

Insects, interdisciplinary research, and where to next

Associate Professor Cilla Wehi

That moment when you wonder why you are here.

In this talk, I will take you on a journey through some of the ups and downs of my career, some of my research and the ways I came to collaborate with others on projects, but also argue that there are new opportunities for those of you who want to partner science with other career paths.

Knowledge and collaboration in ecological research

Dr Gaya Gnanalingam

Knowledge takes many forms: from the type that is taught in schools and universities as research questions objectively tested by researchers and supported by statistical analyses, to Indigenous knowledge embedded in communities, shared intergenerationally and built on years of careful observation, to local knowledge (Indigenous or not) that is similarly gained over years of engagement with the natural environment. As a marine scientist, who works primarily in fisheries restoration, I see the value in each of these types of knowledge and believe that our potential to address some of issues facing our marine environment lies in an approach that is inclusive and collaborative. Here I will present a snapshot of some of the research that we have been, and will be, involved with in Te Tiaki Mahinga Kai, Coastal People Southern Skies, and alongside industry that illustrates this ambicultural approach to ecological research and marine restoration.