

# PLATFORMS 11 AND 12 ARE NOW OPEN

Two platforms that were damaged during a fire incident at Cape Town Station last year have been reopened. **Alicia English**

**P**latforms 11 and 12 at Cape Town Station were reopened to trains and commuters recently. The platforms were closed last year due to a fire, in which two train sets were set alight. Four motor coaches and four plain carriages were torched.

“The trains were parked overnight under the canopy on platforms 11 and 12 at Cape Town Station when the incident took place. As a result of the excessive heat, the concrete structure of the canopy was damaged.

“We called in a structural engineer. Following his recommendations, a contractor was appointed to repair the structure,” explains Hennie Pretorius, section manager of Metrorail’s operating safety department.

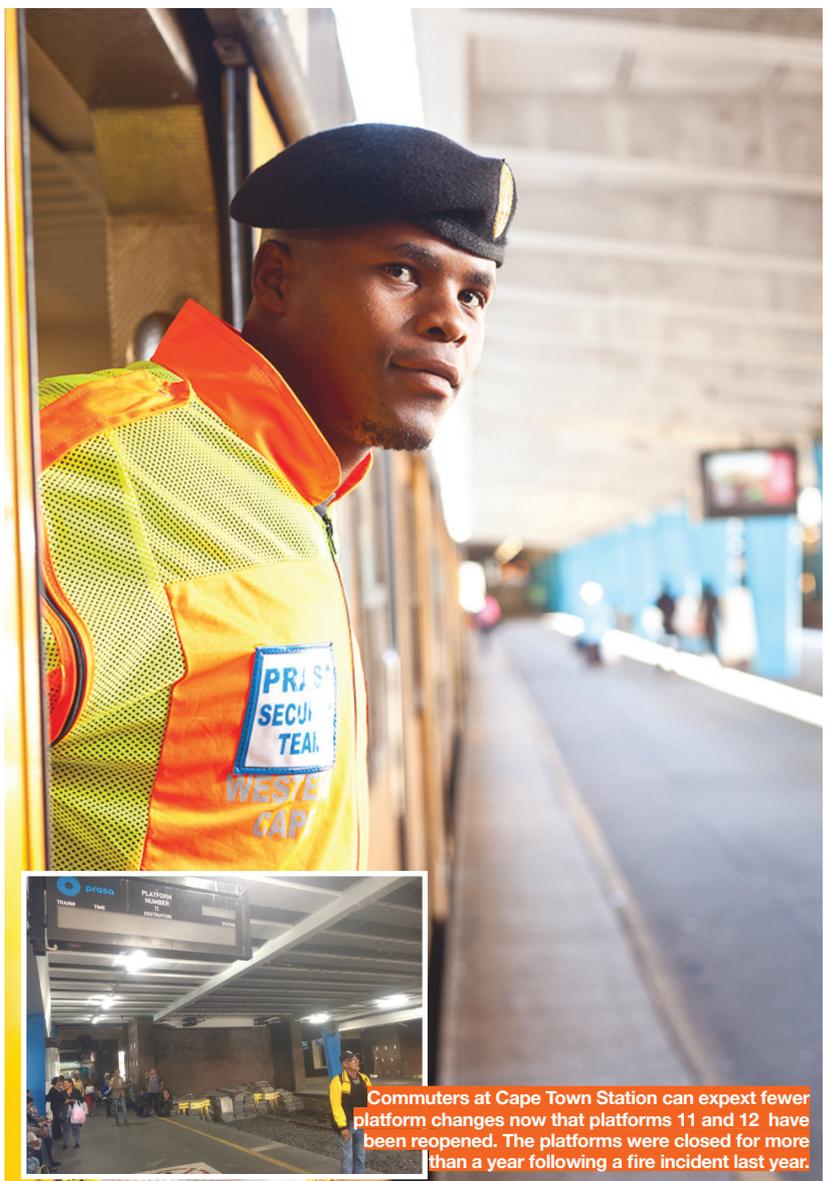
**“WE’RE ABLE TO REDUCE THE CHANGES WE HAD WHILE THE PLATFORMS WERE CLOSED.” – HENNIE PRETORIUS**

## FEWER CHANGES

Once the repair work was completed, the engineer was again called in to approve the commissioned repairs. The platforms were reopened, following his approval.

Hennie says commuters at Cape Town Station can expect fewer platform changes now that the two platforms are in use.

“The trains can now run from the scheduled platforms as indicated in the timetable. This means that we are able to reduce the many changes we had while the platforms were closed,” adds Hennie.



Commuters at Cape Town Station can expect fewer platform changes now that platforms 11 and 12 have been reopened. The platforms were closed for more than a year following a fire incident last year.



## MINDER VERANDERINGE OP KAAPSTADSTASIE

Twee peronne wat verlede jaar tydens ‘n brandvoerval by Kaapstadstasie beskadig was, is onlangs heropen.

Peronne 11 en 12 by Kaapstadstasie is op 28 April 2017 vir treine en pendelaars heropen. Die peronne is verlede jaar weens ‘n brand, waarin twee treinstelle aan die brand gesteek was, gesluit.

Hennie Pretorius, afdeling bestuurder van Metrorail se

bedryfsveiligheidsdepartement, sê pendelaars kan nou veel minder peron veranderinge verwag.

“Die treine kan nou vanaf die geskeduleerde peronne vertrek. Dit beteken dat ons die vele veranderinge wat ons voorheen op Kaapstadstasie gehad het terwyl die platforms gesluit was, kon verminder,” voeg Hennie by.

MODERNISATION

# PRESIDENT LAUNCHES THE PEOPLE'S TRAIN

President Jacob Zuma launched the new PRASA trains operated by Metrorail in Pretoria last week. **Alicia English**

**T**he new trains, affectionately known as the People's Train, are part of PRASA's modernisation programme, which will be implemented over the next 20 years. The passenger rail infrastructure and systems will also be upgraded over a period as part of this programme.

This significant milestone comes less than 10 years since PRASA was established to address the decline of passenger rail and drive the re-investment into passenger rail modernisation.

The programme supports the National Development Plan's vision which aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030.

## WORLD-CLASS TRAVEL

Passengers commuting between Pretoria and Pienaarspoort will now travel on the new state-of-the-art trains. With the President's launch of PRASA's new service, South African commuters will experience a world-class service at affordable rates. The new trains offer commuters:

- Faster travel times
- Reliable service
- Improved security with CCTV cameras
- Fully air-conditioned trains

### THAT'S A FACT

- In **2013**, PRASA signed a **R59 billion** deal with the Gibela Rail Transport Consortium, to deliver **600** new train sets.
- **580** train sets will be produced locally and **20** manufactured in Brazil.
- A new manufacturing plant valued at nearly **R1 billion** is currently under construction at Dunnottar, Ekurhuleni.
- Once completed, the plant will employ about **1 500** people: **99%** South African, **85%** historically disadvantaged and **25%** women.



## Safety is our concern

### SAFETY CORNER

Inform a Metrorail employee if you see anything suspicious or out of order at your station. You can also call any of the emergency numbers below.

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Protection services	021 449 4336
Claims office	021 449 2041/3645
Transport info number	0800 65 64 63

### RAILWAY POLICE

Stock Road	021 370 1005
Cape Town	021 443 4325
Bellville	021 941 6800
Retreat	021 710 5129
24-hour operational room	021 443 4309 /10



FROM LEFT Joe Maswanganyi, National Minister of Transport, and Ismael Vadi, Gauteng MEC for Transport attended the recent launch of the trains in Pretoria.

METRO MATTERS

# THE NEXT 72 HOURS

On 21 May 2017, Metrorail technicians will undertake maintenance work between Nolungile and Nonkqubela, and Woodstock and Salt River Stations, respectively. Here's what you need to know. **Alicia English**

**O**n Sunday, 21 May, Metrorail technicians will undertake maintenance work on the overhead cables between Nolungile and Nonkqubela Stations in Area Central.

"We are going to upgrade the overhead cables under the Mew Way bridge. Normally, we would occupy just one line, but we are closing the lines in both directions as a safety precaution," explains Shamiel Damon, technical supervisor at Metrorail's infra electrical department.

Similar maintenance work will be carried out on the Northern line between Salt River and Woodstock Stations.

### CENTRAL LINE

Maintenance work will impact the Central line service between 8.30am to 6pm. Commuters are advised that:

1. Trains on the Khayelitsha line will terminate at Stock Road Station.

2. A bus shuttle will operate between Stock Road and Khayelitsha, and between Stock Road and Chris Hani Stations.

### NORTHERN LINE

The Northern line service will be impacted from 9.30am and 3.30pm. Commuters are advised that:

1. Northern line trains will be re-routed via Ysterplaat–Woltemade–Mutual
2. Platform changes will be announced at Cape Town Station.
3. A train shuttle will operate between Salt River and Mutual Stations.
4. Commuters travelling to and from Woodstock and Salt River should use trains operating on the Cape Flats or Simon's Town lines.



Technicians in Metrorail's infra-electrical department will be working on the overhead cables between Nolungile and Nonkqubela Stations on Sunday, 21 May 2017.

IMAGE: SUPPLIED

**"WE ARE CLOSING THE LINES IN BOTH DIRECTIONS AS A SAFETY PRECAUTION." – SHAMIEL DAMON; METRORAIL**



Your safety matters. Stand behind the yellow line until the train comes to a complete stop.



SPECIAL PROJECTS

# HARFIELD RAILWAY CLEANUP GETS THUMBS UP



The Annual Harfield Railway Clean-up is has become a community affair, which is supported by Metrorail and PRASA.

The recent 2017 Annual Harfield Railway Cleanup was a real community affair. Metrorail employees brought their A-game to make the initiative a resounding success. **Alicia English**

**O**n Sunday, 7 May 2017, Metrorail employees joined residents from Harfield, Rondebosch, Mitchell's Plain and other stakeholders during the 2017 Annual Harfield Railway Clean-up, organised by Friends of Harfield Parks.

Gail Brown, chairperson of Friends of Harfield Parks, has thanked Metrorail for its invaluable contribution.

"Your support of the Annual Harfield Railway Cleanup allowed us to have a successful day. We had people coming from as far afield as Mitchell's Plain. We collected over 300 black bags, and carted away eight carloads and 20 bakkie-loads of refuse, and tree and bush cuttings.

"Metrorail contractors and the City of Cape Town's Invasive Plant unit removed the trees and bushes that were being used as cover by criminal elements and carry out their nefarious doings. This will have a long-term benefit of helping to make the area safer as it is now very open. We were able to get the railway line cleaned-up and in pretty good shape," says Gail.

### TEAM EFFORT

Metrorail provided two teams of employees who assisted during the cleanup. Later in the day, senior employees of PRASA arrived at the clean up site to encourage the teams.

"We could never get this done without the wonderful support on all levels from George Kiewiets, Metrorail's special projects manager in Area South. Our piece of the railway line now looks so much better. It is much safer, cleaner and on its way to becoming a valuable green corridor," adds Gail.

"Metrorail is deeply grateful to Gail Brown and all the roleplayers for their contribution and support in ensuring, once again, a successful cleanup campaign. Thank you for your continued support to promote a clean and green rail reserve," says George.



Metrorail contractors and the City of Cape Town's Invasive Plant unit remove trees and bushes that were being used as hideouts by criminals.



TRAVEL

# BACKPACKING 101



Ever thought of just heading out on a backpacking adventure? We explore some do's and don'ts of backpacking. **Nosipho Mashologu**

If you are planning on going on a backpacking adventure, these tips will help you stay out of trouble if you're attempting it for the first time. It's not always as easy and smooth as it looks. Backpacking can take you way out of your comfort zone, so it's always a good idea to start out small. Opt for an overnight hike or a two-day trail to see what works for you and what doesn't.

DO		Take stock of your surroundings before you set up camp.		Be aware of your surroundings at all times and cautious about where you're heading. Backpackers are supposed to have excellent navigation techniques – learn some.		Be realistic about what you can carry.		Pack to suit your destination(s).			
		Come up with a budget.		Invest in a good pair of walking shoes.		Invest in a good backpack.		Know how your gear works.		Have a plan.	
DON'T		Plan to read the instruction manual "once you get there".		Be reckless just because you think you're sorted. Accidents often happen to backpackers. Just keep your common sense about you and you'll do fine.		Underestimate how heavy your bag can be.		Throw rocks unnecessarily			
		Pack irrelevant items.		Carry it all at once.		Forget things to wear in camp.		Bother keeping your backpack clean.		Over plan.	

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

When you're out camping, you won't always find an organised campsite where you're told where to pitch

your tent and start cooking. There are a few unspoken rules to adhere to though. Sleep at least a kilometre away from the trail and not immediately next to a water source. Backpackers who head uphill always have the right of way, so if you're

headed downhill and meet a group of backpackers, step off the trail and let them pass. Should a faster group come from behind you, do the same. Everything you pack out, pack it in again, and pick up any litter you encounter.

ILLUSTRATION: WWW.FREEPIK.COM; FLATICON.COM



Your safety matters. Obey signals and road rules at level crossings.



FINANCE

# 4 STEPS TO FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE

Michael Kirkpatrick of Alexander Forbes Research & Product Development Retail shares how youth can develop the best financial plan to suit their present and future needs.



**T**here are four pillars needed to create a strong foundation for your financial future: getting out of debt, not getting caught in the 'flash' trap, protecting yourself financially, and setting goals.

## 1. GET OUT OF DEBT

When you start your first job, chances are you'll have student debt of some sort and financial institutions will start giving you credit. Make sure you start paying off your debt from your first pay cheque.

Try to maintain a healthy level of debt while paying off your store cards, student debt and your credit card.

As much as you need to build a good credit rating, it is important to note that you need to get out of debt to build your financial future.

It's okay to have credit but you still need to use it responsibly. Do not be scared of credit; rather build a healthy relationship with your money and budget wisely.

## 2. DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE 'FLASH' TRAP

You may have many offers from stores for cards. Beware of these offers and manage them properly if you do open any accounts. Don't get caught in the temptation of a flashy lifestyle. Financial wealth is about a lot more than the rands and cents.

Start building healthy money habits as early as possible to set a strong foundation. Know how much debt you have and how much of it you can pay off every month.

Don't give in to peer pressure to buy flashy items like expensive cars or clothes. When you buy your first car, make sure you read all the terms and conditions to fully understand the payments you must make each month and what your interest rate is.

## 3. PROTECT YOURSELF FINANCIALLY

Your biggest asset in your life is your human capital; your ability to do something and the earning potential that goes with this. You need a basic form of income protection (disability cover)

### BEFORE YOU DO

Here are money mistakes to avoid in your 20s:

- Making too much debt and ignoring to pay it.
- Not having a budget, overspending or failing to stick to your budget.
- Living without health cover, insurance and income protection.

to make sure that if something were to happen which leaves you unable to work you will still be able to support yourself financially.

If you have a car, make sure it's insured to cover your loss and the loss of others in the event of an accident. You should also make sure that you have some kind of medical aid. Generally, as a young person, you should be fairly healthy and won't need many doctors' visits, so hospital cover at a minimum should be appropriate at this stage in your life.

## 4. SET GOALS

Set yourself goals of where you want to be and what you want to be doing. Direct your savings to building your future.

# Get service updates via SMS



Register for Metrorail's free SMS service to receive updates on train delays and cancellations. You can register immediately by calling the Transport Information Centre on 0800 65 64 63 or complete the form below and submit it at your nearest train station.

### Personal details

Name:

.....

Surname:

.....

Cellphone number:

.....

Select the route you travel on and wish to receive updates for.

- 1.  Bellville via Esplanade and Lavistown
- 2.  Bellville via Monte Vista
- 3.  Cape Flats
- 4.  Kapteynsklip
- 5.  Khayelitsha

- 6.  Malmesbury via Bellville
- 7.  Muldersvlei via Stellenbosch
- 8.  Southern Suburbs
- 9.  Strand
- 10.  Wellington via Kraaifontein
- 11.  Worcester via Bellville



## The platform for modernisation has been created. The future is here.

True to our vision of creating the backbone of public transport, we at PRASA are working tirelessly to improve the whole train travel experience for our people. The construction of modern stations using state-of-the-art architecture, the introduction of swift-operating turnstiles for the ease of passenger flow and the upgrading of security systems are but a few of the many visible changes that we're implementing across 134 of our stations nationwide. This is big change that will take time to complete, but we're proud to say that the platform has been set. Change is happening right now.

PRASA. CHANGE HAS BEGUN. THE FUTURE IS HERE.

MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 18 TO 24 MAY 2017



**SOUTH: CAPE TOWN – SIMON'S TOWN AND CAPE FLATS**

18 – 24 May 2017	Cape Town – Maitland – Hazendal	09:00 – 14:00	Maintenance between scheduled train service. Train delays of 10 to 15 minutes can be expected.
18 – 24 May 2017	Cape Town – Woodstock	09:00 – 14:00	Maintenance between scheduled train service. Train delays of 10 to 15 minutes can be expected.
18 – 24 May 2017	Cape Town – Woodstock	09:00 – 14:00	Maintenance between scheduled train service. Train delays of 10 to 15 minutes can be expected..
21 May 2017	Woodstock – Salt River	09:00 – 17:30	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 25 to 30 minutes can be expected.

PERFORMANCE

AM ON TIME

35.8%

PM ON TIME

39.5%



**NORTH: CAPE TOWN – MONTE VISTA – BELLVILLE – WELLINGTON – STELLENBOSCH – STRAND**

21 May 2017	Mutual – Elsies Riverr	09:00 – 18:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 25 to 30 minutes can be expected.
21 May 2017	Woodstock – Salt River	09:50 – 17:30	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 25 to 30 minutes can be expected.

CANCELLED (AM + PM)

26.2%

AM ON TIME

23.6%

PM ON TIME

22.9%



**CENTRAL: CAPE TOWN – KAPTEINSKLIP – KHAYELITSHA – CHRIS HANI – SAREPTA**

18 – 24 May 2017	Langa – Mutual	09:00 – 14:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 20 to 25 minutes can be expected.
18 – 24 May 2017	Langa – Sarepta	08:00 – 14:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 20 to 25 minutes can be expected.
21 May 2017	Stock Road – Khayelitsha	08:00 – 18:00	Bus and shuttle service. Train delays of 25 to 30 minutes can be expected.
22 May 2017	Esplanade – Cape Town	09:00 – 14:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 20 to 25 minutes can be expected.

CANCELLED (AM + PM)

22.9%

While we try our utmost to do maintenance during off-peak to minimise possible delays, connecting trains may be subjected to delays on all service lines. Your safety is our concern. We apologise for any inconvenience inadvertently caused. Performance reflects week of 3 to 9 May 2017.

GIVEAWAY

**WIN**  
with MyLine and City Sightseeing

It's time for City Sightseeing's annual 3-for-1 Kids' Special again, which means you can take two kids (under 18) along for free when you buy one adult one-day bus ticket or Harbour Cruise ticket. The special runs from 1 May to 8 October 2017 and will be valid on weekends, school holidays and public holidays.

We're giving away one family ticket (two adults and two children). Email your name, surname, contact details and the catchwords "MyLine City Bus" to promotions@metrorail.co.za. The competition runs from 18 to 24 May. To enter the competition or receive the prize, you need to have a valid train ticket for the duration of the competition.



AM ON TIME

33.7%

PM ON TIME

37.9%

In case you missed it

Here are the contact details for Metrorail's customer service area managers in your areas.

**AREA IKAPA**  
Herschel Smith  
078 142 5033 / hesmith@metrorail.co.za

**AREA SOUTH**  
Herdia Wicomb  
082 420 3352 / hwicomb@metrorail.co.za

**AREA CENTRAL**  
Cyril Bauer  
083 351 2715 / cbauer@metrorail.co.za

**AREA NORTH**  
Luleka Ndzuzo  
082 376 0252 / lndzuzo@metrorail.co.za

CANCELLED (AM + PM)

30.3%



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