

# The Whisper

www.facebook.com/thewhispernews

1st Edition

Keeping our community in touch

May 1st, 2016

## Monkey business in Karamea!

#karameathrowbacks

This is not your average history ... So this story begins with old Mr. Robert Johnson and his far reaching maritime adventures. So old Mr. Johnson returned home from one of his escapades with a rather special gift for his wife (may or may not have been to placate her after the discovery of another wife and children up north somewhere.) As the story goes, he bestowed his wife with a fantastic pair of monkeys (we think Gibbons). Now at the time the Johnsons, like a lot of the other settler families, were living on the south terrace. Anybody who has had a monkey will confirm they aren't as easy to control as one may think.... And so it happened. The cheeky monkeys took themselves gleaning up the Arapito valley in the fruit orchards. This was fine for a while, however it did begin to wear thin on the man who owned the fruit trees those pesky primates were stripping. He rapidly decided to take matters into his own hands and out came the shot gun (With soft shot of course!) firing a single shot to spook the male monkey. Fine in theory. However he hit and wounded the gangly Gibbon. In a state of shock and confusion the distressed creature ran to the man and LATCHED onto his leg with eyes wide as if pleading for mercy! Well the orchardist was so taken aback by the raw emotion of this monkey that he instantly regretted his trigger happy resolution. He bundled up the befuddled ape and took him home where he tirelessly tried to nurse him back to health. Amazingly he returned

The monkey to Mrs Johnson and it is said that he and the monkey walked home hand in hand to find that the monkey had become a father! What a fantastic end to the story this would be. However, that is not the end. The male monkey developed an infection in his wound and subsequently died. After the passing of her partner the female began to fret and she slumped into a deep depression with which her milk dried up and she was no longer able to provide for her baby, who became sick and died due to her not allowing anybody near to take care of it. After the passing of her child and she was so distraught she wouldn't relinquish the body of her dead baby and "it pretty much rotted away in her arms." And there it is. That is the story of monkeys in Karamea. We here at the whisper believe in solid journalism and we can assure you we have confirmation this is exactly what happened from several reputable local sources.

### **TIP OF THE WEEK**

"Make sure your gates straight."

John Atomic *Local Resident*

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!!!! FIRST  
AD FREE!**

## **Locals locks horns in heated debate.**

Brad Spotter

On 19 April a meeting was held at RSA with the Mayor and several other counsellors were in attendance (some even elected). Mr Howard was also chair of the meeting. Tensions were running higher than one veteran local had ever seen at a community meeting. It all started off well with Mr. Howard explaining the agenda, and that is when it all began. The presenter began his spiel on the extensive public consultation (which 90% of people who we have contacted had *never* heard of plan until the week of the meeting) and the construction of a cycle way and implementation of a community hub and landscaping of public spaces. Immediately, the self appointed mayoress was down his throat. However, although selfishly motivated, she did raise some very good points. Why was there \$6,600 spent on consultants for a mere concept? Why are volunteers receiving wages? He was then set upon by the land owners who were rather irate at the idea of this proposal; when as far as they are concerned, they were not consulted and would not be giving permission. Subsequently there is now a gate blocking entry to the river. By now, things

**ASTRID'S  
corner**  
#AskAuntyAstrid

Q: Hi Aunty Astrid,  
I'm from a small town on the West Coast and the dating scene is quite small. This has been an issue for me as the last couple of men I have been to bed with have been great; until I find out that low and behold we are related! The first couple of times I just let it slide but now it's beginning to bother me as you know, this is one thing I totally don't want to keep in the family. Luckily, no first cousins! So, basically my question is: how can I work out if we are relations before we get on and have relations!?  
Signed,  
@Whos your cousin?

A: Hi @whos your cousin,  
Thanks for your question!  
So here is how it is... Just go for it! Girl; first cousins is absolutely fine! In fact, it's preferable to second cousins. Never, EVER date a second cousin! The reason for this: you can go with a first cousin as neither of you will share any genetic DNA however you can never date a second cousin because then what you are doing is bringing the gene pool back in and that's where you'll run into problems. But long and short of it, girl I'd say it's time for you to get out! But if you decide to stay; remember the rule... 1st is fine, 2nd is sick and wrong.  
Xoxo  
Aunty Astrid.

**KARAMEANS ASK...**

What is your opinion on Karamea Community Incorporated's proposals to develop a cycleway and community hub in the CBD(Market Cross)?

**Joella Wolcott:** "It's a good idea. It's just another thing for people to do in town. Updating the hub to beautify is a good thing for Karamea".

**Laura and Jimmy Sonnevelt:** "It's a great idea".

**Toni McCleery:** "I question are we big enough; I feel if there is funding available that it would be better spent on things for our kids to do".

**George Snowden:** "Hopeless. Who is gonna use it. It's not practical or value for the money".

**Lisa Wilson:** "Against it. I want to know who is going to maintain it?"

**Kate Grey:** "Unnecessary".

**Nova Burt:** I think something needs to be done. I agree with it".

**Wendy Lowe:** "I think it's a road to nowhere".

**Britt Heal:** "I wasn't aware of the proposal, but I don't think it's a good idea".

**Dave Rae:** "I disagree entirely. We already have enough walking tracks".

**Maree Lowe:** "I think it's a waste of time and money. I think the money would be better spent on the pool or an extension to the estuary walk".

**Anonymous:** "I don't know if I agree, but I don't agree with the way they went about it".

**Desiree Bradshaw:** "what a crock. It is not needed. Waste of money".

Tell us what you think:

[www.facebook.com/thewhispernews](http://www.facebook.com/thewhispernews)

**"If the people lead... the leaders will eventually shoot them" Anonymous**

are beginning to  
**Debate continued...**

get heated and The Mayor is doing his best to keep a lid on it. The objectives of the KCI were then laid out to which there was a flurry of questions regarding the funding of projects. It would seem that there are plenty of options at this stage for possible funding boosts. The motion to form an Incorporated Society was put forward and seconded. Some more general discussion followed in which the swimming pool the aerodrome and museum were all possible projects which could benefit should the community decide that is where the funds would be best appropriated. After nearly two hours of intense and constructive debate the meeting was finished. To sum up, although the consultation period was, as the presenter stated, "not handled correctly" the intentions of KCI were positive. People need to be a little open minded here, nobody is saying this is how we are spending the money. It would appear (in my eyes) that KCI are just trying to facilitate the acquisitions of funding from various sources and where they need help is for all of us "the community" to get on board and give constructive feedback on what we want. While the concept is a great start it definitely requires amending before it fits our community. People who want to be informed need to make some sort of effort here, complaining you weren't informed and following up with the excuse of I don't use the net, I don't look at the notice board, I don't read The Chronicle... Then the only person accountable for you not knowing is you. Come on folks, let's get together and create a beautiful modern and conscious green space in our humble little village. something we can all be

\_\_\_\_\_

take pleasure and a source of pride from.

**“If the people lead... the leaders will eventually shoot them” Anonymous**