

Kiwis find love with bananas

We're not kidding. People are so romantic in New Zealand that in a town called Ponsonby (again, we're not kidding) they have created a fabulous new way for people to find love. And there's not a scorecard, chatroom or dating site in, er, sight.

Is that an upside down banana or are you just pleased to see me?

How it works: on a certain day of the week, singletons go on their weekly grocery shop, armed with a pair of upside down bananas in their trolley. See, it's a clue to all the other singles in the aisles that they still wish to one day be taken up a different kind of aisle by a Mr or Mrs Right. By sending out this signal, it makes the whole awkward business of approaching people you fancy a little less daunting.

We've decided to launch a similar thing over here, in the run up to 'shoot me -it's' Valentines Day. Next Tuesday (12th feb), if you wear one of our stickers (free in Monday's issue of thelondonpaper) you'll be granting your fellow tube travellers permission to speak to you. And if you look across and see another be-stickered hottie, it will thereby be permissible for you to speak to them and ask them if they come here often (or something much less naff).

Banana Tuesday

Yes. For one day only, the don't-you-dare-speak-to-me-you-raving-psychopath-have-you-not-heard-of-personal-space... tube vibe will be temporarily lifted. In this friendly, fuzzy atmosphere, love will once again flourish, and you, my gorgeous single friends, may even have a date come the 14th day of this most insipid of months.

So, look out for the ad on Monday's paper, and see you next Tuesday.

Find love at loreleimathias.com/upsidedownbananas

