

Lira raises 457 units of blood

LIRA

By Patrick Okino

Due to a shortage of blood in hospitals across the country, Uganda Blood Transfusion Services (UBTS) has realised 457 units of blood during a five-day donation drive in Lira municipality. The drive was conducted in conjunction with St Kizito Old Pupils Association (SKOPA).

Last year, they raised 685 units of blood, according to the information given to *New Vision* on Tuesday.

Among the blood donors are Uganda's High Commissioner to London, Julius Peter Moto, MPs Jonathan Odur of Erute South and Sylvia Akello of Otuke district.

According to Monica Ruth Acan of SKOPA, there is always

a national crisis of blood during festive seasons, yet the rate of road accidents tends shoot up.

"During the festive season we experience a lot of road carnage and this is what drives us to organise blood donation drive in January yearly," she said.

She said apart from the annual blood donation, they also remember Loy Acomo Obua, an agronomy and agribusiness consultant who passed on due to a blood shortage.

"The blood donation drive is one of our many activities we do as SKOPA and we will continue making our contribution to the community and country," she added.

Moto applauded UBTS and SKOPA for donating blood to save lives.