

**March 2018**

Catch up with all that's going on at CBRE

[Translate](#) ▼

## Emma Marris

CBRE hosted environmental journalist and writer [Emma Marris](#) for a week long tour of New Zealand. You can hear her on [Radio New Zealand](#) and read her recent writing about her trip in [National Geographic](#).



## The fight for nature: a public debate on the future of conservation in New Zealand

CBRE hosted this public panel discussion and the events podcast can be heard [here](#). The motivation for holding the event is described in this [Newsroom article](#). For further reading, Fairfax's Nikki MacDonald's [Should we learn to live with introduced species rather than wipe them out completely](#) continues this important line of discussion.

## Do pesticides really harm bees?

Bunnings recently announced that were pulling pesticides from their shelves that were thought to harm bees. [CBRE](#)



to have much of an effect on bee populations.



## Google-built AI software boosts NZ birdsong study

In one of the most unusual applications of machine-learning yet, CBRE PhD student Victor Anton, alongside NEC's Paul Mathews have trained Google-built artificial intelligence software [to recognise the different call of threatened native birds.](#)



## People, Cities & Nature: *Restoring indigenous nature in urban environments*

CBRE researchers Stephen Hartley and Nicola Nelson are a part of an MBIE-funded inter-disciplinary team undertaking ecological restoration research across New Zealand. Make sure to check out their [website](#) for greater project detail, and give them a Like on [Facebook](#) page to keep up-to-date with their progress.



## Our changing world: Urban lizards

CBRE PhD student Chris Woolley joined Alison Ballance on RNZ's Our Changing World to discuss his research on urban lizards in New Zealand. You can listen to the interview [here](#)

## Students awarded funds



post-graduate studies. The research projects span a diverse range of conservation initiatives including seabird-sink habitat interactions, utilising bioacoustics to gauge the effect of 1080 on bird populations, and monitoring our wide biodiversity in our urban areas. We will look to profile these projects in greater detail in this newsletter throughout the year.



## The 2017 Great Kererū Count – Results are out!

Coinciding with the final tally of the [Kereru Count for 2017](#) (15,459!!), Wellington City Council has installed "[Slow for kereru](#)" road signs at key locations around Zealandia and Wiltons Bush.

### Directors' Corner

With two major conservation and ecology conferences in Wellington this year [Society for Conservation Biology – Oceania conference (3-5 July), and New Zealand Ecological Society's annual conference (Nov.)], and a one-day symposium on the 27th March on "*Bio-technology in Conservation & the Environment*" supported by funding from the Royal society, 2018 is shaping up to be another big year for CBRE. We look forward to seeing you at these events.

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