

Malvern Inventors Club

Malvern Inventors Club Newsletter - August 2006

Next Meeting Date: 14th September 2006 @ Ian's House - 7:00pm

The provisional date for the next Annual General Meeting is 12th October 2006.

As this will be our initial AGM we will need to approve a Treasurer, Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary.

Unfortunately this process needs to be done to ensure the future of the club and as such is important to have every members interest represented at the meeting.

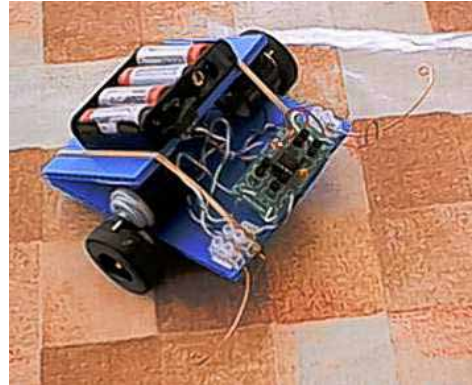
At the AGM: we should also adopt club rules that other local clubs use - copies will be at the next meeting on 14th September.

We must agree the forthcoming years subscriptions for members for a single person, family, and a junior member fee.

After the AGM, members who have not renewed their subscription will be reminded by e-mail and if no contact is made within a set time they will lose their membership.

Other News

Ashley Mayes spent a week, at the beginning of August at the ATE (<http://www.ate.org.uk/>) Inventors' Week at Bredonbury Court in Herefordshire. He made a Brainibot (which he will bring to the September meeting.) It's a programmable roving robot that uses two motors for propulsion and steering, and a light sensor and two touch sensitive switches which are also used for programming. He found out that the motor shafts weren't making very good contact with the wheels so he added a tyre made from a cycle inner tube. Power is supplied by four AA cells.



During the week he also made a dragonfly which is powered by a solar cell which charges a row of capacitors wired in parallel which also forms the fly's body. When the voltage reaches a predetermined value the stored energy is used to move the wings using the laser tracking solenoids from a CD ROM drive. The dragonfly designer, Adrian, has a website that describes the dragonfly in more detail at (<http://www.craftytech.co.uk/dragonfly.htm>).



Lastly, he made a swimming fish (also one of Adrian's ideas) that used a cordless screwdriver motor to move the tail which makes it move from side to side. (For more information: see <http://www.craftytech.co.uk/windowbre.am.htm>).