Session 3a: Releasing an app in TestFlight

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Pre-release - TestFlight

- We can release to named people for testing WITHOUT inputting all the information we have given

- When the developers submit a new Build for an app, it can be released to TestFlight users immediately

- It lasts 90 days or until we withdraw it

- The listed testers are notified as soon as a new build is released

Setting up TestFlight

Choose your app, then choose TestFlight

Choose "Create Group"

You will be asked to start an internal testing group - say yes, and add your email to the testers and say OK

The TestFlight user will get an email invitation like this:
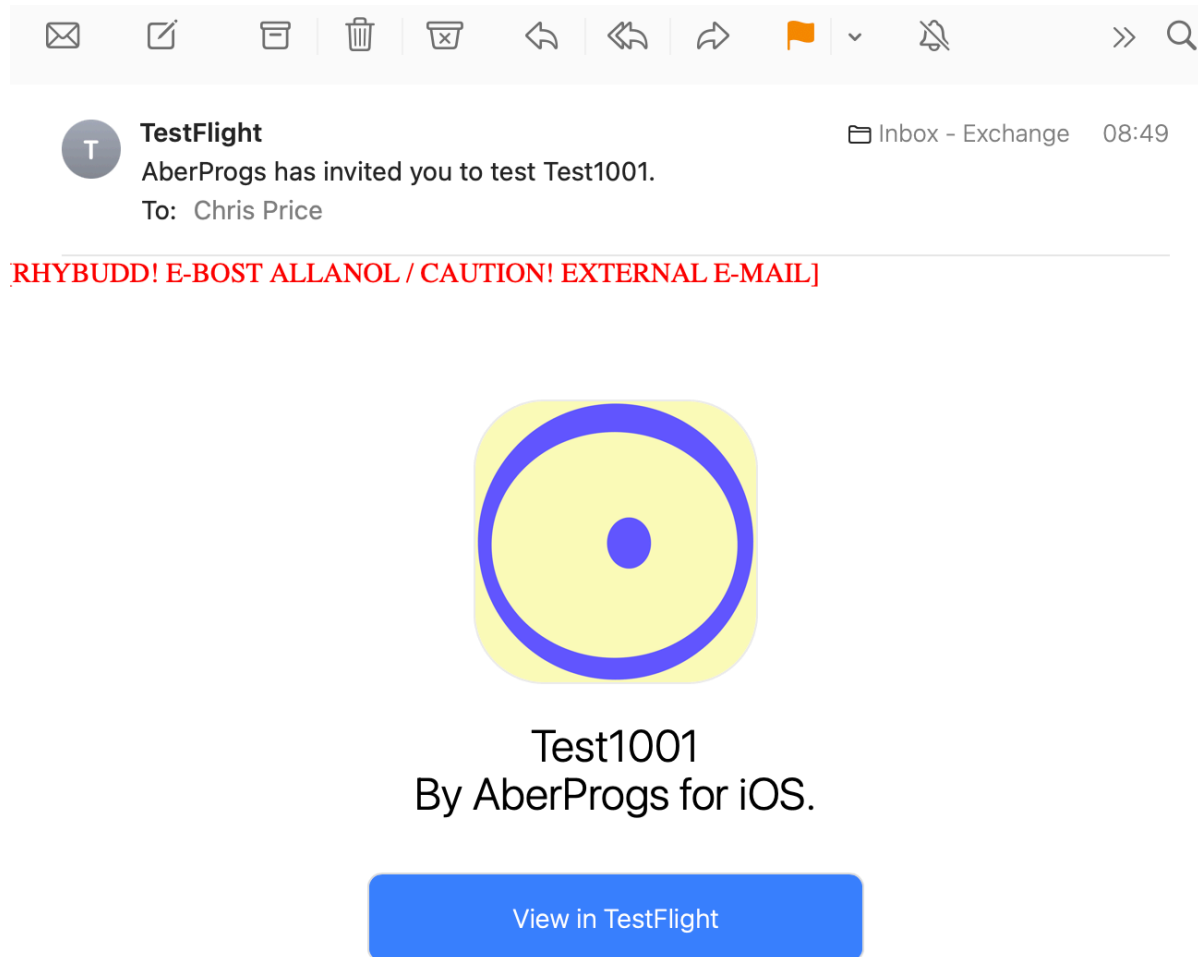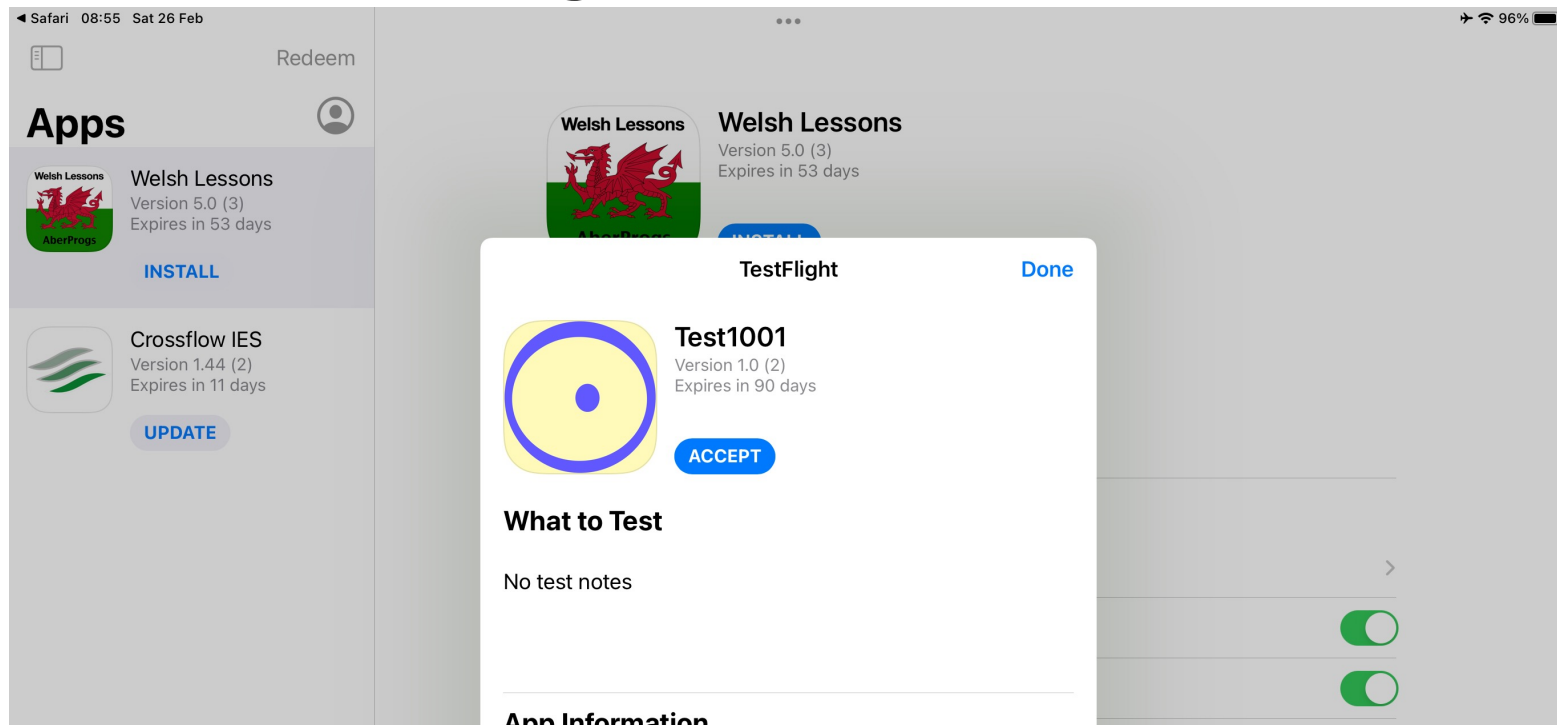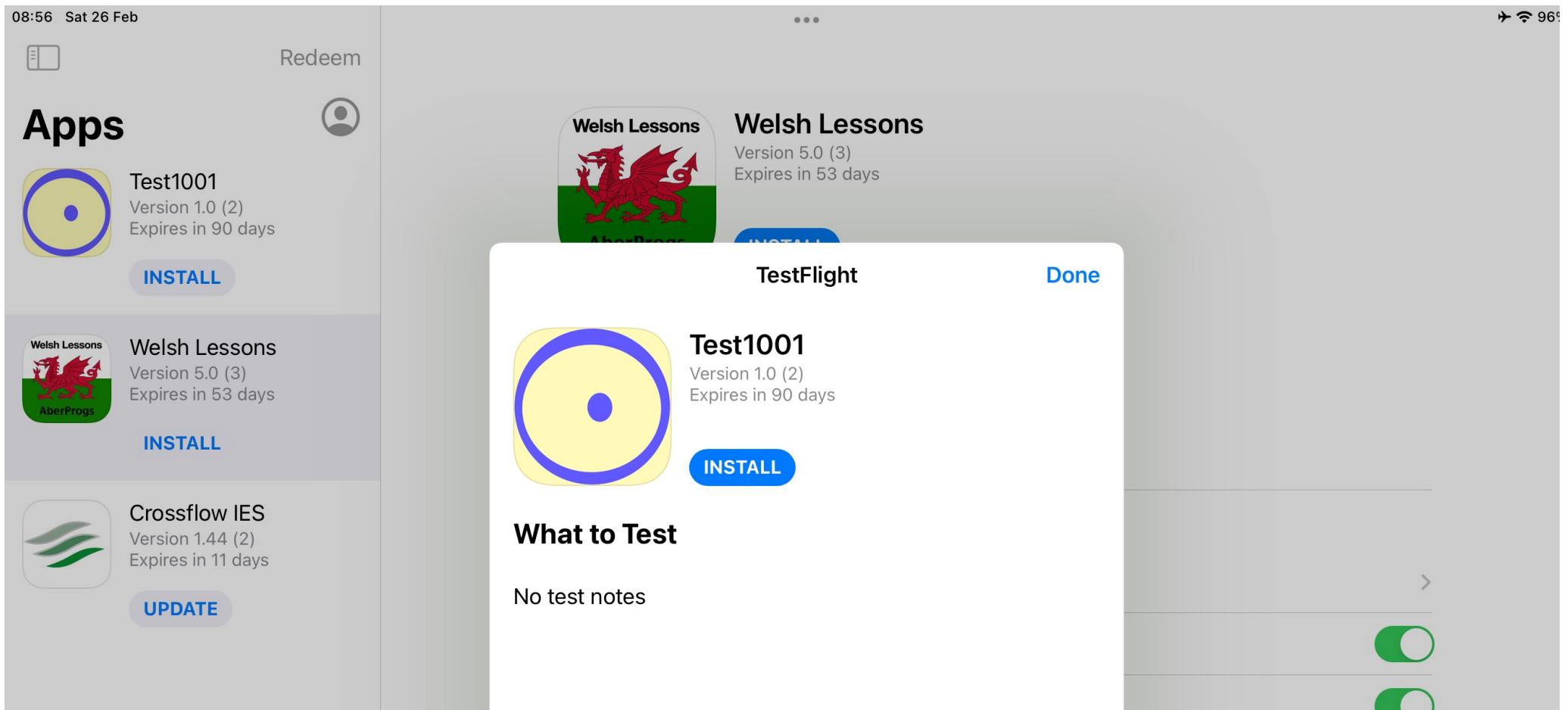
Running the test app

❑ If you have TestFlight installed on an iPhone or iPad, and click on the link in the email on that device, then the device runs TestFlight and shows this message:

Click on "Accept"

▢ The dialog changes to "Install" and if you click that, the app is on your device

App Store TestFlight screen now looks like

Once TestFlight is set up

- We can add up to 100 internal users

- We can add up to 10,000 external users

- We can see which users have loaded the app and prompt those who have not

- We can see reports of crashes of the app

- Users can give us feedback on the app

- We can release new versions of the app and add information about what has changed since the last release

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TestFlight makes a beta release easy

- ☐ Developers can do it early

- ☐ Ops can do it to check the app works OK

- ☐ Marketing can do it to get user feedback

- ☐ Good to plan it as part of a release strategy

Further reading

- Apple have a web page on using TestFlight:

  - https://developer.apple.com/testflight/

- Ray Wenderlich has a tutorial on setting up and using TestFlight:

- https://www.raywenderlich.com/10868372-testflight-tutorial-ios-beta-testing