

Winners of the Rotary Technology Tournament 2024

March 2024 saw 112 students in 28 teams from 10 schools compete at Ashlyns School. The event was oversubscribed.

Congratulations to the schools of Westbrook Hay, Adeyfield and John F Kennedy, winners at the Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced level tasks respectively. Longdean School won the team prize.

The competition was fierce and involves teams of four students with an interest in engineering, design, technology and science.

They design and build a solution to a previously unseen technical task within a specific time frame.

This year's task replicated an actual disaster zone problem. Teams had to design and build an electrically powered machine capable of running on a cable stretched across a crocodile infested river. It then had to automatically drop a Rotary Shelterbox full of life saving equipment to the relief agencies on the ground and return the empty machine to the start point.

[For more on life saving Shelterboxes see here.](#)

The teams need to have good communication skills, be well organised and able to show the stages of development of their task solution in a design portfolio.

Each team's solution as a working model is competitively tested and assessed by a team of judges.

Recognition is given to the winning teams in each of three age categories. Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced.

The Technology Tournament is accredited by the British Science Association to the CREST Discovery Awards, Britain's largest and most widely recognised national award scheme for project work in the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

The event is run with a different task annually by members of Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead Rotary Clubs.