

Couple wed on Aids Day

IT'S WORLD Aids Day today and for Charmaine Petersen and Nigel Hartzenberg it is also their wedding day.

The couple, who are both HIV positive, met at Tygerberg Hospital where they receive treatment.

After getting engaged earlier this year they decided to tie the knot on World Aids Day. They were to make their vows in the hospital's chapel this afternoon.

Mom-of-two Petersen, 38,

JO STEELE
Staff Reporter

from Elsie's River, said: "We wanted to make a statement that there is hope and life after HIV. What better day to do it than on World Aids Day."

Petersen, who has had HIV for five years, said of Hartzenberg, from Bishop Lavis: "We are each other's strength. Time is a big factor for us and

we don't want to wait a single minute."

The couple are part of the HOPE Association (HIV Outreach Programme and Education) based at the hospital.

Pauline Jooste, compliance and training officer, said: "We are so excited for them. Our organisation is all about hope and these two are practising exactly what we preach."

Among events happening around the city today to mark World Aids Day, Tygerberg

Hospital is holding a HIV/Aids Open Day.

GF Jooste Hospital is holding an Aids programme which will include a talk by a patients on anti-retrovirals.

At St George's Cathedral, Aids activist and comedian Pieter Dirk-Uys will be taking part in a conference to tackle HIV/Aids awareness.

On Saturday from 1pm musicians such as Louise Carver, Kobus!, Andy Mac from Flat Stanley and reggae

artist Teba edition Aids Levi's Store

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