

# SIGNALLING IN WORLD-CLASS TECHNOLOGY

Metrorail technicians will be commissioning new signalling equipment in Area South during the upcoming Easter weekend. The project will revitalise train operations and pave the way for improved services for commuters.

**Feroza Miller-Isaacs & Alicia English**



Commuters travelling in Area South during the upcoming Easter weekend can expect service interruptions, as technicians will be commissioning new signalling equipment during this time.

**M**etrorail has resignalled its rail network from Simon's Town to Cape Town and will be switching from the current to the new system from 30 March to 2 April. The system will be commissioned in three phases: Simon's Town to Retreat, Retreat to Newlands, and the Heathfield to Hazendal lines.

During stage 1, there will be no train service between Steenberg and Fish Hoek. During stage 2, no trains will run between Newlands and Fish Hoek; while no trains will run on the Cape Flats line during stage 3.

Johan Kriel, Metrorail's train operations manager, says the resignalling project will impact the train service on the Southern Line during commissioning in the three stages only. During this time, certain sections of the line will be closed.

"The old system will be switched off and the new system switched on. Everything will be tested in real time before operations start on Tuesday, 3 April," explains Johan.

## GLOBAL STANDARDS

The project will also be rolled out to other areas across the rail network in the Western Cape and is expected to be completed by 30 November 2019. "Once the entire resignalling project is completed, the new system will compare to any international standard and modern railway system in the world," adds Johan.

## GOOD TO KNOW

Here's how the train service will be impacted by the commissioning of the resignalling system in Area South from 31 March to 2 April 2018. Look out for further updates in next week's *Myline*.

### Southern Line

- On Saturday, 31 March there will be no trains from Retreat to Simon's Town from 4am to 1pm. A bus service will replace the train service during this time.
- A normal train service will run from Cape Town to Retreat from 4am to 1pm on the same day.
- From 1pm on Saturday, 31 March until the last scheduled train on Sunday, 1 April, no trains will run from Claremont to Simon's Town. A bus service will operate from Claremont to Retreat and Retreat to Simon's Town during this time.
- The normal public holiday service will resume on Monday, 2 April.

### Cape Flats Line

- The normal train service will run on Saturday, 31 March from 4am to 1pm.
- From 1pm on Saturday, 31 March until 8.30am on Sunday, 01 April, there will be no trains between Ottery and Retreat stations. A bus service will operate between these stations during this time.



- From 8.30am until the last scheduled train on Sunday, 1 April, there will be no train service from Maitland to Retreat. A bus service will operate between these stations during this time.
- Commuters who would like to travel in either direction on the Cape Flats Line during this time, are advised to make use of the Northern Line train service between Cape Town and Maitland stations.

## UTSHINTSHO OLUKWINQANABA ELIPHEZULU

Ingcaphphe zobuxhakaxhaka zakwa Metrorail, zizakube zimatasatasa nokufakela iintambo ezintsha kwi Area South ngale mpelaveki yePasika. Eli phulo lelokubuyisela iinkonzo zikaloliwe ezingeni kwaye nokuphuhlisa indlela iinkonzo zethu eziqhuba ngayo. uMetrorail uyitshintshile inkqubo oololiwe abazakuqhuba ngayo ukususela ngomhla we 30 kuMarch ukuya kwi 2 ka April. Olutshintsho luzakwenzeka kumabakala amathathu: Simon's Town ukuya eRetreat, eRetreat ukuya eNewlands, kunye nomzila Osuka eHeathfield oya eHazendal.

Ngexesha lebakala lokuqala, akuzubakho zinkonzo phakathi kwe Steenberg neFish Hoek. Kwibakala lesibini, akukho loliwe phakathi kwe Newlands kunye ne Fish Hoek; njengoba kungazubakho lolliwe nakwi Cape Flats kwibakala lesithathu. uJohan Kriel, omnye wabaphathi kwaMetrorail, uthi olulungiso luzakuchaphazela iinkonzo zika loliwe kwi Southern Line kula mabakala mathathu kuphela. Ngeli xesha lotshintsho, izitishi ezithile zizakube zivaliwe.

"Inkqubo endala izakucinywa, kuqutyekwe nale intsha. Yonke into izaku vavanywa phambi kokuba kuqalwe ngomhla we 3 ku April," utsho uJohan.

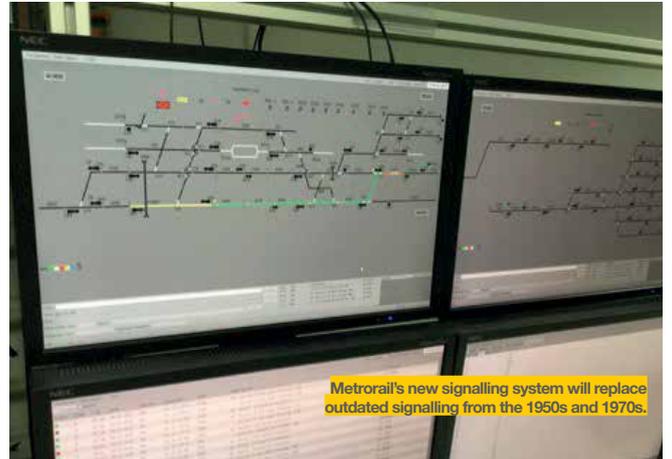
OPERATIONS

# IMPROVING EFFICIENCIES

Metrorail's resignalling project forms part of the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa's (PRASA) broader rail modernisation programme, which includes the modernisation of 124 train stations in the region. **Feroza Miller-Isaacs & Alicia English**



Raymond Maseko, Metrorail's engineering services manager explains the new signalling system in Area South.



Metrorail's new signalling system will replace outdated signalling from the 1950s and 1970s.



The new signalling equipment will be less vulnerable to vandalism and crime.

**R**aymond Maseko, Metrorail's engineering services manager, says the new equipment comprises modern electronic interlocking and track vacancy detection, which will replace dated mechanical signalling and electro-mechanical systems of the 1950s and 1970s.

Metrorail will also be improving its level crossing technologies through this project.

"The new system will enhance our operations through the provision of reliable substations. For example, communication between the control centre and field equipment, which includes signals, level crossings and cameras, will now be done through a fibre-optics network as opposed to the aged copper.

"It has built-in redundancy, which allows for more effective maintenance without affecting the running of trains. In essence, through its design, the new system has eliminated all technical problems, leaving interference through theft, vandalism inclement weather only," explains Raymond.

### VANDAL-PROOF

In addition, the new signalling equipment will be less vulnerable to vandalism and crime.

"It is using predominately fibre-optic communication, thus eliminating the need for a large, distributed copper network. Furthermore, the signals will use LED lights instead of the current incandescent lamps, which are being stolen and used as drug paraphernalia," adds Raymond.

### Fast facts

Let's take a look at how the new signalling equipment will improve Metrorail's operations and the benefits to commuters. The resignalling will lead to:

- Improved level crossing technologies, which will improve safety and efficiencies.
- Improved service reliability, as the need for manual authorisation will be reduced. When manual authorisations are needed, trains have to stop in section while the train drivers wait to receive manual clearance to proceed at a signal.
- Reduced vandalism due to the redesign of the rail infrastructure
- Improved safety, as the margin for human error has been minimised thanks to the new automated signalling.

## Safety is our concern

### SAFETY CORNER

Report culprits whose criminal deeds continue to affect the daily operation of the rail service. A reward of up to R25 000 is payable for any information leading to a conviction.

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Protection services	021 449 4336
Claims office	021 449 2041/3645
Transport info number	0800 65 64 63
<b>RAILWAY POLICE</b>	
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

SPECIAL PROJECTS

# RESERVE A COACH FOR YOUR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Here's what you need to know about Metrorail's reserved coaches service, which is ideal for school and family outings. **Alicia English**

**M**etrorail's rail tourism department continues to host schools, organisations and other groups through its reserved coaches service. The rail operator has hosted 19 school groups since the start of 2018.

It recently hosted 103 Grade 12 learners from Hoërskool Stellenbosch on a train trip from Stellenbosch to Fish Hoek, much to the delight of learners and their educators.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people at Metrorail Western Cape, especially Esmerelda Isaacs in the marketing department, for an excellent service. We were given security guards as well as an excellent ambassador, Samson Zenzile. We would really recommend this form of transport for school camps to all our fellow schools," says Louise van Rensburg from Hoërskool Stellenbosch.

### MANPOWER

The reserved coaches service affords schools and organisations the opportunity to book a train carriage for their group's exclusive travel. It is also ideal for family outings during the holidays.

It is available from 9am to 3pm daily and trains follow Metrorail's normal schedule. All you need to do is select the date, time and destination. The service includes security and a Metrorail ambassador, who will ensure that your group travels safely and comfortably.

The cost depends on the number of travellers and the origin and destination stations. Bookings should be made at least two weeks in advance.



Grade 12 learners from Hoërskool Stellenbosch enjoyed their trip to Fish Hoek.

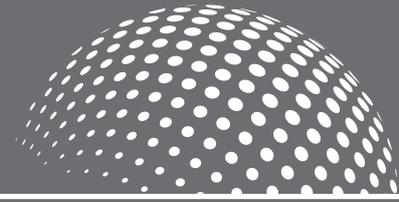


These children travelled to Glencairn in one of Metrorail's reserved coaches with the Cape Times Fresh Air Camp organisation.

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

### GOOD TO KNOW

For more information about reserving a coach, contact Esmerelda Isaacs on 021 449 3018 or email [promotions@metrorail.co.za](mailto:promotions@metrorail.co.za).



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HEALTH

# GET TESTED FOR TB

Metrorail and its partners will be marking World Tuberculosis Day with a series of events on Friday, 23 March. **Alicia English**

**M**etrorail's employee assistance programme (EAP) staff will be teaming up with the Western Cape department of health and TBHIV Care, a non-profit organisation that specialises in tuberculosis (TB), on Friday, 23 March.

Commuters will be able to test for TB, HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STI), high blood pressure and diabetes near platforms 23 and 24 (MetroPlus side), outside the food court and near the taxi rank (Metro side) on Cape Town Station. Testing will also take place at Bellville and Retreat stations on the day.

"While some of our colleagues will be at these stations conducting tests, others will be travelling on trains from Cape Town to Retreat and to Bellville stations to give health talks and share educational material on TB, STIs and HIV with commuters," explains Metrorail's Nomfundo Memani.

## LET'S FIGHT TB

TB causes thousands of deaths worldwide every year. It's important to go for a routine check-up to know your status.

### Here's how you can stop the spread of TB:

- Wash your hands.
- Ventilate the room by opening the windows.
- Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.

## THAT'S A FACT

- World TB Day is marked across the globe every 24 March.
- TB can be cured over a period of six to eight months.
- Patients who are being treated and are well enough can safely return to work.



T	U	B	E	R	C	U	L	O	S	I	S	S	C	F	O	D
F	R	P	S	V	A	S	E	T	A	L	I	T	N	E	V	I
E	E	A	P	F	P	H	E	G	U	O	T	E	W	R	I	A
S	M	L	E	T	E	O	L	I	N	N	T	A	L	M	E	B
H	C	R	C	M	T	L	A	N	O	I	T	A	C	U	D	E
O	E	A	I	P	O	I	I	F	E	O	T	A	R	I	U	T
D	S	A	A	H	W	A	V	E	T	S	U	S	U	P	A	E
N	S	U	L	O	N	R	E	C	P	I	H	N	E	R	L	S
U	R	E	I	T	M	O	P	T	E	Q	O	R	T	T	I	E
F	T	Y	S	S	H	R	R	I	S	I	R	N	S	R	S	D
M	A	P	T	O	D	T	A	O	O	G	T	P	S	H	Y	T
O	A	A	S	C	X	E	H	N	D	I	G	N	I	T	I	U
N	A	P	T	N	E	M	T	R	A	P	E	D	T	A	E	V

## WORD SEARCH

- Cape Town
- Department
- Diabetes
- Educational
- EAP
- Health
- HIV
- Infection
- Metrorail
- Nomfundo
- Specialist
- Testing
- Tuberculosis
- Ventilate

PROFILE

# ART ON THE LINE

For nearly two decades, Thembinkosi Kohli, a talented Paarl artist has been making his creative mark inside Metrorail carriages. He shares his story. **Feroza Miller-Isaacs**

**A**rtist and writer Thembinkosi Kohli has turned his daily rail commute from Paarl to Cape Town into opportunities for artistic expression.

Growing up in Mbekweni, Thembinkosi always found himself drawing, whether in his notebooks or on walls and stones. He learnt about drawing, painting and wireworks at high school and was later exposed to other art mediums at the Community Arts Project (CAP).

The artist also started writing and illustrating children's books after attending workshops at the University of Cape Town.

Thembinkosi has been using Metrorail carriages as a studio on rails since the days when he was a student at CAP in Woodstock in 2000.

He sees the train as a "melting pot of all cultures", which has contributed to his personal and artistic development. "It has given me a creative space to think and understand society," he says.

## ART ON THE MOVE

During his one-and-a-half-hour

journey from home, Thembinkosi draws and has discussions with fellow commuters about work, student life and politics.

"I am not trying to preach but to unite the nation and Cape Town to see the beauty of all different colours and cultures meeting in one space such as the train. I am more like a journalist; projecting the world as I see it.

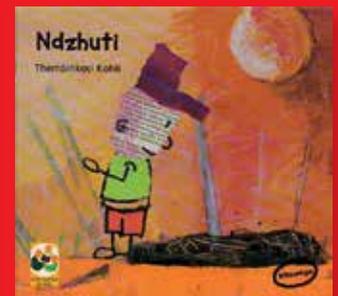
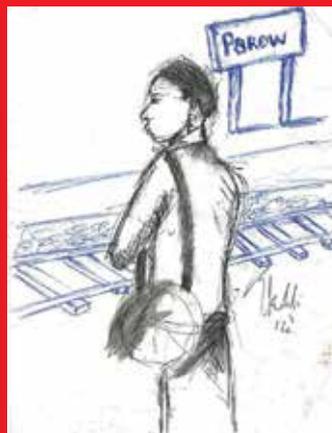
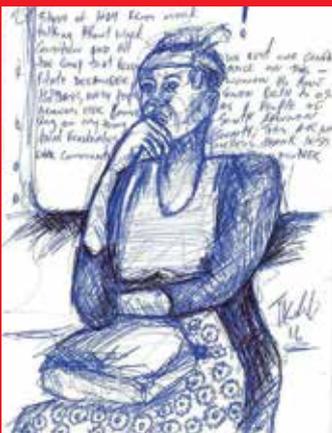
"Every time I travel by train I have conversations with people and start sketching and writing their stories," says the artist. Reactions vary: some are uncomfortable about being sketched, while others view the experience as fun.

Travelling by train is an integral part of Thembinkosi's life as he commutes to galleries and exhibitions, sketching as he goes. He hopes to publish a book capturing his train journeys and to host exhibitions at train stations some day.

"I see the train stations as art galleries. My drawings could be projected through station billboards," he shares.



Artist Thembinkosi Kohli has turned his daily commute from Paarl to Mbekweni into an artistic journey.



FROM LEFT: Drawings from Thembinkosi's train journeys to and from Paarl. The artist has also written and illustrated children's books.

GENERAL INTEREST

# AVOID THE PITFALLS OF ID FRAUD

Identity fraud leaves many innocent South Africans with criminal records, judgements and poor credit records. Here's how you can safeguard yourself against identity theft. **Alicia English**

**C**ontrary to popular belief, identity (ID) fraud doesn't just happen in the movies. It is as much of a reality as the water crisis in Cape Town.

Criminals can access your personal information by posing as a bank representative and tricking you into disclosing your account numbers telephonically.

They can also obtain your details by stealing your wallet or purse. Once they have your information, they empty your bank accounts, spend your available credit, apply for new credit in your name and even impersonate you to get jobs.

Here's what you can do to protect your identity.

### ACTIVATE A FRAUD ALERT

Get in touch with a credit reporting agency and ask for a fraud alert to be activated on your credit.

### CHECK YOUR CREDIT REPORTS

Once you have a fraud alert, you'll receive a free credit report from the credit reporting agency. Look out for signs of fraud. Use an identity theft report to have fraudulent information removed from your reports.

### REPORT SUSPECTED FRAUD IMMEDIATELY

If you suspect that your bank account or credit facilities have been compromised, inform your bank or creditors immediately. Shut down the affected accounts. Always report lost or stolen ATM or debit and credit cards immediately to avoid fraudulent activities on your cards.

### REPORT YOUR LOST OR STOLEN ID

To register your lost or stolen identity document, get in touch with the Southern African Fraud Prevention

Service (SAFPS), a non-profit company that combats fraud across the financial services industry.

### SIGNS OF FRAUD ON YOUR CREDIT REPORT

- New accounts you didn't open.
- Records of hard inquiries you can't recall.
- Payment history that you can't account for.
- Employer details for a company that you never worked for.
- Unfamiliar personal information.

### GET HELP!

Report suspected fraud to the SAFPS helpline on 0860 101 248, or (011) 867 2234, or email [safps@safps.org.za](mailto:safps@safps.org.za)



**BE TRAIN SMART**

**AVOID TROUBLE. TRAVEL WITH A VALID TICKET**

**metrorail**



# CENTRAL LINE SERVICE RESUMPTION INTERIM TIMETABLE

## Chris Hani / Khayelitsha

CHRIS HANI - CAPE TOWN		
Train No.	Departs	Arrives
9902	05:00	06:42
9904	06:00	07:42
9906	07:00	08:42
9908	08:00	09:42
9910	09:00	10:42
9912	10:00	11:42
9914	11:00	12:42
9916	13:00	14:42
9918	14:00	15:42
9920	15:00	16:42
9922	16:00	17:42
9924	17:00	18:42
9926	18:00	19:42
9928	19:00	20:42

CAPE TOWN - CHRIS HANI		
Train No.	Departs	Arrives
9901	05:00	06:43
9903	06:00	07:43
9905	07:00	08:43
9907	08:00	09:43
9909	09:00	10:43
9911	11:00	12:43
9913	12:00	13:43
9915	13:00	14:43
9917	14:00	15:43
9919	15:00	16:43
9921	16:00	17:43
9923	17:00	18:43
9925	18:00	19:43
9927	19:00	20:43
9930	20:00	21:43

## KapteinSklip / Mitchell's Plain

KAPTEINSKLIP - CAPE TOWN		
Train No.	Departs	Arrives
9502	05:00	06:06
9504	06:00	07:06
9506	07:00	08:06
9508	08:00	09:06
9510	09:00	10:06
9512	10:00	11:06
9514	11:00	12:06
9516	13:00	14:06
9518	14:00	15:06
9520	16:00	17:06
9522	17:00	18:06
9524	18:00	19:06
9526	19:00	20:06

CAPE TOWN - KAPTEINSKLIP		
Train No.	Departs	Arrives
9501	05:30	06:35
9503	06:30	07:35
9505	07:30	08:35
9507	08:30	09:35
9509	09:30	10:35
9511	11:30	12:35
9513	12:30	13:35
9515	14:30	15:35
9517	15:30	16:35
9519	16:30	17:35
9521	17:30	18:35
9523	18:30	19:35
9525	19:30	20:35

## Lavistown / Sarepta

BELLVILLE - CAPE TOWN (VIA LAVIS)		
Train No.	Departs	Arrives
9002	05:00	06:11
9004	06:00	07:11
9006	07:00	08:11
9008	08:00	09:11
9010	09:00	10:11
9012	10:00	11:11
9014	11:00	12:11
9016	12:00	13:11
9018	13:00	14:11
9020	14:00	15:11
9022	15:00	16:11
9024	16:00	17:11
9026	17:00	18:11
9028	18:00	19:11
9030	19:00	20:11

CAPE TOWN - BELLVILLE (VIA LAVIS)		
Train No.	Departs	Arrives
9001*	04:53	05:40
9003	05:30	06:41
9005	06:30	07:41
9007	07:30	08:41
9009	08:30	09:41
9011	09:30	10:41
9013	10:30	11:41
9015	11:30	12:41
9017	12:30	13:41
9019	13:30	14:41
9021	14:30	15:41
9023	15:30	16:41
9025	16:30	17:41
9027	17:30	18:41
9029	18:30	19:41
9031	19:30	20:41

\*All stations from Mutual

MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 22 TO 29 MARCH 2018



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

22 – 29 March 2018	Cape Town – Maitland	09:00 – 14:00	Maintenance between scheduled train service. Train delays of 10 to 15 minutes can be expected.
22 – 29 March 2018	Salt River – Observatory	06:00 – 20:00	Maintenance between scheduled train service. Train delays of 10 to 15 minutes can be expected.
24 & 25 March 2018	Salt River – Observatory	08:00 – 18:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 30 to 35 minutes can be expected.
25 March 2018	Maitland – Crawford	08:00 – 18:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 30 to 35 minutes can be expected.

PERFORMANCE

AM ON TIME

57.8%

PM ON TIME

55.8%

CANCELLED (AM + PM)

24.4%

AM ON TIME

24.7%

PM ON TIME

31.1%

CANCELLED (AM + PM)

25.1%

AM ON TIME

68.4%

PM ON TIME

75.9%

CANCELLED (AM + PM)

7.1%



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

22 – 29 March 2018	Cape Town – Maitland	09:00 – 14:00	Maintenance between scheduled train service. Train delays of 10 to 15 minutes can be expected.
22 – 29 March 2018	Maitland – Bellville	09:00 – 14:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 25 to 30 minutes can be expected.
22 – 29 March 2018	Paarl – Wellington	09:00 – 14:00	Platform changes will be announced. Train delays of 35 to 40 minutes can be expected.



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

N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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While we try our utmost to do maintenance during off-peak hours to minimise possible delays, connecting trains may be subject to delays on all service lines. Your safety is our concern. We apologise for any inconvenience inadvertently caused. Performance reflects week of 7 to 13 March 2018.

CUSTOMER NOTICE

Get the latest updates

For regular updates on Metrorail's train service, follow @CapeTownTrains (Twitter) and Cape Metrorail (Facebook). Visit [www.gometro.com](http://www.gometro.com) or download the GoMetro app. You can also call the 24/7 Transport Information Centre on 0800 65 64 63 (toll-free). Commuters who don't have access to Twitter or Facebook can still view the #TrainReport updates on Metrorail's blog. Visit <http://capetowntrains.freeblog.site/train-updates>.

Public holiday notice

Metrorail will run a Sunday train service in all areas, excluding Malmesbury, on Friday, 30 March and Monday, 2 April 2017. Malmesbury trains will follow a Saturday schedule on this day.



CUSTOMER SERVICE

In case you missed it

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

**AREA IKAPA**  
Benedicta Ngalwa  
083 736 2669 / bngalwa@metrorail.co.za

**AREA SOUTH**  
Luleka Ndzuze  
082 376 0252 / Indzuzo@metrorail.co.za

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

**AREA NORTH**  
Lesley Stevens  
084 018 9159 / lstevens@metrorail.co.za



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