

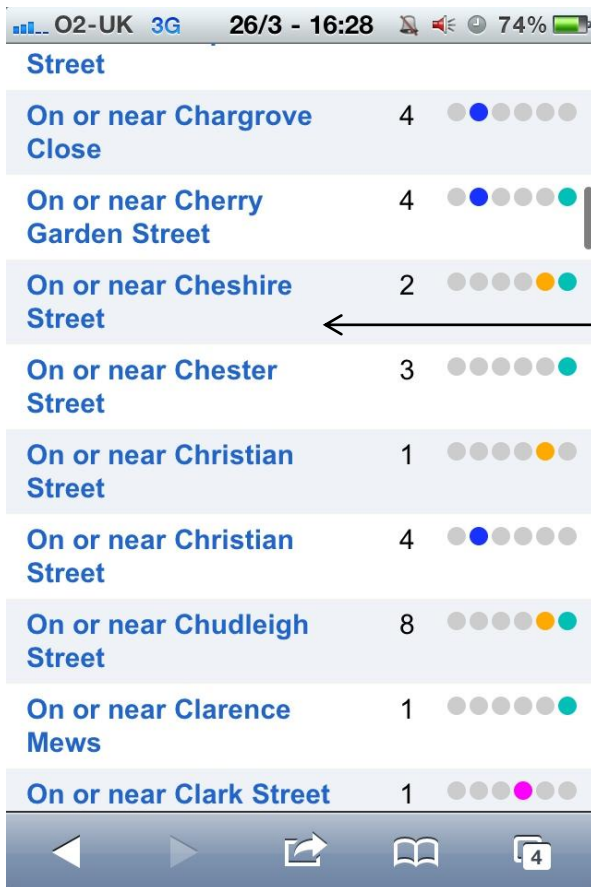
Proof of Concept

# LondonCrimeBot

Luke Sheldrick  
@an0key

# The 'initial' problem

- The newly published local crime map site is quite complicated to use on the move.
- Too much information is given when you give it a postcode. Not great on a desktop, but useable, however totally pointless on a mobile device especially if using excessive mobile bandwidth.



This page is HUGE.

I give it a postcode, it returns data from a huge radius.

When I've got all the way down the page, I have no idea what they colours meant.

# My Idea: London Crime Bot

- A simple bot, that will look for #crimehere hash tags on twitter, and reply with details.
- Will look up the geo-tag of the tweet, and then request data from the police.uk API to get the total crime numbers for the area.
- Then reply to the tweet with simplified data for the local area.

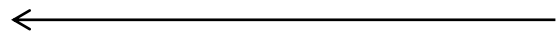
# Example

I visit the Guardian today, I'm quite impressed with the area. I use a mobile app to look up local flats, but what they don't tell me is the local crime rates.

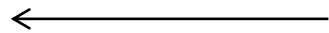
So I simply tweet, with geo-tagging enabled and await LondonCrimeBot to tell me.



Is there **#crimehere**



Using the #crimehere hash-tag.

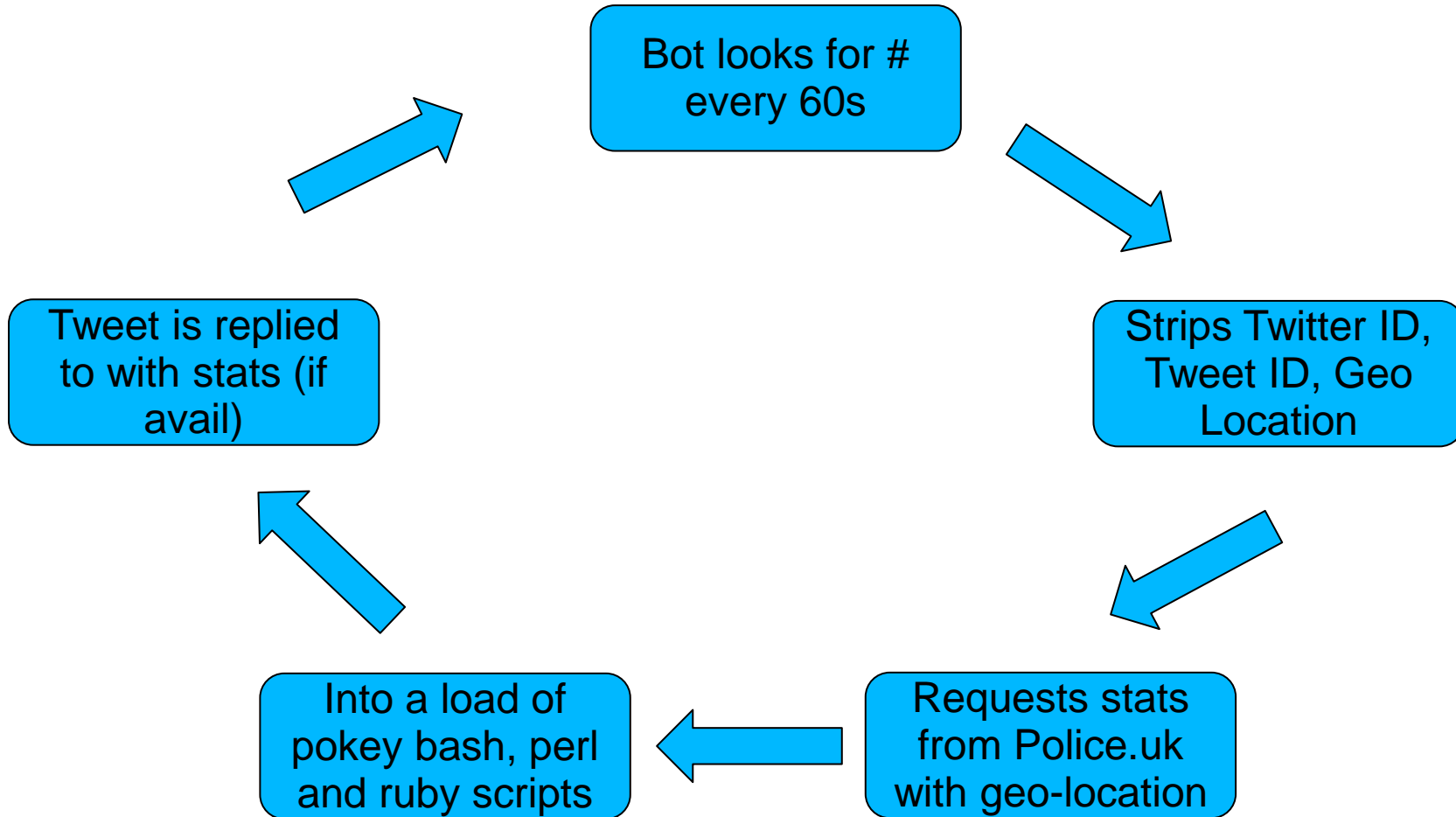


Tweet Geo-Location enabled

from Kings Cross, London

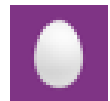
Twitter for iPhone • 26/03/2011 16:02





# Result

Tweet is replied to.... I think I'll move elsewhere.



**an0key\_testacc** Luke Sheldrick

Is there #crimehere

41 minutes ago



in reply to @an0key\_testacc ↑



**@LondonCrimeBot**

London Crimebot

**@an0key\_testacc** Bur:93 ASBO:810 Rob:61  
Veh:101 Vio:264 Oth:1038

🔒 34 seconds ago via [LondonCrimeBot](#) ☆ Favorite ↩ Reply 🗑 Delete

## Issues I had:

- I didn't think to request API access to police.uk before today. It's a closed API, so I was stuck there.
- The CSV data is not in long/lat, a complete arse to work with, or to even convert easily to long/lat.
- I'm not actually a coder by nature, so all the code 'just about works'. The loop has already hung my box a few times. Only using limited manual data as I still don't have my API key, so have locked it down to only work with people the bot follows (for the time being).
- Looking further into the police.uk data, it's not just data for London, so the bot should really be slightly re-coded (and renamed?) to reflect this.