



## Newsletter

### **What happened?**

This year the committee was aiming for a bigger festival and organisational improvement of the event. Both these aims were met. The estimate of attendees was up to 6000, and there were over 30 stalls.

### **Competitions**

The wheelbarrow race was a huge success with John Reardon once again being the winner of the senior race and George Hoskins the winner of the junior. The judges are still viewing video evidence of the John Reardon crash into the McKay's hedge and considering whether there should be aggregate times next year. This suggestion came from the much aggrieved second place getter (and event sponsor no less!) Zol Hegyi. The committee is resisting the idea of launching an investigation.

There were over 25 entries in the scarecrow competition. The scarecrows ranged from E.T., farmer Joe. Next year the committee is recommending competitors will be asked to bring their own outfits for the competition. A big thank you to Tim Christopher for helping out with the scarecrows, and of course Mr Hush for judging them.

The biggest pumpkin prize was awarded to Robert Jennings, a very friendly grave digger from Bega. This pumpkin was an Atlantic Giant and weighed 181 kgs. The Hoskins family of Milbang on the Breadalbane Road were the most successful local family after planting a paddock of broadacre pumpkins.

### **Money collected on the day**

Over \$8000 was raised on the day through gold coin donations and competitions and

the committee soup stall. We plan on this expanding on this for 2006, as we ran out of soup several times.

### **ANZAC day working bee**

A group of volunteering local women got together on Anzac day the weekend before to cut up pumpkins that went into the yummy pumpkin soup that was served on the night and for Sunday's soup stall. Meanwhile the Pot Black Club did a terrific job cleaning up around the town. The weekend before working bee is fast becoming a Collector tradition - see you there next year!

There was an increase in the number of Collector residents involved in the front fence competition. The Committee wishes to thank Peter Hush again for his judging effort - once again put into an extremely tough decision with the de Bruin family wowing the crowds out in front of their place.

### **Bushranger Hotel Collector Pumpkin Charity Ball**

The Bushranger Hotel Collector Pumpkin Charity Ball held on the Friday night had over 230 attendees in varying degrees of orange outfits. John Langford was a wonderful MC and the marquee looked spectacular with large orange balloons hanging from the roof and pumpkins on each table. Thanks to Norm and the children of Collector for carving such great table decorations. The food, created by Robbie Howard and Sven from Kitchen Witchery in Canberra, was delicious. The wine produced by local wineres, Madew, Lerida and Lamberts a fitting accompaniment.

Great food, wine, bar service (thank you to all at the Bushranger Hotel for your terrific support of the event), and terrific music made for a room full of happy punters. Over \$8000 was raised from the live + silent auctions run by stock and station auctioneer Col Medway who certainly responded to the vibe by talking the crowd deep into their pockets.

DJ Brett Martin spun a fun selection of tunes for all ages. Local Jolanda ten Dam won the best dressed woman of the evening. We are unsure who the best dressed male went to, but we can remember he was in a white dress.

#### **School's contribution**

On the Sunday, the Collector Public School did their annual performance - this time looking the goods dressed as scarecrows. They sang I love Pumpkins and Dingly Dangly Scarecrows. The school oversaw the fantastic children's marquee that included face painting, popcorn soft drinks, and show bags. Thanks to the School and the hard-working P & C for yet another great contribution to the Festival.

#### **Sponsors and media support**

The committee would like to thank the fabulous support the Collector Village Pumpkin Festival received from the media, particularly the ABC, the Canberra Times and the Goulburn Post.

Special mention ought to be made of the many sponsors of the event (see below) - the Collector Village Pumpkin Festival sponsors have shown great loyalty and faith in the event, and for that the community is grateful.

The committee has already met to discuss ways on improving the event for 2006. Feedback would be greatly appreciated good or bad. Please leave your comments at the Collector General Store. Or e-mail us through the website:

[www.pumpkinfestival.com.au](http://www.pumpkinfestival.com.au).

We then incorporate the feedback into our report to the Shire Tourism Committee and Council.

The final report, including finalised financial details will be available at the Collector Store within the next two weeks.

The Annual General Meeting will be advertised in the Gunning Lions Club and at the Collector General Store. It would be great to have a big turnout - the Pumpkin Festival is Collector's Festival, so don't miss out on the opportunity to have your say or maybe even get more actively involved in the 2006 Festival.

June 2005

**THE COLLECTOR VILLAGE  
PUMPKIN FESTIVAL 2005  
WOULD LIKE TO THE THANK  
THE TERRIFIC SUPPORT  
RECEIVED FROM THE PEOPLE  
OF THE COLLECTOR  
COMMUNITY  
GO COLLECTOR!!**

#### **Major Event sponsors**

Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Bushranger Hotel, Goulburn Workers Club, Country Energy, Lake George Quarries.

#### **Major Supporters**

Capital Region Employment Council, Kamberra Wine Company, Kitchen Witchery, Lynwood Cafe, Zol's Plumbing, Kennards Hire, Martin Mischkulnig Photography, Grey Worldwide, Regional Food Australia.

#### **Competition sponsors and supporters**

Goulburn Produce, Southern Ford, Greengrocer on Clifford, TBP Baking, Eureka Painting and Decorating, Collector Store, Elders, Landmark, Southern Ford, Flavours the Culinary Centre Lambert's vineyard, Madew Wines and Lerida Wines.