



# BOOKRAP<sup>TM</sup>

THE BAY OF PLENTY CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED  
www.bookrapt.org.nz info@bookrapt.org.nz



## ***The Cuckoo and the Warbler* by Kennedy Warne illustrated by Heather Hunt**

**Publisher: potton & burton**

**RRP \$19.99**

This book blurs the boundary between fiction and non-fiction. Although it contains information about the shining cuckoo (pīpiwharauoa) and the grey warbler (riroriro), it is presented in the form of an engaging story of struggle and deception.

When the shining cuckoos return to New Zealand they seek out grey warbler nests in which to lay their eggs. Despite the difference in size and colouring, the grey warblers then raise the shining cuckoo baby as their own, while the cuckoo parents enjoy a child-free lifestyle.

This extraordinary story is simply and ably told by Kennedy Warne, one of the founders of the New Zealand Geographic magazine, and beautifully illustrated by Heather Hunt. The drawings are slightly stylised renditions that sympathetically evoke the New Zealand bush and the two birds that are the protagonists of this story.

This book has no index or glossary, but does contain further, more detailed information about each of the birds at the back of the book. It would be equally at home on the nonfiction shelves as it is among the sophisticated picture books appealing to children who are interested in the natural world. It would also be of interest to keen artists.

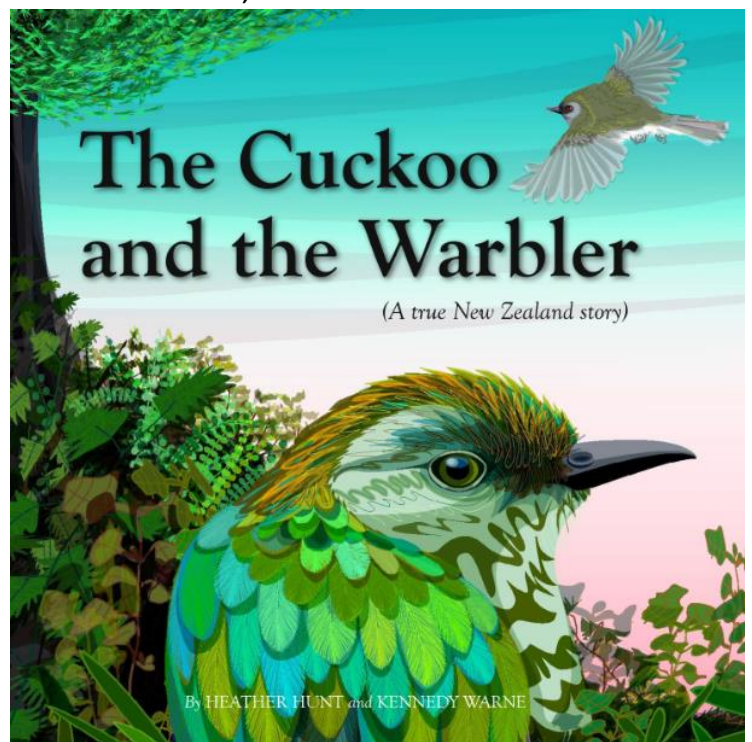
**Author's website:**

[www.kennedywarne.com](http://www.kennedywarne.com)

**Illustrator's website:**

[www.heatherhunt.co.nz](http://www.heatherhunt.co.nz)

**Reviewed by Penny Guy, Children's Librarian**



**Bookrapt: promoting the enjoyment of children's literature since 1983**

