

Ignite

CERC Newsletter

SPRING 2022

Shrobona

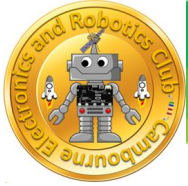
Founder

Sujit Bhattacharya

Mentor

Venkat Kommi

Editor

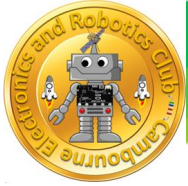


Message from the Founder of CERC

Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya

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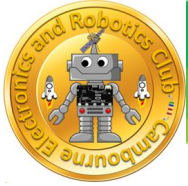


Message from the Mentor Dr. Sujit Bhattacharya



Waiting for Article





Message from Editor Venkat Kommi



It has been long time to get another edition of Ignite magazine due to busy schedule with First Lego League and other things. Apology for that. This edition we are focusing just experience of children articles participated this year FLL competition.

While I was helping the team for this competition, one thing I noticed this is the best overall experience for children at that young age. Soft skills like Teamwork, Discovery, Innovation, Impact, Inclusion and Fun are not taught in any schools but you will notice in first hand from your children competition like FLL.

I think readers will agree by looking amazing pictures.

We are looking forward to seeing more response from the readers.

Readers please feel free to comment on their articles. This will boost their confidence levels.

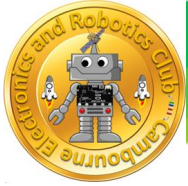
The Ignite magazine is a community based volunteered magazine, where a group of professionals, academics and young children are working together.

These articles are written by the children and are edited by a team.

The editorial team is in charge of the publication of the magazine.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please address them to ignite.camcare@gmail.com



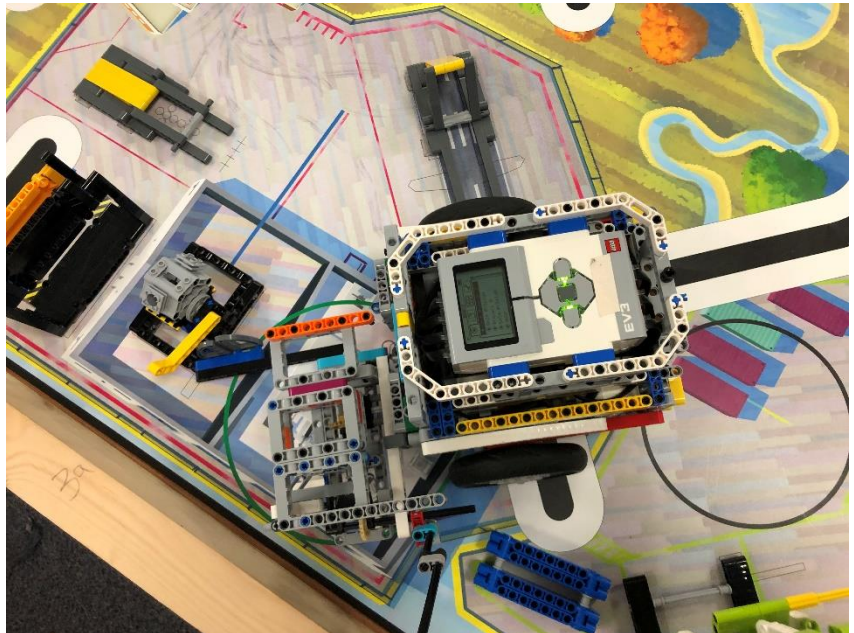


My Experience of FLL 2022 by Vivek Kommi 13 Years, Caxton



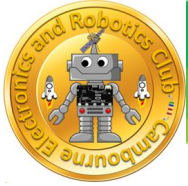
I enjoyed The FLL (First Lego League Competition) with CERC this year as I have learnt a lot of new skills such as communication, dedication and presentation. I participated in 3 other years in FLL with CERC and year by year I improved and now I am able to create anything with Lego mechanics and gears and understand the logic to code complex sensors and also to present and create innovative projects that could potentially shape the future.

One of the main parts of FLL is the Robot Game, this is where you run a robot on a mat to do different tasks such as lift objects or turn a lever and you would need to understand how mechanics work as well as coding. What I found that was very interesting was that it correlated to many other competitions such as Astro Pi and Robo-Con. You also make the robot and attachment where you use gears with. For example one of our attachments does 4 missions at once, this took lots of trial and error and many different types of attachments but in the end we got a perfect national level attachment.



The other main part is the innovative project and this year the theme was to create a solution that would improve the efficiency of cargo delivery and our solution was to create an app which delivery drivers use to find the most efficient parking spaces to deliver their parcels based on the weight of the parcel and the distance between the next delivery bubble. When creating the app I learnt many new skills like how to use an API in python and use complex logic to manipulate it.

In conclusion, I would recommend learning to work for long periods as this would help in future life.

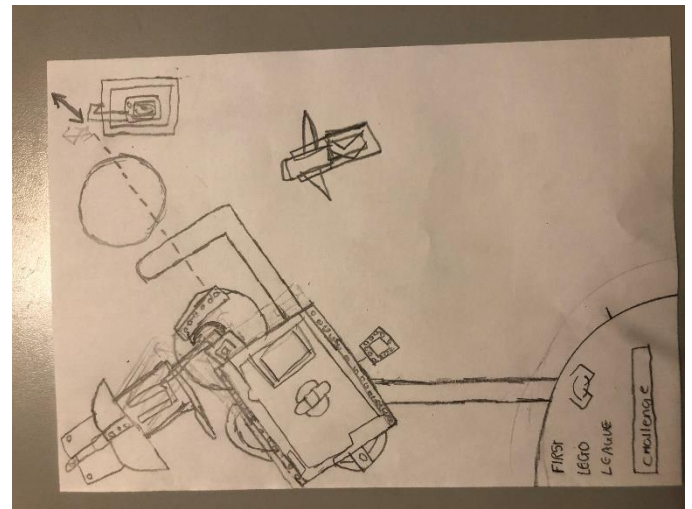


What I Learned with FLL 2022 by Tanvi Kommi 10 Years, Caxton



I cherished my enjoyable time at FLL England & Wales Nationals. Throughout the weeks I've learned many important skills (which I never knew about before) such as learning how sensors and motors works, presenting our innovation project and drawing engineering prototypes sketches.

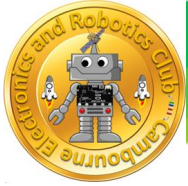
In the nationals the part we focused mostly on the robot games, where you run a robot (created by the team) on a mat and complete some tasks. I was the helper for one of the rounds and had to help the person running the robot very quickly in orderly manner. On the day it was so intense that we couldn't even have a break.



My favourite part had to be the Innovation project. It was about a solution to choose which area would be the most efficient to deliver packages using electric scooter or van. I loved designing the poster for our presentation and also helping out with the puppet show.

Another favourite of mine has to be the various activities we did. I love making the Lego Graffiti wall and also the team placard. I wish I could do the whole experience again.

I cannot wait for our meeting every weekend. It's not only about National event but also super delicious snacks and also my team helped me with my speech completion with school. I am proud of me and my team what we achieved, this was the best experience of my life.



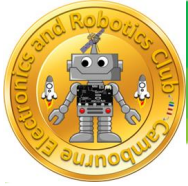
What I enjoyed with FLL 2022 Anjie Tan, 9 Years, Cambourne



It was my first time going to the FLL (First Lego League) nationals on the 20th of February 2022. The experience was incredible. We got there at 8:00 to set everything up. At 9:30, we proceeded to our first round of the robot games. Surprisingly, we came first for this round! Then after we did all of the robot games, we were third out of 64 teams. The top 12 teams qualified for the knock-out rounds. We came 4 out of 12 teams in the knock-out rounds, which brought us to the semi-finals.

As we headed to the robot design and innovative project judging zone, we went to grab our cardboard posters. At the end was the award ceremony. Sadly, we didn't get to go to the internationals, but we won the award for Engineering Excellence. I hope that team CERC can make it to the nationals next year.





What I achieved with FLL 2022 Pranaav Shukla, 13 Years, Cambridge



I fulfilled my childhood dream of making a Lego robot as I started building Lego since when I was about 4 or 5 years old and going to the First Lego League (FLL) nationals was a dream come true. Throughout the start of joining of my Lego team I've learnt things like programming and how sensors and motors work programmatically, exploring the innovative solutions that could come as a part of Innovation project.

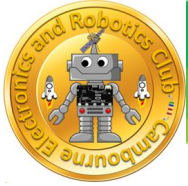
This was probably the best experience ever since the COVID-19 pandemic started. The nationals were held at the Harrogate Convention Centre, Harrogate.

On the day of the nationals, the activities that we did on the day were fun like the Lego graffiti wall and the white bricks challenge this added to the experience. Being a core member of the team, winning the 3rd position in the knockout robot game rounds became really excited that we were into the final four out of Seventy-four regional teams.

Achieving the "Excellence of Engineering" award for the team was a cherry on top. It was an amazing achievement and sharing the main stage with my team receiving the award together was an awesome feeling.

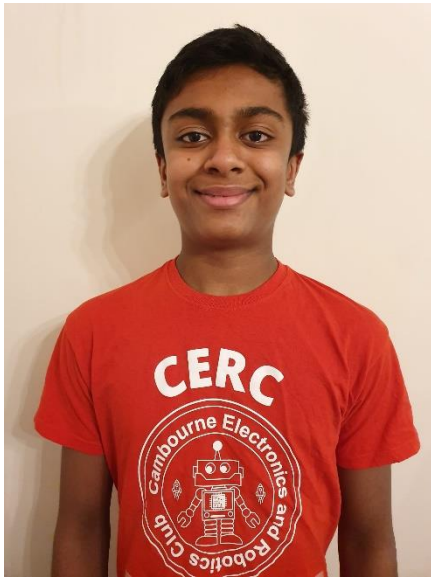
It was my first ever live experience in here but before coming here we get through the regionals which we won and then we moved onto the national finals. Before the nations we focused mostly on the robot game (The teams build their own robot and then we program it to do missions on a FLL mat). I wish many more awards to come to the CERC in the future.





What I accomplished with FLL 2022 Thehan Desilva, 14 Years,

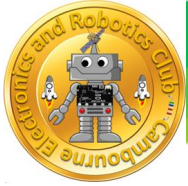
Barhill



My experience at the FLL national finals has been brilliant because we have actually been able to compete live in the competition again. The atmosphere there was so friendly and it is exciting to meet and learn from other national finalists. It can also get quite tense when running the Robot game, but that just adds to the experience.

During the day, the FLL crew had set up many fun activities to do alongside our robot game and interviews. These included things like designing the CERC placard and the Lego graffiti wall which was really fun and allowed everyone to get involved. As the day went on, it became tenser and tenser and after completing our 3 robot game rounds we found out that we were through to the final 12. This had made us really excited and we became even more excited when we found out that we were into the final four! Although we didn't make it to the final two, it was still an amazing achievement to come 3rd in the entire robot game so we were quite pleased. After a thrilling day, we waited for the final results and it turned out that we won the award for Engineering Excellence! We had really enjoyed the live national finals this year and we can't wait to do it again next year!

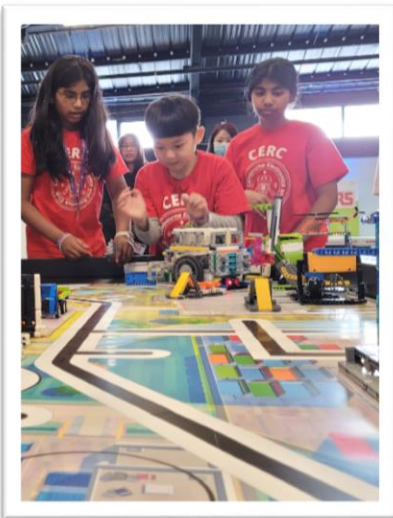




What I Cherished with FLL 2022 Aaron Balan, 12 Years, Histon

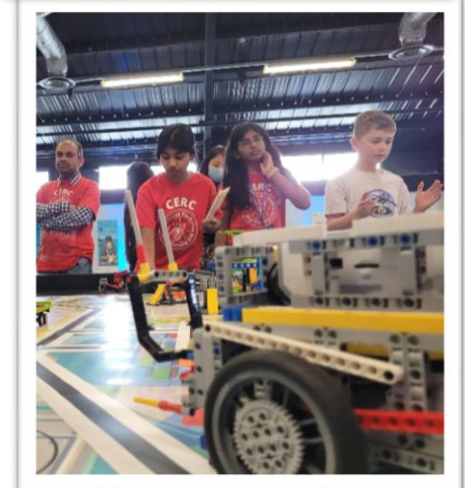
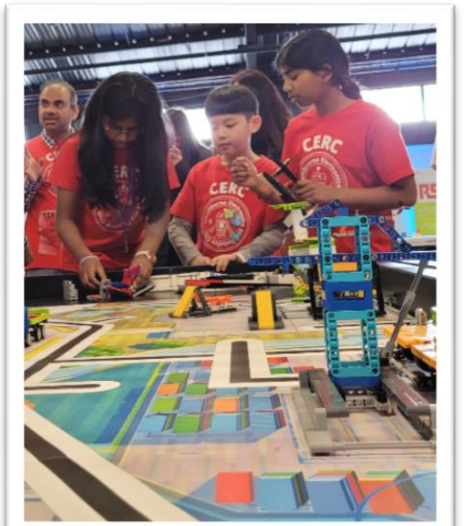


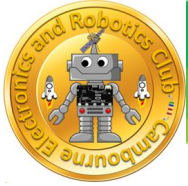
The FLL competition experience has been absolutely jaw-dropping this year, as even though it has been my second year here at team CERC, it was my first opportunity to embrace the amazement of the in-person competition. The lights, the drums, the timer, the crowd; everything was just so lively! I really enjoyed being able to see the other teams and think of what adventures they have gone through to get to this point. It was eye-opening to actually meet our competitors and grasp the size of the event. The heat of it was really something to remember and I know I'll look back on the nationals, this year and the next ones, and reminisce on the memories made.



I distinctively remember entering the Harrogate Convention Centre with butterflies in my stomach and leaving with a huge smile plastered on my face. The event consisted of multiple parts, and we were constantly running around to complete them. One of which, the robot game, seemed to be the main event and definitely the most stressful part of it. Just seeing

our names on the leaderboard made me feel a warm fuzzy feeling inside. I learnt so much from the experience, such as building robots and debugging code efficiently. The engineering side of the robot design was so unbelievable this year; if you showed me what we had done this year at the start of the competition, I wouldn't be able to even begin to unravel its complexity. It was such a great time, and a big step up from sitting in a chair all day with my eyes glued to a computer presentation. I hope to come to live events for the many years to come.





How I Persisted with FLL 2022 Avni Balan, 14 Years, Histon

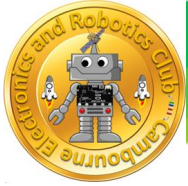


While I had been to the competition before, this year was different, because this was my first year going there live in Harrogate. It was so nice to see everyone's faces, meeting the other teams and judges backstage, and there were little mini-games too, like the LEGO graffiti wall or designing the team placard. There was so much noise and encouragement everywhere, and that made the atmosphere really upbeat and exciting! It was also a little bit chaotic and tense, but that only made things more rewarding during the day.

During the robot game rounds, everything went down. There was cheering, timers, and also cameras & commentary on different teams' tables. Finding out where we got to when the time was up was so relieving. It was especially surprising, however, when we found out we made it into the top 12 teams going into the Knockout Rounds, and after that, the top 4! It was a little disappointing that we didn't make it into the top 2, but overall, we still got 3rd place, which I'd call an absolute win.

After a tense day of cheering and befriending other teams, we all got together as a team, and went out for some lovely pizza! It was definitely needed after the competition, what with all the background music, and even dancing at one point. It was really fun, kicking back and relaxing, and just enjoying our time as a team overall. It was an occasion worth remembering and learning from, that's for sure.





Article from the Young Scientists for the Next Issue:

Ignite Team is looking for young scientists to write an article for the next issue of the magazine. Please submit the article by emailing the article at ignite.camcare@gmail.com and with a subject "Article for Ignite".

Please use the following template for writing the article:

<https://bit.ly/3nF820h>

Volunteers Needed:

Ignite Team is looking young volunteers with knowledge of Editing/Presentation Skills, HTML, Web Authoring tools.

Volunteering certification can also be provided for the Duke of Edinburgh Skill enhancement.