

GAVEL

FINDS his
PLACE



Becoming
Queensland's
Vice-Regal Dog

This book is dedicated to the children of Queensland. May they be inspired by the real-life story of Gavel. Too friendly to become a police dog, he found his calling happily greeting guests at the official residence in Brisbane of The Queen's representative, the Queensland Governor. Never give up. There are many pathways to success.

Words by Wendy van Rosmalen
Original illustrations by Amanda Letcher (JSAcreative)

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Becoming Queensland's Vice-Regal Dog

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Gavel was a special dog.



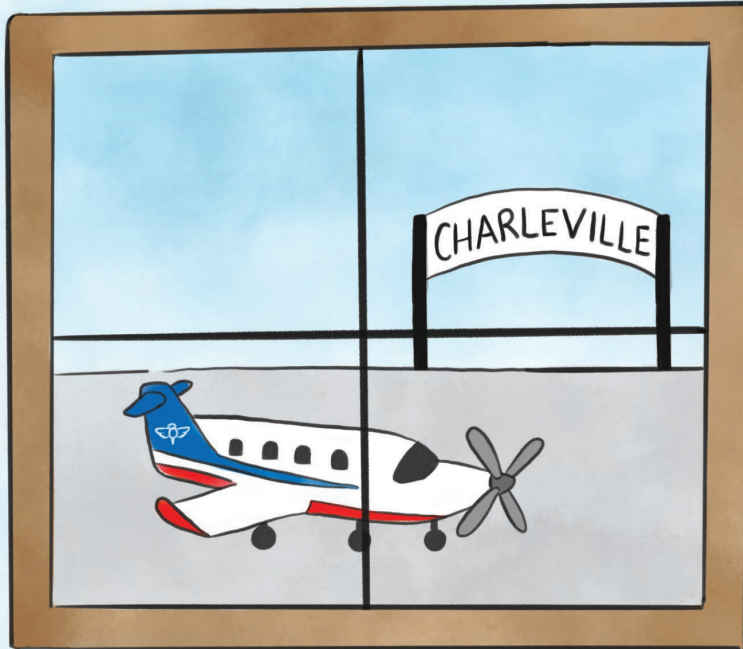
He was training to become a police dog.
He loved helping the police to solve crimes.



Even though being a police dog was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he set off to explore Queensland, searching for his perfect job.

Being a Flight Nurse in Charleville was fun.
Gavel enjoyed working with the pilots and doctors.
He loved making people feel better.

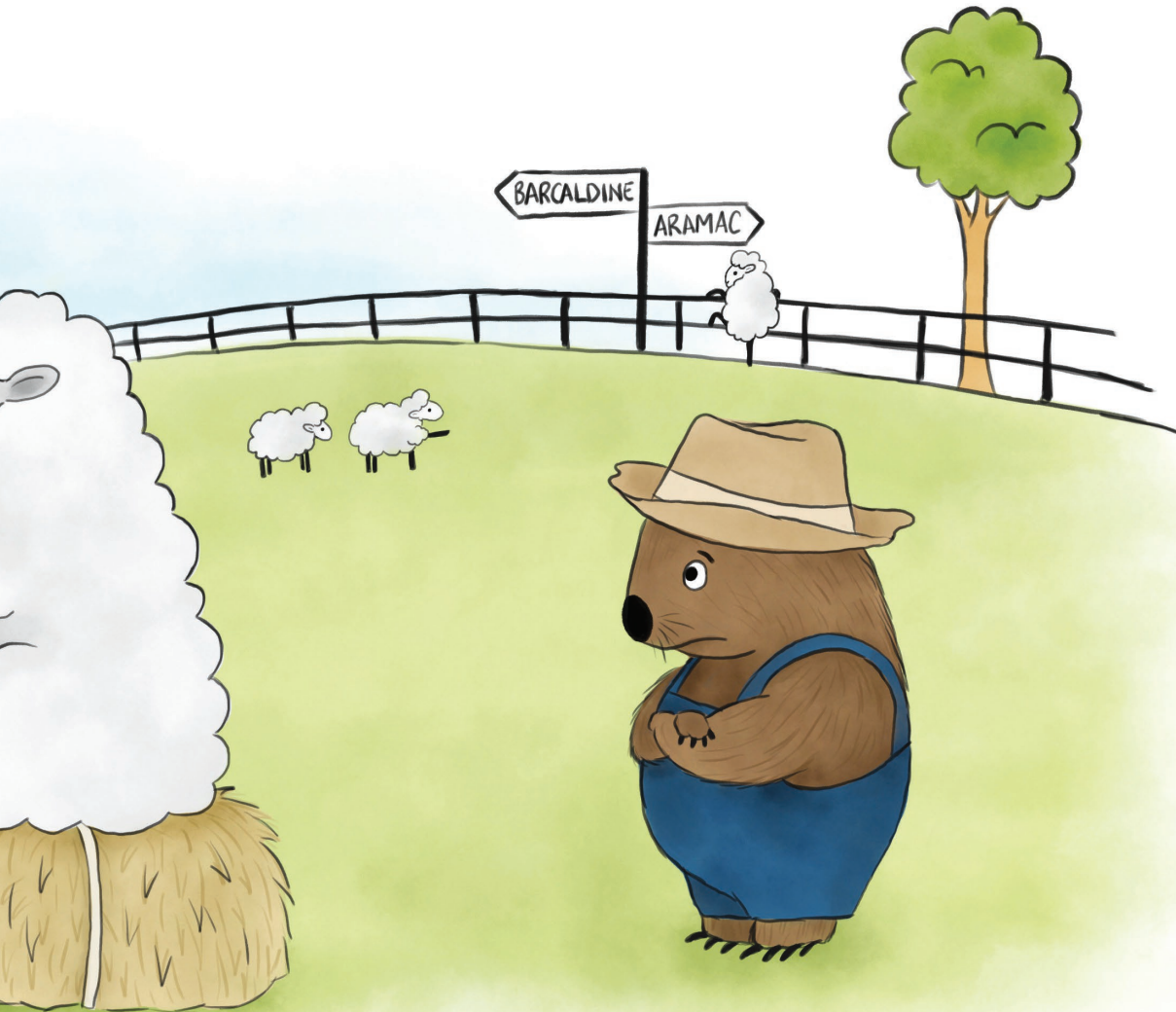




But even though being a Flight Nurse was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

Being a sheep dog on a Western Queensland property was fun.
Gavel enjoyed helping the farmers.
He loved competing in the sheep dog trials.





But even though being a sheep dog was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

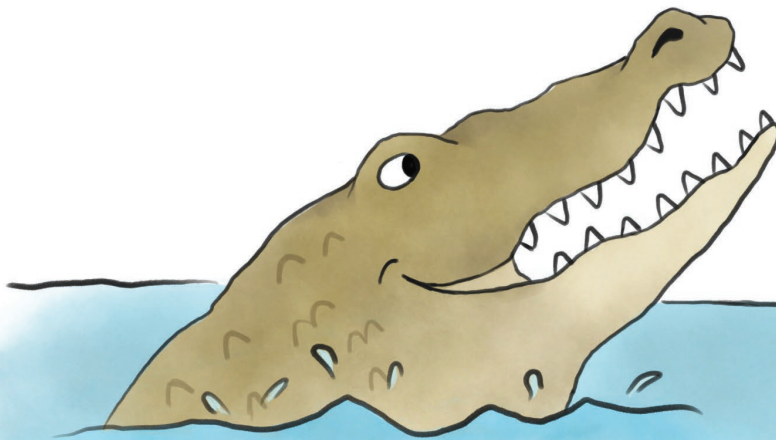
Being a palaeontologist in Richmond was fun.
Gavel enjoyed studying dinosaur fossils.
He loved going to the dig site and finding new things.

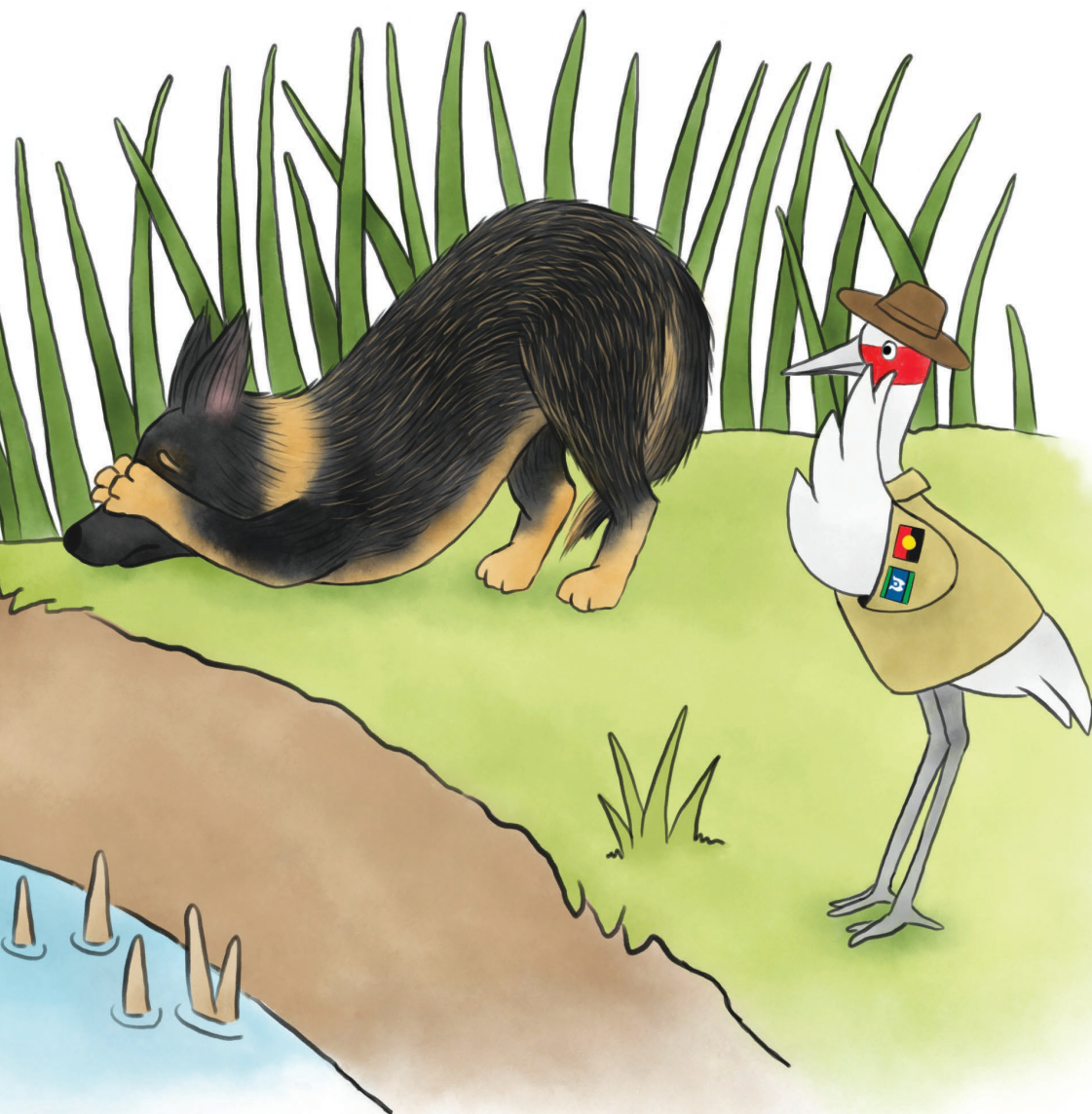




But even though being a palaeontologist was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

Working alongside Indigenous land and sea rangers
on the Cape York Peninsula was fun.
Gavel enjoyed checking the mangroves.
He loved keeping an eye on the waterbird breeding colonies.





But even though being a ranger was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

Being a scientist on the Great Barrier Reef was fun.
Gavel enjoyed testing water in the laboratory.
He loved visiting the islands to check for pests.





But even though being a scientist was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

Being an underground miner in Central Queensland was fun.
Gavel enjoyed helping load the coal on to the conveyors.
He loved riding the lift deep down into the mine.





But even though being a miner was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

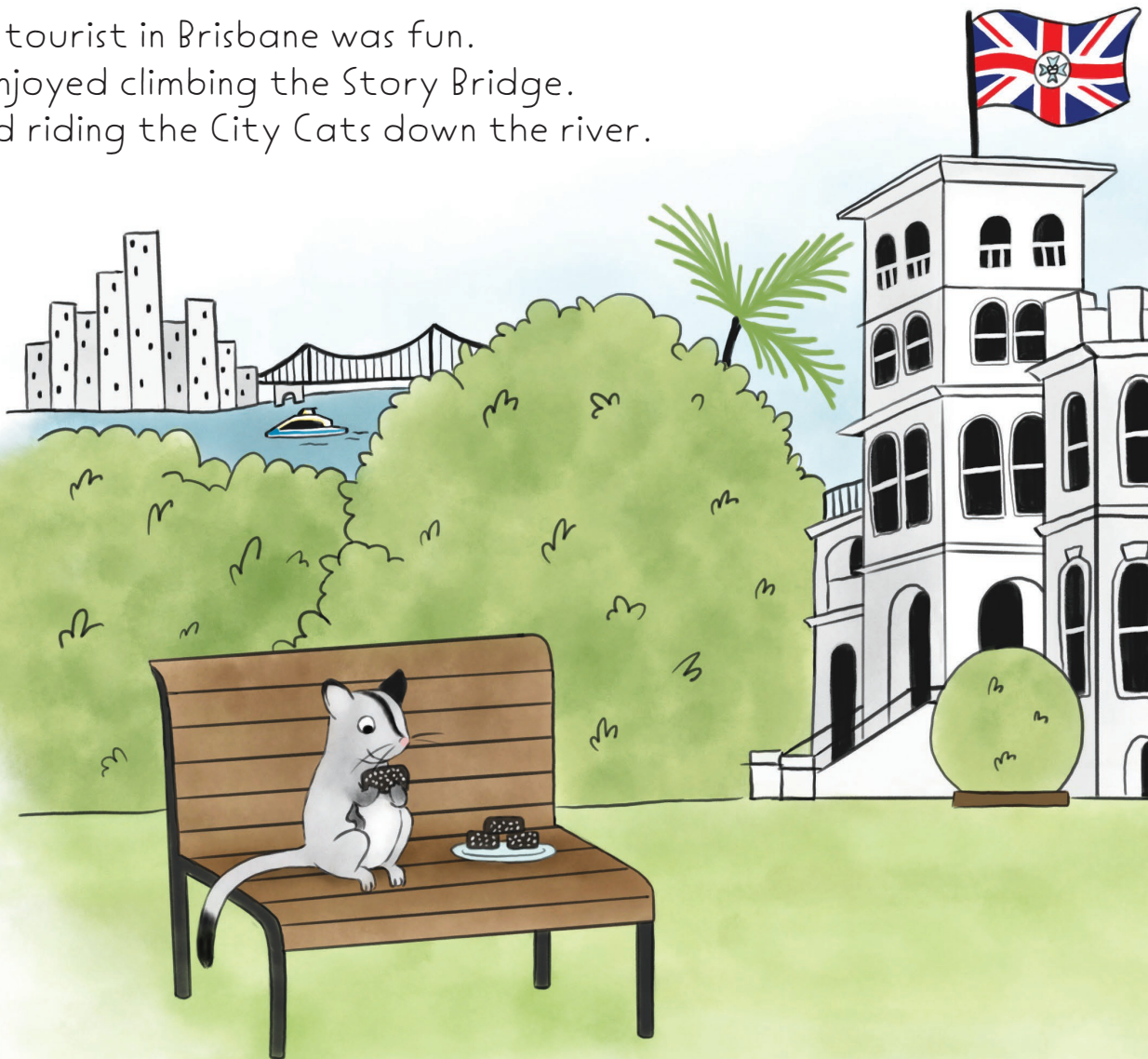
Being a surf life saver at the Gold Coast was fun.
Gavel enjoyed setting up the flags.
He loved going to the rescue when someone was in trouble.





But even though being a surf life saver was a wonderful job, it wasn't quite right for Gavel. So he kept on searching.

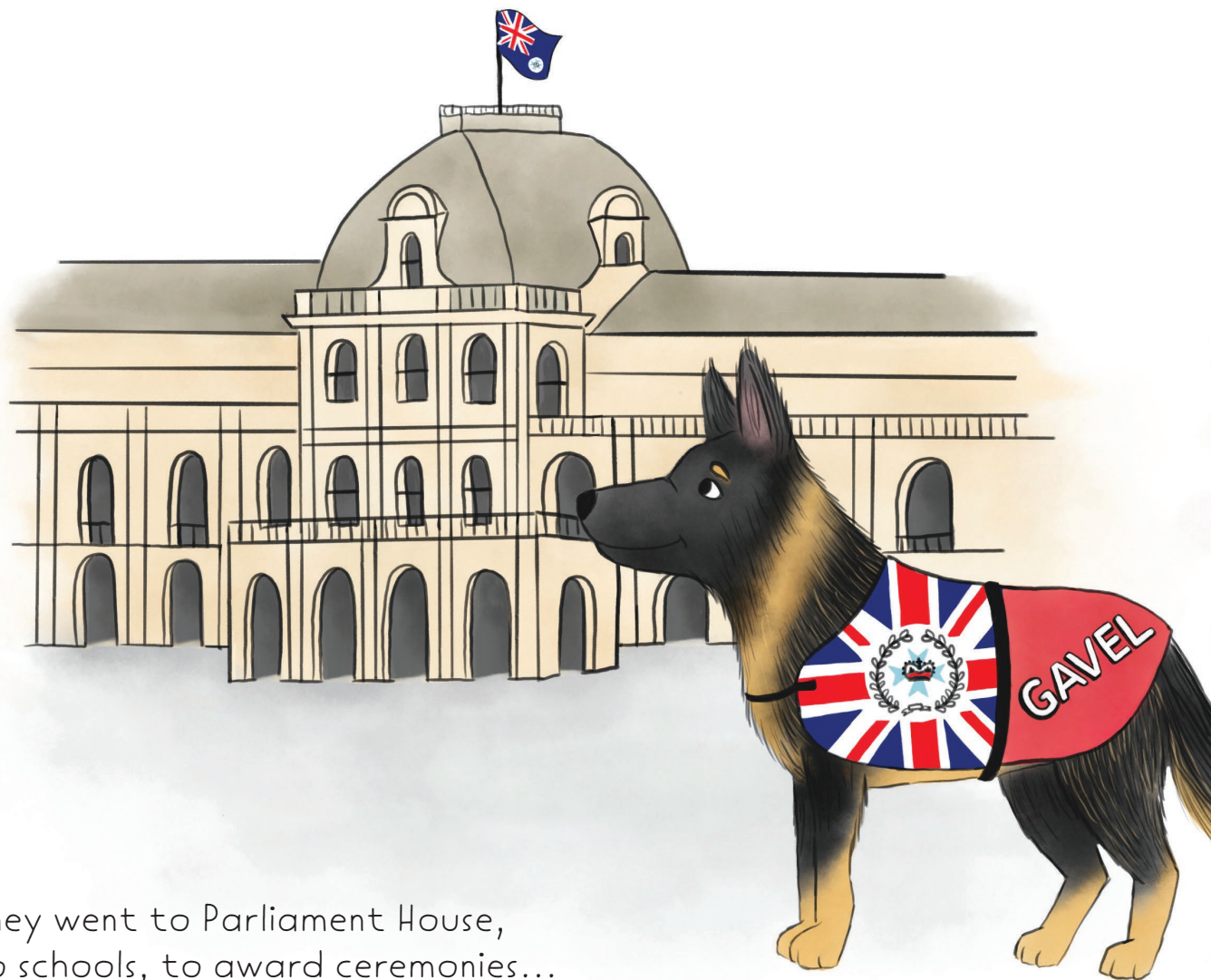
Being a tourist in Brisbane was fun.
Gavel enjoyed climbing the Story Bridge.
He loved riding the City Cats down the river.



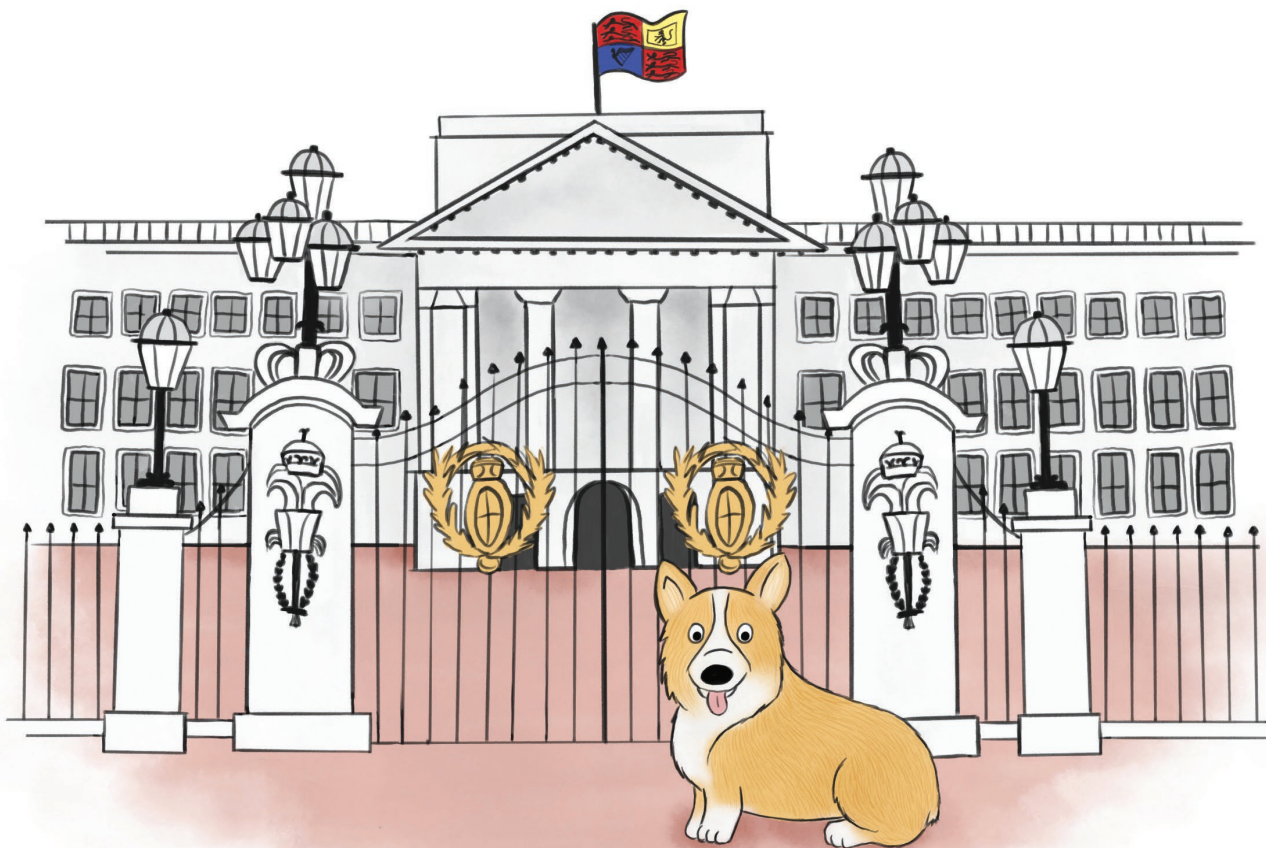


On Queensland Day,
Gavel visited Government House.
He met the Governor.
The Governor asked Gavel to
be the first ever Vice-Regal Dog
in Queensland.

Gavel and the Governor were very happy.
They travelled around Queensland together.



They went to Parliament House,
to schools, to award ceremonies...



...they even went to Buckingham Palace
to meet The Queen!

Being a Vice-Regal Dog is fun.
Gavel enjoys wearing his ceremonial coat.
He loves his life of public service.





Being the Vice-Regal Dog is a wonderful job.
And it is exactly right for Gavel.
Finally, his search was over.







GOVERNMENT HOUSE
QUEENSLAND