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British import's eye caught by local fauna

by *Geoff Lewis*

If you didn't think there was wildlife worth looking at around Raglan then make a point of taking in Trevor Penfold's stunning exhibition and his new book 'Visions of Nature – New Zealand's Wild in the West'.

Penfold arrived from the UK six years ago to establish a new home in the seaside settlement and work as a professional photographer.

A trip to Africa 12 years ago awakened his interest in wildlife photography and the aim of *Visions of Nature* was to bring home to New Zealanders and the people of Raglan what various and beautiful wildlife there is on their own doorstep.

“I really wanted to localise the wildlife to the area so people can go out and see it.”

To publish the 176-page hard cover book, Penfold established his own publishing company 'Perfect Planet Publishing' which enabled him to retain control of the process, in particular the management of the colour printing, detail and image clarity.

Penfold began building up his collection of wildlife images four years ago and writing for the book eight months ago.

Filled with stunning images of the natural west coast, the sea, the harbour and the bush along with its more common and rarer wildlife. The macro lens is employed as Penfold investigates the world of insects. Scientific names and descriptions of the creatures involved are included.

An exhibition of selected images from the book can be seen in the 'Old School Arts Centre' gallery in Stewart St. Raglan until December 24 when it will move to 'Show Off Aotearoa/New Zealand', 2 Bow St, Raglan.

'Visions of Nature – New Zealand's Wild in the West', can be obtained by calling Trevor on 07 825 7088.

