

NET VIR PRET

ANNUAL REPORT

01.04.2018 – 31.03.2019



Registered as a Non Profit Organisation and a Public Benefit Organisation

NPO 055 086

PBO 930049465

8 Renonkel Avenue

Barrydale

6750

Tel: 028 572 1131

Email: netvirpret@mweb.co.za

Website: www.netvirpret.org

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Executive

Shane Petzer – Chairperson

Hermanus Bron – Deputy Chair

Nolan Klaasen – Treasurer

Elton Esau – Secretary

Additional Members

Norma Brönn – Renaldo Claassen - Mariane Kortje - Johan Majola – Fanny Nortje

Hendrik Plaatjies – Suzette Plaatjies

Staff

Youth & Community Director - Peter Takelo
 Youth Development Co-ordinator – Sudonia Kouter
 Sports Co-ordinator – Angelo Endley
 Assistant Youth Worker – Herman Witbooi
 Assistant Youth Worker – Clarisa Jonas
 Assistant Project Hope – Daylon Pienaar
 Assistant Bike Programme – Anwill Speelman
 Administrator – Derek Joubert

Part-time Tutors

Gari Crawford – Music Jean Bittkau – Pottery
 Cherie Dirksen – Art & Craft Andries Truter – Project Hope

Interns

2018

Jolee Anne Bronn – Gabriel Buis – Heriette Ferguson – Joshua Louw
 Selanvor Platjies

2019

Gabriel Buis – Kelno Jambo – Julio Malan – Melvinia Meiring – Samantha Takelo

ACTIVITIES

Net vir Pret continued its work with children and youth in Barrydale and on the surrounding farms and ran 22 different programmes during the year under review; these are described below.

The **Chess Club, Boys Only** and the **Eco Warrior** programmes were new ventures.

The **PETS** workshops were run by **Dr. Michael Rice** of the **PETS Foundation**; Net vir Pret was the facilitating partner.

THE 2018/19 PROGRAMME

Programme	Activities	Time frame	No. participants
After-School Care	Story-telling, reading, art & crafts, puppet-making, play-building	Mon – Fri 14h00-17h00	35-50 children daily (age group 5-11)
Sports Programme	Summer: cricket, handball, bowling, tug-of-war, tennis Winter: rugby, soccer, netball, bowling, table tennis Matches on Saturdays	Mon – Fri : Farm schools 10h00-12h00 Barrydale: 14h00-17h00	Barrydale: 30 (ages 5-15) Farm schools: 200 (ages 5-12)
Holiday Schools	Arts & crafts, play-building, games, sports	During all four school vacations	130 (ages 5-17)
December Puppet Parade	Activities pursued throughout the year lead to a Giant Puppet performance on the Day of Reconciliation	3 weeks of the December Holiday School	150 participants
Farm school outreach	Story-telling, reading, art & crafts, play-building; 4 farm schools visited weekly	12h00- 13h30 Mon-Thursday	200 children over the 4 days (ages 5-12)

Young Leaders	Structured 2-year course in weekly workshops. Occasional residential weekends & educational excursions	Friday 16h00-17h30	24 participants
Matric Outreach	Final year high school students are counselled in career pathing and are assisted with applications to tertiary institutions & for bursary support.	Group motivating sessions; individual counselling throughout the year.	26 participants
Bursary Programme	Financial assistance for tertiary students for registration deposits, transport.	As needed	15 beneficiaries
Internship Programme	Interns are on a 10 month placement at Net vir Pret where they learn new skills.	1 Mar-31 Dec	5 interns
Jazz Programme	Individual and ensemble instrumental tuition provided in 4 sessions a week.	Tuesdays to Fridays 14h30-16h30.	15 participants
Drama Programme	Weekly rehearsals in which plays are improvised. Public performances and entry in the Overberg Drama Festival.	Wednesdays 15h00-17h00	10 participants
Pottery Programme	Studio work twice a week leading to an end-of-year exhibition and market.	Mon & Wed 15h00-18h00	15 participants
Craft Programme	Studio work thrice a week leading to an end-of-year exhibition and market.	Tues, Thurs & Fri 14h30-17h30	18 participants
Blikkies Band & Riel Dance Programme	Training in drumming and riel dance three times a week with participation in competitions and festivals	Mondays to Thursdays 15h00-17h00	104 participants in 13 groups based at NvP and farm locations
Bike Club	Cycling and training in road safety and bike maintenance three times a week; participation in Renosterbos Marathon.	Monday – Friday 15h00-17h00; Sat 10h00-13h00.	18 participants
Project Hope	Full-time creative and healing activities for young school drop-outs in conflict with the law.	Monday-Friday 10h00-13h00	17 participants
Homework Club	Access to a supervised space for homework with internet access and printing facilities.	Mon-Thurs 16h00-18h00	30 participants
Eco Warriors	Youngsters team up to clean the environment & especially the river	Wednesdays 15h00-17h00	
Chess Club	A new venture to promote the game of chess. Youngsters compete with one another, against the computer, challenge the community at large and enter school tournaments.	Tues & Thurs 14h30-16h00 Tournaments on Saturdays	40 participants
Girls Only	A programme designed to assist girls face the challenges as they enter puberty.	Wednesdays 15h30-17h00	15 participants
Boys Only	A programme for young boys entering puberty.	Fridays 15h30-17h00	12 participants
Programme for Educating Teachers - PETS	In partnership with the PETS Foundation providing workshops for teachers from in schools in Barrydale and on surrounding farms	A two-hour workshop every second month	12 participants

River and Redfin

The December **Day of Reconciliation** Giant Puppet Parade is the highlight of the **Net vir Pret** year. It brings together work developed across all our programmes in a stunning performance which is widely attended by a large part of the community. The outcome of a seven-year collaboration with the world-renowned **Handspring Puppet Company**, the event is run in partnership with the **Centre for Humanities Research (CHR)** at the **University of the Western Cape** and the **Ukwanda Puppetry Collective** and now attracts spectators to the small village of Barrydale from as far afield as Canada, the USA, and the UK.



In recent years the theme for the Parade has revolved around ecological issues and in 2018 it was decided to focus on the predicament of the species of **Redfin Minnow**, unique to the **Huis River** which flows through our village, under threat from pollution, alien predators and invasive vegetation and from

wasteful and reckless exploitation of this precious resource by humans and it was agreed that the two giant puppets would be a Redfin Fish and the River itself.

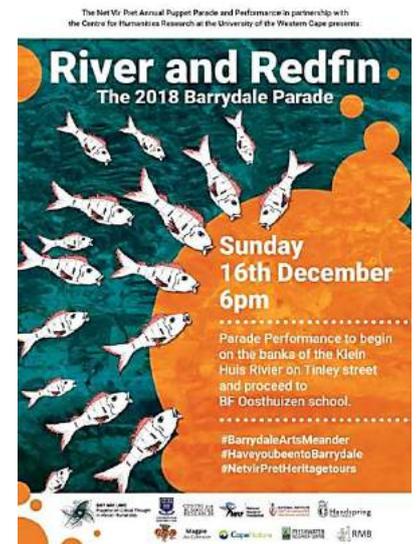
Aja Marneweck, a post-doctoral fellow at CHR, directed the show, as she has done since 2012 and the **Ukwanda** team designed and built the giant puppets. Our own team scripted the story while our young musicians composed original lyrics and music for the show and our crafters designed the masks and the smaller hand-held puppets (dragonflies, frogs, crabs, kingfishers) which the children would make and carry.



Although it dealt with a serious theme, the show, with a cast of over 150, was presented with humour and many entertaining flourishes, including a circus scene, and everyone agreed that it took the December event to new levels of excellence.

Holiday Schools

The Holiday Schools presented an opportunity to explore the issues to be raised in the River Redfin show with our youngsters. In July a record of 130 youngsters turned up for the programme and spent the week learning about the Red Fin and its predicament. They were then tasked in age groups to improvise a play about the Red Fin for





performance on the final day, complete with props and puppets.

In the second week, the Holiday School moved to the **Vleiplaas Farm School** where 55 youngsters attended a similar programme.

The **September Holiday School** was dedicated to cleaning up the environment and then recycling what could be salvaged. Among the

items made was the red fin installation the six youngsters alongside constructed from waste plastic and mounted on the school fence.



After Care Programme

The After Care Programme ran every weekday afternoon and up to 50 youngsters crammed in on a regular basis.



Activities ran from story-telling and reading to art and craft to biking and games.



Youngsters also received a nourishing meal.

We are particularly grateful to **Mike Clarke** and **Lisa** and **David Hooley** who made soup for the children on Wednesdays and also to the **Lunchbox Fund** which provided nourishing foodstuff for the Holiday Schools.



Project Hope

Project Hope, our full-time programme for school drop-outs, grew from strength to strength with the number of participants increasing to seventeen.

They received individual tuition in numeracy and literacy from retired special needs teacher, **Andries Truter**, and also learned carpentry, planted an extensive food garden and embarked on a new project to propagate succulents.



They set up a stall at the **Barrydale October Fest** where the work of youngsters who were previously stigmatised and considered good-for-nothing was admired by all. In September the boys prepared a chicken curry for a dinner to which their mothers were invited and at which they were presented with **Certificates of Achievement**.



They were also tasked with helping staff member **Herman Witbooi** with the construction of the set for the River Redfin show and they acted as the stage hands, seamlessly changing the scenes as the show developed.

Farm outreach

Four local farm schools (**Vleiplaas, Lemoenshoek, Akkerboom** and **Weltevrede**) were visited on mornings once a week for a programme involving story-telling, art and craft and sport. We thought it high time farm youngsters had the chance to participate in the activities offered at our centre in the village. To make that possible we started a new outreach which brought in groups of teenagers on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. These youngsters had access to the computers in the Homework Room and the **Eduplay** programme, and more particularly to the Jazz, Pottery and Craft Studios where several showed promise.



Pottery & Craft Studios

The Pottery Studio acquired a new, smaller kiln during the year so that firings could take place at more frequent intervals. The studio worked solidly and the pottery produced was exhibited at the **Barrydale Library**,



the **Barrydale Blooms Festival** and the **Barrydale October Fest**.





The Art and Craft Studio increased its meetings from three to four sessions a week to accommodate a new group of youngsters entering their teens who had outgrown the After Care Programme.

The Studio did a lot of work on the Red Fin theme, producing fish images from recycled material and making banners and cushion covers on the theme.

The Studio held exhibitions of work at the **Barrydale Blooms Festival** also at the **Barrydale Library**.

Jazz Studio

The Jazz Studio met on four afternoons a week and offered individual and ensemble tuition in lead and bass guitar, keyboard, percussion, alto sax and trumpet. An innovation in 2019 was that the youngsters bused in from the farms in the



afternoons now also had access to the jazz studio and each of the farms schools was provided with a guitar so that keen youngsters could practise between their visits to our Centre.



The Jazz Studio made its usual musical contribution to the December Giant Puppet Show. In past years this has taken the form of songs to accompany the highlights in the story; in the 2018 River Redfin show they also composed background music to the entire show.

Riel Dance Programme

Our young Riel Dancers had a good year; both the junior and senior groups came home from the **ATKV** riel dance festival in **Vredendal** with trophies.



The senior group was invited to provide the entertainment at the opening of the **Fossil Park Museum** in **Langebaan** in October before a distinguished audience.



On **Heritage Day** we ran an all-day event at which our 13 riel dance groups performed alongside local rap artists. Our

group based at the **Akkerboom Farm School** was invited to perform at a **Heritage Day Festival** in **Oudtshoorn**.

Drama Group



Our Drama Group decided to tackle a theme of a more serious nature than we have before and chose to tell the story of vulnerable teenage girl who is abused by her trusted uncle. With flashbacks to the past, the play showed the girl's older self trying to come to terms with what had happened to her younger self.

Who Is To Blame? was selected at the semi-finals of the **Overberg Drama Festival** and went forward to the finals in Oudtshoorn in February where the actors received special

mention.

Eco Warriors

The group of youngsters who set out every Wednesday afternoon received a great boost when they were joined by local volunteer Reuben Hart who took them under his wing and established them with a new identity as the **Eco Warriors**. The group is now 40 strong and the difference they are making to the state of the river and the general environment is apparent to everyone in the village.



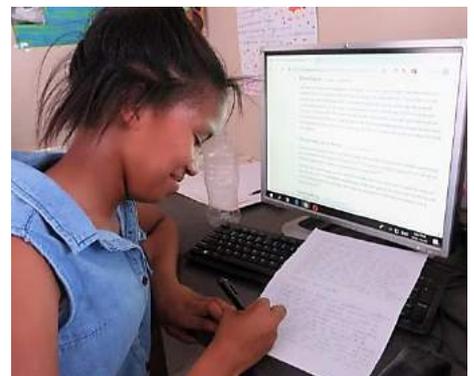
The Homework Room

The computers in the **Homework Room** continued to be a valuable resource, although it must be said, half of them are particularly slow and need replacing.



In the mornings they were available to anyone wishing to do research or type a cv; after lunch the after-care children took it

in turns to access the Eduplay language and maths learning programme; then the farm children had their chance and finally the facility was available until 18h30 to youngsters who wanted to work on school assignments.



Interns

Our Interns are tasked each year with improvising a play on a theme of social concern which can tour schools and the 2018 group decided to tackle marijuana as their theme. They began by combing the web for information and followed this by conducting interviews across the community – at the clinic, the police station, the schools, with parents, grandparents, teenagers and self-confessed smokers.

After two months of hard work, they came up with **Open Your Mind**, a 40 minute play, set in the classroom, which told the story of a teenage girl pulled one way by friends who indulged and the other way by others who didn't.



The script was full of humour and engaged audiences wherever they played. The star of the show was Intern **Selanvor Platjies**, whose original rap accompanied the action and provided a commentary on it.

There were 32 performances in all, at school in towns and on farms as far afield as **Calitzdorp, Robertson, Slangrivier** and **Swellendam**

SULP

In October we had a surprise visit from three musicians comprising the **Swiss Urban Ländler Passion**.



Sponsored by the **Swiss Arts Council**, they brought with them a tenor and an alto sax, a tuba, a double bass, several concertinas and a huge Alpen horn. We took them to play for children at the Vleiplaas and Akkerboom Farm Schools, at the BF Oosthuizen Primary School in Barrydale and for **our** After Care

Programme **and the Ebenezer Old Age Club** in our township where they were a great hit.

Three of our young musicians joined them in performance at the **Karoo Art Hotel** and the **Mez Restaurant** in Barrydale.



Little Suns – Bringing Light to the Darkness

A box of 100 **Little Suns** arrived during the year, sent as a donation by Belgian pediatric psychiatrist **Dr. Griet du Pont**. The Little Suns are small but powerful solar-powered lamps and we were given the opportunity to distribute them.



We decided to target households on local farms which do not have electricity and have to do everything

by candle-light.

Our Director and our Administrator spent the month heading out to the farms in the evenings to find deserving recipients.

In the end we gave the lamps to 35 different households on 6 farms, where they were greatly welcomed. In truth, the need is such that we could have distributed three times the number.



PETS – Programme for Educating Teachers

Our partnership with **PETS** entered its 6th year in 2018 with a focus on emergent reading and emergent mathematics. With the help of **Net vir Pret** and educators from **Vleiplaas** and **Akkerboom Farm Schools** and the local **BF Oosthuizen Primary School**, PETS Director **Dr. Michael Rice** developed an interactive 8-module internet course called **It Begins At Birth** for practising teachers, ECD practitioners, caregivers and Home Schooling parents which will be launched on the E-classroom website www.e-classroom.co.za in January.



The course covers how children start becoming literate at birth and continue the process throughout life through a combination of cognitive development and interaction with their environment. In broad terms it includes not only speaking, story-telling, reading and writing, but also emergent mathematics, with which it shares many similar concepts. Our group was particularly helpful in the process of translating the course which is now also available in Afrikaans.

Matric Outreach

The **Matric Outreach Programme** counselled youngsters in their final school year on options for further study and provided assistance with applications to institutions, for financial support, and

finally with procedures on registration day, including transport to and from Cape Town in the Net vir Pret bus.

The following table gives details of the 46 young people from Barrydale who have progressed to further study with Net vir Pret's help. It would be true to say that before we initiated this intervention 6 years ago, virtually no youngsters from our village were going on to tertiary study

TERTIARY ENROLMENTS & GRADUATES

New & Continuing students	Institution	Course
1. Afrikaner, Chandre	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Management N6
2. Britz, Darren	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Business Management N6
3. Davids, Roberts	Cape Peninsula Univ of Technology	Nat. Dipl. Sport Management N5
4. Dyanti, Deo	University Western Cape	BA 1
5. Europa, Micaela	Boland College	Nat. Dipl. Educare N6
6. Evertson, Jerome	University Western Cape	BA 2
7. Filton, Imran	University Western Cape	B Ed 3
8. Hess, Dylan	University Western Cape	BA 3
9. Jonas, Charne	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Human Resource Management N6
10. Joubert, Benjamin	College of Cape Town	Nat. Dipl. Graphic Design N4
11. Kees, Ashwin	University Western Cape	BA 2
12. Le Roux, Chriselda	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Management N6
13. Michaels, Rensche	University Western Cape	BEd 2
14. Neethling, Chilton	College of Cape Town	Nat. Dipl. Graphic Design N5
15. Ruiters, Ethan	Boland College	Nat. Dipl. Sport Management 3
16. Scheepers, Elroy	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Civil Engineering N6
17. Snyman, Ethan	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Office Administration N6
18. Swart, Peden	West Coast College	Nat. Dipl. Elec Engineering N5
Graduates		
19. Afrika, Franco	University Western Cape	BA (Hons), STD
20. Braaf, Sonja	South Cape College	Nat. Dipl. Educare
21. Britz, Charleen	Cape Peninsula Univ of Technology	B Ed
22. du Toit, Christiaan	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Marketing
23. du Toit, Davina	West Coast College	Nat. Dipl. Management
24. Dyanti, Brandon	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Financial Management
25. Ernest, Simonia	Cape Peninsula Univ of Technology	B Ed
26. Esau, William	University Western Cape	BA
27. Hendricks, Romano	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Marketing
28. Jooste, Mickhyle	University Western Cape	B Com
29. Joubert, Fiogen	Cape Peninsula Univ of Technology	B Tech (Tourism)
30. Koppies, Nuroshaan	West Coast College	Nat. Dipl. Management
31. Levendal, Cecil	University Western Cape	B Com
32. Marthinus, Devona	South Cape College	Nat. Cert. Hairdressing
33. Michaels, Shayne	University Western Cape	B Ed
34. Moses, Clarence	University of the Free State	B Admin
35. Nel, Grace	South Cape College	Nat. Dipl. Safety & Security
36. Nel, Patrick	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Management
37. Pekeur, Deslin	West Coast College	Nat. Dipl. Office Technology
38. Pieterse, Sheryldine	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Tourism
39. Snyman, Rowann	Cape Peninsula Univ of Technology	Nat. Dipl. Management
40. Swart, Herschelle	University of the Free State	B Admin
41. van Rooi, Henrico	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Human Resources
42. van Wyk, Ellestine	Northlink College	Nat. Dipl. Early Childhood Dev.
43. Windvogel, Tay-Lea	University Western Cape	BA
Apprenticeships		
44. Bronn, Earl	TMS International	Diesel Mechanics
45. Botman, Gurshim	TMS International	Diesel Mechanics
46. Davids, Macwin	TMS International	Boilermaking

Funding

Nothing would be possible without the support of our donors both large and small to whom we express our deep gratitude. The following table lists grants and private donations of R5,000 or more received during the financial year.

DONOR SUPPORT 01.04.2018-31.03.2019		R's
Government		R's
Dept. Social Development		27,104
Trusts, Foundations & Corporate		
Allan & Gill Gray Charitable Trust		25,000
Education for Democracy in South Africa (UK)		330,000
ELMA Foundation		300,000
King Baudouin Foundation (BE)		96.438
Rand Merchant Bank		400,000
Rolf-Stephan Nussbaum Foundation		155,000
SANTAM		12,000
Stichting Projecten Zuid Afrika (NL)		40,000
Superb Tyres		30,000
TMS International		30,000
Tube City		10,000
Other donations R5,000 and above		
Anon		15,000
Rosemary de Waal		55,000
Marie-Claire Kamin (US)		12,142
Geoff Budlender		14,000
Rene Weinum		6,000
Zoe Wicomb (UK)		10,000
Handspring Trust		7,420
Badisa Stilbaai		7,000
Detlef Klaphor		30,000
Other donations		
Various donors		60,262
TOTAL		1,672,366

Gordon Browning again contributed generously via **EDSA** as did **Ann Harries**.

Donations were also received from **Bob Wolf, Empangeni Rotary, Doria Cucciolillo, Towerkop Primary School, Breathe Free, Fossil Park Museum, Peter Simon, Simon Loudon, Tony Matthews, Karen van Heerden, Alaister Collins, Willy Franks, Jerry Rogers, Rick Brown, Group Paul Kon**, as well as several people who wished to remain anonymous.

The **Lunchbox Fund** continued to provide much appreciated nutritious foodstuff for youngsters attending the Holiday Schools.

Funding from the Department of **Arts and Culture** through the agency of **CACCFWC** supported the Pottery, Craft and Music workshops with the Department contracting directly with the tutors.

Lawrie Mabin kindly continued to donate the printing of our brochures.