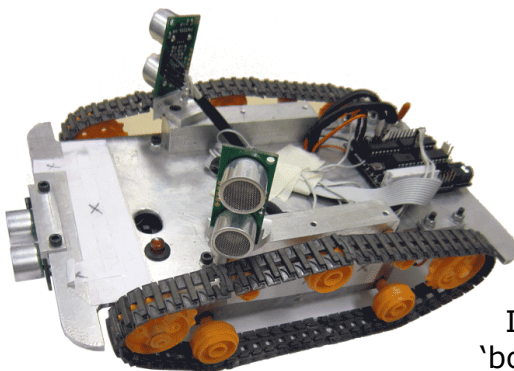


The annual IET Robot Challenge at Mt Druiitt College has a new line-up of winners for 2011.

All students of the Diploma of Mechanical Engineering undertake the challenge in their first year. Part-time student Kurt Lees recorded the fastest aggregate time with his classic 3-wheeler *MazeBot3000*.

Kurt Lees receives first prize from IET's Graham Lee ▶



In the vote for Best Design, *Sir Tanksalot* by Gary Goddard was the popular choice. An aluminium chassis made it surprisingly nimble for a tracked robot. It was definitely the coolest 'bot on the block.



The contest is to build a robot that can find its way through a maze using its own brain, an on-board microcontroller. The robots take shape on computer as students are introduced to 3D CAD (*Inventor*) in semester one. Components are then machined by CNC, and sensors tested and fitted. By the end of second semester students are fine-tuning their programs to achieve fast navigation without bumping into walls. It's not as easy as it looks!



Friends and family enjoyed a free barbeque generously sponsored by Student Services, with gift vouchers for all place-getters in both contests, courtesy of Mt Druiitt College. Trophies were sponsored by the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET).

Contestants in the 2011 Robot Challenge

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Gary Goddard won Best Design with his tracked robot *Sir Tanksalot*.



Fastest Time	Best Design
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kurt Lees (MaxeBot3000) 2. Brock Griffiths (Sliding Nut) 3. Mu Lay Loh Taw (Omega) 4. Brian Mungal (Robotronix) 5. Daniel Faivre (R2DP) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gary Goddard (Sir Tanksalot) 2. Brian Mungal (Robotronix) 3. Brock Griffiths (Sliding Nut)