

MEDIA RELEASE
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**Festival that comes from the heart –
Genevieve Jacobs launches the 2008 Collector Village Pumpkin Festival.**

Arriving this afternoon at Collector's historic Bushranger Hotel in an iconic FJ Holden polished to a mirror finish, 666 ABC Canberra's Genevieve Jacobs launched the 2008 Pumpkin Festival. She was accompanied by three small pumpkin fairies and an entourage of scarecrows and pumpkin people from Collector Primary School.

Ms Jacobs said she thought the pumpkin was 'a metaphor for Collector itself – round, fruitful, naturally sweet and adaptable in harsh conditions.'

Expressing her support for events like the pumpkin festival, Ms Jacobs said that their value lies in the fact that they come from the heart. 'They involve small communities and small numbers of people who have to work really hard to make them happen,' said Ms Jacobs.

Ms Jacobs, decked in her Fairy Godmother wings, tiara and wand, concluded by wishing 'blessings and charms on you all.'

The Pumpkin Festival will be held on Sunday 4 May from 10am till 4pm and promises to attract large numbers of visitors from the region. It is a day of old fashioned family fun with tried and true activities like wheelbarrow races, a scarecrow competition, pumpkin growers and baking competitions, as well as a myriad of stalls, displays and events.

The focus of the festival is on home-produced and home-made goods and crafts, as well as involvement by young and old and a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Tickets for the famous Pumpkin Ball are now available by phoning 0419 492 658 or emailing brobinson@homemail.com.au. The Pumpkin Ball will be held on Friday 2 May and early booking is strongly advised as only one hundred tickets are available for purchase.

Image attached: Genevieve Jacobs with children from Collector Primary School at today's festival launch outside the Bushranger Hotel in Collector.

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