



Publication	JULY 2025
ISBN	978-1-77543-873-1
NZ RRP	\$21.99
Printing	Full colour
Binding	Paperback
Format	250 x 240 mm
Extent	32 pp
Age	3-7 years
Rights	World

Katie Furze writes children’s fiction and non-fiction, including picture books, short stories, articles, plays, readers and novels. This is her third non-fiction picture book with Scholastic, following on from *Tuatara, a Living Treasure* (a finalist in the Non-Fiction category of the NZ Children’s Book Awards) and *Ruru, Night Hunter*.

Katie has a master’s degree in creative writing and is fascinated by science and nature. When she’s not reading or writing, she enjoys the outdoors, tramping, yoga, travelling and scuba diving. She lives in Auckland with her family.

Ned Barraud studied art in Otago and Illustration at Victoria University and has since authored and illustrated a number of children’s books and journals including the ‘Explore and Discover’ series about different ecosystems in New Zealand.

Ned loves to help introduce children to the natural world around them and encourages them to explore it. He has illustrated Katie Furze’s *Tuatara* and *Ruru*, with *Pekapeka* being the 3rd in the series.

Ned lives in the misty hills of Karori, Wellington, with his wife and three children.

PEKAPEKA

Secret Forest Bat

Katie Furze • Illustrated by Ned Barraud

Meet PEKAPEKA, a creature of the night
and a secret FOREST EXPLORER!

*When velvety dark descends, the whole colony wakes
and the hollow comes alive with twitching and chittering.*

Bats are Aotearoa New Zealand’s only native land mammals. This book is set in an ancient forest, and follows *Pekapeka*, a short-tailed bat, on her nocturnal adventures as she forages for food, evades predators, and plays a crucial role in pollinating native plants, all while navigating the many dangers hidden in the night.

- A companion to *Ruru: Night Hunter* and *Tuatara: A Living Treasure*, this book brings the secretive world of *pekapeka* to life with a mix of lyrical narrative and fascinating facts.
- Rich, detailed illustrations by Ned Barraud vividly capture the beauty of Aotearoa’s native forests and the hidden life of its tiny bats.
- *Pekapeka* is a perfect resource for home, classroom and library, as well as a wonderful gift for nature lovers.

[Praise for *Tuatara, a Living Treasure* by the same creators](#)

“Packed with information, Katie Furze’s rhythmic text reads aloud superbly and converts the drama associated with key times in the *tuatara*’s life [...] as always, Ned Barraud’s illustrations are impeccable and add to the atmosphere of the ‘story’.”— *Magpies*

“Written in beautiful, lyrical prose, this wonderful book is about the majestic *tuatara*, the only remaining reptile of its kind in the world.” — *Otago Daily Times*