

Newsletter



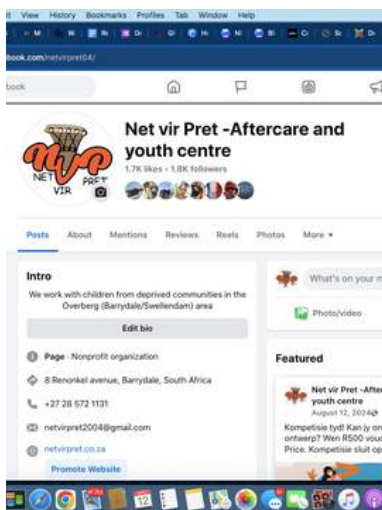
Welcome!

Greetings from Net Vir Pret out of Barrydale. Join us as we share some of our stories about what we did during the month of March. And we do have some interesting stories to share. We will touch on the awards we made, the resumption of our Skills Training Programme and much more. Please make sure to share our love with friends and family as we prepare for our journey ahead



Getting in touch

We encourage all of our friends and family to visit our centre. we also advice all to follow our social media pages to stay up to date on our activities. Please make sure to like our Facebook page and follow our Instagram page to see all the wonderful pictures posted. Thank you!



Anita Ellis Award Story

Anita Ellis, a friend of the organisation fell in love with the work we do with the youngsters in Barrydale and on the farms. She joined hands with Jude Lock-Brown and raised funds to support our cause. After she passed, her children, working hand to hand with Jude, set up an awards in remembrance of her name to provide youngsters with gifts for outstanding work.



Meet Michelle

BEST SOLO RIEL DANCER

Michelle Hartnick, Net Vir Pretter since the age of 4, joined the riel dance at a young age and stayed in the programme for more than 14 years.

[A short story will follow soon](#)



Annual Anita Ellis Award

04 MARCH 2025

It was a great pleasure to make the Anita Ellis Awards for excellence to Michelle Hartnick and Alexander Erasmus (Pictured on your left). The two of them were high achievers in their programmes.

Alexander Erasmus, has been one of the most committed participants in the Craft and Arts class. Every day he is on time and eager to learn more and create more. His mother accompanied him to the event and she was proud of what her son does at Net Vir Pret.

Michelle Hartnick has been part of Net Vir Pret since 4 and her dedication in the riel dance showed when she won the best female dancers in Paarl last year.

[Well done to them both!](#)



Meet Alexander

COMMITTED CRAFTER AND POTTER

Alexander Erasmus is a proud crafter and potter. In 2022 he was part of the band as a singer in "The life and times of Duke, the Zebra".



Let's get skilled up!

WE ARE AT IT AGAIN! Our Skills Training Programme is running again. This year adding Puppetry to the mix. Now we have Puppet Building, Textile Design, Basket Weaving and Computer classes.

Empowering our community

Let's look back!

- Last year, our participants worked hard to produce products to be marketed at the Barrydale in Bloom festival. They were not disappointed. The customers were very impressed with the products on display. They managed to make just short of R2000

- Moving into the new building, our skills training will now have a foothold in the village economy by being in the area where all the shops are. This will allow more tourists to see the products they produce. We look forward to seeing the how many products they can sell.

We have a new Building



We are proud to present our new building where we will now run our skills training. It also have a playground for kids, a display area for viewing our products and we are planning to build a chess board with massive chess pieces so that all members of our community, young and old, can come to us and enjoy the challenges of this game.

Saying Goodbye

WE WANT TO TAKE THIS MOMENT TO SAY
FAREWELL TO PETER TAKELO

Our Net Vir Pret dreamer, Peter Takelo, said goodbye with a good heart and ready to enjoy his retirement. Remember Peter started the organisation and now he can look back and be proud of how far we have developed.

Peter, who has always been fighting for a better future for our youngsters in Barrydale has been an active leader in our programmes. He received a gold medal from UWC for his community work in 2021. Everywhere you go, people know the name and it is just evident how impactful he has been over the years. Peter has also been active in the music scene, being one of the main song writers and performers at our Annual Giant Puppet Parade and Performance.

We at Net Vir Pret, will never forget the advice and love he showed to us in all of his years. We wish him a great retirement and that he will continue to be the impactful leader he is.



To Play, Learn and Grow

THIS WAS PETER'S DREAM

Working at a school for disabled learners, Peter developed his sense of care for the youngsters. While being on holiday he saw the need for programmes in our community and without hesitation he embarked on this journey of building Net Vir Pret. That was 25 years back!

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OUR TRIPS AND VISITORS

Impact Measurement Workshop

Sudonia and Nataniel attended an impact measurement workshop in Cape Town. It was organised by The Makwande Empowerment Trust.



Knowing the Impact

We were able to meet community workers from many other organisations and share our stories. It made us look at our programmes to see what impact we've been having on the lives of our youngsters.



Meeting Alexej VancI

A friend from Germany came to visit our centre and shared some of his expertise when it comes to physical theatre and performing. He had a session with our puppet makers and they enjoyed it very much.

Giving life to a mask

Alexej showed our group how to make a full head mask out of glue and brown paper and how to breath life into the mask. Here you could clearly see how invested the participants are. They performed very well and Alexej was very pleased with what he achieved with the group



From Us to You: This is more than just a Newsletter. It is our way of sharing stories of development!

You as our friends, play a massive role in our development by just reading this letter. In a time of AI driven content, we still believe in creating a newsletter authentically. Many would call it old-school. No, not here at Net Vir Pret. We seek for the human factor in how we do things.

We want to thank all of you for taking the time to read our stories. Thank you for sharing it with others. As stated previously, we do consider you part of the family.

Please do not hesitate to visit our centre in Barrydale. It's always a pleasure to be able to show you the work we do in person. You can also like our Facebook page for more content on our programmes. Let's always lead with love!

THANK
YOU!

Thank you for reading!

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