

Petone Signal Box To Close

For 108 years there has been a signal box at Petone.



Petone Box number 2 - opened March 1952, closed December 2013.

Petone Box was opened in March 1952, replacing a signal box dating from about 1905. The Box controlled a freight yard at Petone and (from 1958) a yard at Lower Hutt (aka Western Hutt) and the Melling Branch.

On **Tuesday the 24th of December 2013** the Petone signaller will signal train 5671, the 1830 Melling to Wellington service, off the Melling branch and will then switch out for the very last time. Over the following days signaller technicians will commission a new computerised interlocking, which will be controlled from a computer in Wellington.



The Petone Panel. Not a mouse or screen in sight. The technology dates back to the 1930s.



The Petone signaller watches with envy as passengers prepare to board an English Electric service to Wellington.