

MOSQUITO DRIVE

The Family Life Programme from Mothers' Union Uganda is operating in eight areas of the country, supporting family life by equipping communities with knowledge and skills to identify issues affecting them and to work collectively using local resources to start addressing them. Participants in the programme are addressing a wide range of issues relating to poverty alleviation, health, environmental protection and human rights.

More information can be found on the website www.themothersunion.org or issue 13 in Families Worldwide.

1. Talk about how the Family Life Programme has mobilised communities to improve sanitation. Ask the members to join in and share what they know about the Family Life Programme and how sanitation can be improved.
2. Talk about malaria - how it is caused and how it can be treated (lots of information can be found on the website www.netsforlifeagric.org to share with the group). Ask what they know about the insect (a picture to show will help discussion) and discuss who are the most vulnerable people likely to lose their lives through its bite.
3. Treated mosquito nets are one form of prevention. Explain how a mosquito net works and how it protects people at night. Many charitable organisations distribute nets throughout Africa.
4. If you have enough people at your meeting who can be organised into groups of four have a lot of fun by having a mosquito drive which works exactly the same as the traditional beetle drive. You will need pens and dice. A copy of the instructions are given to you here. Hold as many games as you wish. This should be fun and the resulting "drawings" are usually very funny!
5. Finish the session with a moment of quiet whilst you think about the communities affected by malaria and give thanks for the work of the Mothers' Union. (Perhaps one of your members could prepare this before the meeting)

If you do not have a computer you could book a Mothers' Union speaker to talk about the Family Life programme and hold the mosquito drive as part of the meeting. Your local library will also be of help.