

## Wild Behaviour: A New Zealand Perspective

**By Trevor Penfold**

**Perfect Planet Publishing, \$58**

**Reviewed by Marina Skinner**

Trevor Penfold's great love of wildlife shines through in his collection of photographs. It takes long and studied observation of animals to capture their behaviour so strikingly. He shows kea grooming each other, including the groomer's technique of jumping on the groomee's head to get to the other side of the groomee's head. It sets a new bar for comical kea behaviour.

Other native birds are shown calling, flying and eating, including a scrawny grey warbler feeding a bonny young shinning cuckoo. Some of the birds are not often seen, such as hihi (stitchbirds) and tieke (saddlebacks). Birds of the forest, rivers, shores and open seas are captured, and Penfold extends his range to fur seals and sea lions.

The shots are carefully composed, and show off significant features of the animals' habitat. Penfold wears his conservation colours with pride, and he mentions Forest & Bird and other organisations working to protect the native species in his book.

He shares the technical details of all photos at the end of the book, giving others the opportunity to replicate his work – no easy task.



A fur seal from *Wild Behaviour: A New Zealand Perspective*.

Photo: Trevor Penfold