

I CAN BE...

**HOLLY
FERLING**

*From country kid
to Aussie legend*



CHAPTER ONE

Queensland Country





Jill: Nice to meet you, Holly!



Holly: It's nice to meet you, too, Jill, especially knowing that you are a fellow Queenslander and country girl.

Jill: I think I'm really lucky to be growing up in Mistake Creek. Do you think growing up in the country has helped you become a sports champion?

Holly: Like you, I think that I was really lucky to grow up in the country. I really believe that there are a lot of advantages to growing up in small towns. So yes, I think that growing up in Kingaroy has helped my development as a cricketer.

Jill: I reckon that when you grow up in the country, you're able to do a lot of things that city people might not get to do.

Holly: I think you're right. In the country, we get space and freedom that city people never get.

Jill: Yeah! Like the other day, I went pig hunting with my dad. We call it piggin'. Piggin' is something you would never get to do if you lived in the city!

Holly: Mind you, hunting feral pigs isn't something I would really want to do.



Jill: What things did you do when you were growing up that you might not have been able to do in the city?

Holly: There are so many things that it would take me forever to tell you. But, I do think the most important thing I was able to do was to just go. What I mean is that I could just get on my bike and ride over to a friend's place. That's the sort of freedom that a lot of kids in the city might not have.

Jill: I'd be lost if I couldn't just get on my bike and ride to Jack's house.

Holly: I also think that because we were allowed the freedom to move around a lot, it helped me become fit and strong for the sport I loved to play.

Jill: I go to Mistake Creek Primary School. There are only 12 students. What was your school like?



Holly: I went to Taabinga State School. There were nearly 500 students when I went there, so it was a lot bigger than your school, Jill.

Jill: Were you a good student?

Holly: I've always thought that I was an average student.

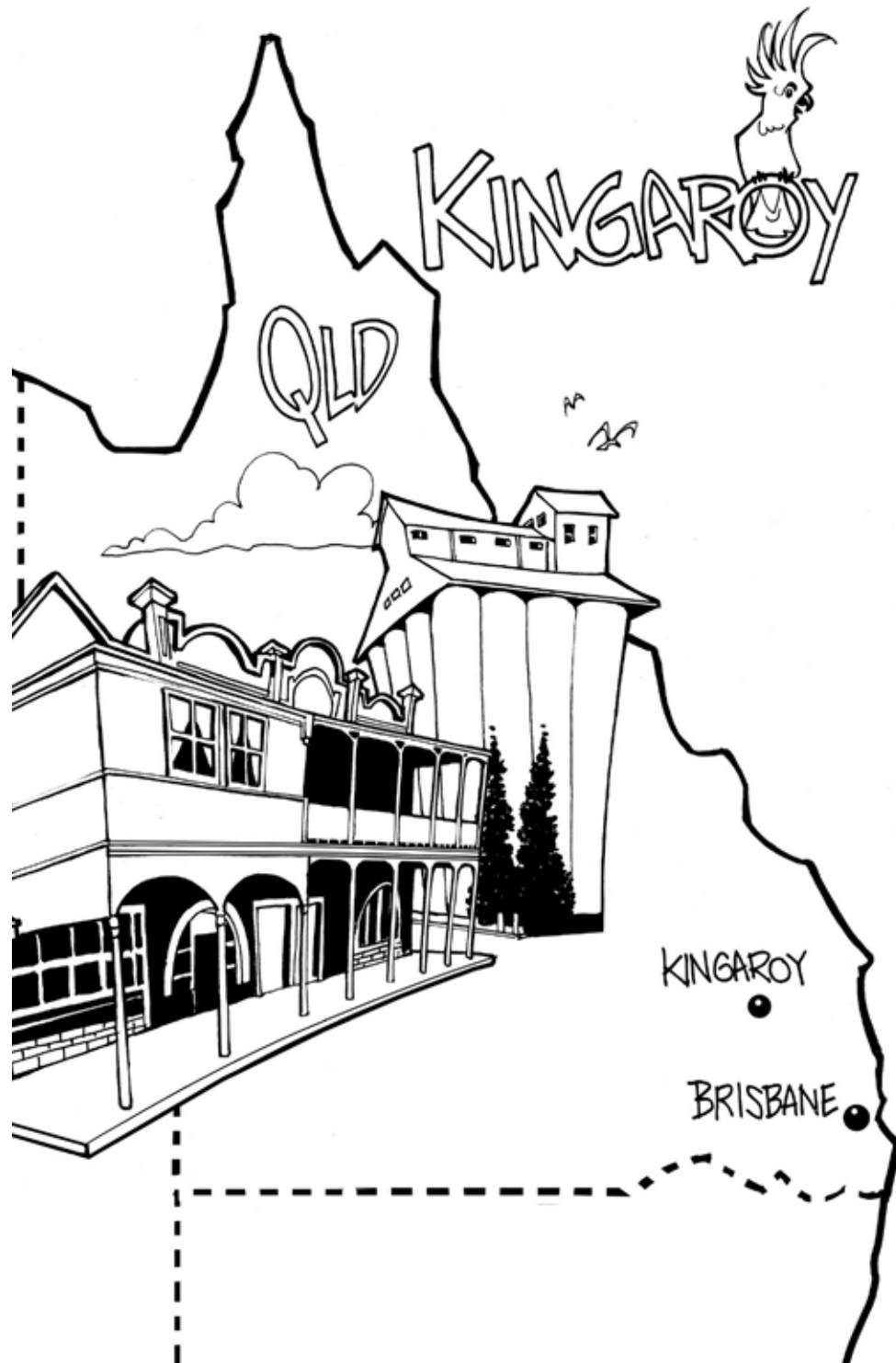


Jill: Well, I've been told that you were anything but a normal student! I contacted your library teacher, Mrs Black. She told me that there was always something special about you.

Holly: I thought that I was just normal, like all the other students.



Jill: Mrs Black said this: 'Holly was a great student, totally focused and always working hard. Holly was always prepared to do the extra things, like help with the younger students.' Mrs Black also said that in your last year of primary school, the students were required to do a work unit on fitness. You took it to another level and did way more work on it than any of the other students did.





Holly: I suppose I've always believed that you have to work hard to achieve whatever it is you are setting out to achieve.

Jill: Yes, I agree. At the start of this year, I made a promise to myself that I was going to be the top girl student in my class, and I achieved that straight away. Did I tell you that I'm the only girl in my class?