# University of Chichester students innovate with robot combat as Lamorak claims victory



In an exhilarating display of ingenuity and engineering prowess, students from the University of Chichester clashed in robot combat at the Tech Park in Bognor Regis. This event, reminiscent of the excitement created by the BBC series Robot Wars in the 1990s, continues to captivate young engineers and technology enthusiasts alike in 2025.

First and second-year degree students collaborated on group projects to design and build their robots from scratch, transforming their creative concepts into practical and achievable designs. Six teams entered the purpose-built arena, culminating in a fiercely contested final where the team known as Group 3 triumphed with their robot "Lamorak," expertly controlled by engineering student Toby Andrews. Reflecting on his journey, Toby revealed, "In week one, I came fourth. I'd overdone the attachments and let the pressure get to me. By week two, I stripped the flipper robot back to its core design and focused on staying calm. That mindset shift made all the difference. I won the competition and took down five spinner robots. Sometimes, keeping it simple and trusting your design is all you need."

The event underscored not just the excitement of competition but also the educational value of such projects. Gareth Anstee, an engineering projects lecturer at the university, expressed his satisfaction with the event's outcome. "For me, the day went really well, with all the robots functional and able to do something, which is always great," he stated. Anstee, who has a notable track record in robot combat himself—having recently won the UK Hobbyweight category at the Robot Combat Championships with his robot 'Revolt'—believes that the students gained invaluable experience. “They found issues with all their robots and will be able to do it again better next year, with some even able to make significant upgrades between rounds of the competition,” he added.

The growing popularity of robotic competitions is not confined to the Chichester campus. Events like Unibots UK, scheduled for March 2025 at the University of Cambridge, aim to further engage students in robotics by providing an arena for teams to showcase their autonomous creations. This competition encourages collaboration and is designed for participants at an elementary experience level in robotics.

Through these initiatives, institutions like the University of Chichester promote interdisciplinary learning and innovative thinking. The Centre for Future Technologies at the university further exemplifies this commitment, focusing on emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and sustainable development. By collaborating with various businesses and stakeholders, the centre aims to foster growth and advancement in these fields, ensuring that students leave with practical skills applicable to the contemporary job market.

As technological advancements continue to reshape industries, events like the robot combat at Chichester not only provide a thrilling venue for student creativity but also help cultivate the next generation of engineers capable of tackling future challenges. Highlights from this year's clashes are available online, allowing a wider audience to appreciate the incredible work and enthusiasm displayed by the students.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25201805.university-chichester-students-battle-robot-combat/?ref=rss), [[4]](https://www.chi.ac.uk/research/centres/centre-for-future-technologies/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25201805.university-chichester-students-battle-robot-combat/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.chi.ac.uk/news/robot-combat-champion-is-chichester-lecturer/), [[5]](https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/people/robot-combat-champion-is-chichester-lecturer-4761123)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://unibots.uk/), [[6]](https://ukeducation.fanuc.eu/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.chi.ac.uk/research/centres/centre-for-future-technologies/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25201805.university-chichester-students-battle-robot-combat/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.chi.ac.uk/news/robot-combat-champion-is-chichester-lecturer/> - Gareth Anstee, an Engineering Project Lecturer at the University of Chichester, won the UK Hobbyweight category at the Robot Combat Championships in Sheffield. Robot combat involves designing and building robots to compete in trials of damage, control, and aggression. Anstee has been competing for over 10 years, with his robot 'Revolt' previously finishing third in the championship. His victory is celebrated as a significant achievement in the field. ([chi.ac.uk](https://www.chi.ac.uk/news/robot-combat-champion-is-chichester-lecturer/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://unibots.uk/> - Unibots UK is an autonomous robotics competition open to university clubs, offering cash prizes. The 2025 competition is scheduled for 29th and 30th March at the University of Cambridge. The event is designed for participants with elementary experience in robotics, featuring robots competing to collect balls in an arena. The competition aims to foster collaboration among students passionate about robotics. ([unibots.uk](https://unibots.uk/?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.chi.ac.uk/research/centres/centre-for-future-technologies/> - The Centre for Future Technologies at the University of Chichester supports research in emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, the Internet of Things, Electromagnetics, and Applied Sciences, with an emphasis on sustainable development. The centre collaborates with various businesses and stakeholders, both domestically and internationally, to advance these fields. ([chi.ac.uk](https://www.chi.ac.uk/research/centres/centre-for-future-technologies/?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/people/robot-combat-champion-is-chichester-lecturer-4761123> - Gareth Anstee, an Engineering Project Lecturer at the University of Chichester, won the UK Hobbyweight category at the Robot Combat Championships in Sheffield. Robot combat involves designing and building robots to compete in trials of damage, control, and aggression. Anstee has been competing for over 10 years, with his robot 'Revolt' previously finishing third in the championship. His victory is celebrated as a significant achievement in the field. ([sussexexpress.co.uk](https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/people/robot-combat-champion-is-chichester-lecturer-4761123?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://ukeducation.fanuc.eu/> - The FANUC UK Industrial Robotics Competition 2025 is an annual event where teams of two compete to be crowned the best talent in the country. The competition includes an Entry Stage, Qualifiers, National Finals, and the opportunity to represent the UK in international competitions. The event offers hands-on training from industry leaders in factory automation and aims to inspire the next generation of engineers. ([ukeducation.fanuc.eu](https://ukeducation.fanuc.eu/?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://studentrobotics.org/blog/2024-09-02-sr2025-registration-open/> - Registration for the 2025 season of Student Robotics is now open. Based in the UK, Student Robotics challenges teams of 16 to 19-year-olds to design, build, and program fully autonomous robots to compete in an annual competition. Teams have six months to engineer their creations, with support and mentorship provided throughout the process. The competition culminates in an in-person event around Easter 2025. ([studentrobotics.org](https://studentrobotics.org/blog/2024-09-02-sr2025-registration-open/?utm_source=openai))