



# The Governor-General and Government House

*Te Kāwana Tianara o Aotearoa  
me Te Whare o te Kāwana*



Activity Book | *Pukapuka mahi*

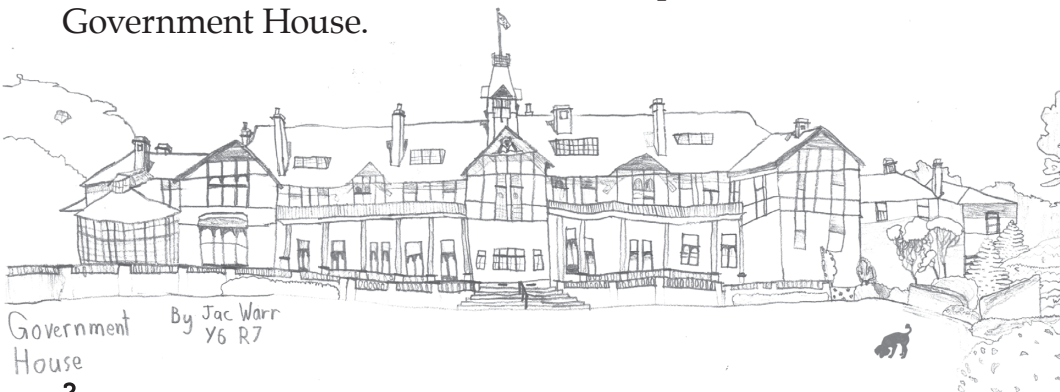
# Government House is the home of the Governor-General of Aotearoa New Zealand

The Governor-General is the New Zealand representative of our Head of State, Queen Elizabeth II. Government House is the home of the Governor-General (and the Queen if she is in New Zealand). It is where lots of the ceremonies and events that are part of the Governor-General's job take place.

Wellington Government House was opened in 1910. There is a second smaller Government House in Auckland.

On the outside, the house looks like a grand British mansion, but inside it is full of art, patterns, carvings and culture celebrating Aotearoa New Zealand.

Every year thousands of New Zealanders and people from other countries are welcomed to special events at Government House.



# Dame Patsy Reddy, Governor-General of New Zealand

*Kia ora, ngā mihi ki a koutou*



My job is a very special one. For five years I represent Queen Elizabeth II, the Queen of New Zealand. Queen Elizabeth is our Head of State, but she lives in the United Kingdom. I do the jobs she would do if she was here.

This means I give New Zealanders awards and medals on behalf of the Queen and country, I sign laws and regulations and I appoint the Prime Minister and Cabinet following a General Election and get advice from the Government ministers on important issues. I am patron of over 140 charities and I represent New Zealand at special occasions overseas. I also welcome heads of state and royalty when they visit New Zealand.

I was chosen by the Prime Minister to do my role and appointed by the Queen in 2016. I will finish in 2021.

Being a Governor-General is a very special job. It is about celebrating the wonderful country we live in and the many amazing people who call it home.

*Kia ora, huihui tātou katoa*

Patsy Reddy



# The Governor-General and me

Favourite colour

Dame Patsy: *I love kākāriki. It reminds me of our magnificent trees.*

What's yours? \_\_\_\_\_

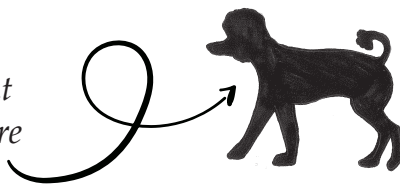
Favourite place in Aotearoa

Dame Patsy: *Everywhere is wonderful but I have a special place in my heart for the Bay of Islands. It was where Tiriti o Waitangi the Treaty of Waitangi was signed and is a place of history and incredible beauty.*

What's your place? \_\_\_\_\_

Favourite animal

Dame Patsy: *I'm totally biased, but my favourite animal is my miniature poodle Coco. You'll find tiny Coco pictures hidden throughout this book.*



Do you have a favourite animal? \_\_\_\_\_

Favourite food

Dame Patsy: *That's a hard one to pick. Fresh cherry tomatoes, picked straight from the garden. Delicious – truly!*

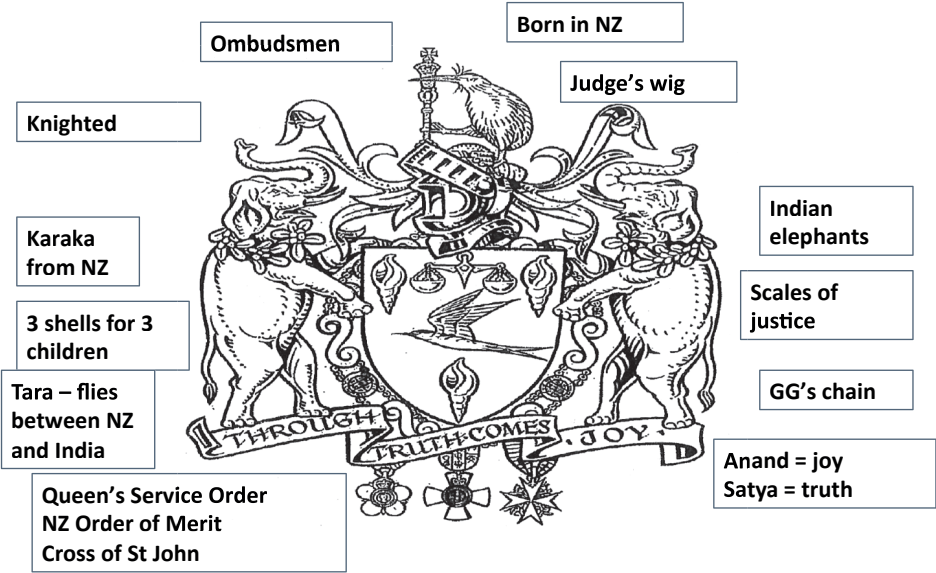
So what's yours? \_\_\_\_\_

# Coats of arms

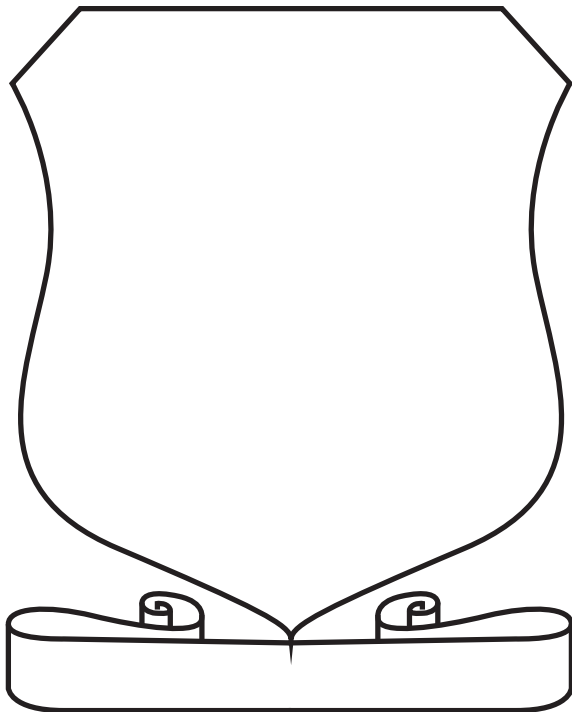


Coats of Arms are designed by each Governor-General to show important things to them or their whanau. The Coats of Arms are carved in wood. You can see them at Government House in Wellington. Everything on a Coat of Arms will have a meaning. They're a way of telling a story through pictures and symbols.

You can use animals or people on the sides of the shield as supporters. The 'ribbon' at the bottom is for a motto or a saying that describes you or your family's values. Some Governors-General have a helmet on top of the shield to show they have been knighted. At the top they often have an animal, person or bird. This design is Sir Anand Satyanand's coat of arms.



How would you show  
your family story? 



# Can you spot the changes?

Here is one of the first design drawings for Dame Cath Tizard's coat of arms and the finished one. Circle where it changed.



# Mythbusting!

Read through these 10 sentences about the job of the Governor-General and Government House and circle **AE** (yes) or **KĀO** (no)



1.	The Governor-General is elected to run New Zealand.	AE	KĀO
2.	The Prime Minister lives at Government House.	AE	KĀO
3.	Dame Patsy Reddy is the third woman to be a Governor-General.	AE	KĀO
4.	Government House in Wellington was where Tiriti o Waitangi the Treaty of Waitangi was signed.	AE	KĀO
5.	There are two Government Houses in the North Island and none in the South Island.	AE	KĀO
6.	We change our Governor-General at the same time we change our Prime Minister.	AE	KĀO
7.	If the Governor-General goes overseas, the Prime Minister does the job until the Governor-General gets back.	AE	KĀO
8.	The only two people who can fly a flag from the top of Government House are the Governor-General or the Queen.	AE	KĀO



9.	The Queen has stayed at Government House.	AE	KĀO
10.	Anyone can be chosen as Governor-General.	AE	KĀO



## ANSWERS

1. **KĀO** - The Prime Minister chooses the Governor-General and the Queen appoints them.
2. **KĀO** - The Governor-General lives at Government House. The Prime Minister lives at Premier House.
3. **AE** - The others are Dame Catherine Tizard and Dame Silvia Cartwright.
4. **KĀO** - Te Tiriti o Waitangi the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840 in places around New Zealand. Government House was opened in 1910.
5. **AE** - The houses are in Wellington and Auckland. There were plans to have a South Island Government House but they fell through.
6. **KĀO** - The term for a GG is usually 5 years. The term for a Government is usually 3 years. We don't change them at the same time.
7. **KĀO** - It's important to keep the Governor-General's responsibilities and the PM's responsibilities separate. The Chief Justice or another judge does the job till the Governor-General gets back to New Zealand.
8. **AE** - Only the Queen and the Queen's representative (the Governor-General) can fly their flag from Government House. It flies when they are staying in the house.
9. **AE** - When the Queen visits New Zealand she stays at Government House.
10. **AE** - Anyone can be chosen as Governor-General by the Prime Minister. You might have to wait a bit though. Most people start the job when they are at least 55 years old!

# You are invited

Government House can be a very formal place sometimes. Here's an invitation



What do the bits on it mean and why do we have them?

**RSVP** – This means the person organizing the event wants you to let them know if you can come or not. The letters stand for “Respondez si vous plait”, which is French for ‘reply please’

**Dress** – For a special event it always helps to know what people want you to wear. Is it super fancy or a bit more casual?

**Special requirements** – It helps the organizer if you tell them about any foods you can't eat or if you find walking, hearing or seeing difficult, or perhaps loud noises make you nervous. Let them know before you visit so they can make sure you have a great time!

# Something from the kitchen

Every year Government House and the Governor-General welcome over 10,000 guests to Government House.

That means there is a lot of cooking going on! We make about 4,000 sandwiches every year, plus cakes, biscuits, and 4 course dinners. It's not always fancy though. Here's a recipe from Dame Patsy that she made during the Covid-19 lockdown.

## Lockdown loaf



300g strong white flour and 300g wholemeal flour

40g rolled oats

2 tsp dried yeast

1 1/4 tsp salt

1 Tbsp brown sugar or honey

750ml lukewarm water

1/4 cup sunflower seeds,

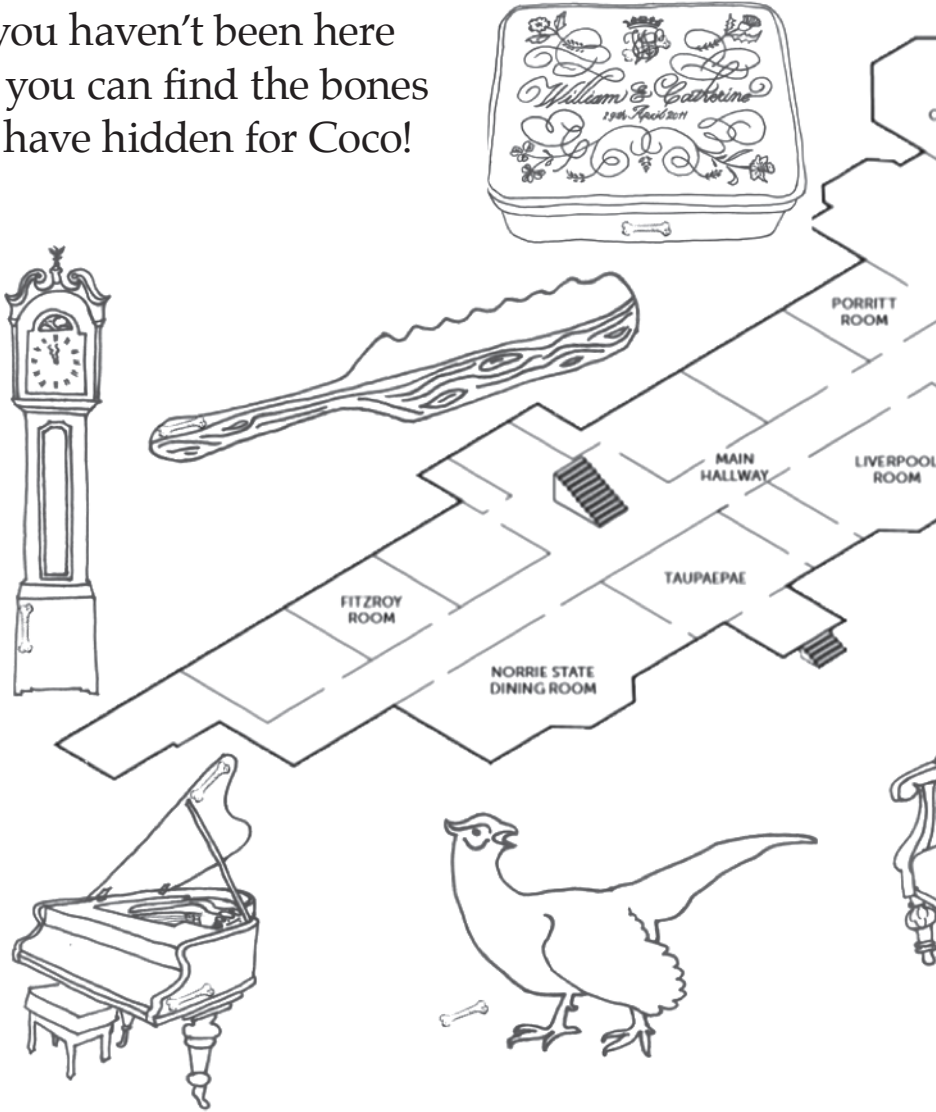
1/4 cup linseeds (you could use any combination of seeds)

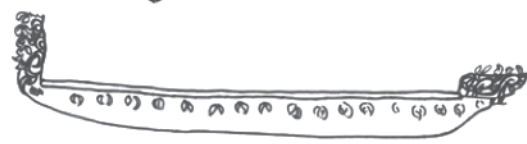
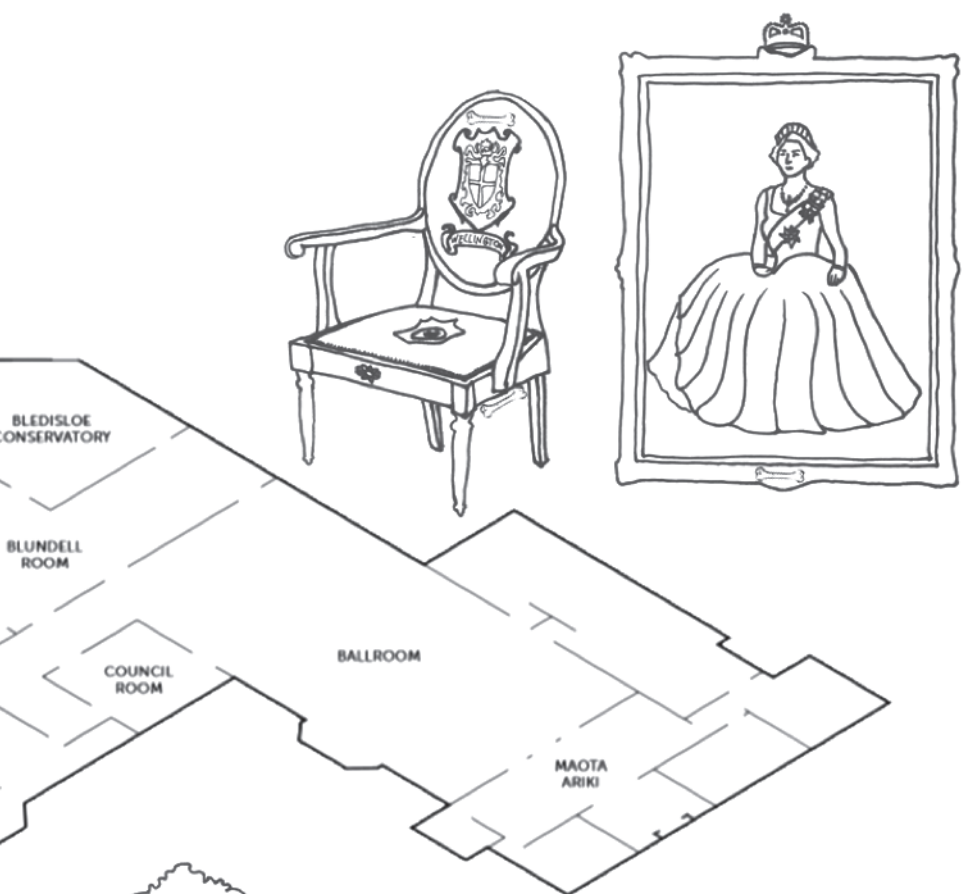
- Put everything into a large bowl and mix well – it will be similar in consistency to porridge.
- Scrape into 2x loaf tins lined with baking paper and smooth the top.
- Put into a cold oven and turn the dial to 50°C. Leave for about 35 mins, until the dough has risen to top of tin.
- Turn the heat to 200°C and bake for another 30-35 mins, until crusty on top and hollow when you tap it on the bottom.
- Turn out onto a rack to cool.

# Map your route

Mark the route you took through Government House when you visited.

If you haven't been here yet you can find the bones we have hidden for Coco!





# Saying thank you

An important part of the Governor-General's job is saying thank you to New Zealanders who have done special things for their community and for the country.

Every year people receive medals for volunteer work, for bravery and service to our country.

There are two main honours lists every year: the New Year's Honours and Queen's Birthday Honours.



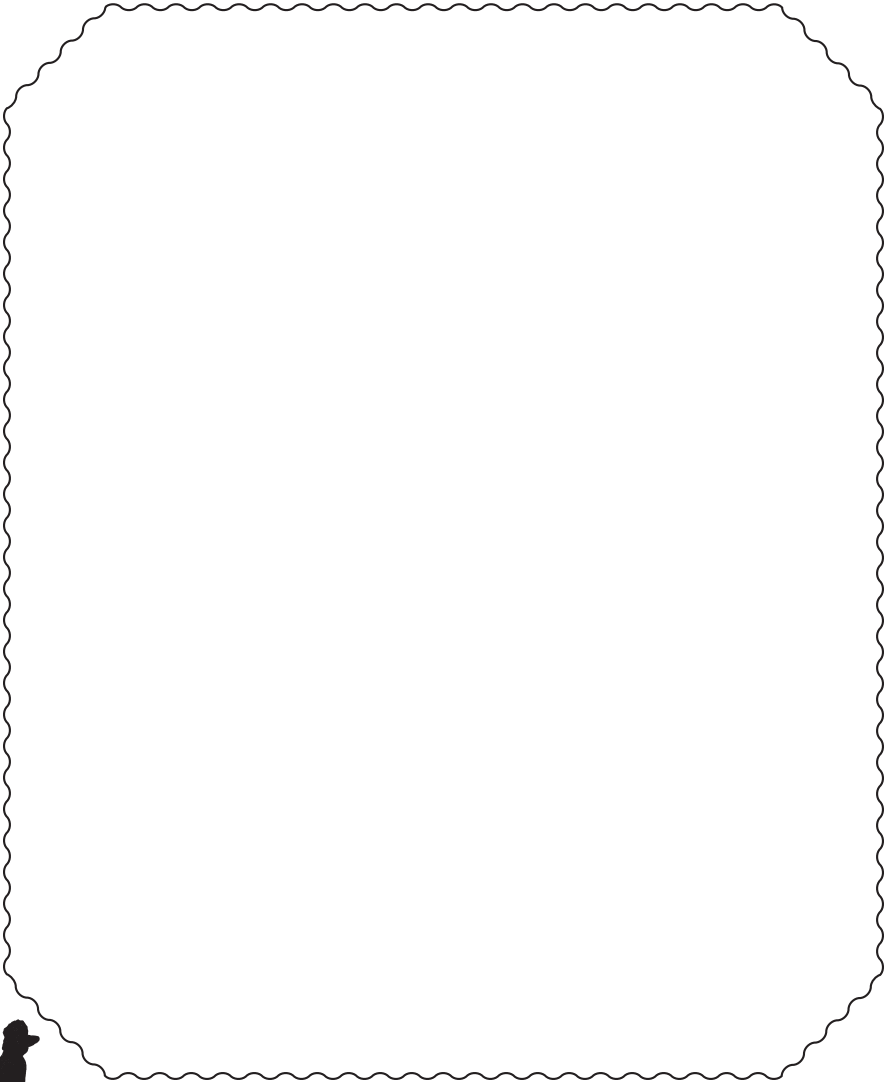
“ To be acknowledged for doing what one loves is so very humbling. ”

Di Cleverley, QSM recipient 2019

The Queen's Service Medal is awarded to people who have done extraordinary volunteer work in their community.



If you were able to design a medal for someone who has done something special for your community or school, what would it look like? Think about what pictures or words you would put on the medal, what shape it would be and what ribbon you would use.

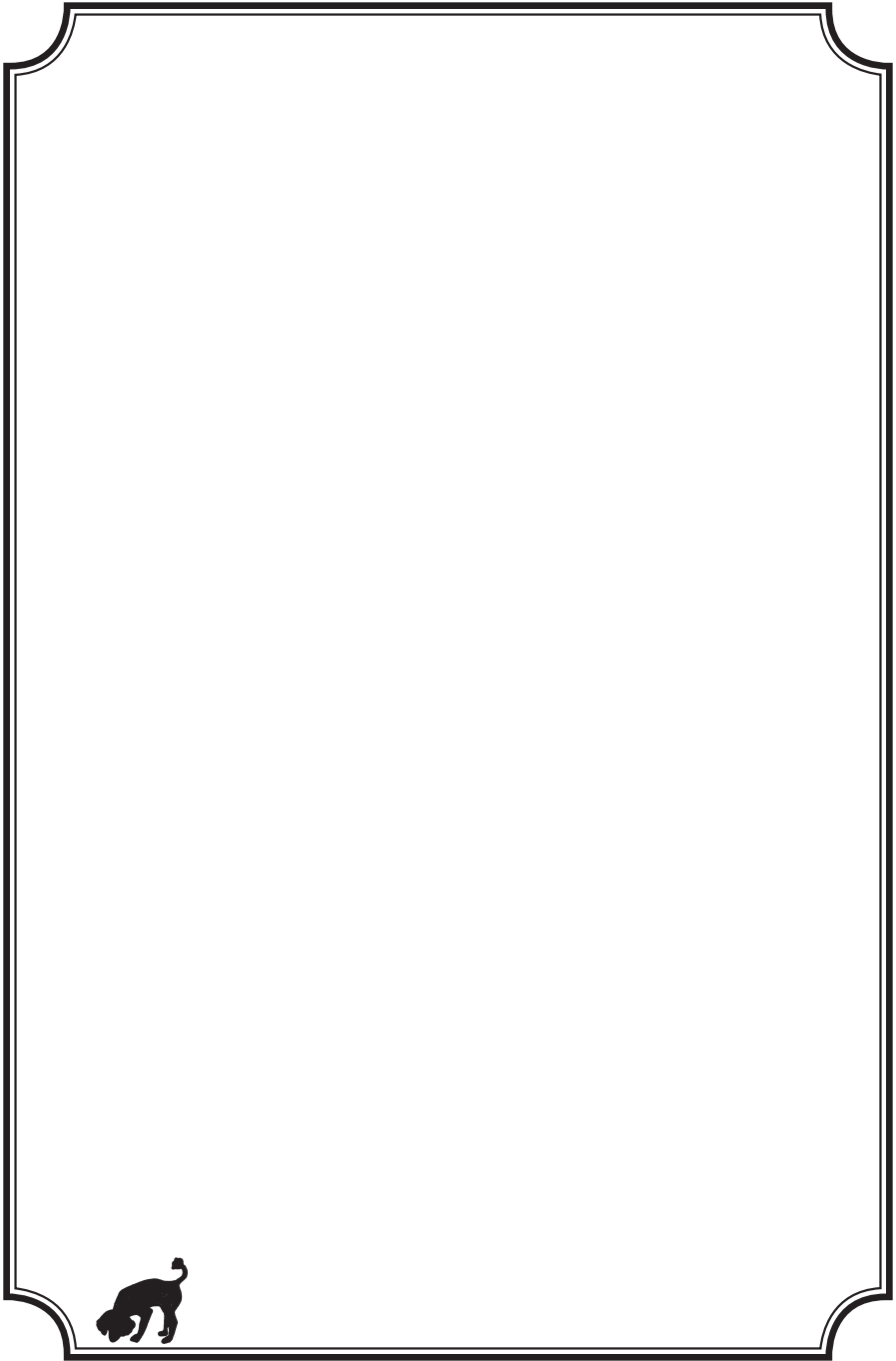


# Doing the mahi

A little bit of mahi goes a long way in our communities. Colour in or circle the ways you help out where you live. There's space on the next page for you to draw what you could do too!







# Governor-General wordfind

I	L	O	O	P	R	E	V	I	L	L	H	R	Q	G	N	G	N	R	Z
L	S	T	Y	H	F	J	S	O	L	E	A	I	P	O	D	B	O	E	Y
B	L	E	D	I	S	L	O	E	N	N	T	L	K	R	N	X	S	E	B
Q	R	E	C	Y	I	H	D	E	F	S	L	S	Q	E	A	P	B	V	R
G	X	B	I	N	E	N	O	U	A	A	L	N	C	B	N	O	O	E	N
E	V	P	G	T	U	A	R	L	W	R	T	O	S	R	A	R	H	S	Y
U	F	T	U	L	T	L	K	E	Y	I	A	Y	W	O	Y	R	B	Y	E
F	O	E	B	K	Y	A	N	P	R	O	O	P	O	W	T	I	W	O	U
N	O	F	R	E	Y	B	E	R	G	B	A	W	E	N	A	T	J	R	H
O	H	T	U	G	D	O	D	B	E	C	Y	K	W	T	S	T	E	Z	J
F	S	W	T	K	U	W	P	I	R	S	B	O	E	W	A	R	L	T	Y
N	Q	Z	H	P	S	S	D	T	T	Q	G	U	O	O	V	M	L	I	D
R	O	X	G	X	L	R	S	N	O	S	N	I	B	O	R	A	I	F	D
Q	M	D	I	P	A	U	T	O	A	J	E	R	V	O	I	S	C	X	E
W	R	X	R	H	P	I	N	L	N	Y	A	W	L	A	G	O	O	F	R
P	U	T	W	O	Z	I	G	K	F	A	L	F	V	N	B	J	E	P	H
H	P	M	T	A	G	K	H	D	E	R	R	W	C	H	G	W	U	R	S
N	O	R	R	I	E	J	W	P	Z	T	J	V	A	H	N	Q	R	F	W
N	J	D	A	J	W	K	I	Z	V	C	Q	M	Z	F	C	M	G	K	A
L	H	U	C	N	F	G	C	E	S	X	B	T	N	E	W	O	B	A	E



# Go on a Governor-General hunt!

There are places all over Aotearoa named after Governors-General

We would love you to send us photos of places you find – streets, bridges, towns, parks or buildings.

Send your pics to [bookings@govthouse.govt.nz](mailto:bookings@govthouse.govt.nz)

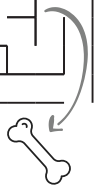
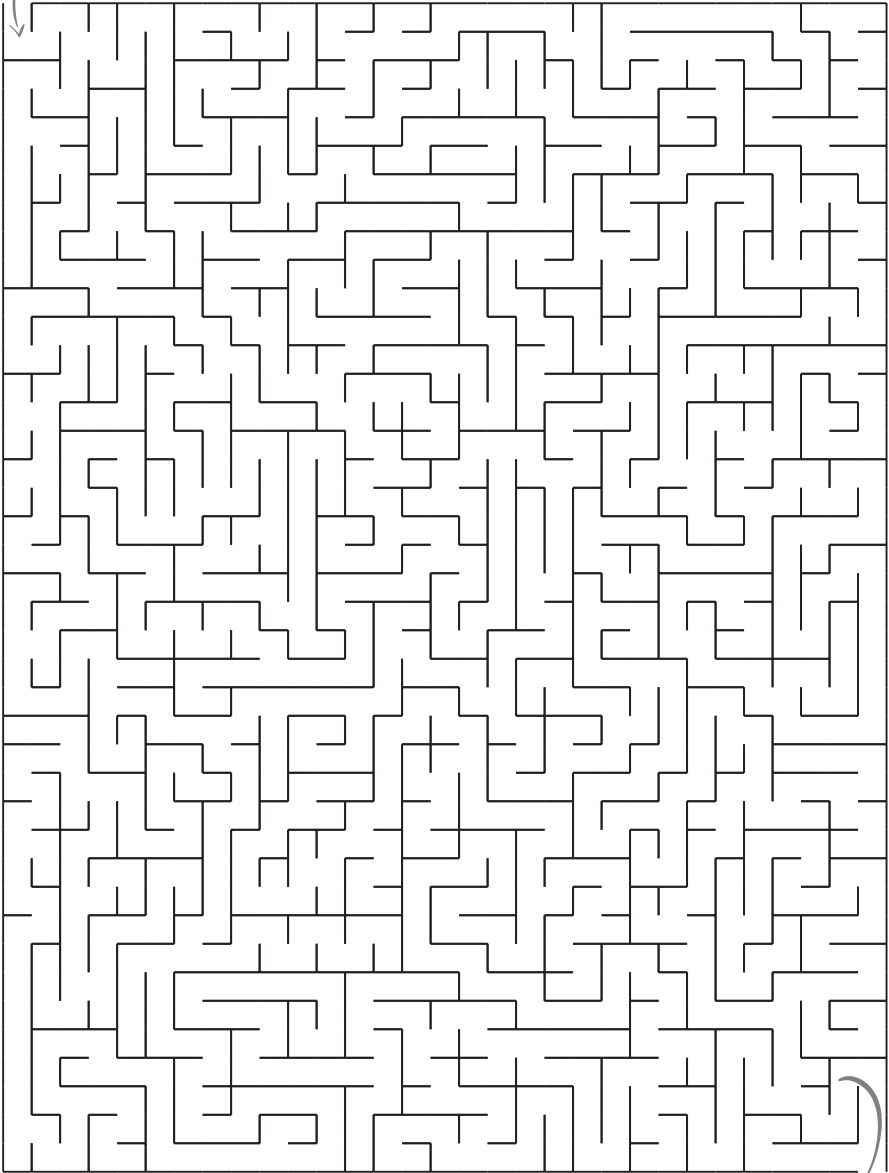
## Can you find these in the wordfind?

Beattie	Bledisloe	Blundell
Bowen	Cartwright	Cobham
Fergusson	Fitzroy	Freyberg
Galway	Glasgow	Gordon
Gore Brown	Grey	Hardie Boys
Hobson	Holyoake	Islington
Jellicoe	Jervois	Liverpool
Mateparae	Newall	Norrie
Onslow	Phipp	Plunket
Porritt	Ranfurly	Reddy
Reeves	Robinson	Satyanand
Tizard		





# Help Coco find her bone



## Ideas and art space

Here's some space for you to draw or write about things you saw when you visited, or to put any other ideas you have.



# Thanks for learning about Government House

If you would like to visit us or arrange an online  
visit you can book at [www.gg.govt.nz](http://www.gg.govt.nz)  
or email us at [bookings@govthouse.govt.nz](mailto:bookings@govthouse.govt.nz)

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Thanks to everyone who helped us with this booklet,  
especially Flt Lt Sylvie Admore, ADC to the Governor-General  
for our illustrations. Front cover and inside front cover illustration  
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Can I print and share this activity book? ..... **YES**

Can I sell this activity book or use it for monetary benefit? .. **NO**

Can I change and adapt this activity book? ..... **SOME OF IT\***

**\*Except for:**

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2. The front cover and inside front cover illustration by Jac Warr
3. The centre map

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