

Holidaymaker is killed by bite from mosquito

BY SUZY AUSTIN

A TOURIST died from multiple organ failure after he was bitten by a mosquito, a coroner heard yesterday.

Matthew Kernot contracted blood poisoning from the bite and died one week after his return from a holiday in India.

The financial analyst had complained of feeling unwell to his doctor five days earlier but blood tests were normal.

The 36-year-old was not admitted to hospital when he returned to his GP at the end of the week – but he died two days later.

Mr Kernot, from Balham, South London, was on holiday with girlfriend Christina

Devaney when he was bitten. Despite developing a headache and losing his appetite while abroad, he appeared 'very much better' on their return and the couple went out to dinner.

He developed a fever and went to see his GP but, a few days later, it appeared Mr Kernot had recovered.

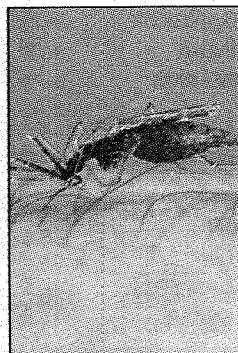
He told his girlfriend she should go on a pre-arranged trip. But he deteriorated while she was away and Ms Devaney called for an ambulance while on the train home. She

arrived at their flat to find 999 crews waiting outside. 'They were outside in the ambulance. I had run in and they followed me in but he was dead,' she told the inquest.

A post-mortem examination did not show any evidence of a tropical disease.

Recording a verdict of death by natural causes, Westminster coroner Dr Paul Knapman said: 'The rapid deterioration and death of this man is very unusual, the story is unusual and the outcome is a tragedy.'

Dr Knapman concluded that bacteria must have entered the bite, causing Mr Kernot to develop septicaemia.



Culprit: A mosquito

CHARGES TO SEND E-MAIL

AOL and Yahoo! are to charge businesses to send e-mails in a clampdown on spam. The Net giants will offer Goodmail, a paid-for certification scheme, which will allow messages past junk filters but aims to prevent spammers using it to send bulk e-mails. Companies will be charged about a penny for sending ten e-mails, which will be guaranteed delivery and stamped with an electronic watermark proving where it has come from. The paid-for e-mail service will be launched in the US and Canada in the next two months, with a British service following soon after.