



A Gross Of Weeklies

Elizabeth Mattijssen
25 August 2017

“Moaderm Weeklies”

- Perl 6 Weeklies since 7 February 2014.
- Just after MoarVM got introduced.
- (Temporarily) restarted by Timo Paulssen.
- (Temporarily) taken over by Elizabeth Mattijsen.
- Older ones seemed to have vanished in the mists of time.

Early 2014

- Rakudo Perl 6 had 3 functional backends:
 1. parrot
 2. JVM
 3. MoarVM
- and 1 almost functional installer:
 1. panda

Early 2014

- Execution speed was very sub-optimal.
- Bugs in one backend were interfering with other backends.
- Inconsistencies in parameter / list / array handling.
- Async options were still in embryonal stage.
- No Unicode grapheme support yet.
- No native variables.

A New Era

- <http://p6weekly.wordpress.com>
- The place to get your weekly dose of Perl 6 news!
- So what has changed since then?
- Let's start at the beginning...

on 7 February 2014
Timo Paulssen posted this:

Weekly changes in and around Perl 6

Off we go!

I've been missing my weekly fix of Perl 6 changes ever since GlitchMr stopped posting.



That's why I decided to (at least temporarily) pick up the torch and continue the march!

Here's to a good start!

I've already picked a nice theme 😊



The result so far:

Off we go!	2015.10 FOSDEM Videos and Role Conflicts	2016.21 A Quick One From Houston	2017.15 Kaboom! ⁽¹⁾
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This presentation?

- Result of going through the weekly archives.
- A real trip down memory lane for me.
- Things that struck me and felt important to note.
- Features of Rakudo Perl 6 that people should know about.
- And other diversions.

What was different?

- Older summaries about *#perl6* channel only.
- Logs of *#perl6* channel kept since 26 February 2005.
- New summaries were less about what people said.
- And more about what people did, on or off channel.
- Generally more meta, less precise.
- Later, more PR oriented.

The last “old” style, May 2013:

May 1:

- labster campaigned for `nqp::readlink` to support some of his recent changes and got `pmichaud` and `timotimo` to help.
- `pmichaud` landed some commits that impact Rakudo Star, and prepared a **Star release candidate**.
- FROGGS landed v5 slang module commits, mostly experimental.
- The [#masakism workshop](#) began; after it was over masak reported "quick summary of today's #masakism workshop: it was a success. people appear to want to do it again. date not set for that, but we'll make sure people get the message.".
- `timotimo` implemented **`unlink`, `cwd`, `rename`, `copy`, `link`, `symlink`, and improved `rmdir`**, for Rakudo-NQP-JVM. But seems "Java has no portable way to `chdir`?"
- `jnthn` landed a ton more Rakudo-NQP-JVM commits.
- `hoelzro` noted he "would like to do for `@pairs` -> (`$first`, `$second`)" or similar, such that for each pair `$first` is bound to the key, `$second` to the value. Discussion ensued about related **parameter unpacking syntax**.
- `pmichaud` landed more **Match/Nil switchover** commits.
- `pmurias` asked "would it make sense for me to submit a **gsoc proposal for a rakudo/nqp javascript backend** to the parrot foundation?". Discussion ensued with Util saying "I am the GSoC backup admin for PaFo, and defacto primary admin while dukeleto is away. I will look favorably and equitably on any Perl[56]-related tasks, students, mentors, or anything else related.".

Just too much work!

Sometimes I was reminded of cool features

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1 May 2013

```
my %h = a => 1, b => 2;  
for %h -> (:$key, :$value) {  
    dd $key, $value  
}
```

=====

```
Str $key = "a"  
Int $value = 1  
Str $key = "b"  
Int $value = 2
```

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1 May 2013

```
my %h = a => 1, b => 2;
for %h.pairs {
    my $key    := .key;
    my $value  := .value;
    dd $key, $value
}
```

=====

```
Str $key = "a"
Int $value = 1
Str $key = "b"
Int $value = 2
```

Sometimes I saw abandoned projects

candidate.

- FROGGS landed v5 slang module commits, mostly experimental.
- The #masakim workshop began: after it was over masak reported "quick summary of

1 May 2013

- Alas, the **v5** slang has bitrotted.
- And the **Pumpkin Perl 5** syntax has become a moving target.
- Maybe a restart using the **Perlito Perl 5** grammar is an option?
- Anyone interested working with Flavio Glock?
- Then contact me (or Flavio!)

Sometimes one gets sad about absent friends

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1 May 2013

Hopefully we will see them back again
sometime in the next 96 years!

Regularly

An interesting thing to point out is that the first 6 items on this list have been done by TimToady, who has left his self-imposed exile from the implementor's side of Perl6. Jnthn didn't have much time during the week, so I have no big achievements to report for the multithreading support on MoarVM.

3 March 2014

People come back!

Some projects

- At the same time, FROGGS has been moving the integration of PAUSE (the perl programming author's upload server) with Perl6 and it sounded like there'll be a big announcement this or next week regarding that whole complex 😊

17 May 2014

• Another thing lizmat did (the week before this one) was improving error

security issues on PAUSE, adding features to MetaCPAN and CPAN Testers to

integrating the Perl 6 Ecosystem into the Perl toolchain. Yes, you can now

upload your Perl 6 module to CPAN using Shoichi Kaji's mi6, and install it using Nick Logan's zef. And that all without interfering with the indexing and

16 May 2017

take a lot longer!

VM Tectonics

On the spectest side, 2 new tests were added. Niecza got 0.01% closer to the currently leading implementation, which is rakudo-jvm. rakudo-moar got 40 more passing tests and reached 99.51% of rakudo-jvm, an improvement of 0.13%. rakudo-parrot stayed at 99.72% of rakudo-jvm.

10 February 2014

Spectest-wise, Rakudo-moar is still at the 100% spot with Rakudo-jvm at 99.27% and Rakudo-parrot is now down to 99.00% relative to Rakudo-moar. I imagine that is the good Unicode DB support we have in MoarVM. When the concurrency branch of MoarVM is merged to master, that lead will increase even more. Oh my!

24 March 2014

All tests successful.

Files=1223, Tests=67668, 275 wallclock secs

(13.98 usr 5.24 sys + 1861.57 cusr 194.07 csys = 2074.86 CPU)

The Birth of a SubSystem

- In the new and shiny “spesh” branch of MoarVM, jnth has published his work for creating a Control Flow Graph and Single Static Assignment representation of MoarVM bytecode that can then be optimized based on a “facts database”. In particular, the following optimizations for this “bytecode specializer” have been created so far:

7 April 2014

Providing the optimizing info

And another Birth

The Perl Foundation has been accepted for Google's Summer of Code with the following projects:

- brrt will be developing a JIT compiler for MoarVM. He'll be blogging about his progress on a blog he set up for the project.

21 April 2014

Production ready (almost)

And yet another Birth

- jnthn added the very first steps towards an On-Stack-Replacement operation. OSR is required to optimize hot for loops, for example. Usually, we trigger optimization when a function is called often enough, but with such a for loop, all we do is jump back over the same code over and over. Instead of “jump to this different function”, OSR has to directly jump over into optimized bytecode (or jitted bytecode) and make sure variables on the stack and exception handlers and all those things are kept in order. 24 June 2014

Sometimes

- The implementation and semantics of “winner” have been refined further by lizmat

14 April 2014

- the “more” method on Supplies has been renamed to “emit” and the “winner” keyword has been renamed to “earliest”.

20 October 2014

This could also be written using the `React` keyword.

```
react {  
  whenever Supply.interval(2) -> $v {  
    say $v,  
    done() if $v == 4;  
  }  
}
```

docs.perl6.org

I takes a while to figure it out

Sometimes real news!

be up in “a matter of weeks” ... Jnthn did a talk on concurrency and a talk on Rakudo performance advances, in which he revealed he’s been working on a profiler in secret. That was a pretty “wow” moment for pretty much all of the Perl6 community! There was also a talk by masak about goto and why it’s

26 August 2014

So last week Larry Wall made quite a splash when people noticed that the abstract to his talk at FOSDEM 2015 reads “[...] 2015 will be the year that Perl 6 officially launches for production use. [...]”. I was taken by surprise as well – which caused this lovely excerpt from the irclog to be passed around on the ‘net – but now that I’ve had a bit of time to think about things, it really does make sense.

10 November 2014

And some destruction

- jnthn implemented finalizer support (giving your classes a DESTROY method or submethod that will be invoked when the object gets collected by the GC) on MoarVM and exposed it to rakudo. Now nine will be in a much better position to work on the Inline::Perl5 module!

8 September 2014

but not in an orderly fashion!

YABOAF

- Another neat little thing lizmat added was the beginning of a “dd” sub that dumps variables’ contents together with their name to stderr.

1 October 2014

Rakudo only

An important blogpost

moritz++ wrote a very interesting blog post about why it is so hard to write a compiler for Perl 6. There were quite some comments on Reddit.

16 March 2015

- **Static vs. Dynamic**
- **Mutable Grammar**
- **Meta-Object Programming**
- **Mixing of compilation and run time**
- **Serialization, Repossession**
- **General Featuritis**

We're only human

2015.31 Blogging Along

2015.32 The Onset Of Upheaval

2015.33: The Great List Refactor is picking up lots of steam!

2015.34-40 Birthday!

2015.41-42 ...

2015.51: UPD, DUP, POD, DPO, and other permutations

2015.52: Closer and closer to the Release

2015.53: It is out!

2016.1,2,3 What Are We Waiting 4?

2016.5,6 Rakudo Starring

2016.7 More Versioning

A big push is exhausting



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Anatomy of a Weekly

2017.34 Going

This week Rakudo Perl 6 went Atomic! Well, in the sense of “forming a single irreducible unit or component in a larger system”.

Locking is one of the evils in multi-threaded programming: Rakudo Perl 6 now has several lock-free primitives for updating native integer variables from several threads simultaneously. They’re all described on a [brand new documentation page](#). In short, the new operators are:

- `$var = $value` (aka `atomic-assign($var,$value)`)
- `my $a = $var` (aka `my $a = atomic-fetch($var)`)

Main article

Other main core points

AlexDaniel++ for his first release

Aleks-Daniel Jakimenko-Aleksejev has done his first Rakudo compiler release! This signals the end of an era in which *Zoffix Znet* did **14** consecutive Rakudo compiler releases. For which I can only give a big Thank You!

If you look at [announcement for Rakudo Perl 6 2017.08](#), you will see quite a

Other core developments

- *Samantha McVey* fixed several issues with `ignoremark` and a number of edge cases when concatenating strings.
- *Stefan Seifert* fixed an issue with native closures failing on a second run. He also made sure that Rakudo Perl 6 will exit with a value of 0 if invoked

Events

Swiss Perl Workshop

The [schedule](#) of the [Swiss Perl Workshop](#) has been published. It contains the following Perl 6 related presentations (in chronological order):

- [Three Little Words](#) by *Damian Conway*.

TPCiA Followup

Unfortunately, the official videos of [TPCiA](#) have not arrived yet. But we do have some pictures that have been shared:

Chris Jack (needs Facebook login)

Overview of (other) blog posts

Blog Posts

- [My Perl Conference in Amsterdam Takeaway](#) by *Philipp Gortan*.
- [The emperor's new clothes](#) by *Nadim Khemir*.
- [Building Perl 6 Applications with Docker and Ducky](#) by *Alexey Melezhik*.
- [Parsing nothing](#) by *Wenzel P. P. Peppmeyer*.
- [Preparations for your](#) by *Wenzel P. P. Peppmeyer*.

The Meanwhiles

Meanwhile on Twitter

- [TPCiA Slides](#) by *Samantha McVey*.
- [Heavy Metal TPF](#) by *Zoffix Znet*.
- [Thoughtful](#) by *Stephen Hall*.

Meanwhile on StackOverflow

- [Is there a canonical way to print a stack trace in Perl 6?](#) by *piojo*.
- [Creating a Perl 6 module containing Perl 5 utility scripts in bin/](#) by *Christopher Bottoms*.
- [Load functions into other namespaces](#) by *butaunit*.

Meanwhile on perl6-users

- [How do I do SSL/TLS with eMail::MIME?](#) by *ToddAndMargo*.

New Modules

Ecosystem Additions

- Toaster by Zoffix Znet.
- Grammar::ErrorReporting by Moritz Lenz.
- RPG::Base by Geoff Broadwell.
- App::P6Gha by Shoichi Kaii

Statistics: the first 3

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2014		174	5	2	5	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2014		287	46	15	12	2	4	5	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2014		177	15	8	4	5	0	3	1	0	1	1
2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

A steady following develops

Statistics: the last 3

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017								795				

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017								772				

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017								4,110				

Que? What happened?

Sometimes a nerve is struck

 `#!/bin/perl` `$reddit` **perl** [comments](#) [other discussions \(2\)](#)

↑ 12
↓

2017.34 Going  (p6weekly.wordpress.com)
submitted 3 days ago by [_perly_bot](#)
12 comments share save hide give gold report

all 12 comments

sorted by best ▼

 **PERL6** [comments](#) [other discussions \(2\)](#)

↑ 19
↓

2017.34 Going  I Weekly changes in and around Perl 6 (p6weekly.wordpress.com)
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all 37 comments

sorted by best ▼

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Perl 6 Going Atomic With  (p6weekly.wordpress.com)
submitted 2 days ago by [MattEOates](#)
171 comments share save hide give gold report

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How can you help P6W?

- Do stuff.
- Blog about your stuff.
- Cannot blog (yet)?
 - Provide one paragraph summary of what you did.
 - By email, IRC, text, Telegram, *!
- Tell people about the Perl 6 Weekly!

Social Media



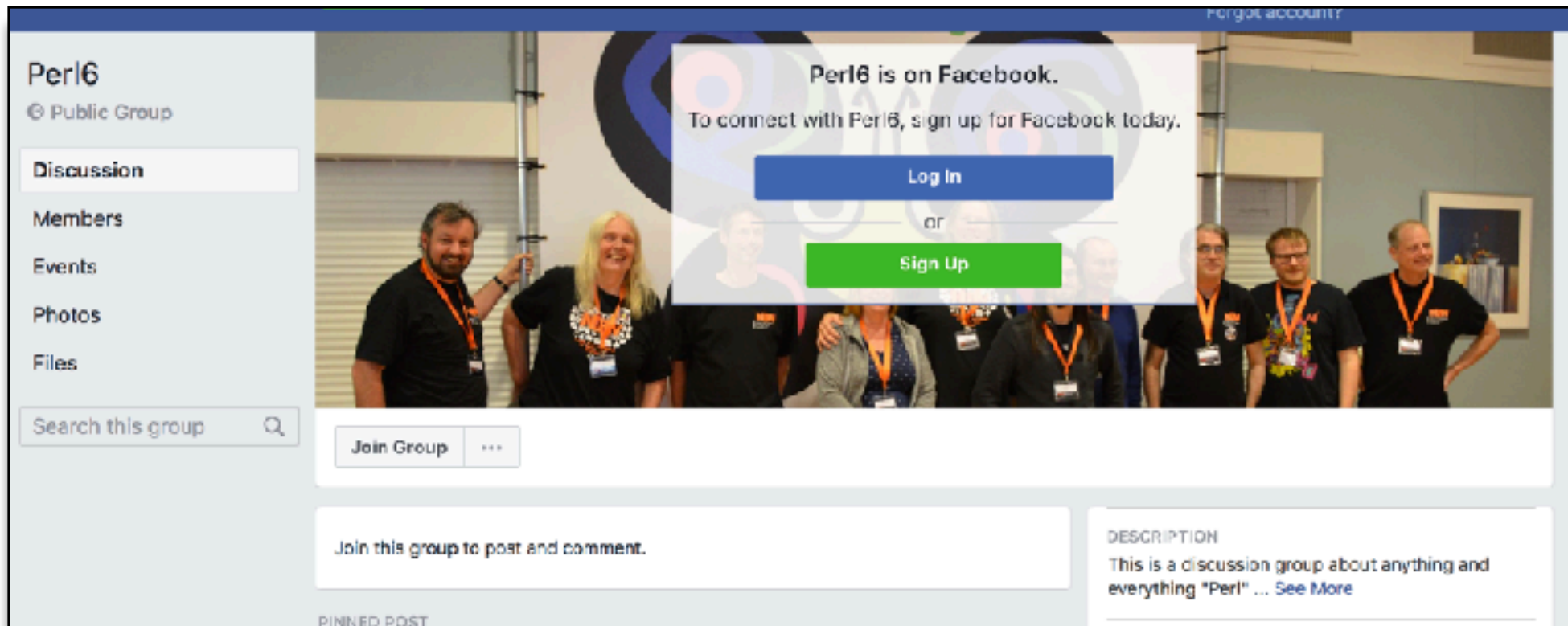
Twitter profile for Perl 6 News Feed (@perl6org). The profile features a blue header with a butterfly logo. The bio states: "News and blog posts about Perl 6, the". The statistics show 532 Tweets, 9 Following, 379 Followers, and 217 Likes. A "Follow" button is visible. The tweet feed shows a retweet from Perl 6 News Feed and a tweet from @loitime dated Aug 11, mentioning #rakudo and #perl6.

Perl 6 News Feed
@perl6org
News and blog posts about Perl 6, the

Tweets 532 Following 9 Followers 379 Likes 217 Follow

Tweets Tweets & replies Media

Perl 6 News Feed Retweeted
Lol, timo @loitime · Aug 11
in #rakudo #perl6 you can now ask an IO::Socket::Async for both its own and



Facebook group page for Perl6. The page features a blue header with the group name "Perl6" and a "Public Group" status. The left sidebar includes links for Discussion, Members, Events, Photos, and Files. The main content area shows a photo of a group of people at a conference, overlaid with a "Perl6 is on Facebook" message and "Log In" and "Sign Up" buttons. Below the photo is a "Join Group" button. The description states: "This is a discussion group about anything and everything 'Perl' ... See More".

Perl6
Public Group

Discussion
Members
Events
Photos
Files

Search this group

Join Group

Perl6 is on Facebook.
To connect with Perl6, sign up for Facebook today.
Log In
or
Sign Up

Join this group to post and comment.

DESCRIPTION
This is a discussion group about anything and everything "Perl" ... See More



Thank You!

A Gross Of Weeklies

Elizabeth Mattijsen
25 August 2017



Questions?

A Gross Of Weeklies

Elizabeth Mattijsen
25 August 2017