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Mark Scarborough, Playing for Success  
Bill Marshall, WGM Consulting  
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Mr Brian Thomas, Australia

### Secretariat

Angie Swain, The Open University  
Ms Donna Deacon, The Open University

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## Events Featuring RoboFesta-UK

12-1999 RoboFesta-UK founded  
03-2000 RoboFesta planning meetings, Tokyo  
03-2000 RoboCup Junior meetings, Tokyo  
05-2000 RoboFesta-Europe meeting, Amsterdam  
07-2000 RoboCup Junior, Melbourne,  
08-2000 RoboFesta planning meeting, Osaka  
01-2001 Launch BBC Blue Peter Robot Competition  
02-2001 Winners of Robot Design Competition chosen  
03-2001 Robot MasterClass, London Science Museum  
07-2001 OU-Juniors win RCJ Dance in Seattle  
11-2001 Inaugural Meeting of RoboFesta-UK at OU  
11-2001 UK Children to RoboFesta Yokohama  
04-2002 Initiate RoboFesta - Milton Keynes  
06-2002 Oxford Family Robot Day  
06-2002 RoboCup Junior, Fukuoka  
07-2002 Finals of RoboFesta - Milton Keynes  
10-2002 Space Education Symposium, Science Museum  
10-2002 Manchester Family Robot Day  
10-2002 London Family Robot Day  
11-2002 RoboFesta Network Annual Meeting at OU  
11-2002 Liverpool Family Robot Days with BBC  
12-2002 Finalise rules for RCJ 2003  
12-2002 RoboFesta Christmas Lecture Series  
03-2003 National Science Week Events  
06-2003 RoboCup Junior, Padua, 2003  
08-2003 Take children to Hatchinoe Festival, Japan  
11-2003 RoboFesta Network Annual Meeting at OU

13<sup>th</sup> November 2002

10:00 - 16:00

Second Annual

RoboFesta Network Meeting

The Berrill Building

Open University

Everyone Welcome

Book a free place now.

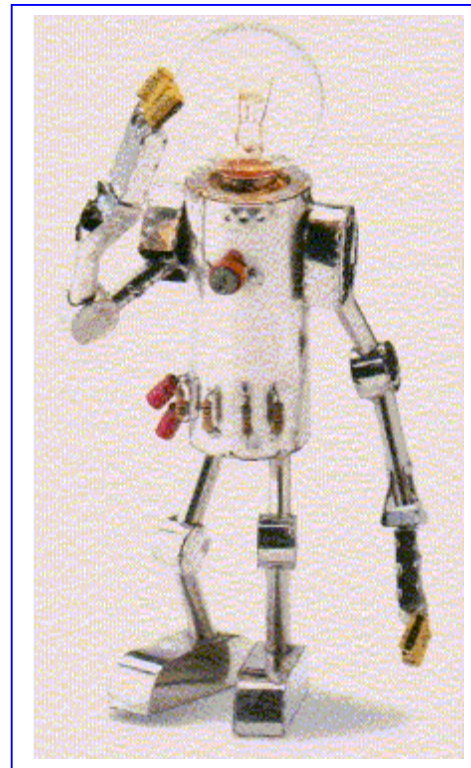


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# RoboFesta-UK



RoboFesta is an international organisation set up to motivate children and young people to engage with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and to inform them and the general public about the beneficial effects robots are increasingly having in our societies.



RoboFesta-UK is sponsored by the Open University

## History

RoboFesta-UK is the UK member of RoboFesta-Europe, part of an international movement established to promote interest in science and technology through many different kinds of robotics activities. RoboFesta-UK is currently hosted by the Open University.

## Aims

- To develop a community of best practice in the field of educational and challenge robotics.
- To develop and promote tried and tested robotics based activities in school settings, science and after-school clubs.
- To develop and promote the use of low cost and internet-based robotics activities.
- To host a European festival of robotics that will culminate in a wide range of events across the UK and mainland Europe throughout 2004.
- To provide integrated educational support and curriculum links within robotics activities and establish a forum for developing and testing such material.
- To support widening participation initiatives in Higher Education.
- To support family learning events.

## Strategy

By helping to co-ordinate the many established robot challenges around today (such as the RoboCup Junior football, dance and rescue competitions, and MicroMouse, a maze running challenge), we will obtain the widest possible coverage for each of these events and grow a locally rooted, national community. There are also opportunities for competing in international robotics challenges in events that mix robotics with cultural exchange activities.

Robotics activities have been developed for a wide variety of settings and time-scales. Events can be run for extra-curricular clubs over several weeks, for day-long events, or even 10-minute taster activities.

The current model for the RoboFesta-UK network is that it is locally organised. If you want to use a local RoboFesta designation to promote an event, (for example, RoboFesta-MK in Milton Keynes, RoboFesta-OU for the Open University) you may do so as long as you inform the rest of the network about the event you intend to run under that banner.

To identify other active RoboFesta-UK network members active in your local area, email [robofesta@open.ac.uk](mailto:robofesta@open.ac.uk) and we will put you in contact with one another.

**Email: [robofesta@open.ac.uk](mailto:robofesta@open.ac.uk)**  
**Web: [www.robofesta-org.uk](http://www.robofesta-org.uk)**

## Working Towards RoboFesta-Europe, 2004

In order to make the RoboFesta-Europe Festival of Robotics a success in the UK in 2004, we established the RoboFesta-UK network to develop the infrastructure necessary for hosting such a major event.

As well as strengthening links between pre-existing groups involved with hands-on robotics activities, we are developing a range of educational resources, training activities and standalone activities that can be used as a basis for the anticipated events in 2004.

Maximising the number of outlets for educational robotics activities is essential. The network is open to members of formal educational outlets (universities, colleges, schools) as well as informal ones (science centres, museums, software developers).

*For more information about RoboFesta-UK, the potential for making collaborative bids with Open University/RoboFesta-UK members, or to volunteer to host a RoboFesta-UK regional node or event, please email*

**[robofesta@open.ac.uk](mailto:robofesta@open.ac.uk)**

