

Earning the badge The badge requirements are set out on our website and it is strongly suggested that this be promoted as a sectional activity to illustrate the International nature of Scouting

Resources are still being developing which can be downloaded from our website. We would also welcome uploading contributions from those who have organised activities around this theme so it can be shared with others. Brochures can also be downloaded which provide the back ground and explain what needs to be done to earn the badge

Website www.scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk Email info@scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk

