



# QST 63

WWW.ZL2VH.ORG.NZ

Newsletter of The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters, Upper Hutt Branch 63, Inc.

Branch 63 Clubrooms  
Park Street, Upper Hutt

204 Plateau Road  
Te Mana  
Upper Hutt 5018

## ZL2VH Newsletter – June 2019

### President's Report

Nothing from me for this month, Mark's email to members has covered everything.

73

Mike ZL2NSA

Br63 NZART (Upper Hutt)

### Branch 63 Repeater Update

Nothing received again this month. (Ed.)

### A few entries from Malcolm ZL2UDF.....

Following was from John ZL2XJ...

Titahi Bay Amateur Radio Club (NZART Branch 42).  
Amateur Radio Swap Meet & Social Gathering  
27th of July (Saturday morning)

Onepoto Speed Boat Club Rooms  
Onepoto, Titahi Bay

Bruce, ZL2ABC

From: John Murphy [<mailto:jbmurf@gmail.com>].....

FW: Ham Radio at Maker Faire 2019

FYI. An interesting YouTube video perhaps about approach taken by Ham Radio at Maker Faire 2019 in San Francisco....

<https://youtu.be/77x-Q6dmmZs>

The theme was "Not Your Grandfathers HAM Radio"

### **Electrochemical signals from plants can drive robots**

<https://reseller.sofsol.co.nz/images/logos/coffee.png>

Some people dream of a smart home with gadgets that can interact with you. But can you imagine a plant being a part of your smart home interactions?

A professor has been working on harnessing plants to work with technology. Harpreet Sareen, of MIT's Media Lab, wants to harness the natural intelligence of trees, grass, herbs and other plants. He initially focused on one-way interactions using the plants' electromechanical signals.

A plant-robot hybrid could navigate toward patches of light in response to light shining on its leaves. Click here to see the video. Furthermore, he wants to make this bi-directional, so that machines are not just responding to plants but getting plants to respond to machines too.

His second creation turns plants into motion sensors, by implanting conductive wires in stems and leaves. This is still early in the research phase, but cyborg botany will be something that changes how plants function in a few years' time.

**Please submit anything, no matter how stupid, or off-beat, as the Newsletter is a representation of ALL members. You *must* have something interesting happening in your lives to report, otherwise “SK” might be the appropriate term. Thanks. – Ed.**

**We are always looking for articles to fill the pages of newsletter. Please forward anything, no matter how large or small, to the editor - Eric ZL2SET – [ericwilby@gmail.com](mailto:ericwilby@gmail.com).**

---

NZART Branch 63 Incorporated  
Council Depot  
Park Street  
Upper Hutt

President: Mike ZL2NSA  
Secretary: Justin: ZL2UGL  
Treasurer: Gavin: ZL2ACT