On behalf of all Territorians, Chief Minister Adam Giles has congratulated the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the birth of their new daughter, Princess Charlotte.

“This is an exciting time for the Royal Couple and Prince George with a new addition to their family and I wish them every happiness as they enter this new chapter of their lives,” Mr Giles said.

“I know the Duke and Duchess have a soft-spot for the Northern Territory after their visit here last year and we’ve decided to send the new Princess a gift with a true Territory flavour.

"We have commissioned Tennant Creek artist Dion Beasley, the illustrator of ‘Too Many Cheeky Dogs’, to create a special one-off Royal artwork to send to Kensington Palace.

“Kids love Dion’s colourful canine characters and I’m sure they’ll be a hit with the Royal Princess. The special Territory artwork might even end up on her nursery wall.”

Dion Beasley has muscular dystrophy and is hearing impaired. He worked with writer Johanna Bell to create ‘Too Many Cheeky Dogs’ which celebrates remote community life and the camp dogs which are an intrinsic part of it.

The book has sold more than 6000 copies since its release in 2013.

“Who knows what might happen if Dion’s cheeky camp dogs meet the Queen’s Corgis?” Johanna Bell said.

"The Territory's camp dogs are probably a bit cheekier than the Queen’s corgis but I’m sure the new princess will enjoy tales of their mischievous adventures."

A copy of the book will also be sent to the Princess with a personal message from Dion.

“We’re thrilled that our first book about the Territory's cheekiest dogs might end up being read by a Princess,” Ms Bell said.

Johanna and Dion will take some time out from writing their second book over the coming weeks to create their special Royal gift.
“Dion’s books and artwork are a great Territory export and I’m thrilled we’ll be able to share them with the Royal family on this happy occasion,” Mr Giles said.

“I know Kensington Palace was excited by Prince George’s Royal crocodile gift from the Northern Territory when he was born. I think this special artwork will be just as popular with Princess Charlotte.”

**Please see pic attached ***

Media Contact: Jon Taylor 0417 710 687

Chief Minister and Dion Beasley - Pic