

# The Queen's Homes

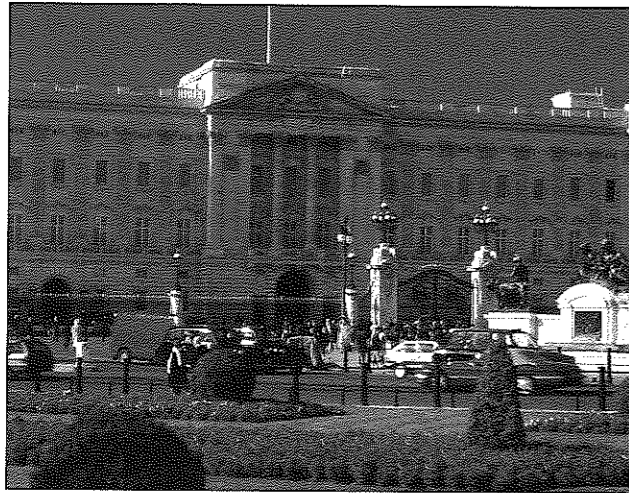
The Queen\* of England (Elizabeth II) has got lots of homes. Sometimes she lives at Buckingham Palace\* in London and sometimes at Windsor Castle\* in Windsor. (She also has a home - Balmoral Castle - in Scotland!)

1 Write the verbs in the gaps.

lived had stays built started

## Buckingham Palace

In 1705, the Duke\* of Buckingham 1 built Buckingham Palace. Queen Victoria 2 there in 1837. After that, different kings\* and queens lived in the palace. Today, Queen Elizabeth II often 3 there. When she is at 'home', a flag\* flies from the roof\*.



## Windsor Castle

William I (William the First) 4 to build\* this castle in the 1070s. The castle is a favourite place for royal weddings\*. Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles 5 a big party in the castle after their wedding in 2005.



2 Match the pictures on the next page with the numbered texts.

### 1 Money problems

The Queen opened Buckingham Palace to the public\* for the first time in 1993. Why? Because she needed money after a big fire at Windsor Castle. The fire lasted for 15 hours and it destroyed\* a lot of rooms.

### 2 Big Houses

Buckingham Palace has more than 500 rooms and 78 bathrooms. 19 of the rooms are open to the public for two months each year. Windsor Castle is a lot bigger – it has over 1,000 rooms!

### 3 The Royal\* Guard\*

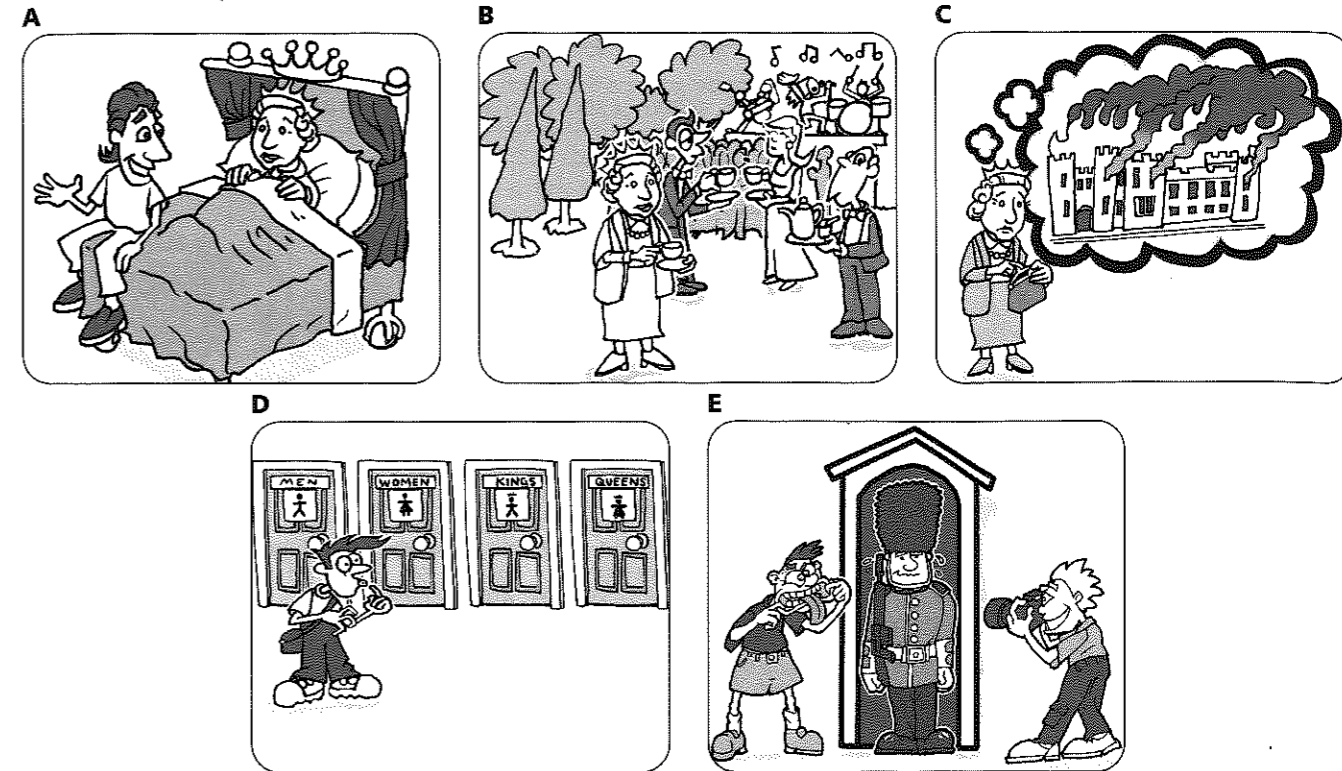
Every day, lots of tourists\* stand in front of the palace to watch the Changing of the Guard. The Guards wear red jackets and 'bearskins' (very big black hats). They mustn't smile at the tourists when they are working. This is sometimes very difficult!

### 4 The gardens

The gardens at Buckingham Palace are very big. In 2002, the Queen had a big pop concert\* there to celebrate\* 50 years of being Queen. She also has big tea parties there and invites different people to them. For a picnic\*, go to Windsor. The gardens there are bigger and they are always open.

### 5 Not invited

In 1982 the Queen woke up at Buckingham Palace with a surprise. There was a strange\* man sitting on her bed! His name was Michael Fagan. They talked for half an hour. Fagan asked the queen for a cigarette\*, but she couldn't give him one. She doesn't smoke. There are 200 bedrooms in the Palace. How did he find the right one?

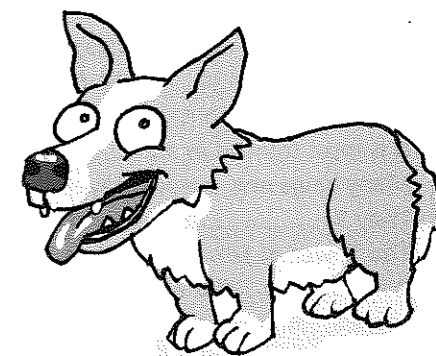
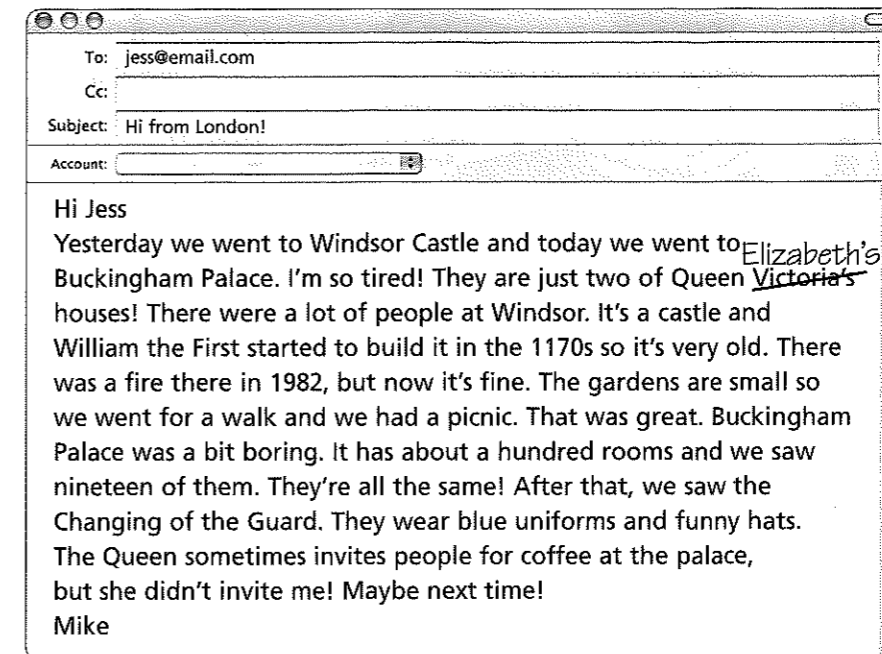


3 Complete these sentences with words from the text. The first letters make the name of the Queen's favourite kind of dog.

- Windsor C a s t l e is older than Buckingham Palace.
- Only 19 of the rooms at Buckingham Palace are \_\_\_\_\_ to the public.
- The British \_\_\_\_\_ Family have a lot of houses.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ at Buckingham Palace have beautiful trees and flowers.
- The Queen sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ people to parties at the palace.

The dog is a C.....

4 Find seven mistakes in the e-mail from Mike Mistake.



## Personal Project

- Where did the rulers of your country live in the past? Did they have different houses?
- Choose one of their houses and find out more about it.