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Book Reviews – VON

by *Marina Skinner*

Raglan resident Trevor Penfold loves photography and wildlife, and he's brought together his two passions in *Visions of Nature*, a beautifully presented hard-cover collection of colour photos. He is also aware of the threats to the wildlife and environment in his neighbourhood and beyond. "Using my skills as a photographer, I wanted to produce a book that would get people thinking more about the environment in which they live," he writes.

Penfold succeeds in giving readers a close encounter with Raglan's creatures that even the seaside town's residents wouldn't usually get. We see the well-groomed feathers of a petite grey warbler on a twig, the watchful red eyes of resting oystercatchers and a couple of feisty white-faced herons fighting over territory.

His macro photography brings us the alien eyes of a prickly stick insect and the iridescent paua shades of a blue damselfly.

There's a wow factor to most of the shots in the book, and Penfold inspires a new appreciation of his subjects.

Penfold is happy to share his skills, with brief stories about how he composed his photos and details of his camera settings for each photo.

