

Fish'n Tweets

With this project we'll show an practical application of our Fishino board that allows a very simple and cheap way to control remote appliances as lamps, heaters, climatizers, alarms, etc.

The peculiarity of our system is that it doesn't need any external support server nor special network interface boards, but just a Fishino UNO board and possibly one or more relay boards to drive connected loads. This application which can't be done with a simple Arduino, even not if provided with a common WiFi or Ethernet shield, has been made possible by Fishino's capability to handle secure connections with HTTPS protocol, which is usually available on more expensive boards; to stay into Arduino world, now at least a YUN board is needed to achieve same purpose, and with a more complex software.

There are many possibilities for the remote control of electric appliances, each with own strength and caveats.

Let's see an incomplete list of them:

- Control by SMS :

Advantages:

- Receiver can be portable and independent of network infrastructures
- Fast - commands are executed almost instantly
- Can be controlled from any cell phone, even from older ones
- Practically unlimited range

Caveats:

- A SIM card is needed on controlled board, which usually has an expiration time
- It needs a GSM board, not very cheap
- It needs GSM network coverage, not everywhere available

- Radio control :

Advantages:

- Receiver can be portable and independent of network infrastructures
- Fast - commands are executed almost instantly
- Very cheap

Caveats:

- Very limited range
- Range depends on obstacles between sender and receiver

- Remote control over internet :

Advantages:

- Can be made portable at the price of a GPRS board
- Can be controlled by any PC or recent cell phone
- Quite cheap if you've a network infrastructure in place
- Can be made bidirectional with no cost

Caveats:

- A network infrastructure or a GPRS board is needed, which can be expensive
- Stability depends on network conditions

- Response times can be very variable
- Often it needs complicated boards and/or support external PC
- Usually a public IP or a way to bypass this limitation is needed,
- Security problems are always possible

With this project we aimed to join the advantages of control by internet removing some of its caveats, using a well-known public service : Twitter.

In practice, the appliances are controlled by a simple Tweet in a given format, from a given user (or more users, with some small changes in software).

With this approach we solve the following caveats of internet control :

- Connection stability. On network failures the command is stored by Twitter network and executed when network goes up again.
- The receiver is quite simple, both on hardware and software side.
- No public IP is needed, nor an intermediate support server
- Security is granted by Twitter infrastructure, which operates over HTTPS protocol.

As usual also this method has some caveats, which are the non-immediate actuation (tweet propagation times are variable from some seconds up to a couple of tenths of seconds) and some limitations (easily solvable) on duplicates tweets.

Let's see first the usage, and then the application description.

Appliances are controlled sending a Tweet with following format :

#hashtag port ON/OFF

where '**#hashtag**' is a customizable hashtag that can be changed inside the software (in our case we adopted **#fishino**), '**port**' is a Fishino digital port number (more about it later) and '**ON**' or '**OFF**' are the commands to turn on or off the digital output.

Example:

#fishino 24 ON	Turn output 24 on
#fishino 10 OFF	Turn output 10 off

As above forementioned, there is a variable lapse of time from tweet message and command execution which is usually between 5 and 20 seconds, depending on Twitter network status.

The other caveat is the impossibility to send duplicated tweets in short time; for example:

#fishino 24 ON	Turn output 24 on
#fishino 24 OFF	Turn output 24 off
#fishino 24 ON	Turn output 24 on

Third tweet is rejected by Twitter because is a duplicate of first one in too short time.

The problem is solved quite simply by adding some random text character after ON word:

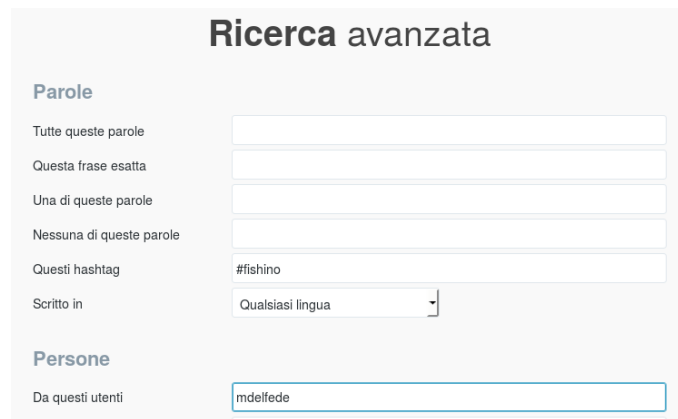
#fishino 24 ON 123456 Turn output 24 on

Additional random chars (**123456**) are simply discarded by receiver.

How it works

Let's start from sended Tweed, which is stored and propagated into Twitter network. Anybody can see, receive and search for the tweet from everywhere.

Using a cell phone or a PC it's possible to search it, for example, using the sender and the hashtag as query strings:



Search results are something like following picture:



As you can see, matching Tweets are shown, from most recent one.

Let's analyze more in detail the single tweet; every message has:

- a sender (**@mdelfede** here)
- zero or more hashtags (**#fishino** here)
- a text message, including the hashtags and other text
- a timestamp, showing send date and time
- it can embed references to other people, images, urls, etc.

In our application the important fields are the **sender**, used to allow or deny the access, the **hashtags**, used to separate normal tweets from commands, the **text**, which contains the appliance command, and finally the **timestamp**, which is used to separate already executed commands from new ones.

We can't of course execute such a search with a PC to control our appliances; we need something more "machine usable" way.

Twitter **API** (Application Programming Interfaces) comes in help allowing to execute, among others, search on twitter network in a simple way.

Twitter API

The **API** are quite large, and allows to do almost all operations on twitter network, as searches and sending of tweets.

In our controller we're interested in a small subset of the **API**, the **search APIs**.

API usage is quite uniform and, once the usage of a small subset is understood, the extension of the whole APIs is straightforward.

The biggest problem (and security advantage!), which usually makes it impossible to use the API from embedded controllers is the secure protocol used by API.

Twitter uses, to strengthen the system security, these 2 ways :

- connection to the API's server **MUST** been done over HTTPS protocol
- API's user **MUST** authenticate himself with one of the methods that we'll see on next paragraphs

The second requirement is easy enough to meet, but for the first a system able to make secure connections is needed.

This implies that APIs can't be used with Arduino's Ethernet/WiFi shields, for example, which operates only on unsecured protocols.

Fishino, per contro, è in grado di eseguire connessioni HTTPS anche se col limite di una connessione per volta, vista la grande richiesta di risorse di memoria necessarie per la crittografia.

Let's see in detail a typical https request to Twitter API: :

```
GET /1.1/search/tweets.json?count=1&q=%23fishino+from%3Amdelfede&result_type=recent&max_id=647068135569387520&since_id=646038066440896517 HTTP/1.1
Host: api.twitter.com
User-Agent: Fishino Twitter Client
Authorization: Bearer AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA(altri caratteri della chiave di autorizzazione)
```

First row is the true request :

- **GET /1.1/search/tweets.json?**
is the request on search APIs
- **count=1**
is maximum number of requested results; we want a tweet per request
- **q=%23fishino+from%3Amdelfede**
we search for **fishino** hashtag (%23, #) coming from user (%3A,@) **mdelfede**
- **result_type=recent**
we want results sorted by timestamp and not by popularity
- **max_id=647068135569387520**
IDs are timing sequence numbers embedded in each tweet. In this case we want a tweet **not newer** than the supplied id

- **since_id=646038066440896517**
We want only tweets **newer** than supplied id
- **HTTP/1.1**
closes HTTP query

Second and third rows are the address hosting the APIs (**api.twitter.com**) and the application which is executing the query (**Fishino Twitter Client**); the latter can be almost any string and is used just to identify the application using the **API**.

Next row is quite important; it's used to authenticate the request on twitter network :

Authorization: Bearer AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA(altri caratteri della chiave di autorizzazione)

Twitter network, as forementioned, uses 2 methods to strengthen the security : HTTPS protocol (which avoids attacks like "man in the middle") and some authentication keys.

Latter can be of 2 kinds : **personal** o di **application-only**.

With the former the access is done as a twitter user, and act exactly as him; it's possible, for example, send tweets as if they were sent by a human over a PC.

Second kind of authentication is more limited, being tied to the application, so partially anonymous. You can't send tweets with it, but you're limited to some kinds of operations like tweet searches.

In our application we used the latter method, because it's less rate limited than the first one and allows more requests per our and, more important, the requests are separated from user-authenticated ones.

The limits are actually of **180** requests every **15 minutes**, both for usage as an user and as an application. So, if we execute 180 requests in 15 minutes as an application we still have the same amount of them available as an user.

Passing these limits means account suspensions, so it's better to not execute too many requests in short time; 180 requests every 15 minutes means an interval of 5 seconds between them.

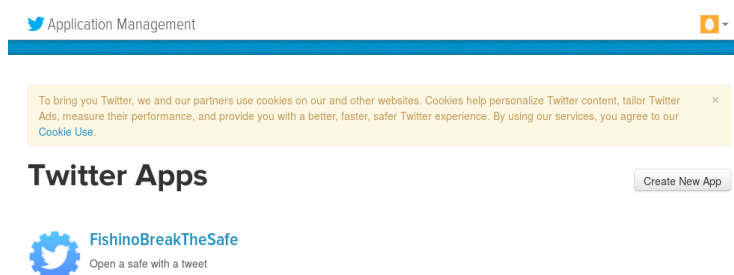
How to get a 'Bearer' authorization key

Here we explain how to create a Twitter application and get its auth key.

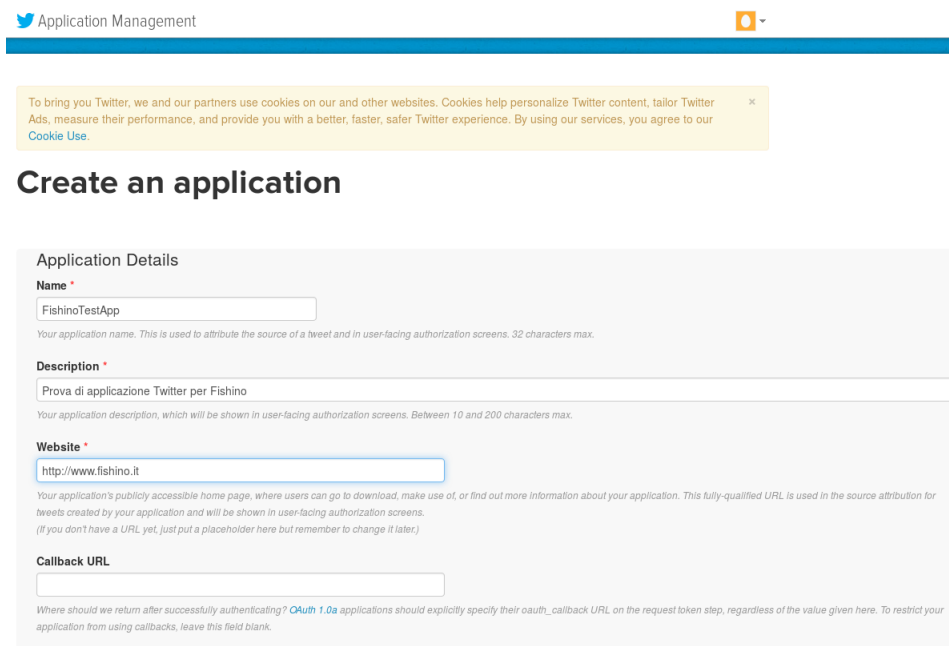
We need of course to have a Twitter account and open following link :

<https://apps.twitter.com/>

You'll get the following screen :



In this case we see an already registered application (**FishinoBreakTheSafe**) and the '**Create New App**' button. Pushing it you'll get following screen :



The screenshot shows the 'Create an application' page in the Twitter Application Management interface. At the top, there's a header with the Twitter logo and 'Application Management' text, and a user profile icon. Below the header is a yellow cookie consent banner. The main heading is 'Create an application'. The form is titled 'Application Details' and contains four fields: 'Name' (filled with 'FishinoTestApp'), 'Description' (filled with 'Prova di applicazione Twitter per Fishino'), 'Website' (filled with 'http://www.fishino.it'), and 'Callback URL' (empty). Each field has a small text description below it. At the bottom of the form, there is a checkbox for 'I agree to the terms of service' and a 'Create your application' button.

Now some input is needed :

- **Applicaztion name (Name)**; in this case **FishinoTestApp**
- **Application description (Description)**; in this case "**Prova di applicazione Twitter per Fishino**"
- **Website** : a website which should show application's details; mandatory, but can be a simple placeholder. In this case **www.fishino.it**
- **Callback URL** : not needed here (leave empty)

At page bottom you find the usual service agreement checkbox and the create button (Create your Twitter application) :

Developer Agreement

Effective: May 18, 2015.

This Twitter Developer Agreement ("**Agreement**") is made between you (either an individual or an entity, referred to herein as "**you**") and Twitter, Inc. and Twitter International Company (collectively, "**Twitter**") and governs your access to and use of the Licensed Material (as defined below).

PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY LINKED TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPEARING OR REFERENCED BELOW, WHICH ARE HEREBY MADE PART OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT. BY USING THE LICENSED MATERIAL, YOU ARE AGREEING THAT YOU HAVE READ, AND THAT YOU AGREE TO COMPLY WITH AND TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT AND ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY WITHOUT LIMITATION OR QUALIFICATION. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT, THEN YOU MAY NOT ACCESS OR OTHERWISE USE THE LICENSED MATERIAL. THIS AGREEMENT IS EFFECTIVE AS OF THE FIRST DATE THAT YOU USE THE LICENSED MATERIAL ("**EFFECTIVE DATE**").

IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING AN ENTITY, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOU HAVE THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT THIS AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF SUCH ENTITY. YOU MAY NOT USE THE LICENSED MATERIAL AND

☐ Yes, I agree

Create your Twitter application

Pushing it you'll get following page :

Your application has been created. Please take a moment to review and adjust your application's settings.

FishinoTestApp

Test OAuth

Details Settings Keys and Access Tokens Permissions

Prova di applicazione Twitter per Fishino
http://www.fishino.it


Organization

Information about the organization or company associated with your application. This information is optional.

Organization	None
Organization website	None

Application Settings

Your application's Consumer Key and Secret are used to [authenticate](#) requests to the Twitter Platform.

Access level	Read and write (modify app permissions)
Consumer Key (API Key)	 (manage keys and access tokens)
Callback URL	None
Callback URL Locked	No
Sign in with Twitter	Yes
App-only authentication	https://api.twitter.com/oauth2/token
Request token URL	https://api.twitter.com/oauth/request_token
Authorize URL	https://api.twitter.com/oauth/authorize
Access token URL	https://api.twitter.com/oauth/access_token

Application has been created and the system shows (obscured here) the 'consumer API key', which is one of the needed keys.

As we want to use the '**Bearer token**', the one needed in **Application only** mode, we need one more step; click on above tab '**Keys and access tokens**'; you'll get following screen :

FishinoTestApp

[Test OAuth](#)[Details](#) [Settings](#) [Keys and Access Tokens](#) [Permissions](#)

Application Settings

Keep the "Consumer Secret" a secret. This key should never be human-readable in your application.

Consumer Key (API Key)	
Consumer Secret (API Secret)	
Access Level	Read and write (modify app permissions)
Owner	mdelfede
Owner ID	229626414

Application Actions

[Regenerate Consumer Key and Secret](#) [Change App Permissions](#)

< >

Your Access Token

You haven't authorized this application for your own account yet.

By creating your access token here, you will have everything you need to make API calls right away. The access token generated will be assigned your application's current permission level.

Token Actions

[Create my access token](#)

You're told that the application has not still been authorized (below '**Your Access Token**'). Pushing the '**Create my access token**' button below you get :

FishinoTestApp

[Test OAuth](#)[Details](#) [Settings](#) [Keys and Access Tokens](#) [Permissions](#)

Application Settings

Keep the "Consumer Secret" a secret. This key should never be human-readable in your application.

Consumer Key (API Key)	
Consumer Secret (API Secret)	
Access Level	Read and write (modify app permissions)
Owner	mdelfede
Owner ID	229626414

Application Actions

[Regenerate Consumer Key and Secret](#) [Change App Permissions](#)

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Your Access Token

This access token can be used to make API requests on your own account's behalf. Do not share your access token secret with anyone.

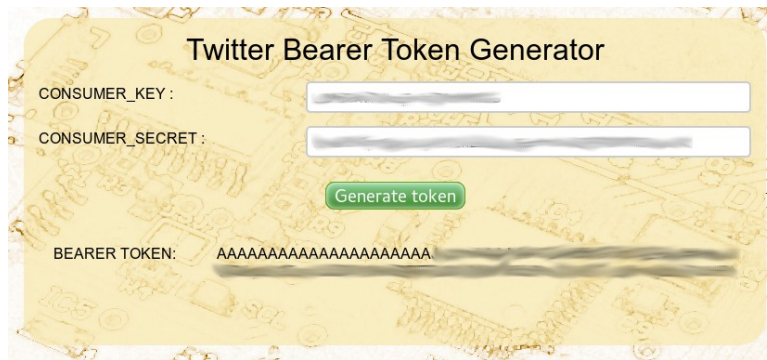
Access Token	
Access Token Secret	
Access Level	Read and write
Owner	mdelfede
Owner ID	229626414

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Below the text '**Your Access Token**' you'll see now the 2 keys needed for application usage in **user-mode** . Last step needed, to get the **Application-only** key, which is the one we'll use in our application, it's usually the more complicated, because on API documentations the way to get it is explained but no simple page is given to do it. So, we have made an http page at the following address

www.fishino.it/bearer.php

which allows to get the '**bearer token**' quite easily:



It's enough to enter the '**consumer_key**' and the '**consumer_secret**' from application's page, and push the '**Generate token**' button to get the key ready to be copied and pasted in our sketch. A last note: the key is shown in 2 lines because of limited space, but it is a **single line key**.

The sketch

Let's see the sketch, now, starting from configuration data on file's beginning part, so the impatient can test it quickly :

```
////////////////////////////////////
////////////////////////////////////
// CONFIGURATION DATA           -- ADAPT TO YOUR NETWORK !!!
// DATI DI CONFIGURAZIONE -- ADATTARE ALLA PROPRIA RETE WiFi !!!

////////////////////////////////////
////////////////////////////////////
// CONFIGURATION DATA           -- ADAPT TO YOUR NETWORK !!!
// DATI DI CONFIGURAZIONE -- ADATTARE ALLA PROPRIA RETE WiFi !!!

// here put SSID of your network
// inserire qui lo SSID della rete WiFi
#define MY_SSID      "CASA"

// here put PASSWORD of your network. Use "" if none
// inserire qui la PASSWORD della rete WiFi -- Usare "" se la rete non | protetta
#define MY_PASS      "unapassword"

// here put required IP address of your Fishino
// comment out this line if you want AUTO IP (dhcp)
// NOTE : if you use auto IP you must find it somehow !
// inserire qui l'IP desiderato per il fishino
// commentare la linea sotto se si vuole l'IP automatico
// nota : se si utilizza l'IP automatico, occorre un metodo per trovarlo !
#define IPADDR 192, 168, 1, 251

// here put your application Bearer authorization key
// see https://dev.twitter.com/oauth/application-only for details
```

```
// inserire qui la chiave "bearer" di autenticazione dell'applicazione
// vedere https://dev.twitter.com/oauth/application-only per dettagli
#define BEARER "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA....."

// here put your Twitter user name; if empty the application will react to ANY user
// inserire qui il nome utente ai cui tweets il programma si attiva; se vuoto, il programma si attiva con TUTTI gli utenti
#define TWITTER_USER "pippo"

// here put twitter hashtag needed to trigger the event (without the # char!)
// inserire qui l'hashtag necessario ad avviare l'applicazione (senza il carattere #!)
#define TWITTER_HASHTAG "fishino"

// here put the delay in milliseconds between requests
// there is a limit of about 180 requests every 15 minutes, so don't put a too short time here
// inserire qui il ritardo tra due richieste successive
// c'è un limite di circa 180 richieste ogni 15 minuti, quindi non inserire un tempo troppo breve
#define REQUESTS_INTERVAL 5000
```

Settings are quite simple; if you've already run some **Fishino** application you'll notice that the options are almost the same for all of them; in detail, near the end of configuration block you'll see the part needed for Twitter, and the **Bearer Token** which we discussed on former paragraphs (**BEARER**), the twitter user name (**TWITTER_USER**) from which the command tweets must be made, the activation hashtag (**TWITTER_HASHTAG**), to insert **WITHOUT** the '#' character and finally the time interval between 2 requests. About latter parameter, as we explained on former sections, Twitter has some limits on requests number that can be done in some time; passing these limits means the application block, sometimes temporarily, sometimes forever. Now the limit is of 180 requests every 15 minutes, so about a request each 5 seconds. We suggest to not use a value less than the suggested 5000 milliseconds if not for short tests.

Sketch description

We'll skip the initialization part, almost identical for each **Fishino** application; if you're interested on it we suggest to look at FishinoHomeAuto description. We limit the description to the 2 most interesting parts, the Twitter API's usage and the optional IO expansion.

About the APIs, we notice the first difference from other applications :

```
// The web secure client used to access twitter API
// il client https usato per l'accesso all'API di Twitter
FishinoSecureClient client;
```

We use the FishinoSecureClient instead of FishinoClient. This client is used to make HTTPS connections.

API's connection is done by aid of following code chunk :

```
if (!client.connected() && !client.available())
{
    Serial.println("\nStarting connection to server...");
    if(client.connect("api.twitter.com", 443))
```

```

        {
            Serial.println("connected to server");

            // run the query looking from given hashtag and user
            doQuery(client, "%23" TWITTER_HASHTAG);
        }
    }
}

```

We check if client is still connected from preceding loop and/or if it has still data to be processed, as data is maintained inside a buffer even after the client get closed. If not, we open the connection to the site api.twitter.com on port 443 which is the one used for https connections.

If connections is successful we send the request by aid of the doQuery() function, whic has as parameters the client and the given hashtag.

This function just sends the data to Twitter API server :

```

// run a query on twitter
// esegue la query a Twitter
void doQuery(FishinoSecureClient &client, const char *query)
{
    // if walkback is finished (nextID == -1) we reset sinceID to next found maximum ID
    // otherwise we let it as it is and continue the walk back
    // se il walkback è finito (nextID == -1) re-impostiamo il sinceID a dopo il massimo ID trovato
    // altrimenti lasciamo tutto come sta e continuiamo col walkback
    if(nextID == (uint64_t)-1)
        sinceID = maxID;

    client.print("GET /1.1/search/tweets.json?count=1&q=");
    client.print(query);
    if(strlen(TWITTER_USER))
    {
        client.print("+from%3A");
        client.print(TWITTER_USER);
    }
    client.print("&result_type=recent");
    if(nextID != (uint64_t)-1)
    {
        client.print("&max_id=");
        client << nextID;
    }
    client.print("&since_id=");
    client << sinceID;
    client.println(" HTTP/1.1");

    client.println("Host: api.twitter.com");
    client.println("User-Agent: Fishino Twitter Client");

    // send auth key to server
    // invia la chiave di autorizzazione al server
    client.println("Authorization: Bearer " BEARER);
    client.println();

    // reset nextID - it will be filled by parser if more results are pending
    // azzera il nextID - verrà riempito dal parser se ci sono altri risultati da leggere
    nextID = -1;
}

```

```
}
```

The only peculiarity of this function is the usage of **since_id** and **max_id** fields to limit the search between 2 timestamps.

Because of Fishino's limited speed and memory we decided to process a single tweet per request, which is the latter included between the 2 given limits. Playing with those IDs it's possible to walk back asking for former tweets up to the beginning of them. Once the search has ended we reset **since_id** field to get, on following requests, just the most recent tweets.

Once the request has been sent, we must analyze the received data. Twitter APIs answer with data in JSON format of variable sizes, which can be quite big. Because of limited Fishino's resources we can't simply store and process the whole data; we need so a way to parse it while it is received. To fulfill this requirement we developed a complete JSON parsing library which operates in streaming mode, without storing anything on the way. This library, JSONStreamingParser, is different from most of available parsers as it's able to parse the data on the fly and run a callback when some conditions are met.

In detail, JSON data have a format like following text :

```
{
    name1 : data1,
    name2 : {name3 : data3, name4 : data4},
    name5 : [data6, data7, data8]
}
```

Data can contain simple values (strings, numbers, etc) or lists or array of data. The format of simple data is :

```
name : data
```

The parser executes a scan of data part; if it's of a simple kind it calls a predefined function with following parameters :

```
void callback(uint8_t filter, uint8_t level, const char *name, const char *value)
```

where the 'filter' is reserved for future expansions, the 'level' parameter shows the depth level of data inside the json and **'name'** e **'value'** parameters contains data's name and value. If data is NOT of a simple kind, but it's a list or an array, **'value'** fields will contain the "<LIST>" or "<ARRAY>" strings and the scan will proceed inside the true value.

By aid of the callbacks is so possible to analyze the **JSON** data on the fly and store some values on sketch's variables.

The actual callback function is :

```
// analyze data and act on devices
// analizza i dati in arrivo da Twitter
void parserCallback(uint8_t filter, uint8_t level, const char *name, const char *value)
{
    // check for user name
    // controlla il nome utente
    if(level == 3 && !strcmp(name, "screen_name") && !strcmp(value, "\"" TWITTER_USER "\""))
        gotUser = true;
}
```

```

// check twitter message - MUST contain the requested hashtag, a port number and word ON or OFF
// controlla il testo del messaggio - DEVE contenere l'hashtag richiesto, un numero di porta e le parole ON o OFF
else if(level == 2 && !strcmp(name, "text") && value && value[0] && !strnicmp(value + 1, "#"
TWITTER_HASHTAG, strlen(TWITTER_HASHTAG) + 1))
{
    // hashtag found, skip it
    // trovato l'hashtag, lo salta
    const char *p = value + strlen(TWITTER_HASHTAG) + 3;

    // skip spaces after hashtag
    // salta gli spazi dopo l'hashtag
    while(*p && isspace(*p))
        p++;

    // read port number - sets it to 0xff if not found
    // legge il numero di porta - lo imposta a 0xff se non trovato
    if(isdigit(*p))
    {
        port = 0;
        while(isdigit(*p))
            port = port * 10 + *p++ - '0';
    }
    else
        port = 0xff;

    // if port not found, just leave
    // se non trova il numero di port ritorna
    if(port == 0xff)
        return;

    // skip spaces after port number
    // salta gli spazi dopo il numero di porta
    while(*p && isspace(*p))
        p++;

    // chek for ON or OFF keywords - if not found sets port to 0xff and leave
    // cerca le parole chiave ON o OFF - se non trovate imposta la porta a 0xff ed esce
    if(!strnicmp(p, "on", 2))
        command = true;
    else if(!strnicmp(p, "off", 3))
        command = false;
    else
        port = 0xff;
}

// look if there are previous tweets to handle
// cerca se deve elaborare tweets precedenti
else if(level == 1 && !strcmp(name, "next_results"))
{
    // get next tweet id to handle
    const char *s = strstr(value, "\\\"?max_id=");
    if(s)
    {
        s += 9;
        nextID = readID(s);
    }
}

```

```

    }

    // get max id of search, needet to go further after walk back
    // cerca il massimo ID corrispondente alla ricerca, necessario per proseguire dopo la ricerca all'indietro
    else if(level == 2 && !strcmp(name, "id"))
    {
        uint64_t id = readID(value);
        if(id > maxID)
            maxID = id;
    }
}

```

The function is quite simple, using the '**level**' e '**name**' parameters to check if the requested fields are present inside the tweet and, if so, it extracts and analyzes their values. You can see a check on the **user** whom sent the tweet, the **hashtags** to see if the given one is present, the '**text**' parameter to read the commands and finally the **IDs** used to check the times of tweets.

As we told above, this callback is called by **JSONStreamingParser** every time that a value is read from client's stream. The parser is used by **doReceive()** function:

```

// waits for data from twitter and parse them - return true on sucess, false if no data
bool doReceive(FishinoSecureClient &client, JSONStreamingParser &parser)
{
    // wait 1 second max for data from server
    // attende al massimo 1 secondo i dati dal server
    unsigned long tim = millis() + 1000;
    while(!client.available() && millis() < tim)
        ;

    // if no data is available, close the connection
    // se non ci sono dati, chiude la connessione
    if(!client.available())
        return false;

    // skip data up to 2 consecutive cr
    bool cr = false;
    while(client.available())
    {
        if(cr)
        {
            if(client.read() == 0x0d && client.read() == 0x0a)
                break;
            else
                cr = false;
        }
        else if(client.read() == 0x0d && client.read() == 0x0a)
            cr = true;
    }

    while(client.available())
    {
        char c = client.read();
        parser.feed(c);
    }
    return true;
}

```

```
}
```

This function just reads client's data, skip HTTP preamble (which end is marked by an empty line) and sends remaining chars, one by one, to the parser.

Once that the stream has been analyzed, in case of valid command, the global variable '**port**' will contain the requested port number and the global variable '**command**' (boolean) will be **true** if we want to set the output to **HIGH**, **false** if we want it to be set to **LOW**.

Let's see the code chunk that activates the outputs, interesting because it can use (optionally) one or more **IOEXPANDERS** to Fishino :

```
// if port has been set, change its output
// se la porta è stata impostata, ne modifica l'output
if(port != 0xff)
{
    // if no expanders found, check if pin is free on Fishino
    // and set its output (must be changed on Mega!)
    if(!numExpanders)
    {
        if(port == 4 || port == 7 || port >= 10)
            Serial << F("INVALID PORT #") << port << F(" -- COMMAND DISCARDED\n");
        else
        {
            Serial << "\n\nSETTING PORT " << port << " TO " << (command ? "HIGH" : "LOW")
<< "\n";

            pinMode(port, OUTPUT);
            digitalWrite(port, command ? HIGH : LOW);
        }
    }
    else
    {
        uint8_t board = port / 8;
        if(board >= numExpanders)
            Serial << F("INVALID PORT #") << port << F(" -- COMMAND DISCARDED\n");
        else
        {
            Serial << "\n\nSETTING PORT " << port << " TO " << (command ? "HIGH" : "LOW")
<< "\n";

            port %= 8;
            expanders[board]->digitalWrite(15-port, command ? HIGH : LOW);
        }
    }
}
```

we check port value; if it's 0xff the command is invalid, so we drop it, otherwise we continue with a code that depends if one or more IOEXPANDERS are connected or not.

In former case, we'll calculate the board number (port / 8) and the port number on it (port %8). For example, a port number of 33 means board n. 4 (33 / 8) and its port n.1 (33 % 8 = 33 - 4 · 8 = 1). The '%' operator gives the remainder of the division.

If no expander board is connected the sketch uses the available (free) ports on Fishino; it checks that the given port number is valid and that it's not used by Fishino itself.

IOEXPANDER expansion boards usage

The sketch can detect automatically any IOEXPANDER board(s) connected to Fishino, up to a number of 8. They must, of course, have all different I2C addresses.

At startup the sketch checks, in setup(), if the boards are available and number them in I2C addresses sequence. If the boards are found their ports are numbered in sequence : from 0 to 7 for the first board, from 8 to 15 for the second, and so on.

If no board is detected, the sketch goes in stand-alone mode, using the free Fishino's I/O, so the outputs **0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 e 9**, being the others reserved for embedded peripherals. In this case the port number is the Fishino's I/O number.

Expander boards detection is done by following code chunk :

```
// find all available IOExpander boards
void findIOExpanders(void)
{
    numExpanders = 0;
    for(uint8_t addr = 0; addr < 8; addr++)
    {
        IOExpanderMCP23017 *exp = new IOExpanderMCP23017;

        // set expander address
        exp->begin(addr);

        // this is because expander board hasn't reset connected to arduino one
        // and it checks register 0 upon init to see if board is present
        // (register should be 0xff, all A port as input)
        for(int i = 0; i < 16; i++)
            exp->pinMode(i, INPUT);

        if(exp->init())
        {
            // expander found, add to list and setup pins
            expanders[numExpanders++] = exp;

            // set pin modes
            for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++)
                exp->pinMode(15-i, OUTPUT);
        }
        else
            // not found, delete expander object
            delete exp;
    }
    if(numExpanders)
        Serial << F("Found ") << numExpanders << F(" I/O expander boards\n");
    else
        Serial << F("No expander boards found - using Fishino's I/O pins\n");
}
```

You can see a loop that tries all I2C possible addresses (from 0 to 7); for each address a variable **IOExpanderMCP23017** is created (dynamically as a pointer), a test is executed and, if ok, the variable is stored into an array. If the board is not available the variable is destroyed freeing its memory. In this way the boards are detected in I2C address order.