

*Present:* - Chris Duncan, Adam Brook (3<sup>rd</sup> Alton) , Gemma Candy (Hartley Wintney) , Paul Ruddick, Martin Takel, Tim Elis, Mike Dawson, Rayner Mayer (Bramshill)  
*Apologies* Julian Sore, Marion Christmas, Michael Bowden, Phil Morley, Ray Bunce

*Ranking global issues where Scouts can make a difference*

In increasing order of importance –

- Providing clean water
- Understanding other people
- Alleviating hunger and poverty
- Reducing illness and disease

*Sustainable Development goals*

Agreed by United Nations at a General Assembly in 2015, the 17 development goals are to ensure that no one is left behind. WOSM (World Organisation of Scouting Movements) pledged more than 3 billion hours of voluntary labour by Scout groups world-wide and now more than 2 billion hours have been delivered. The global issues identified above comprise 4 of these goals.

- Any activities comprising these goals should be logged on the WOSM website.

*Visits*

*Kandersteg* (Gemma Candy) Hartley Wintney Scout Group organised their 4<sup>th</sup> visit to Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland in the past 12 years. All together 115 Scouts, Guides and leaders took part in what was a very successful visit including meeting Scouts and Guides from other Countries and undertaking joint activities both inside and outside the camp site. Highly recommended adventure. Scouts travelled by train and Guides by coach, but coach journey took 22 hours so not recommended.

*Ukraine* (Chris Duncan) helped deliver an ambulance to the Ukraine and while he was there he made contact with Scout Leaders in Zaporizhzhia. Will maintain contact and hopes to visit with his Explorer Unit once war ends.

*Guernsey* (Adam Brook) this visit involved a cycling trip of 20 Scouts to explore the Island travelling by ferry from Poole and staying at the Guernsey Scout camp site Les Maringuys. Highly recommended adventure

*Malawi Jackie* Heath organised a visit by 35 Explorer Scouts and leaders to the Northern district of Malawi where they were hosted by the local Scout Group. Together with Malawian Scouts. they undertook community activities linked to local schools by furnishing classroom with desks. They also undertook education and distribution campaigns of insecticide treated bed nets together with the local Scouts and health officer, under which families could sleep at night to avoid being bitten by mosquitos which could result in malaria.

*World Scout Jamboree, 2027 in Gdansk, Poland*

Mike Dawson described the selection process for this international experience. Scouts who are selected for the WSJ have to raise £3500 to take part. A few places are still open on the HSX Expedition to the USA

### *Scouts against Malaria (SAM)*

Martin Takel described what has been achieved since its founding in 2015. It involves UK Scouts learning about malaria and then fund raising to enable insecticide treated bed nets to be purchased and distributed by African Scouts. More than 70 such campaigns have been undertaken in the past 10 years in 4 countries namely Ghana, Malawi, Uganda and Gambia.

3<sup>rd</sup> St Albans Cub Scouts (Michael Bowden) have raised more than £7000 over the past 5 years which funds were sent at various intervals to the Tamale Scouts in northern district of Ghana. These funds were used to buy more than 2000 ITN bed nets and distributed together with information about malaria and how to avoid it in communities in and around Tamale. They were also visited by BBC Newsround in September and the resulting video was subsequently broadcast on 14 October.

### *Malaria Prevention Handbook*

This is a new initiative to enable both UK and African Scout leaders to explain to their Scouts how malaria occurs, in which countries it is endemic and what Scouts can do to educate their and other families about malaria, how to avoid being bitten and what to do if bitten. Some 200 copies were taken by Jackie Heath to Malawi where the use of the Handbook is being trialled.

- Copies available for UK Scout Leaders which also includes activities to educate their Scouts of any age and to encourage them to fund raise to help African Scouts to distribute ITN bed nets. Extra copies available at £2 each as a donation.

### *Clean water sources, Masindi District Uganda*

This activity was initiated 25 years ago when a group of Scouts from North Hampshire visited Scouts in Masindi, of Uganda. In return for receiving funds to construct wells from spring water sources, Scouts and villagers undertake to maintain the wells and ensure that cattle do not contaminate the water sources. To date some 46 wells have been constructed at a cost that now approaches £3k. Contributions to this Bramshill led initiative would be welcome.

### *Date next workshop*

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2026 – please diarise!

### *Links*

Visit to Kandersteg – contact Gemma Candy - [gcandy77@gmail.com](mailto:gcandy77@gmail.com)

Visit to Ukraine – contact Chris Duncan [leaders@banderlogs.co.uk](mailto:leaders@banderlogs.co.uk)

Visit to Guernsey – contact Adam Brook [adambrook1@gmail.com](mailto:adambrook1@gmail.com)

Scouts against malaria; visit website [www.scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk](http://www.scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk)

3<sup>rd</sup> St Albans link with Tamale Scouts The link to the film is -

[The scouts working together to fight malaria - BBC Newsround](http://www.bbc.com/newsround-2015-09-14)

Clean water sources <https://www.bramshillscoutdistrict.org.uk/about-us/international/>

Rayner Mayer  
International adviser