 Using the twitter API with the Raspberry Pi

Twitter has an API, which allows people to make programs which interact with twitter. We will make 2 programs; one to post things to twitter, and one to retrieve things from twitter. The things we need are as follows

* Python 3
* The Twitter API – tweepy
* A Twitter Account

First we need to install tweepy

1. Start the Raspberry Pi. Open a terminal.
2. Install tweepy by typing in this command:

sudo apt-get install python-pip

1. Install PHP, as well as a library module that allows PHP to work with apache2

Sudo pip install tweepy

1. We can check that that tweepy is installed by opening python, and in the interpreter run:

import tweepy

1. After Tweepy is installed, we can create a developers account on twitter. Go to apps.twitter.com. Sign in to your account, or create an account. After this has been done, then click on the “Create new App” Button. Give your app a name and a description. In the website field, put htttp://www.examplle.com and leave the callback URL blank. Create the app. Edit the permissions of the app to allow read and write access. Then test OAuth – the authorization system. Create an access token, by going to the Keys and access token page, and clicking “Create my access token”.
2. If this command doesn’t return any errors, then the twitter-python API has been installed. We can start programming.

import tweepy

# Consumer keys and access tokens, used for OAuth

consumer\_key = “key”

consumer\_secret = “Secret”

access\_token = “access\_token”

access\_token\_secret = “access\_token\_secret”

# OAuth process, using the keys and tokens

auth = tweepy.OAuthHandler(consumer\_key, consumer\_secret)

auth.set\_access\_token(access\_token, access\_token\_secret)

# Creation of the actual interface, using authentication

api = tweepy.API(auth)

# Sample method, used to update a status

api.update\_status('Hello World!')