

Saturday, July 24, 2010

5:29:26 PM European Weekend Testers hello everyone and welcome to EWT28

5:29:51 PM Markus Gärtner as usual let's start with brief introductions [5:30:11 PM] **stephen.hill-uk:** Hello everybody! I am Stephen and I have been doing testing in various forms for the past 9.5-10 years. Primarily I test address management software (the software which does the magic address lookups when you call your bank or building society and give them your Postcode). This involves a lot of manual testing but I am trying to get my skills up with automated testing and building test harnesses and the like.

5:30:37 PM Markus Gärtner I'm Markus Gärtner, black-belt in the Miagi-Do school, co-founder EWT with Anna, Software Craftsman, blog: <http://blog.shino.de>

5:31:16 PM Stephen Hill Should have mentioned that. I blog at <http://pedantictester.wordpress.com> and tweet @Stephen_J_Hill

5:31:56 PM richardjameshill Hi Im am Richard Hill live in Bratislava from Manchester originally. I have worked at enprovia.com for the last year. Testing Java web applications, iPhone and mac applications.

5:32:23 PM Ajay Balamurugadas Ajay Balamurugadas, co-founder of WeekendTesting, Student of Miagi-Do School of Testing, blogs at www.enjoytesting.blogspot.com and tweets at www.twitter.com/ajay184f

5:32:25 PM richardjameshill I use alot of selenium for the web stuff

5:33:31 PM Markus Gärtner hi sebi, we're just half-way through the introductions

5:33:50 PM eusebiu blindu Hi All

5:33:55 PM Ajay Balamurugadas Hi Stephen, Richard, Eusebiu

5:35:08 PM Markus Gärtner four is a nice number

5:35:21 PM eusebiu blindu I am Eusebiu Blindu (call me Sebi pls), I am a tester, self-employee working in CZ. I have a blog at <http://www.testalways.com>

5:35:35 PM Markus Gärtner let me get you the mission of today

5:36:04 PM Stephen Hill Nice, too, having a good mix of people! Looking forward to the mission, Markus!

5:36:11 PM Markus Gärtner Product: Fantastic Contraptions <http://www.fantasticcontraption.net/>
Mission: Solve the puzzles in pairs. Each fifteen minutes pick up a new pairing partner. Until 4.30pm UTC.

5:36:47 PM eusebiu blindu How do we choose partners?

5:37:01 PM Markus Gärtner I see multiple options here

5:37:06 PM Markus Gärtner I can assign pairs

5:37:14 PM Markus Gärtner or you come up with your own choices

5:37:27 PM Ajay Balamurugadas I see a lot of games

5:37:33 PM eusebiu blindu Its like a dating game (think)

5:37:55 PM richardjameshill Solve puzzles in pairs, could you explain this please

5:38:07 PM Markus Gärtner simple

5:38:12 PM Markus Gärtner pick a pairing partner

5:38:18 PM Markus Gärtner agree on the puzzle to solve

5:38:28 PM Markus Gärtner then solve the puzzle by exchanging thoughts between you two

5:38:51 PM Markus Gärtner ajay, there is just one game with different stages

5:39:55 PM Ajay Balamurugadas ok got it

5:39:59 PM richardjameshill Ok, who is still free that may I work with

5:40:07 PM Stephen Hill Ah! I need to update my Flash Player folks... Give me a minute...

5:40:47 PM Ajay Balamurugadas Richard

5:41:01 PM richardjameshill Ok Ajay I work with you

5:41:02 PM Stephen Hill Richard I'm not paired yet..

5:41:09 PM Ajay Balamurugadas Cool

5:41:34 PM Stephen Hill Sebi do you want to work with me?

5:41:40 PM eusebiu blindu Yes

5:41:42 PM Markus Gärtner ok, tarik, let me send you the chat transcript so far in private

5:41:56 PM Tarik Sheth ok

5:42:25 PM Ajay Balamurugadas how much time do we have

5:42:25 PM richardjameshill Is all chat done though this window

5:42:49 PM eusebiu blindu So the pair chat is here?

5:43:15 PM Stephen Hill Hmmm... I'm just waiting for the Flash download to finish. My laptop developed a problem earlier today and I'm at a different PC!

5:43:22 PM Markus Gärtner you can organize a side-chat, of course

- 5:45:16 PM Markus Gärtner** of course, you may want to note down all bugs that you encounter while trying to solve the puzzles
- 5:46:11 PM Markus Gärtner** tarik, you got everything?
- 5:46:27 PM Tarik Sheth** tryin to get it
- 5:46:38 PM Tarik Sheth** wil take some time
- 5:49:07 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** registration is required?
- 5:49:27 PM Markus Gärtner** where?
- 5:49:56 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** ok, reject my question plz...
- 5:50:59 PM Markus Gärtner** any open questions so far?
- 5:51:05 PM Markus Gärtner** besides the music in the background?
- 5:51:28 PM Markus Gärtner** taking a look on the clock, it's time to switch pairs
- 5:51:41 PM Markus Gärtner** so, everyone, please pick a different partner
- 5:51:48 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** first 15 mins shud be allowed
- 5:51:57 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** we'll change after the next 15 mins plz
- 5:52:14 PM Markus Gärtner** i don't have a problem with this :) what do others say?
- 5:52:23 PM Tarik Sheth** i m ok
- 5:59:59 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, five more minutes before the switch
- 6:01:45 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** My next partner?
- 6:04:20 PM richardjameshill** Markus are you free
- 6:04:22 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, everyone fine with switching now?
- 6:04:41 PM Markus Gärtner** oh, I wasn't testing so far
- 6:04:57 PM Markus Gärtner** i may jump in, but would leave the experience to you :>
- 6:05:08 PM richardjameshill** ok
- 6:05:49 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** Tarik, you available for pairing?
- 6:05:58 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** Sebi, you?
- 6:06:14 PM annabaik** Hi folks - apologies, got stuck in traffic so late online
- 6:06:16 PM eusebiu blindu** Ajay its fine with me to pai

- 6:06:34 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** ok, sebi, Richard and myself solved the first level
- 6:06:46 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** you solved how many levels?
- 6:07:13 PM eusebiu blindu** 3 or 4
- 6:07:18 PM eusebiu blindu** not sure
- 6:07:43 PM richardjameshill** meeta are you available for pairing
- 6:07:43 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** oh nice. I'm at level 2
- 6:07:48 PM annabaik** I think most people are paired now, but if there's someone without a pair, I'm happy to pair
- 6:08:03 PM richardjameshill** I have no pair
- 6:08:05 PM Stephen Hill** You can pair with me if you like anna.
- 6:08:29 PM Stephen Hill** Richard do you want to join me then?
- 6:08:31 PM richardjameshill** Stephen can I work with you
- 6:08:32 PM richardjameshill** yes
- 6:08:38 PM Stephen Hill** OK
- 6:08:43 PM Markus Gärtner** do we need a pairing matrix?
- 6:09:27 PM richardjameshill** I think it would be useful
- 6:09:33 PM Stephen Hill** Getting nowhere fast on the second level I'm afraid. Sebi thought we needed to surround the object with orange balls but I just realised we should try and use the triangle 'thing'.
- 6:09:39 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, who were the first pairs?
- 6:10:42 PM eusebiu blindu** yeah multiple triangles with balls surrounding the initial one
- 6:10:58 PM annabaik** You can join to the pink ball
- 6:12:34 PM annabaik** ok, so Richard and Stephen - are you guys pairing for this round?
- 6:12:44 PM richardjameshill** hi anna yes
- 6:12:52 PM Stephen Hill** Yes I'll pair with Richard...
- 6:14:32 PM Markus Gärtner** everyone got paired up?
- 6:14:52 PM Ajay Balamurugadas** yes
- 6:15:14 PM richardjameshill** yes

6:15:16 PM eusebiu blindu yes

6:15:22 PM Markus Gärtner tarik?

6:15:48 PM richardjameshill what is the expected deliverables anna

6:17:18 PM annabaik Tarik - if you need a pair, am happy to pair

6:17:32 PM annabaik Otherwise - Richard/Stephen, can I jump in with you?

6:18:13 PM richardjameshill Hi anna, you are welcome

6:18:20 PM Tarik Sheth Anna, please go ahead, I am still analyzing

6:19:12 PM annabaik ok, thanks Tarik :)

6:20:06 PM annabaik Do you want to discuss while you're analyzing? May be helpful...

6:20:28 PM Tarik Sheth will ask question in some

6:22:01 PM annabaik go ahead :)

6:22:26 PM Markus Gärtner five more minutes before switching again

6:25:33 PM Markus Gärtner ok, let's switch partners again, for the last time

6:26:17 PM richardjameshill Hi who is free

6:26:48 PM annabaik Who've you paired with so far Richard

6:27:00 PM richardjameshill Steve and Ajay

6:27:09 PM Stephen Hill Oh Markus..... Anna do you want to pair with me

6:27:30 PM annabaik Ok, will pair with you Richard

6:27:30 PM richardjameshill So I will pair with you

6:27:48 PM eusebiu blindu who is free?

6:27:49 PM richardjameshill its quite confusing

6:28:00 PM richardjameshill :)

6:28:04 PM annabaik :)

6:35:18 PM Stephen Hill Anyone still around?

6:35:28 PM eusebiu blindu yes

6:35:49 PM Stephen Hill Are you paired with anyone?

6:36:00 PM Markus Gärtner five more minutes

- 6:36:22 PM eusebiu blindu** I am not paired
- 6:36:29 PM Stephen Hill** Thanks Markus. I was paired with Ajay but he has disappeared...
- 6:36:51 PM Markus Gärtner** argh
- 6:37:14 PM Markus Gärtner** well, we might extend the time, if everyone agrees
- 6:37:15 PM Stephen Hill** Sebi do you want to pair with me for the last five minutes - is that OK Markus?
- 6:37:24 PM Markus Gärtner** i don't object :)
- 6:37:41 PM eusebiu blindu** Ok
- 6:37:46 PM Stephen Hill** Great.
- 6:37:49 PM eusebiu blindu** (we paired already btw)
- 6:41:36 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, time's up
- 6:41:43 PM Markus Gärtner** wondering how far the pairs got
- 6:42:16 PM annabaik** On level 4
- 6:43:41 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, please prepare a brief statement on your course during the last hour
- 6:43:49 PM Markus Gärtner** we'll get through the discussion shortly
- 6:43:55 PM Markus Gärtner** Tarik, do you want to start?
- 6:45:43 PM Markus Gärtner** maybe someone else?
- 6:46:17 PM annabaik** I can start, but haven't finished preparing a statement
- 6:46:27 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, anna, go first :)
- 6:46:29 PM Stephen Hill** I don't mind...
- 6:46:30 PM annabaik** so if people don't mind watching dancing pencil
- 6:46:41 PM annabaik** ok
- 6:47:02 PM annabaik** I paired with Richard. We didn't swap images until we had a solution, but discussed strategy - Richard described the problem he was trying to solve, and I made suggestions
- 6:47:41 PM annabaik** We got to level 4, but didn't try level 5.
- 6:48:22 PM annabaik** We also discussed our approach - I tend to try stuff first then tweak, Richard tends to think about approach then try.

- 6:49:03 PM annabaik** Pairing for such a short interval was interesting, I'd be interested to hear how other people found it.
- 6:49:10 PM richardjameshill** Organising the teams initially was quite difficult. I was waiting for someone to take charge. This led to unproductive time.
- 6:49:40 PM Markus Gärtner** do you pair at work?
- 6:50:38 PM richardjameshill** The devs do but I'm the only full time QA and not sure who I will pair with
- 6:50:50 PM annabaik** I've just changed jobs - I did pair in my previous job, but not formally. In my new job I haven't paired - I'm the only tester. Though I'm thinking I should push to pair with one of the devs if I get an opportunity
- 6:51:17 PM annabaik** @Richard - looks like we have the same issue
- 6:51:47 PM richardjameshill** Yes, I find it more productive to review unit tests they are writing
- 6:52:11 PM annabaik** Do you find that not pairing means you are on the outside a bit? This is what I am worried may happen if I don't try to find opportunities for working closer (not that it's the case so far, but...)
- 6:52:25 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, how did the pairing online here feel in comparison to working in a pair at work?
- 6:52:41 PM Markus Gärtner** are there differences? what would you do differently the next time you pair?
- 6:52:45 PM eusebiu blindu** Similar because we couldn't pair properly
- 6:52:49 PM richardjameshill** Well I'm on the outside a bit anyway because my Slovak isn't brilliant.
- 6:52:52 PM eusebiu blindu** remotely
- 6:53:09 PM eusebiu blindu** Slovak?
- 6:53:27 PM richardjameshill** Most of the devs are slovak
- 6:53:29 PM richardjameshill** at my work
- 6:53:44 PM eusebiu blindu** Most of the devs are czech at my work :)
- 6:53:51 PM Stephen Hill** Certainly I have found it beneficial informally pairing with developers at work. It leads to less of a 'them and me' situation (like Anna and Richard I am sole tester).
- 6:53:53 PM eusebiu blindu** so not easy for me also

- 6:54:44 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, so, how do you contribute during pairing with a programmer?
- 6:55:11 PM richardjameshill** A few minutes sitting with a dev and talking about the app, I ask them where the problems are, usually they know
- 6:55:48 PM Stephen Hill** For me, it is explaining how I would go about testing their app or the area of code they have just changed. I give them ideas for their test cases and they tell me about problems they had during development.
- 6:55:55 PM Markus Gärtner** on a side note, did anyone solve 6? I'm somehow stuck at how to get the ball down, and the thing moving towards the goal
- 6:56:04 PM eusebiu blindu** I solved first 6
- 6:56:14 PM eusebiu blindu** and almost 7
- 6:56:48 PM Stephen Hill** I went through the first 3 and was working on the 4th. I don't always see my way through such practical problems quickly ;-)
- 6:56:49 PM eusebiu blindu** but its very hard to explain how i did it
- 6:56:51 PM annabaik** hmm - you could move the ball :)
- 6:57:05 PM eusebiu blindu** yes the ball can be repositioned
- 6:57:05 PM Stephen Hill** Anna - is that aimed at me?
- 6:57:14 PM Markus Gärtner** the ball falls into the gap, then you can simply drive over it, but I don't know how to achieve both :>
- 6:57:25 PM Markus Gärtner** but let's get back to the topic
- 6:57:28 PM annabaik** @Stephen - was aimed at Markus for 6
- 6:57:54 PM Markus Gärtner** stephen explained that he brings in the exchange between gaps in the product and approaches to testing into the discussion
- 6:58:02 PM Markus Gärtner** anything else?
- 6:58:19 PM Markus Gärtner** I volunteered to pair program with a programmer once
- 6:58:33 PM Markus Gärtner** had the tests for the bugfix finished, and helped him then to get the application right
- 6:58:41 PM eusebiu blindu** @Markus and he refused? :)
- 6:58:46 PM annabaik** @Markus How did that work out?
- 6:59:13 PM Stephen Hill** Yes. I also contribute pretty extensively to specifications and product designs. The devs bring their ideas and I bring mine and we come to an agreement on a good all round design for the product.

- 7:00:01 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, solved 6, strange solution :)
- 7:00:29 PM annabaik** @Stephen - how do you run your projects? Waterfall/Agile/something else?
- 7:00:32 PM Markus Gärtner** oh, I looked at a nested if then else statement, found it crap, and re-wrote it piece by piece
- 7:00:48 PM Markus Gärtner** the programmer was quite happy, I think
- 7:01:03 PM annabaik** @Markus - how did you deal with the programmer's ego while doing this, or was it not his code originally?
- 7:01:24 PM Stephen Hill** This message has been removed.
- 7:01:35 PM Stephen Hill** What about at your place?
- 7:02:01 PM richardjameshill** we run agile on java, c++ withn cont integration. Our PHP is chaotic
- 7:02:09 PM Markus Gärtner** chaotic while I try to keep up XP practices
- 7:03:06 PM Stephen Hill** @Markus What is the main methodology in use at your place of work?
- 7:03:25 PM Markus Gärtner** hmmm, there is no official one
- 7:03:32 PM Markus Gärtner** it's a self-invented method
- 7:04:38 PM Markus Gärtner** influenced from waterfall, but it's not waterfall
- 7:05:08 PM annabaik** my last company was officially Waterfall/Prince 2 - there were occasional flirtations with working in a more Agile manner, but without senior management buy in, although they worked, we always went back to waterfall again afterwards
- 7:05:35 PM Stephen Hill** I suspect there are waterfall influences in a lot of development shops; after all it is what most people learned in uni.
- 7:05:41 PM richardjameshill** You can use agile inside prince2. I forget what stage
- 7:06:27 PM eusebiu blindu** We have officially agile, with 100
- 7:06:48 PM eusebiu blindu** because TC and scripts didn't avavoid bugs
- 7:07:04 PM annabaik** @Richard You can, I kept trying to persuade managers that essentially, their seniors likely would not know or care so long as they *delivered*. But fear is very powerful. So now I've moved on
- 7:07:11 PM richardjameshill** We are agile but deliver components to customers using waterfall

7:07:21 PM Stephen Hill 100

7:07:41 PM eusebiu blindu Well I didn't want to continue like that on my project

7:07:54 PM eusebiu blindu because I also left bugs to customers

7:08:05 PM eusebiu blindu but now its much better with less scripting

7:08:28 PM Markus Gärtner testers were fired because test cases did not avoid bugs?

7:08:47 PM annabaik This is a really interesting discussion for me as I need to come up with a strategy for how testing will work in my current environment, as I'm the first tester they've hired. My boss is very keen on automation, but I would like to ensure we keep space for manual exploratory test sessions to inform our automation.

7:08:59 PM eusebiu blindu They were fired because they left many bugs, company in trouble

7:09:08 PM eusebiu blindu but also they had to do 100

7:09:17 PM eusebiu blindu and following TC

7:09:22 PM Stephen Hill The big danger I suppose in the situation Sebi describes is that the tests become checks in the sense Michael Bolton defines them.

7:09:44 PM eusebiu blindu Managers think that Test Cases are the way. After that automation

7:09:54 PM eusebiu blindu They really believe that 100

7:09:59 PM annabaik @Stephen - yes, and checks don't find many bugs

7:10:04 PM eusebiu blindu or at least they did

7:10:20 PM eusebiu blindu They need reports to sent higher

7:10:30 PM annabaik @Sebi - test cases? Do they mean something they can count?

7:10:31 PM eusebiu blindu That;s another problem

7:10:38 PM eusebiu blindu Yes and cover

7:11:22 PM eusebiu blindu Test Cases to cover the app aparantly also to use for runs,automation and reports

7:11:27 PM richardjameshill I need some better metrics, has anyone used sonar

7:11:47 PM Markus Gärtner failed at setting sonar ab, richard

7:11:51 PM eusebiu blindu but I follow my way usually

7:11:55 PM Markus Gärtner metrics are not everything, though :)

7:12:11 PM annabaik I'm going to have to have that discussion at some point I think.

- 7:12:13 PM eusebiu blindu** And I am the only one for this client. I got away because I had useful bugs reported
- 7:12:15 PM Stephen Hill** What is Sonar?
- 7:12:47 PM Markus Gärtner** oh, I hope you're all aware that we're going to publish this :)
- 7:13:15 PM eusebiu blindu** But is company in Ireland and I thing in Ireland and UK and that area they use scripting in high percentage. Can someone comfirm?
- 7:13:28 PM annabaik** Skype edit or remove message is useful if there's anything up above you're not comfortable with being in the public transcript
- 7:13:50 PM richardjameshill** @eusebiu So do and some dont
- 7:13:53 PM annabaik** So remove any messages you don't like now, before end of session....
- 7:14:05 PM Stephen Hill** @Markus Thanks for the timely reminder. It is so easy to forget that!!!
- 7:14:56 PM annabaik** @Sebi - it depends where you work. In some companies, there is a LOT of manual testing, but not very good manual testing in that people try to do it through procedural manual test scripts
- 7:15:23 PM annabaik** Is that what you mean by scripting, or do you mean scripting for automation?
- 7:15:26 PM eusebiu blindu** When is not automate usually is stupid group of testers
- 7:15:38 PM Markus Gärtner** This sounds very awful
- 7:15:42 PM Stephen Hill** That is always the point to remember: what is appropriate in one situation in one organisation may not be true in other situations and/or organisations.
- 7:15:42 PM eusebiu blindu** I like where is automation mostly then try t change to ET
- 7:15:51 PM eusebiu blindu** rather than manual to ET
- 7:15:57 PM Markus Gärtner** what's the point in counting TC and of being fired if TC don't catch all bugs
- 7:16:00 PM annabaik** @Sebi - hmm, unfair I'd say. Sometimes it's because management is fearful or believes automation is for programmers to do
- 7:16:39 PM Markus Gärtner** test automation is a joint-work for testing activities, and for programming
- 7:17:02 PM Markus Gärtner** so far, I have met few which were willing to learn about the necessary programming or testing skills together

- 7:17:08 PM annabaik** @Sebi - there are a lot of very good testers out there working in manual scripted shops. Usually, they're the only reason the manual procedural test script approach works at all - because they go off script where their nose tells them there's a problem to be found
- 7:17:41 PM eusebiu blindu** Yeah its just my experience. When no presure to do scripting testers are pretty shallow
- 7:17:54 PM eusebiu blindu** Although I don't like 100
- 7:18:06 PM eusebiu blindu** I think automation is when someone needs it
- 7:18:23 PM annabaik** On 24/07/2010, at 18:17, eusebiu blindu wrote: > Yeah its just my experience. When no presure to do scripting testers are pretty shallow When no pressure to do scripting of what sort? Manual test scripts, or automated scripting? Getting a bit confused about terminology
- 7:18:29 PM richardjameshill** you can go 100
- 7:19:01 PM eusebiu blindu** @Annabaik Scripting I mean automated
- 7:19:17 PM Stephen Hill** For me automation is another type of testing at my disposal. I will use automation if it will help my test effort; if it does not help I will test manually. Also remember that a good automated test cannot be run manually and vice-versa. A load test, for example, is a different test running several test steps manually one after the other.
- 7:19:31 PM eusebiu blindu** But when testers don't know scripting they are very shallow
- 7:19:39 PM annabaik** How are we defining automation? I mean - earlier this week, I was testing a new story, but using Perlclip to give me data to paste in - was that automation or manual testing?
- 7:20:32 PM eusebiu blindu** Using a tool can be automated. But there will be situations when you don't have tools but need to do some python/perl/bash scripting
- 7:20:34 PM Stephen Hill** I would say, Anna, that you were using an automated data generation tool to help with your testing.
- 7:20:41 PM eusebiu blindu** I meant handling those cases
- 7:21:32 PM Markus Gärtner** that surely wasn't automation, anna
- 7:21:39 PM Markus Gärtner** it was tool support for your manual tests
- 7:21:57 PM Markus Gärtner** but let's get back to the pairing discussion
- 7:22:17 PM Markus Gärtner** do you think pairing up helps? does anyone have experience from pairing with a tester?

- 7:22:57 PM annabaik** I used to pair a LOT in my first testing job. Remotely - with a senior colleague who was the other side of the country.
- 7:22:58 PM eusebiu blindu** I don't have too much experience with pairing. I usually work alone, single tester, first tester in company...
- 7:23:47 PM richardjameshill** Yes, I enjoyed it. Talking through questions helped develop them.
- 7:23:57 PM Stephen Hill** I haven't got any paired testing experience of a formal nature. When I have worked with other people to carry out tests much of the work has centred on discussions around how to perform a particular test.
- 7:23:59 PM eusebiu blindu** I exchange a lot of info with dev guys and we try stuff, and compare. But not sure its pairing...
- 7:24:30 PM annabaik** When I used to pair with my former colleague, it worked really well for us - we would talk by phone, agree which areas we were looking at, and then IM each other when we found something we wanted the other person to look at/try out. If it got complicated, we'd screenshare and pick up the phone again.
- 7:24:36 PM eusebiu blindu** Usually one on one with some dev for a functionality or a bug...
- 7:24:49 PM Markus Gärtner** so, suppose, I'm your manager, and you can talk to me about everything related to your work, do you suggest to pair up with other colleagues or not? any why is important to me as a manager
- 7:25:45 PM richardjameshill** productivity should improve. If both are focused. But I would not recomment pairing up the office drunk and the office clown
- 7:26:02 PM Markus Gärtner** ah
- 7:26:20 PM annabaik** I would suggest yes, and the reason I'd give is: if we can work together on issues, it's more effective. Pairing also helps to share knowledge about the app, improves skills of both partners
- 7:26:29 PM eusebiu blindu** I think its like those things. Some studies show its productive but we need the context. If its designed to work in pairs it might not work. Maybe facilitating this indirectly...I would say could be more appropriate.
- 7:26:31 PM richardjameshill** Its about people at the end of the day
- 7:26:38 PM annabaik** I get more and better test ideas when pairing
- 7:26:58 PM Markus Gärtner** facilitating sounds good
- 7:27:07 PM Markus Gärtner** having a "pairing coach" maybe? :)
- 7:27:09 PM eusebiu blindu** Definetly talking and sharing info with someone helps.

- 7:27:20 PM Stephen Hill** @Markus I suppose it depends what you and the other testers are working on. I do like the idea of open communications though between testers and others because it does help generate test ideas.
- 7:27:46 PM richardjameshill** Ive got to go now. Thanks very much for your time. I enjoyed today alot.
- 7:28:06 PM annabaik** thanks Richard, hopefully see you on future sessions? :)
- 7:28:10 PM eusebiu blindu** When are we getting our money for this meeting? :)
- 7:28:26 PM Stephen Hill** Bye Richard. I enjoyed working with you for the few minutes we had!
- 7:28:40 PM eusebiu blindu** Bye Richard
- 7:29:04 PM Markus Gärtner** bye richard
- 7:29:31 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, so, some say we should pair, sometimes not, how much should we pair?
- 7:30:09 PM annabaik** depends on context :)
- 7:30:27 PM Markus Gärtner** you're getting money for this, sebi? :)
- 7:30:33 PM annabaik** I think it's valuable enough to try it out in most circumstances
- 7:30:34 PM eusebiu blindu** Sound like a clishee but it depends on context, its true
- 7:30:47 PM eusebiu blindu** @Markus I hoped so :)
- 7:31:21 PM Stephen Hill** At the risk of sounding trite I think we should pair when it is appropriate to do so. For example, I don't think it would be appropriate to pair up on running a test case that was doing a complex data analysis because of the risk of interruption to thought processes. I might get someone else to double-check my working though..
- 7:31:21 PM eusebiu blindu** sorry don't want to intervine with transcript
- 7:32:27 PM Markus Gärtner** ok, so, how do I plan the next project? :->
- 7:32:47 PM annabaik** @Stephen - good point, sometimes you need alone time to focus on something, but talking afterwards is good
- 7:33:37 PM annabaik** Markus - what's the context of the next project?
- 7:34:26 PM Stephen Hill** I always try to keep open channels of communication with all the other sides of the business. In that way I can discuss things openly with them when the need arises. I then find that pairing occurs almost naturally.
- 7:34:29 PM Markus Gärtner** we're developing software, that's all I can tell by now :->

7:34:38 PM annabaik :)

7:35:51 PM Markus Gärtner ok, we got a bit off-topic here. Stephen, Sebi, Tarik, do you have something to share from your experience today?

7:36:14 PM Stephen Hill After some initial problems with getting Flash to work started by exploring the way the wheels interacted with water flowing through them and the difference when planks get added in. Initially working with Sebi managed to get through level 1 and well on the way to level 2. I'm not too proficient with Skype and didn't realise we could have shared images and screens. Next paired with Richard and was almost there with a somewhat trial and error method of testing. Not the greatest by any means but given the time constraints it was quite effective. After working with Richard I started working with Ajay but he left the session early just as I completed level 2. I went back to working with Sebi and got through level 3 quickly and started on level 4 just as we ran out of time. Pairing is a new concept for me but I found it very useful. I think it would be more productive face to face, somehow!

7:36:44 PM Markus Gärtner most importantly, did anyone find bugs in the application? (I just found one)

7:36:52 PM eusebiu blindu Yeah. The puzzle was strange but filling with lot of balls and interconnecting them with triangles got me till 7th stage

7:37:11 PM annabaik @Markus - what was the bug, a physics bug or a different one?

7:37:15 PM eusebiu blindu I think 7th level was more to use 2 or more groups of balls

7:37:24 PM eusebiu blindu one group to fill the hole

7:37:34 PM eusebiu blindu so the big ball to pass through it

7:37:47 PM Markus Gärtner I just opened level 9

7:38:01 PM Markus Gärtner on the main menu you get solutions from others once you solve that particular level

7:38:05 PM annabaik @Sebi - ah, I just used a long cart, so it didn't fall down

7:38:12 PM Markus Gärtner on level 9 there is a solution filed which is for a different setting as my level 9

7:38:20 PM eusebiu blindu in rest nothing special. more propulsion if not connecting middle-to-middle but edge-to-middle

7:38:31 PM Markus Gärtner the saved solution is a completely different puzzle in fact

7:38:47 PM eusebiu blindu Its hard to do pairing remotely BTW

7:38:57 PM annabaik @Markus - oh, strange, do you have a link for it?

7:39:06 PM Markus Gärtner i love stephen's report

7:39:46 PM annabaik I think tools definitely help when pairing remotely - screen sharing helps, and I also think that using voice chat might have been helpful. I didn't suggest that today as I don't have a headset with me and am in a public place

7:39:50 PM Markus Gärtner <http://FantasticContraption.com/?designId=10989070>

7:40:07 PM Markus Gärtner compare with this one: <http://FantasticContraption.com/?designId=10989054>

7:40:12 PM Markus Gärtner it's on the same list there

7:40:43 PM Markus Gärtner here's another one: <http://FantasticContraption.com/?designId=10989052>

7:40:57 PM Markus Gärtner all offered as solutions to level 10, but I played another one there

7:41:27 PM annabaik Maybe they've changed the problem since the solution was saved originally?

7:41:35 PM annabaik I have to go, unfortunately

7:41:47 PM eusebiu blindu I don't see anything in those links

7:41:59 PM Markus Gärtner no? ah, too bad

7:42:03 PM annabaik Sebi - the links take a while to come up

7:42:06 PM Markus Gärtner maybe another bug :->

7:42:17 PM annabaik I thought I didn't get anything before, but they do eventually load

7:42:17 PM Markus Gärtner why can I share links to contraptions, that are not working for others

7:42:23 PM Stephen Hill Sorry folks, I need to head off too. Thank you for a great session. I hope I will be able to get back more often but I have family commitments on a Saturday with the Grandparents!

7:42:33 PM Markus Gärtner ok, let me close the session then maybe :)

7:42:48 PM eusebiu blindu Bye Stephen

7:42:56 PM Markus Gärtner i hope you enjoyed the teamwork and remember this session when you get back to work on monday

7:43:06 PM annabaik Bye all - thanks for a fun session :)

7:43:14 PM Markus Gärtner please, feel free to let others know about the session

7:43:23 PM Markus Gärtner and point them to weekendtesting.com

7:43:27 PM eusebiu blindu Bye all.

7:43:29 PM Markus Gärtner hope to see you back next weekend

7:44:05 PM Markus Gärtner thank you all for your time :>