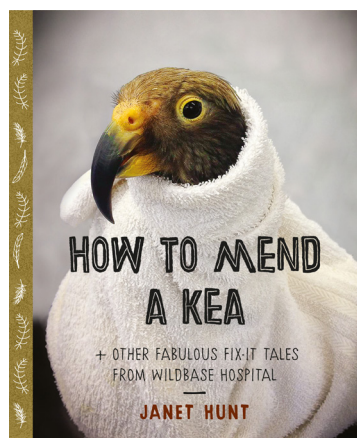


How to Mend a Kea

+ other fabulous fix-it tales from Wildbase Hospital

JANET HUNT



\$27.99

CATEGORY: Natural History

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THE ULTIMATE CHILDREN'S BOOK ABOUT NEW ZEALAND'S WILD CREATURES

'Near flawless' — The Sapling, Best Books of 2017

The little kākā that lost its way, the kererū with the broken wing, the tuatara that went floppy, the whio that couldn't fly, the kea with the broken foot . . .

All these stories and more are from Wildbase, the remarkable New Zealand native animal veterinary hospital, and told by expert natural history writer Janet Hunt.

This is the perfect book for everyone who cares about our wild creatures and wants to know more about how they are helped when they are ill or injured. Children, parents and teachers will be entranced and inspired by the stories of how skilled vets can cure our endangered species.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Janet Hunt is one of New Zealand's best known natural history writers, for adults and children. Her books include: *A Bird in the Hand: Keeping New Zealand Wildlife Safe* (2003), which won Book of the Year and Best in Non-Fiction at the 2004 New Zealand Post Book Awards for Children and Young Adults and the Elsie Locke Award at the LIANZA Children's Book Awards in 2004; *From Weta to Kauri: A Guide to the New Zealand Forest* (2004), which was a finalist in the 2005 New Zealand Post Book Awards for Children and Young Adults and was listed as a 2005 Storylines Notable Non-Fiction Book; *Wetlands of New Zealand: A Bitter-sweet Story* (2007), which won the Montana Medal for Non-Fiction at the 2008 Montana New Zealand Book Awards; *E3 Call Home*, a true story of godwit migration and misadventure, which was listed as a 2010 Storylines Notable Non-Fiction Book and was a finalist in the 2010 New Zealand Post Book Awards for Children and Young Adults; *Paradise Saved: The Remarkable Story of New Zealand's Wildlife Sanctuaries and How They Are Stemming the Tide of Extinction* (2014) with Dave Butler and Tony Lindsay; and *Our Big Blue Backyard: New Zealand's Oceans and Marine Reserves* (2014).

SALES POINTS

- A superb book for children that fills a gap in the market for high quality non-fiction for young New Zealand children
- Written by one of New Zealand's best-known natural history writers (*Wetlands*, which won the Deutz Medal at the Montana Book Awards; *Our Big Blue Backyard*, the book of the fabulous TV series, *Bird in the Hand* and *From Weta to Kauri*)
- Tells a series of fascinating stories about some of the native birds and mammals that have come to Wildbase for veterinary treatment and the people (vets, vet nurses, etc.) who work there
- Rich with images and a strong conservation message
- A sparkling narrative that has sufficient depth that young readers will gain great insights into how special our native birds and animals are and how at risk some of them are
- Gives young readers insight into the veterinary world and may inspire some of them to consider it as a career
- Includes a section on what children can do in their own gardens, suburbs, schools and communities to assist wildlife
- Widespread media coverage planned for radio, TV and print media

PRINTABLE A3 POSTER
AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



HOW TO REPAIR KIWI

Kiwi #7854 is admitted on 21 January 2012. It was bred in captivity at Pukaha Mount Bruce Wildlife Centre and is just over one month old. It is one sick chick. It has no appetite and weighs only 365 grams. It falls asleep while being fed, blows bubbles in its water at night and is mostly unresponsive. The little kiwi is diagnosed with coccidiosis (intestinal parasites) and possible renal (kidney) failure. It also has hairline fractures both sides of its lower mandible (bill), which might explain the reluctance to eat. *It hurts!*

It is given fluids and antibiotics. A catheter is inserted in its leg so it can be given medication but the bandages cause swelling and have to be removed. A tube is inserted directly into the side of its neck and into its oesophagus so it can be given liquid food.

Almost three weeks later, Kiwi's health is going in two directions at once. On one hand, its fractured bill is getting better. On the other, it is increasingly unable to move and can only stand by using its bill as a tripod. Its parasite readings are still very high. It is given a wider range of medication.

Day by day, bit by bit, Kiwi improves. At first, it stands for a short time but gets the shakes. It is brighter. It begins to take little steps. It complains when its legs are touched. Although it is still lying down much of the time, it can stand and shuffle. It starts to eat by itself at night.

The feeding tube is removed on 16 February. Kiwi is putting on weight and weighs 418 grams. It can stand but still shuffles or does an army crawl. It is placed in a sling for up to 20 minutes at a time to help it stand. It continues improving.

By 5 March, the parasites are gone, the bill fracture is almost mended and little Kiwi #7854 is well on the way to health.

It is time to go back to Pukaha. It now weighs 638 grams.

Kiwi have been in New Zealand for millions of years but are in danger of disappearing from the wild. Their numbers fall every year because of habitat loss and because there are too many kiwi-killers.

Full-grown kiwi have strong legs and a mighty kick but can't defend themselves from dogs, who slaughter them snick-snack-toss!

Young kiwi have no chance. They are hurt and killed by dogs, cats, rats, stoats and ferrets. Eggs are eaten on the nest so there are no young kiwi to replace the older ones when they die.

Kee-wee! Kee-wee! Ki-wo!

NORTH ISLAND BROWN KIWI

Apteryx mantelli

Conservation status: threatened

Admitted: 21/01/2012

Symptom: Not eating, losing weight.



Kiwi are weird. They're more like mammals than birds. They have feathers like hair, whiskers like a cat, keen hearing and sharp nostrils — at the tips of their bills. They have heavy bones, near-nothing wings and no tail. They don't fly and they come out at night. Kiwi chicks are just like mini adults and ready to go from the moment they leave the shell.



WASHING, CLEANING, BREAKING, MENDING, STITCHING & FEEDING

WILDBASE CASE HISTORIES



[IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER]

HOW TO DE-OIL A SEABIRD

COASTAL OILY HAWK

Conservation status: vulnerable

Admitted: 20/01/2012

Symptom: Covered in oil



1. The bird was found on the beach, covered in oil. It was brought to the Wildlife Centre.

2. The bird was washed in a blue tub. The oil was removed.

3. The bird was dried in a warm room.

4. The bird was fed with a syringe.

5. The bird was released back to the wild.

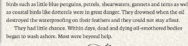
HOW TO RESUSCITATE A REPTILE

NEW ZEALAND TURTLE

Conservation status: vulnerable

Admitted: 20/01/2012

Symptom: Found on the beach



1. The turtle was found on the beach, covered in oil. It was brought to the Wildlife Centre.

2. The turtle was washed in a blue tub. The oil was removed.

3. The turtle was dried in a warm room.

4. The turtle was fed with a syringe.

5. The turtle was released back to the wild.

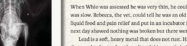
HOW TO DETOX WHIO

WHIO

Conservation status: vulnerable

Admitted: 20/01/2012

Symptom: Found on the beach



1. The whio was found on the beach, covered in oil. It was brought to the Wildlife Centre.

2. The whio was washed in a blue tub. The oil was removed.

3. The whio was dried in a warm room.

4. The whio was fed with a syringe.

5. The whio was released back to the wild.

HOW TO . . . SNAPSHOTS

SNAPSHOTS

Conservation status: vulnerable

Admitted: 20/01/2012

Symptom: Found on the beach



1. The bird was found on the beach, covered in oil. It was brought to the Wildlife Centre.

2. The bird was washed in a blue tub. The oil was removed.

3. The bird was dried in a warm room.

4. The bird was fed with a syringe.

5. The bird was released back to the wild.

HOW TO . . . SNAPSHOTS

SNAPSHOTS

Conservation status: vulnerable

Admitted: 20/01/2012

Symptom: Found on the beach



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