

GeoScout 2.1

Operating Instructions

Geocaching, hiking, backpacking and other outdoor activities involve risk to both persons and property. There are many variables including, but not limited to, weather, fitness level, terrain features and outdoor experience, that must be considered prior to seeking or placing a Cache. Be prepared for your journey and be sure to check the current weather and conditions before heading outdoors. Always exercise common sense and caution.

GeoScout makes use of information from the internet. By using GeoScout you accept all liability for the use of this data on your device. Some features of GeoScout may cease to function if external content is unavailable or changed in format.

Screen shots in this manual have been taken from a device with 800 x 480 screen resolution. Screens may appear different on your device.

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website: www.navstation.co.uk/geoscout

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What's New?

New storage

GeoScout 2 is based on the original GeoScout, however all data is now stored in a SQL database rather than XML based files. This allows much more powerful selection and better performance when you have a large number of caches.

New search / selection

Previously any searching on cache data required the associated XML file to be opened and interpreted before the search criteria could be assessed. Because file based processing was slow, it was recommended that caches were grouped into folders with a maximum of 100 caches per folder.

The new storage allows much faster filtering, so the selection screen has been extended to allow filtering on various attributes of a cache. In addition to the standard attributes, a user defined *Category* list has been added which allows a category to be assigned to a cache.

Multiple favourite locations

The old "Home" position has been replaced by multiple user defined *Favourite Locations*. These locations, which have a lat/long position associated with them, allow further grouping of cache data.

Revised Cache Logging

Cache logging has been extended to allow all types of logs to be entered, and not just *Found* logs. Multiple logs can be recorded "in the field" and then sent to www.geocaching.com in a single transaction when you return and have internet connection.

Revised Spoiler Images

The spoiler image download has been revised so that only images specifically assigned to the cache are downloaded. Images embedded in the long description or images associated with logs will no longer be downloaded. Image quality has also been improved.

Cache Attributes

Cache attributes are now downloaded.

Revised maps

GeoScout now has a totally revised mapping engine which will get rid of that annoying "map extended" message. You can now select from alternative map sources.

Unfortunately, GeoScout no longer supports UK Ordnance Survey maps.

Extended Travel Bug Facilities

The previous Travel Bug screens were limited to recording details of a TB find / placement and did not allow automatic updating of the GroundSpeak website.

The Travel Bug feature now allows new Travel Bugs to be added when only the Tracker Id is known. This allows you to add Travel Bugs "in the field" when you might not have access to the internet.

Travel Bug finds and placements can now be recorded directly from the Cache Details screen. As with Cache logs, multiple Travel Bug logs can be recorded "in the field" and then sent to www.geocaching.com in a single transaction when you return and have internet connection.

Bug Fixes

In addition to these functional changes, there are several bug fixes and minor enhancements.

New in 2.1

Changes in 2.1 are indicated by revision bars. They include:

- Revised "finger-friendly" view menu.
- Map moved from a tab to a separate screen.

- Complex filter criteria can be created using custom SQL.
- Compass now includes sun direction indicator.
- Zoom option on spoiler pictures.
- Travel bugs can be downloaded for a cache.
- Support for field notes.
- Cache status implemented to facilitate identifying caches that are ready to find.
- Waypoint now includes notes.
- Puzzle resolver available from the waypoint screen.
- Ability to create waypoint from GPS position or GPS average screen.
- Custom map source option.
- Issues with non standard screen resolution resolved.
- Many minor issues resolved.

What's Next?

If there are other areas that you feel can be improved, please contact support@navstation.co.uk with your suggestions.

Installation Instructions

GeoScout is designed to run on Microsoft Mobile devices (Windows CE version 3.0 or greater) with a touch screen.

Microsoft .NET Compact Framework Version 3.5

This product is built using the [Microsoft .NET Compact Framework](#). This is an operating system extension which is available as a free download from [Microsoft](#) or the GeoScout website.

If you do not already have this installed on your device, you should download and install this first.

Microsoft SQL Compact Edition 3.5

This product is built using the [Microsoft SQL Compact](#). This is a compact database engine which is available as a free download from [Microsoft](#) or the GeoScout website.

If you do not already have this installed on your device, you should download and install this first.

GeoScout

To install GeoScout, please perform the following steps:

- Ensure that you have established an ActiveSync session between your desktop PC and Pocket PC
- Unzip the ZIP file that you downloaded from the website.
- Run the program GeoScoutSetup.exe from your desktop PC.
- Select the components that you wish to install (see above).
- Confirm the prompt requesting installation in the default folder.
- Check your Pocket PC to see if there are any additional steps.
- Start the application from the GeoScout icon in the Programs folder

Database File

GeoScout uses a database file to store all the cache details. The installation process does not install this file, but you will be prompted to create it the first time that you run GeoScout.

By default, the database file (GeoScout.sdf) will be created in the GeoScout program folder, however it can be relocated to any folder below \My Documents if you wish to take advantage of an external storage card. If you do move the file you will be prompted to select the new file location when you start GeoScout.

Splash screen

While the application is loading up, a splash screen will be displayed. You can change this for another image file if you wish. The file must be an image file named *splash.jpg* and must be placed in the same folder as the GeoScout program files. The image should not be larger than 250 pixels wide by 268 pixels high.

Registration

The product may be evaluated free of charge for a 30 day period. There are no restrictions during the evaluation period.

You can purchase the product via links on the *Purchase* page at www.navstation.co.uk/geoscout. You can also purchase (at slightly higher prices due to their commission rates and VAT requirements) at www.handango.com or www.pocketgear.com (search for GeoScout).

On purchase you will receive a 5 digit registration code which is linked to your device *Owner Name* (as viewed on the Today screen). Please be sure to supply this using the correct capitalisation. The registration code should be entered into the application via the Register button on the Disclaimer screen.

Backup

As with all software, you should backup the data files generated by GeoScout to protect from accidental loss. The important files are:

- geoscout.sdf (the main database)
- woodpecker.geoscoutce.exe.config (your settings file)

- \Images folder contains map tiles, however these can easily be recreated from the web, so you may choose not to backup these.

Known Issues

The following issues are known to cause problems with GeoScout:

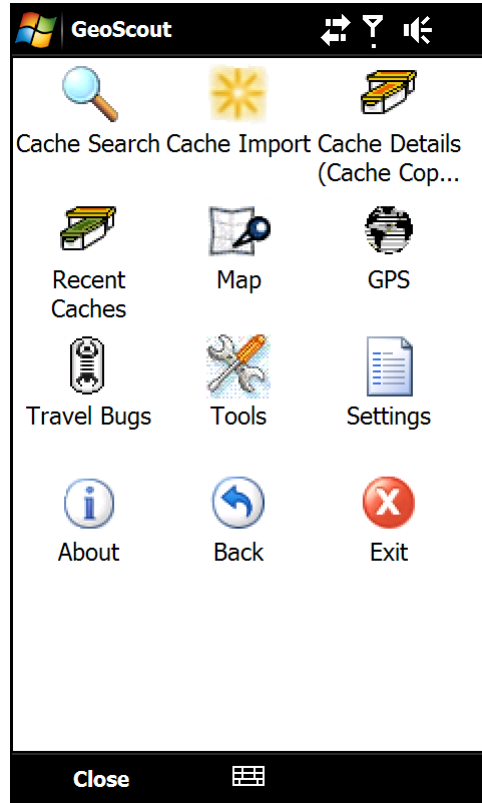
- GeoScout will not work with SQL Compact 3.5 SP1. Spurious messages occur when trying to access the database. Please ensure that you have SQL Compact 3.5 installed and NOT the service pack. This will be resolved in a future release.

For a full list of known issues and requested enhancements, please see the IssueTracker at <http://www.navstation.co.uk/geoscout>.

Getting Started

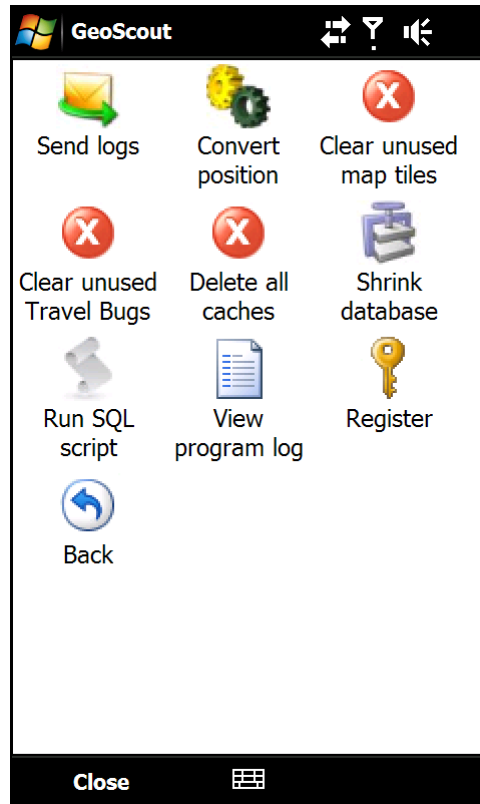
The quickest way to understand how GeoScout works is to take a quick tour. Use the following pages to take a look around the application.

Program Navigation



Once the application starts, you are presented with an icon based menu showing the available modules. The required module may be started by tapping the appropriate icon. This screen is redisplayed by tapping the *View* menu.

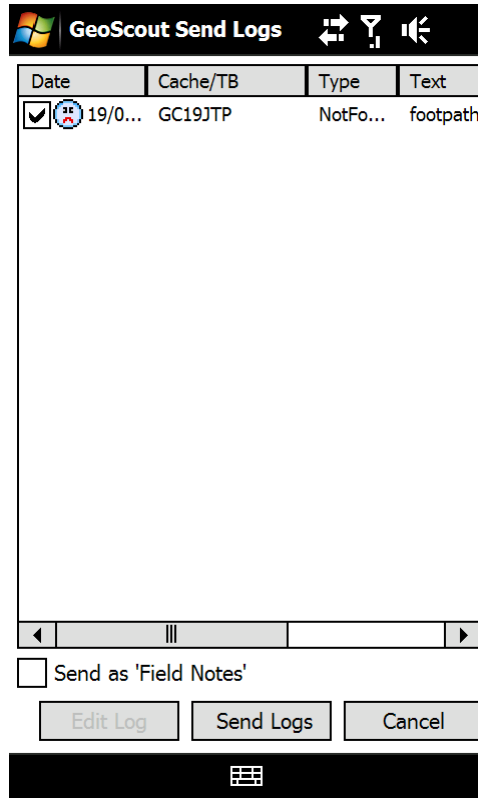
Tools




This menu allows you to perform various maintenance tasks.

Send logs

If you have an internet connection at the time that you write the log, you can check the *Send Now* option and it will automatically be sent to the Groundspeak website, otherwise you can mark it to be sent later using the *View/Tools/Send outstanding logs* menu option.



Convert position

Wherever you see the cogs  button, you can convert a position between various formats such as Lat/Long, OSGB, UTM. If you have an internet connection, you can also use this utility as a location lookup by entering the name of a place and getting the position for that location from a webservice.

Clear unused map tiles

After prolonged use, you may find that you have map tiles on your device which are no longer associated with caches, either because you have removed the cache or because the tile was downloaded while scrolling beyond the cache boundary. These can be removed via the *View/Tools/Clear unused map tiles* menu option.

Clear unused travel bugs

If you download travel bugs with caches, these will be available in the *Travel Bug List* screen. After time, the travel bugs may be moved to other caches so you may end up with travel bugs that are no longer associated with caches in your database. This function allows you to remove any travel bug that you have not placed/retrieved and that are not associated with any cache.

Delete all caches

This option allows you to clear all caches and associated data from your database.

Shrink database

When you delete items from the database, the unused disk space is not recovered automatically. This option allows you to shrink the database and recover unused disk space. Note that this

function requires additional SQL replication components that are not installed by default. These can be downloaded from the website.

Run SQL script

This option allows you to run maintenance scripts that might be provided by GeoScout support.

View program log

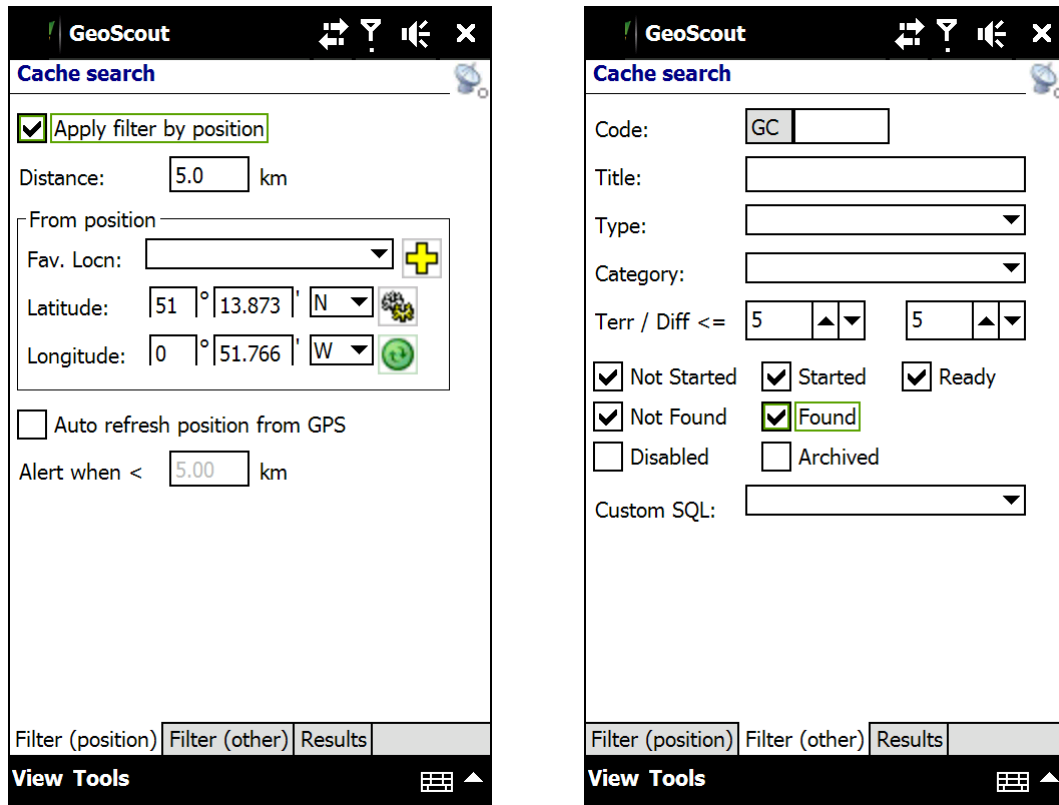
This option allows you to view the program log which is written to record various GeoScout functions. It is usually only of interest if you are encountering problems running GeoScout when you may be asked to provide the content of this file by GeoScout support.

Register

You have the option to register on the disclaimer screen or via this option.


Cache search and list

The cache search option allows you to manage and search for caches on your device. The initial view presents shown a tabbed page that allows you to enter selection criteria for the caches you want to see and a results tab showing the matching caches.



You can filter the cache list by various criteria, but the most useful may be the position. This allows you to specify a position and a distance from that position. All caches within this area will then be selected.

You can quickly update the position from one of your *Favourite Locations* by using the *Fav Locn* dropdown. (Note that having updated the position, the dropdown will be cleared.) Additional *Favourite Locations* can be added via the *Add*  button adjacent to the dropdown.

You can refresh the position from the current GPS position by tapping the *Refresh*  button in the position frame. You can also have GeoScout update the position from the GPS automatically every minute by checking the *Auto refresh* checkbox.

If you want to turn off filter by position you can uncheck the *Apply filter* checkbox which will remove position based criteria from the filter but keep your existing selections on the screen.

Another useful way to filter caches is by *Category*. You can define your own Categories via the *View/Settings/Category* menu option and also assign Categories when you import caches.

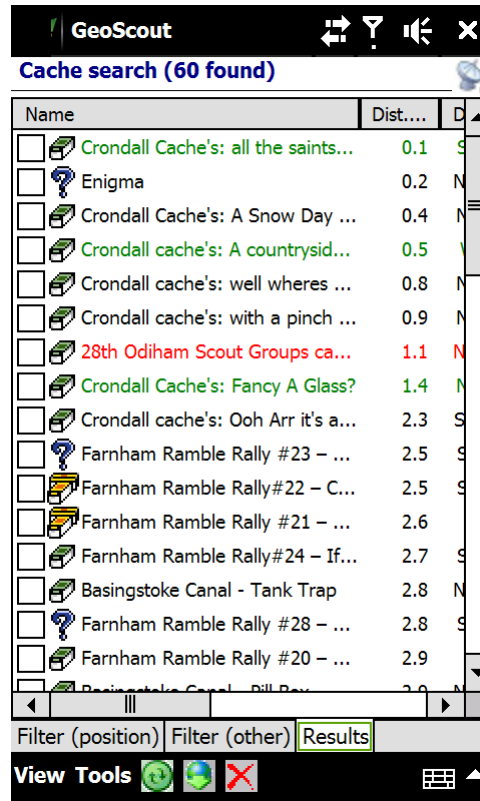
The search status checkboxes (not started, started, ready, not found, found) are grouped together with an OR selection, so any caches that match any of the search status values that are checked will be returned. Note that the started and not started status values are only used for mystery (and possibly multi if you set the appropriate config option) cache types.

Note that the Disabled and Archived checkboxes have three states:

- Checked to only include matching caches
- Unchecked to exclude matching caches
- Indeterminate (greyed out) bypass filter on this status

The *Custom SQL* is an advanced feature which allows you to write custom SQL queries to retrieve more complex selections. A diagram of the database structure is at the end of this document. Please contact technical support if you think you have a need for this and want further information.

Once you have entered your selection criteria, tap the *Results* tab to see matching caches.



The first time you start the application the cache database will be empty (or may just contain a couple of sample caches).

Cache colour

- Caches that you have found will be displayed in green.
- Caches that you have attempted or started but not found will be displayed in red.
- Caches that are disabled or archived are displayed in grey.





If you want to import additional caches using the position of an existing cache as the selection criteria, use the *Import nearby caches* context (tap'n'hold) menu.

You can select a cache by tapping the row in the list or for some actions you can select multiple items using the checkbox column.

Once a cache is selected, the toolbar will show an additional buttons that will allow you view  cache details.

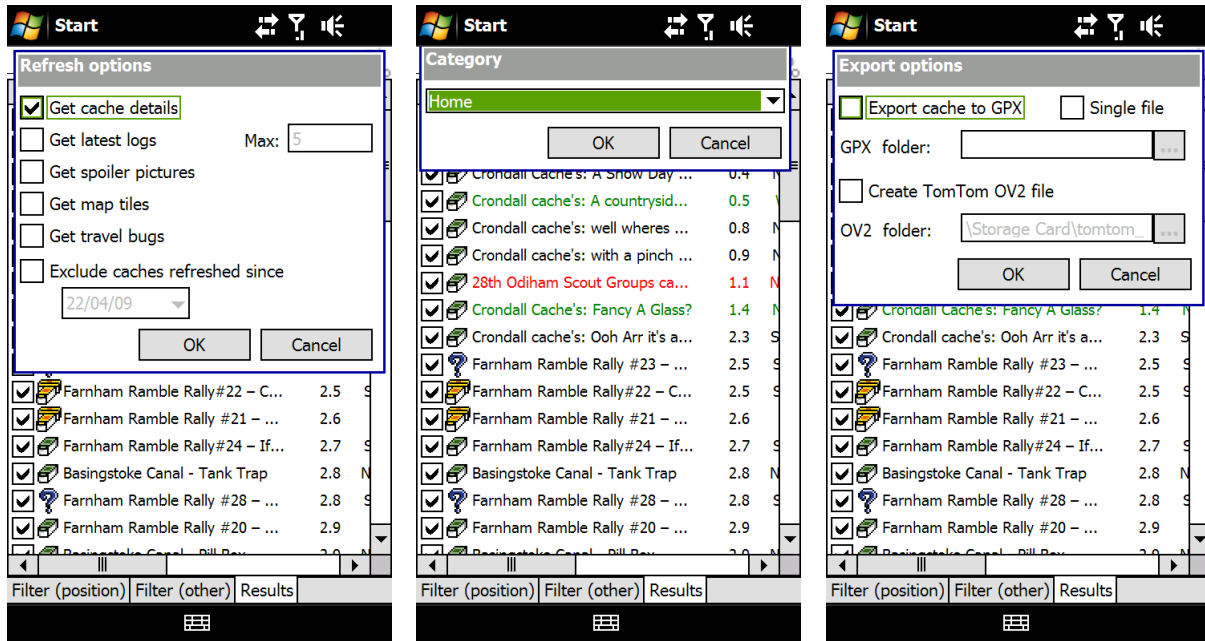
You can sort the list by tapping any of the column headers.

You can recalculate the *Distance* and *Direction* of the caches from one of the caches in the list by using the context menu *Show distance from this cache* option.

You can use the toolbar buttons to reload the cache list , refresh cache details from the internet , delete the cache  or view  cache details. These options are also available via the *Tools* menu.

The *Tools* menu allows you to:

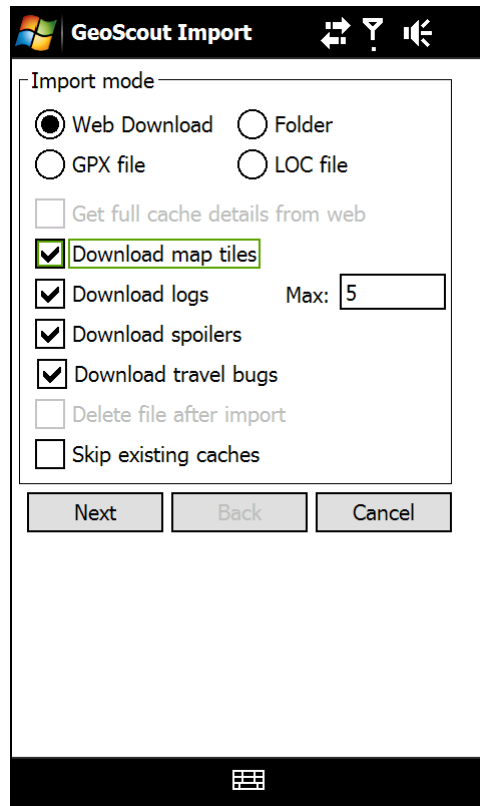
- Quickly select all caches. (Use the refresh toolbar button to clear selection.)
- Refresh selected cache details (including maps) from the internet.
- Set category for all selected caches.
- Export selected caches to an XML file using the GPX format (either one file per cache, or a single file) or to a TomTom POI file using the OV2 format.
- Delete selected caches.



Cache Import

To import caches into the application, use the *View, Import* menu option.

The import process takes you through various steps to define how the import should be performed.



Whenever data is to be obtained from the web (either because you have requested a web download or because you have requested *full cache details from web* when importing from files), you have the option of specifying which extra data is required:

- Map tiles.
- Logs (up to the limit specified via *View\Settings\Web* menu). It can be more efficient to restrict the log list to 5 as this does not require any additional internet access to retrieve the log data.
- Spoiler images, which can take time to download and require additional disk space.
- Travel bugs, which may be moved frequently, so the association with a cache may quickly become inaccurate.

Importing from GPX or LOC files

If have existing GPX or LOC files, these should be copied to your device. (Note: the Windows Mobile "Open File" dialog will only show files within \My Documents or below so you should use this \My Documents as a transfer folder.)

LOC files only contain a subset of the full cache data. To import the full data from the web, check the *Get full details...* checkbox. This option requires an internet connection. Details for each cache in the file will be retrieved from the internet so that you have full details of the cache.

If you no longer require the file being imported once it has been processed by GeoScout, check the *Delete file after import* checkbox.

If you do not want to process caches that you have already got on your device, check the *Skip existing...* checkbox.

Importing from GeoScout 1.x folders

GeoScout 1.x used a folder based storage which is not compatible with GeoScout 2. If you have upgraded and want to import your existing caches, use the *Folder* option.

If you no longer require the original GPX files, you can check the *Delete file after import* checkbox.

After tapping the *Next* button you will be prompted to locate the folder to import. The import is recursive so all folders below the selected folder will also be imported. The folder name will be used to assign a *Category* to each imported cache.

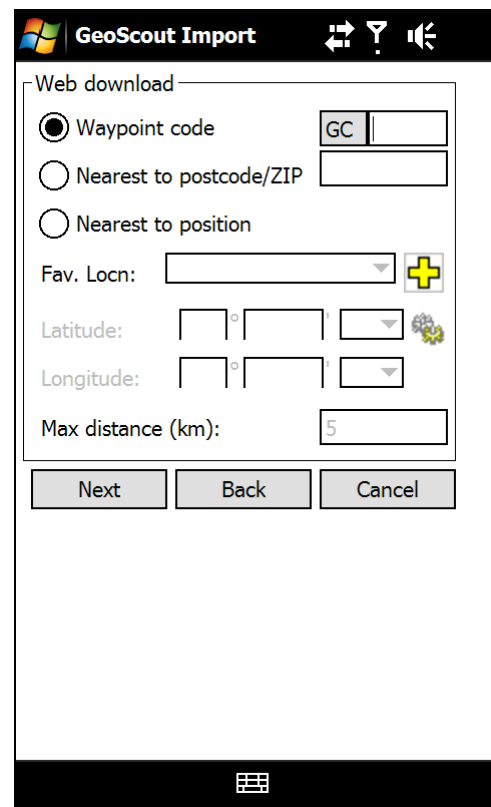
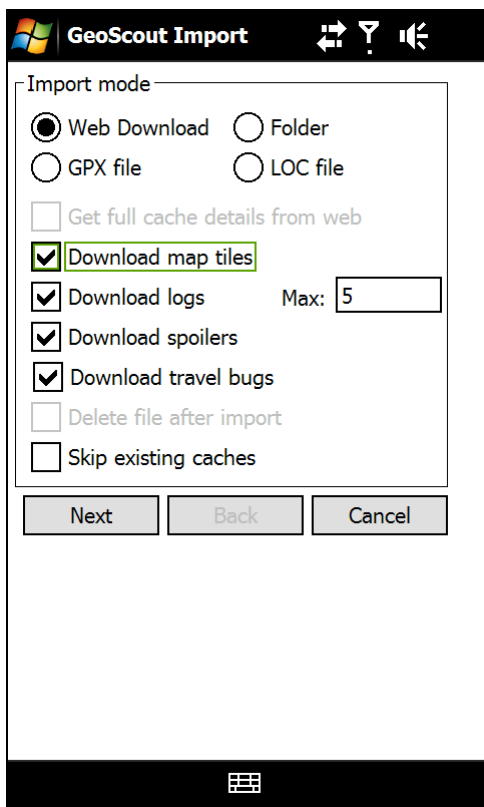
Importing from the web

GeoScout can download and import data directly from www.geocaching.com. You can either import a single cache by entering the waypoint code, or a range of caches by entering a position (lat/long) or postcode/zip (for countries where this is supported by www.geocaching.com). Because Groundspeak require that you login before the lat/long of a cache is displayed, you will need to provide your username and password via the View\Settings menu in order to retrieve full position details

Note: Because the GC.com website does not display any information about your finds, caches imported using the waypoint code may not reflect the fact that you have found the cache.

Note: the position will default to your current position if you have connected to your GPS, however you can change this as required.

You can quickly update the position from one of your *Favourite Locations* by using the *Fav Locn* dropdown. (Note that having updated the position, the dropdown will be cleared.) Additional *Favourite Locations* can be added via the *Add*  button adjacent to the dropdown.

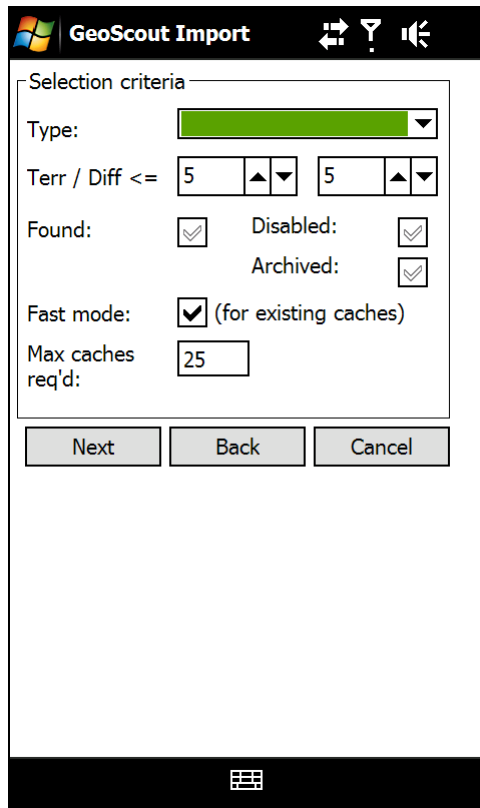


If importing “nearest” caches, you can specify further filter criteria and the maximum number of caches to be returned. This will default to 20, but can be increased to 100 if required.

Note that the Found, Disabled and Archived checkboxes have three states:

- Checked to only include matching caches
- Unchecked to exclude matching caches
- Indeterminate (greyed out) bypass filter on this status

The *Fast mode* checkbox allows you to bypass detailed processing for caches that are already in the GeoScout database. Only summary details such as the archived / disabled status will be obtained for existing caches when this checkbox is selected.



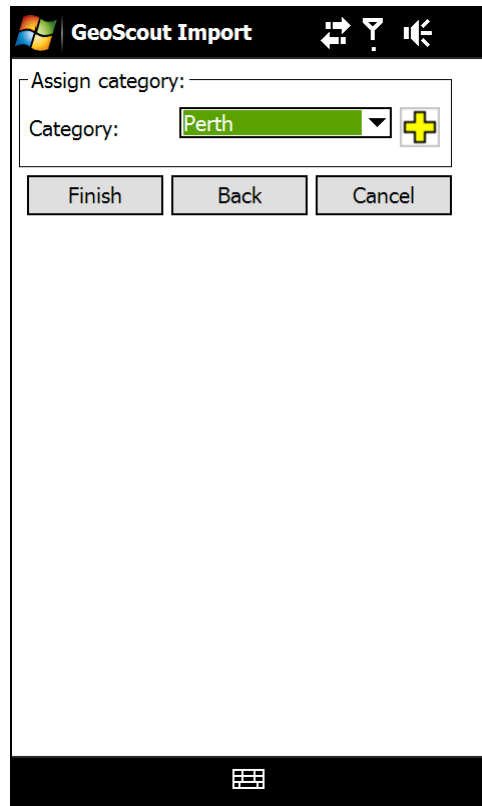
The screenshot shows the 'GeoScout Import' dialog box. The title bar includes the Windows logo, the text 'GeoScout Import', and three icons: a double-headed arrow, a funnel, and a speaker. The main area is titled 'Selection criteria' and contains the following controls:

- Type:** A dropdown menu with a green background.
- Terr / Diff <=:** Two spinners, both set to the value '5'.
- Found:** A checked checkbox.
- Disabled:** A checked checkbox.
- Archived:** A checked checkbox.
- Fast mode:** A checked checkbox with the text '(for existing caches)' to its right.
- Max caches req'd:** A text input field containing the number '25'.

At the bottom of the dialog are three buttons: 'Next', 'Back', and 'Cancel'. A small icon of a table is visible at the very bottom center of the dialog box.

Assigning a Category

All imports except *Folder* allow you assign a category to the caches imported. Categories can be anything to help you group and search for caches at a later date.

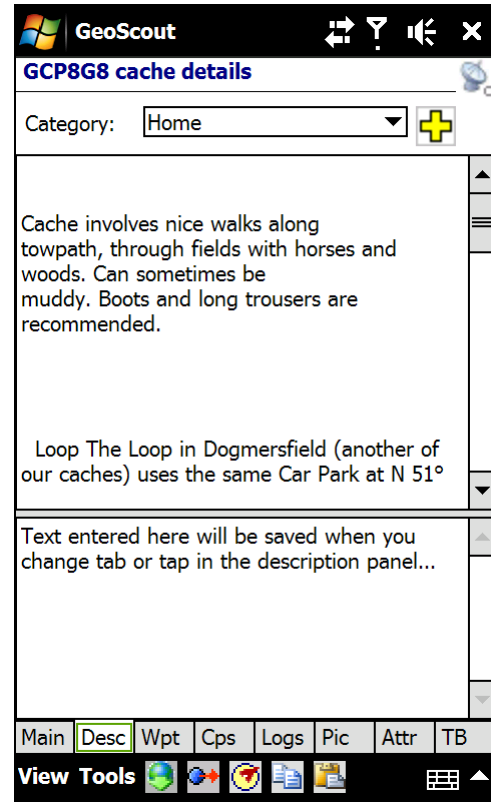
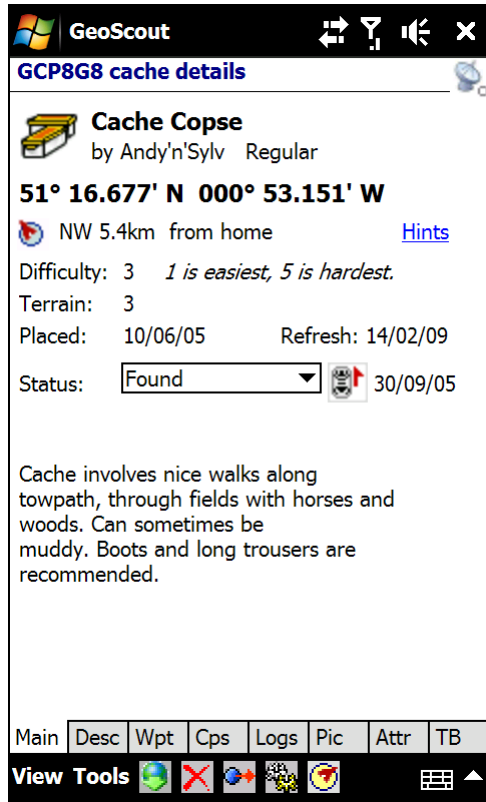


Cache details

The Details screen shows all the essential information needed to locate the cache. The hint can be decrypted by tapping the adjacent link.

If you have an internet link, you can view the cache website page by tapping the *Web*  toolbar button.

To navigate to the cache waypoint using a connected GPS, tap the *Navigate*  toolbar button.




If you have found the cache, you can enter the date that you did so by checking the checkbox at the bottom of the screen. This data will be saved automatically.

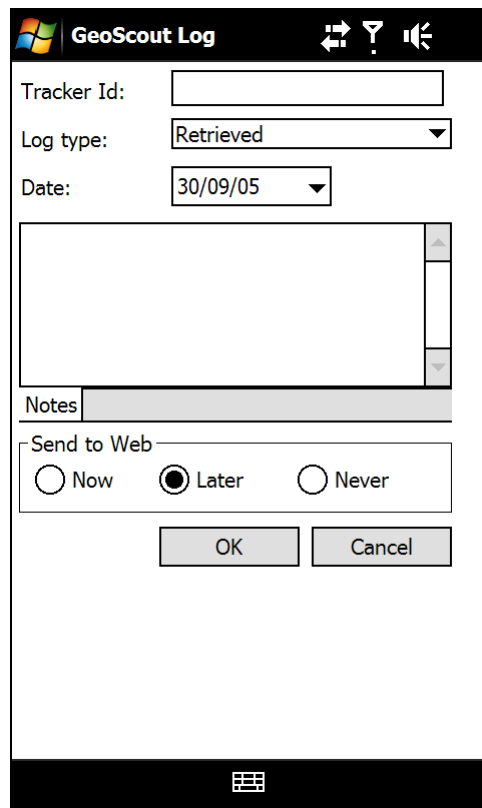
An area is provided for you to add notes and other text at the bottom of the *Description* tab. To ensure that your notes are saved, you should either tap the main description text or change the tab.

Recording Cache logs

You can create a complete log for your find by changing the *Status* as appropriate. You are then presented with the *Cache Log Details* screen. This is described in more detail shortly.


Some log types are only valid if you are the owner of the cache. GeoScout detects cache ownership by matching the cache owner name with the username you provided in the *Options* screen. If you entered a different name when creating the cache, you can "take ownership" of the cache via the `\Tools\Change ownership` menu.

If you have found the cache, you will have an additional option to record the retrieval of Travel Bugs by tapping the *Retrieve Travel Bug* button on the main *Cache Details* screen . This requires you to enter the Tracker Id for the travel bug.

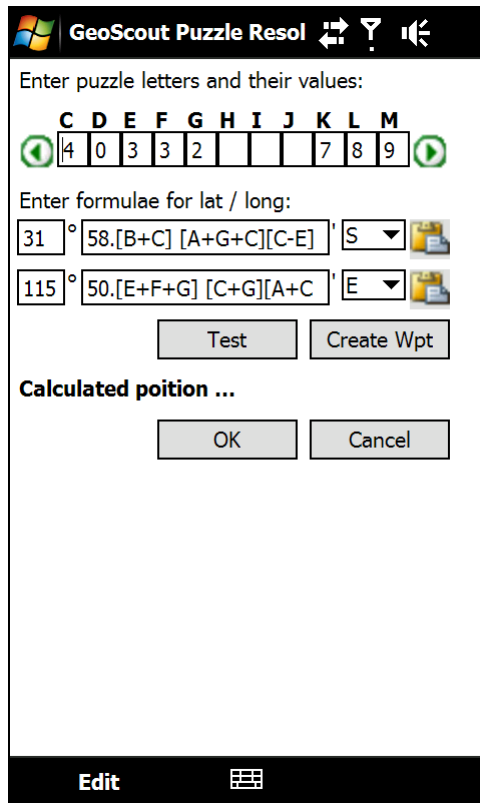


The screenshot shows the 'GeoScout Log' dialog box. At the top, there is a title bar with the Windows logo, the text 'GeoScout Log', and three icons: a double-headed arrow, a question mark, and a speaker. Below the title bar, there are three input fields: 'Tracker Id:' with an empty text box, 'Log type:' with a dropdown menu showing 'Retrieved', and 'Date:' with a dropdown menu showing '30/09/05'. Below these fields is a large empty text area with a vertical scrollbar on the right. Underneath the text area is a 'Notes' label. Below the notes is a 'Send to Web' section with three radio buttons: 'Now' (unselected), 'Later' (selected), and 'Never' (unselected). At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: 'OK' and 'Cancel'. A keyboard icon is visible at the very bottom of the screen.

Multi stage caches

There is a puzzle resolver screen available for multi-stage or mystery caches. This can be activated by tapping the *Cache Type* icon  on the *Cache Details* tab or via the context menu on the *Cache Description* or *Cache Waypoints* tabs..

You can use the *Notes* area on the *Cache Details Description* tab as a place to build up the data required for the puzzle and then use the context menu on this area to send the data you have entered direct to the puzzle screen. You can also use the cut/paste options to assist in transferring data to this screen.



GeoScout Puzzle Resol

Enter puzzle letters and their values:

C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
4	0	3	3	2				7	8	9

Enter formulae for lat / long:

31 ° 58.[B+C] [A+G+C][C-E] S

115 ° 50.[E+F+G] [C+G][A+C] E

Test Create Wpt

Calculated poition ...

OK Cancel

Edit

Multi-stage caches often require you to resolve some kind of substitution puzzle where you are given an encrypted position containing alphabetic characters which need to be substituted with numbers that you find from clues in the description.

For example, cache GC1E5VA provides the following position:
35 58.B+C, A+G+C, C-E 115 50.E+F+G, C+G, A+C+F.

The values A-G are resolved to numbers by looking for information at the initial waypoint site.

The *Puzzle Resolver* screen attempts to assist in the resolution of this type of puzzle.

The top area of the screen holds an array of alphabetic characters and allows you to enter a numeric value for each letter of the alphabet.

There is an area for entering the puzzle for the latitude and longitude minutes. This must be entered according to the following rules:

- Decimal places must be entered as a period / full-stop and not a comma.
- Each individual calculation must be enclosed in square brackets [].

So for our example cache, the values to enter are:

- Latitude: 58.[B+C] [A+G+C] [C-E]
- Longitude: 50.[E+F+G] [C+G] [A+C+F]

The following logic is then used to resolve the puzzle:

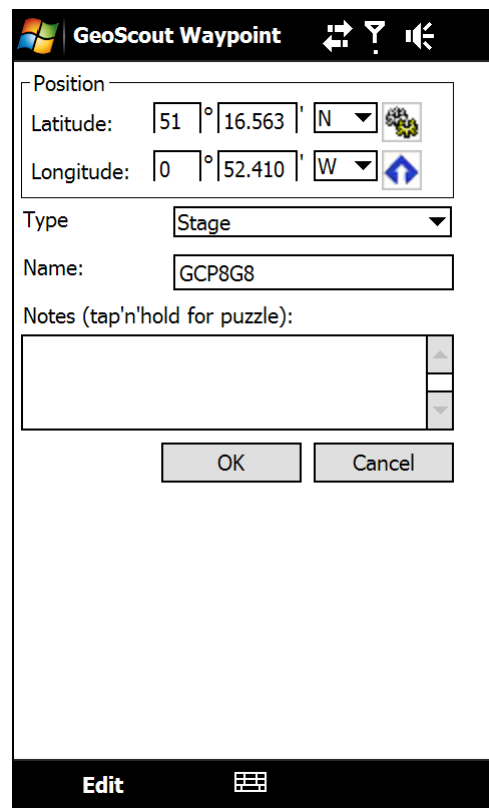
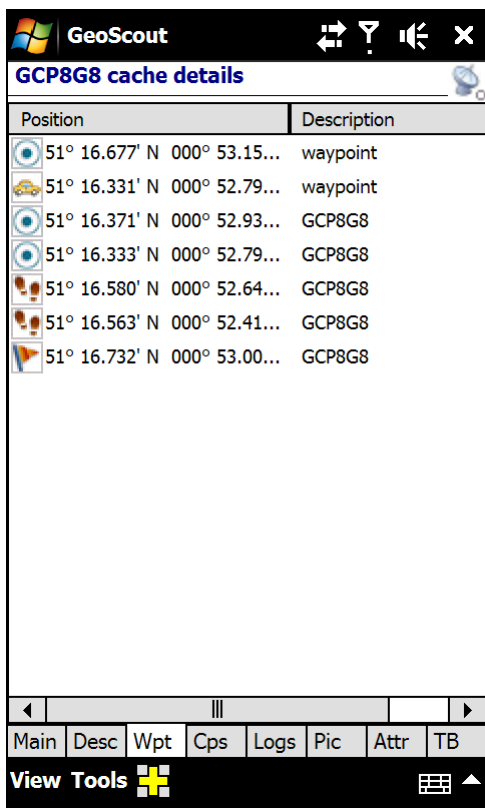
- Any spaces are removed.
- Any alphabetic characters are replaced with their number equivalent.
- Each individual calculation enclosed by a pair of square brackets [] is resolved mathematically. Illegal characters are ignored.
- All the individual calculation results are then concatenated into the final result.



Once you are happy that you have a valid position, you can create a waypoint which can then be edited (see next section).

This will not resolve all multi-stage puzzles, but should help with many.

Secondary waypoints

You can also manually add additional waypoints for multi-stage or offset caches, via the *Waypoints* tab. If you have imported your cache from the web, GeoScout will try to set these up for you by searching for valid latitude/longitude positions in the cache description.



To add a new waypoint tap the *Add*  toolbar button. Note that waypoints can be added directly as a latitude and longitude or as an offset (bearing and distance) from another position using the *Offset*  button.

To edit an existing waypoint by select it and then tap the *Edit*  toolbar button.

To delete an existing waypoint, select it and then tap the *Delete*  toolbar button.

To convert the waypoint position to OSGB or UTM coordinates, select it and then tap the *Convert*  toolbar button.

To navigate to the waypoint using a connected GPS, select it and then tap the *Navigate*  toolbar button.

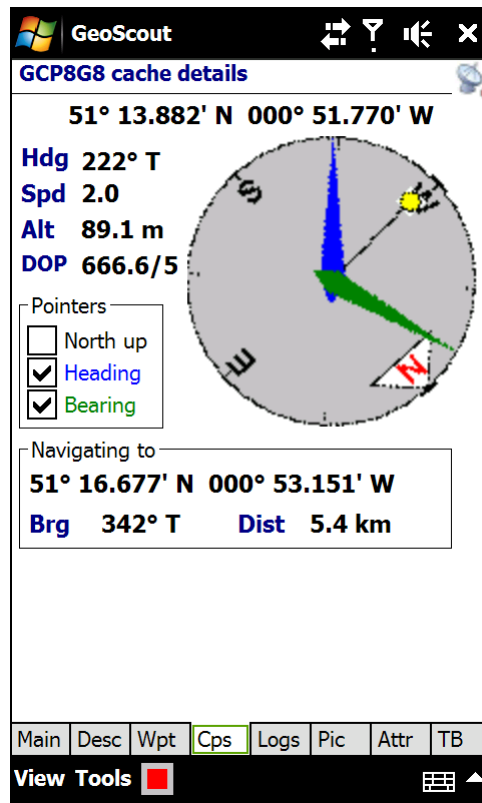
Final Waypoints

Waypoints with type of *Final* can have a special significance in GeoScout. These will primarily be used for multi or mystery caches where the position in the cache listing is not usually the location of the final cache.

In the *Options* screen you can select an option to use the position of any *Final* waypoint associated with the cache instead of the listed cache position. This will affect the cache on the maps and the distance calculation.

On the *Search/Filter* screen you can choose to display only caches that have a Final waypoint.

Navigating to a cache



The *Compass* tab will direct you towards the selected cache or waypoint.

You can set a cache or waypoint to navigate to via the *Navigate*  toolbar button on the *Cache detail* screen.

To start communications with the GPS, tap the *Start*  toolbar button.

To stop communications with the GPS, tap the *Stop*  toolbar button.

The compass shows 2 pointers which can be turned on or off by setting the appropriate checkbox:

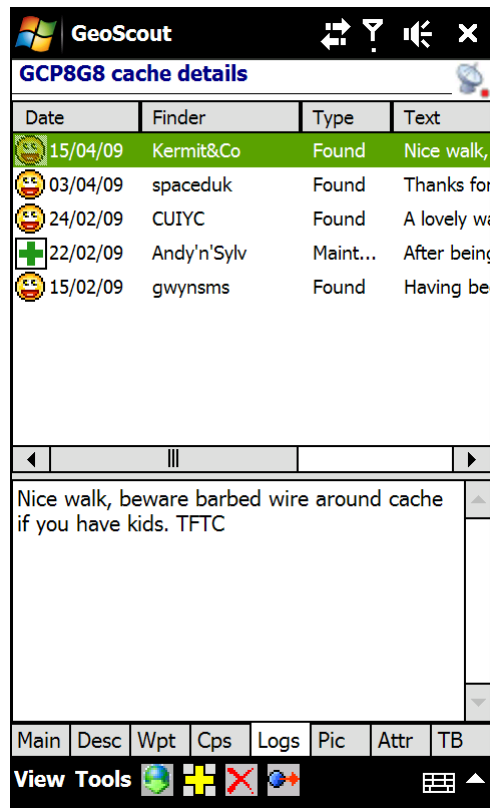
- The blue pointer shows the direction you are heading in. This will always point to the top of the screen unless you are in *North up* mode. If you are not moving, this pointer will not be shown.
- The green pointer shows the direction of the selected cache or waypoint. You should turn towards this pointer to find the cache. If you do not have a cache or waypoint selected, this pointer will not be shown.


There is also a "sun" pointer which can assist in working out which direction you need to go when standing stationary and the GPS needs movement to determine the direction you are travelling in.

If you prefer a "North up" compass this can be achieved using the *North up* checkbox.

When you are within approximately 20m (65ft) of the cache the display will change to a "Super Zoom" view to assist in the final approach. This feature can be turned off using the *Tools* menu if required.

Cache Logs



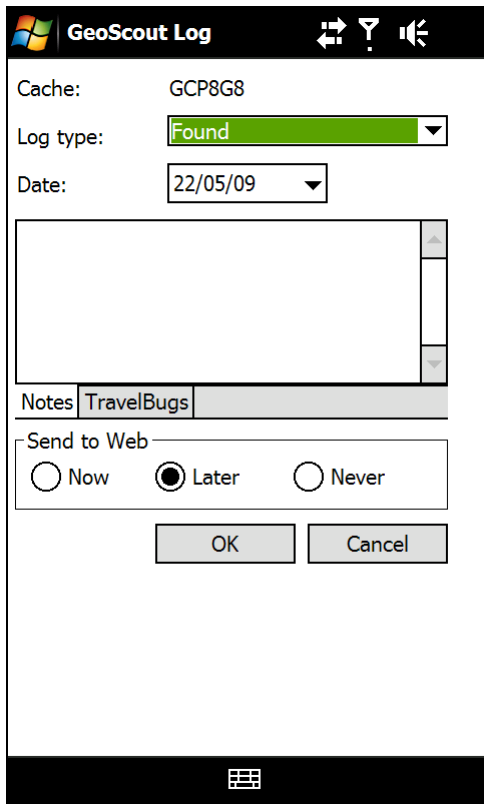
The *Logs* tab will show a history of logs for the cache. Logs can be imported from the web using the *\Tools\Get latest logs from web* menu option or by tapping the *Download*  toolbar button.

You can view the cache log website page in Pocket Internet Explorer by tapping the *Web*  toolbar button.

To add a new log tap the *Add*  toolbar button

If you select the log type *Found* and you have retrieved travel bugs, you will see an additional tab which allows you to select the travel bugs that you want to mark as dropped off at this cache.

Note that only Travel Bugs that you have already marked a retrieved will be available for drop-off.



GeoScout Log

Cache: GCP8G8

Log type: Found

Date: 22/05/09

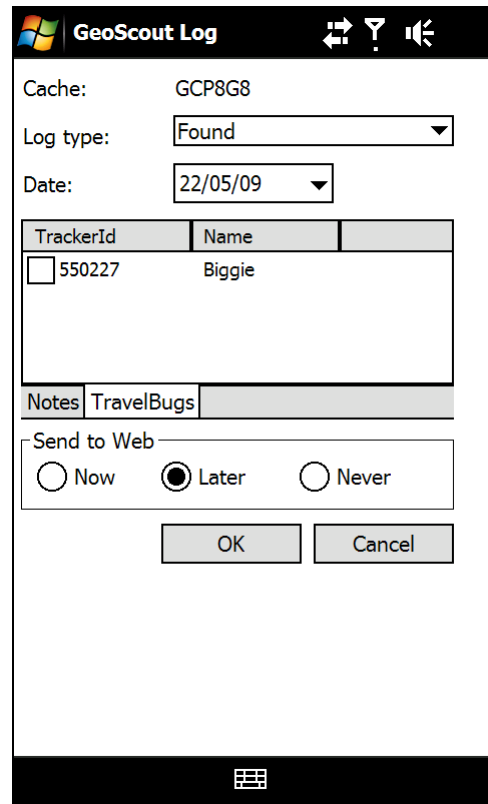
TrackerId	Name
-----------	------

Notes | TravelBugs

Send to Web

Now Later Never

OK Cancel



GeoScout Log

Cache: GCP8G8

Log type: Found

Date: 22/05/09

TrackerId	Name
<input type="checkbox"/> 550227	Biggie

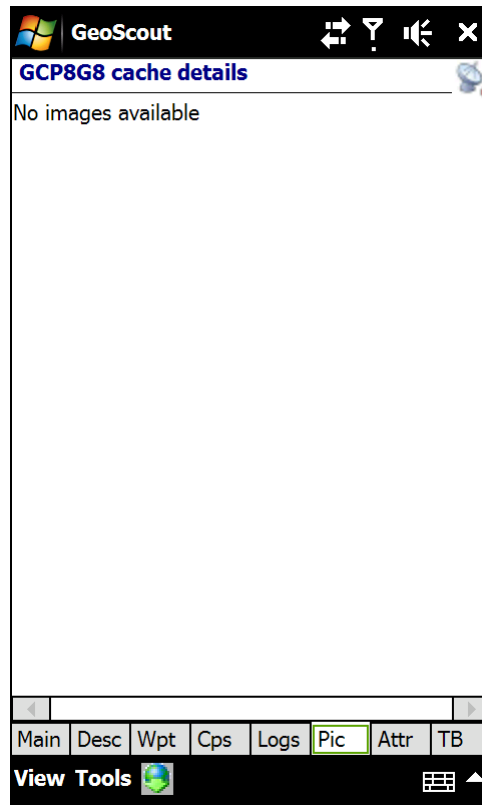
Notes | TravelBugs


Send to Web

Now Later Never

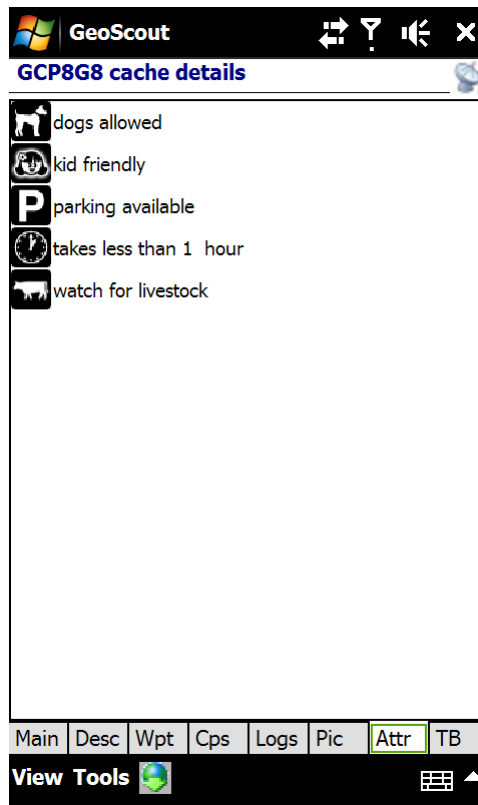
OK Cancel

Cache Spoilers



The *Spoilers* tab will show spoiler images for the cache. Spoiler images can be imported from the web tapping the *Download*  toolbar button.

Cache Attributes




The *Attributes* tab will show all attributes assigned to the cache. These are updated when you download the cache from the web or do a refresh of cache details from the web.

Maps

Cache maps


To view caches on a map, use the *View\Map* menu option



You are now shown a representation of the caches relative to their positions. The caches displayed on the map are filtered using the same filter criteria specified on the *Filter (other)* tab. You can review and change these using the *Filter*  toolbar button

The map can also be linked to the GPS and will show the current position and track when the GPS is running.

When an internet connection is available, map tiles will be downloaded automatically as required, however only those at the default zoom level (about 5m / pixel) will be saved permanently. These can be used when offline and will be resized as required (with loss of quality) when zooming away from the default zoom level.

You can also refresh the map to account for any changes that may have taken place (e.g. new imports) by tapping the *Refresh*  toolbar button.

The map can be scrolled by dragging it around the screen (tap and hold then move as required).

You can scroll the map to show the current GPS position (if available) by using the *Centre*  toolbar button or the *Tools/Scroll To/Current position* menu.

You can scroll the map to show the current cache by using the *Cache*  toolbar button or the *Tools/Scroll To/Cache* menu.

The map may be zoomed in or out using the *Zoom In*  and *Zoom Out*  toolbar buttons.

If the GPS is running, the map may be set to auto-centre on the current position using the *Tools/Moving Map* menu. Alternatively you can use the *Tools/Scroll To* menu to move the map to show the current GPS position, the current cache, a cache waypoint or the centre of the map.

You can also switch to navigate to a cache waypoint or an alternative cache (based on the currently selected cache folder) using the *Tools/Navigate To* menu.

If your GPS is providing a fix, your current position and track will be shown. You can clear the track by using the *Tools/Track/Clear* menu. You can export the track to GPX or KML format using the *Tools/Track/Export* menu

You can temporarily change to an alternative map tile (image) provider by using the *Tools/Map tile source* menu. This will not change the value saved via the *Options* screen which is used when downloading map tiles when importing or refreshing caches.

You can configure the colours used on the map display via the *View/Settings/Map* menu.

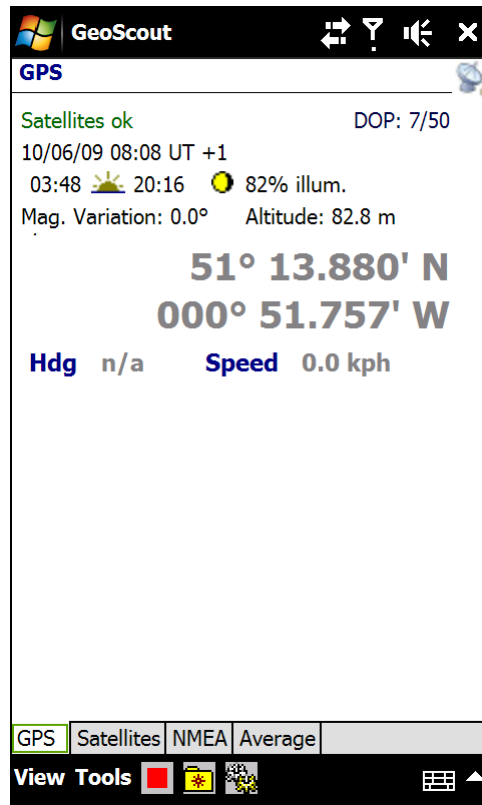
After prolonged use, you may find that you have map tiles on your device which are no longer associated with caches, either because you have removed the cache or because the tile was downloaded while scrolling beyond the cache boundary. These can be removed via the *View/Tools/Clear unused map tiles* menu option.

Note: Unfortunately GeoScout no longer supports UK Ordnance Survey maps.

GPS interface

Before using the GPS you need to set the appropriate settings via the *View/Settings/GPS* menu (see later topic).

The GPS screen acts as a GPS repeater. This is particularly useful for Bluetooth GPS devices which do not have any display output.



The *GPS* tab shows an overview of the GPS position and other useful information.

To start communications with the GPS, tap the *Start*  toolbar button.

To stop communications with the GPS, tap the *Stop*  toolbar button.

GPS Status indicator

The top right area of each screen shows a GPS status indicator . This shows a small coloured circle as follows:

- White / empty: GPS not started.
- Red: GPS started by fix not yet received or fix accuracy poor.
- Orange: GPS started and fix obtained with fair accuracy.
- Green: GPS started and fix obtained with good accuracy.

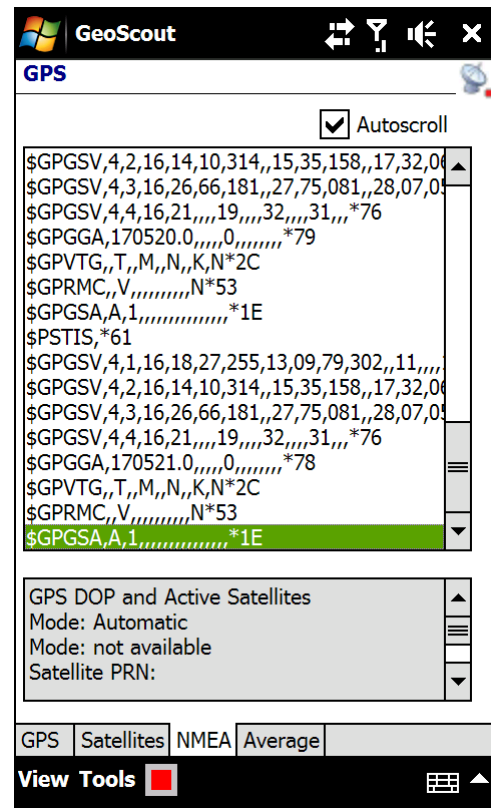
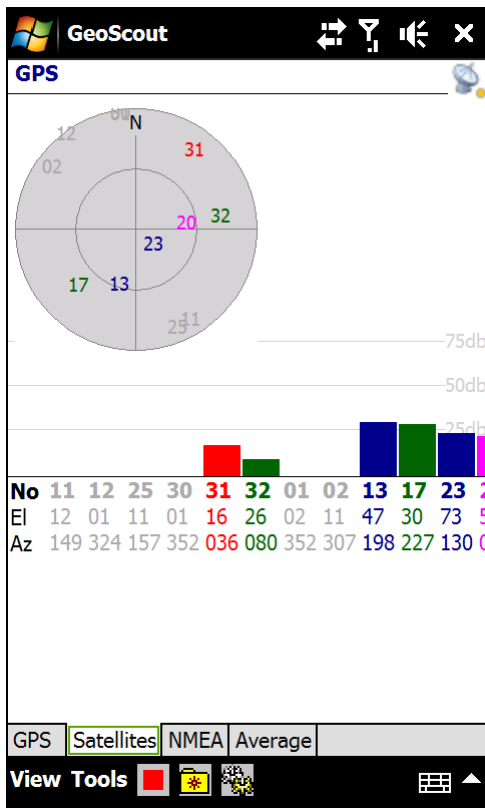
You can tap this indicator to get more options such as stop/start GPS or switch to GPS screen.

Tip

If you are having difficulty connecting your GPS, look at the NMEA tab.

Even if you are indoors and the GPS is not able to get an accurate position fix, you will see the data being sent from the GPS. If you don't see any data here, you have probably not selected the correct options via the *View/Settings/GPS* menu.

Checking GPS performance



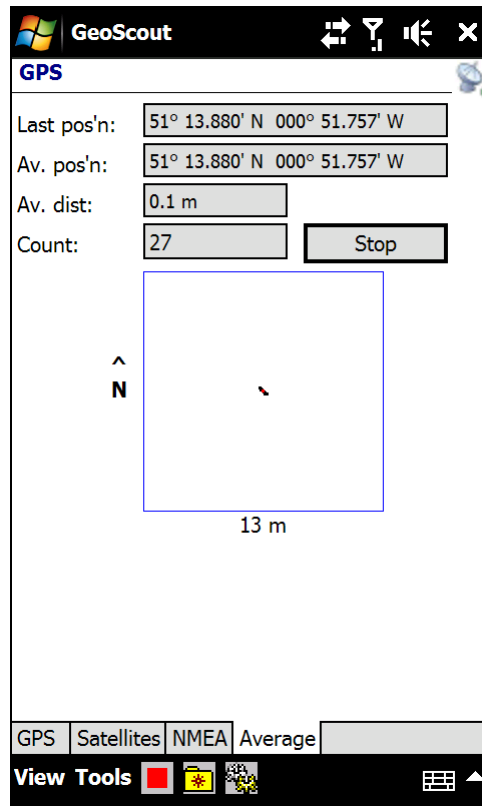
The *Satellites* tab shows a summary of the current satellite status.

The *NMEA* tab shows the raw NMEA output. This can be useful in diagnosing GPS setup problems.

Use the *Autoscroll* checkbox to control automatic scrolling of the display to show the latest values received.

Average position

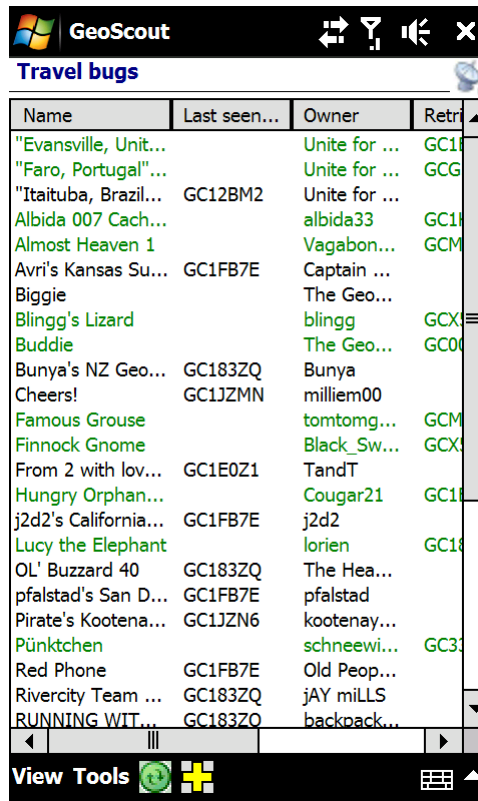
If you are creating a new cache and need to take an average position to minimise errors due to selective availability, you can do so using the *Tools, Average Position...* menu.




Travel bug List



The Travel Bug option allows you to manage and search for travel bugs that you have found or own.

To add a travel bug, tap the  toolbar button. See the next section for further details.



Once you have loaded some travel bugs, you can sort the list by tapping any of the column headers.

You can also refresh the list to account for any changes that may have taken place outside the scope of the application (e.g. manually copying files) by tapping the *Refresh*  toolbar button.

Once a travel bug is selected, the toolbar will show three additional buttons that will allow you to view  or delete  travel bug details.

Travel Bug Details

The travel bug detail screen allows you to record where and when you found or released travel bugs.

GeoScout TBKE9X travel bug details

Code: TB KE9X

Tracker Id: 549804

Name: Buddie

Owner: The GeoScout Team

Released: 29/12/08

Retrieved: GC 0000 02/02/09

Placed: GC 2582 30/12/08

Summary | Goal | Logs

View Tools

GeoScout TBKE9X travel bug details

Date	Action	By	At
17/05/09	Retrieved	Just a Trifle	Rest Ag
27/02/09	Placed	AusTrackers	Rest Ag
31/01/09	Retrieved	AusTrackers	Skippy
25/01/09	Placed	Raq07	Skippy
04/01/09	Retrieved	Raq07	Nullarb
29/12/08	Placed	The GeoScout...	Nullarb

Summary | Goal | Logs

View Tools

When adding a new travel bug you can connect to the internet to get the basic details by entering the code or tracker id and tapping the corresponding *Download* button.

If you wish to edit details of an existing travel bug you should use the edit toolbar button. Remember to save any changes using the save toolbar button. The edit can be cancelled without saving by tapping the *Cancel* toolbar button.

You can view the travel bug website page in Pocket Internet Explorer by tapping the *Web* toolbar button.

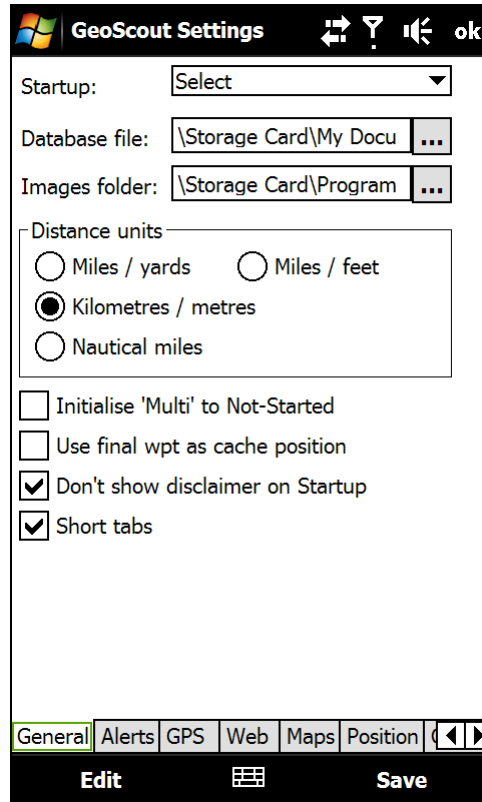
The *Logs* tab will show a history of logs for the travel bug. Logs cannot be entered directly into GeoScout, but can be imported from the web using the *\Tools\Get latest logs from web* menu option or by tapping the *Download* toolbar button.

You can view the travel bug log website page in Pocket Internet Explorer by tapping the *Web* toolbar button.

Settings

Options for the system can be set using the *View\Settings* menu.

General options



Startup

Determines the first screen that will be displayed when the application starts.

Database file

Select the database file by tapping the button adjacent to the *Database file* textbox. The database file must already exist in the specified location. This option should only be used if you choose to use more than one database, which is NOT recommended.

Images folder

Set the folder to be used for storing all image files (map and spoiler) by tapping the button adjacent to the *Images folder* textbox. If you anticipate using a large number of maps or spoilers, it is **strongly recommended** that these are stored on a secondary storage card to avoid running out of program memory.

Distance units

You can choose the units of distance you prefer by selecting the appropriate *Distance units* option.

Initialise 'Multi' to Not-Started

By default, all caches except *Mystery* are set to *ready to find* when imported. You can opt to give *Multi* caches the same behavior as *Mystery* caches and have them set to *Not Started* on import by using this option.

Use Final Waypoint as Cache Position

This option causes GeoScout to use the position of the *Final* waypoint associated with the cache instead of the cache position.

This affects the placement of the cache on the maps and the calculation of cache distance.

If there is no *Final* waypoint for the cache, the cache position will be used as normal.

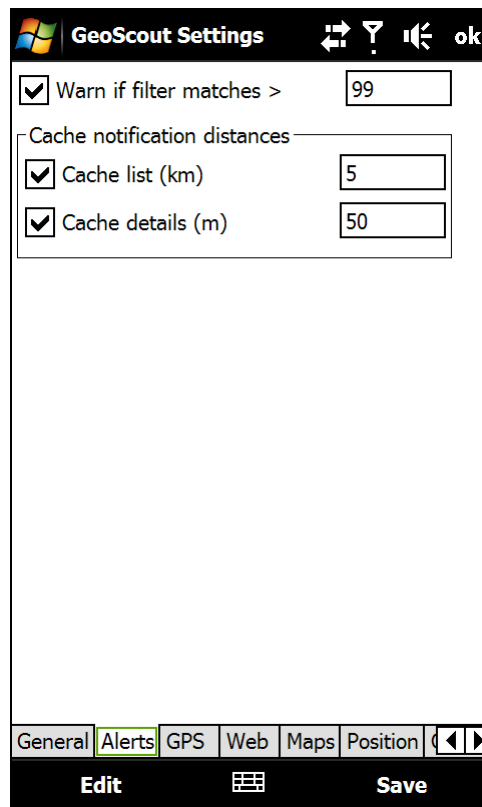
Disclaimer screen

You can turn the disclaimer screen off by checking the *Don't show...* checkbox.

Short tabs

You can shorten the tab descriptions (to avoid having to scroll the tabs) by checking the *Short tabs* checkbox.

Alerts



Warn of excessive filter results

If your selection criteria return a high number of caches, it can take an excessive time to build the cache list (and will also consume more system memory).

You can specify a warning level to avoid unintended waiting times. If the number of matching caches exceeds this number, you will receive a warning message which gives you the opportunity to cancel and revise your filter criteria.

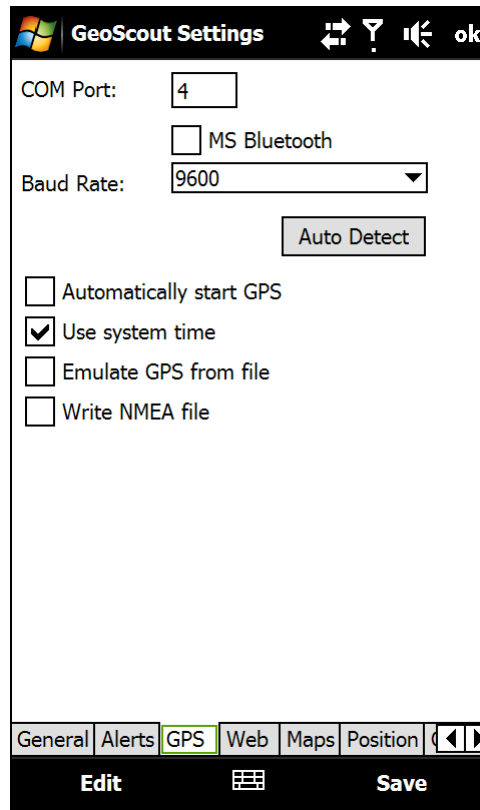
Cache notification distances

These values configure notification alerts that appear when caches move into the specified distance.

The cache list distance will cause an alert to be raised when the cache list screen is displayed and you move into the specified range of additional caches. You will not receive any alert for caches already within range when you apply the alert. This is intended to be used while driving / cycling etc. and you wish to be alerted that caches are within range.

The cache details distance will cause an alert to be displayed when the cache details screen is displayed and you move into the specified range of the selected cache.

GPS options



COM Port

This is the only critical option which must be set before the device can be used to communicate with the GPS. This defaults to COM1, the standard serial port.

Note: Compact Flash GPS devices usually run on COM4. Bluetooth GPS units may run on COM5 or higher.

If your com port is not shown in the dropdown list, you can change the screen to allow you to enter it directly by tapping the + icon adjacent to the dropdown list.

Bluetooth

If you are using a Bluetooth device which uses the Microsoft (not Widcomm) Bluetooth stack, you can check the *Bluetooth* checkbox to be prompted to turn the Bluetooth receiver on before starting the GPS.

Baud rate

The baud rate to be used by the serial port. If you are not sure, leave this at the default setting (4800).

Use system time

Will convert the UTC times received from the GPS to the time zone (including any daylight saving adjustment) used by the device.

Emulate GPS from file

Allows the program to be tested by running from a text file rather than GPS input. You will be prompted to select the file to be used when you start the GPS.

A suitable file can be created by selecting the *Write NMEA file* option while connected to a GPS. These two options are mutually exclusive.

Write NMEA file

Causes the device to save the raw NMEA input to a text file for subsequent analysis. You will be prompted to select the file to be used when you start the GPS.

Web options

The screenshot shows the 'GeoScout Settings' application with the 'Web' tab selected. The settings are as follows:

Username:	The GeoScout Team
Password:	*****
Timeout (s):	30
Max logs (0 = no limit):	
Cache:	5
TB:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't add GeoScout strapline to logs	

Navigation: Edit, Save, General, Alerts, GPS, Web, Maps, Position

Username

Your username to the www.geocaching.com website. Required to retrieve lat/long of caches..

Password

Your password to the www.geocaching.com website. Required to retrieve lat/long of caches..

Timeout

The number of seconds that GeoScout should wait for a response from a website before timing out. You may need to increase this value if you are connecting to the web using GPRS.

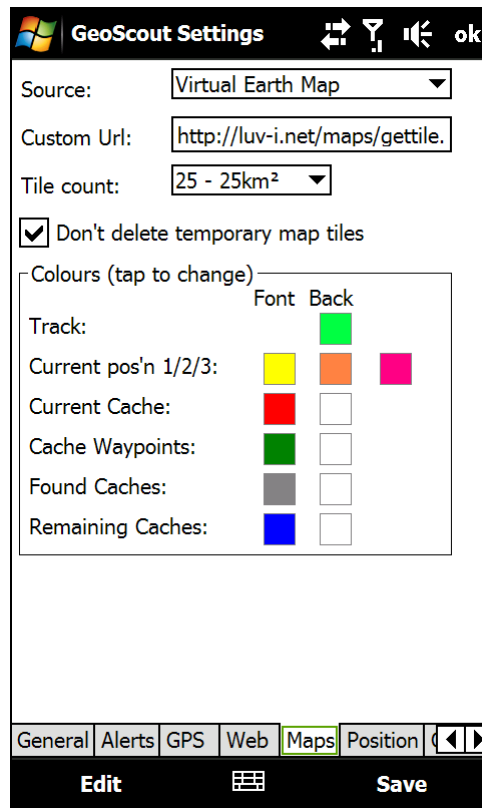
Max logs

The maximum number of cache or TB logs that you require. Leave these blank (or zero) if you do not want to apply any limit.

Don't add strapline.

This option will suppress the GeoScout advertising strapline that is appended when logs are sent to Groundspeak. This option is not available to evaluation users.

Map options



Map source

Map tiles are downloaded from various internet providers. You can change this option to determine which is best for your caches.

Note that tiles are saved in a different folder for each source. If you switch to an alternative source, you may need to delete folders for any unwanted map providers previously used.

Custom URL

The custom URL allows you to use alternative map sources that conform to the same specification as Google Maps. The URL must contain placeholders {0}, {1} and {2} which will be replaced by the X, Y and zoom.

Map tile count

This option determines how many map tiles (each one being 1000m x 1000m) will be automatically downloaded for each cache.

Don't delete temporary map files

This option will force GeoScout to keep all downloaded map tiles. This option should only be used if you have significant free disk space.

When this setting is off (the default), only map tiles at the default zoom level for the default map provider are saved. Other tiles (which may be downloaded when you manually change the zoom level or map provider) are deleted when you close GeoScout.

When this setting is on, map tiles for all zoom levels and all map providers are kept when you close GeoScout. Tiles that are not for the default zoom level and default map provider are stored in a folder called \Temp below the normal \Images\Map folder.

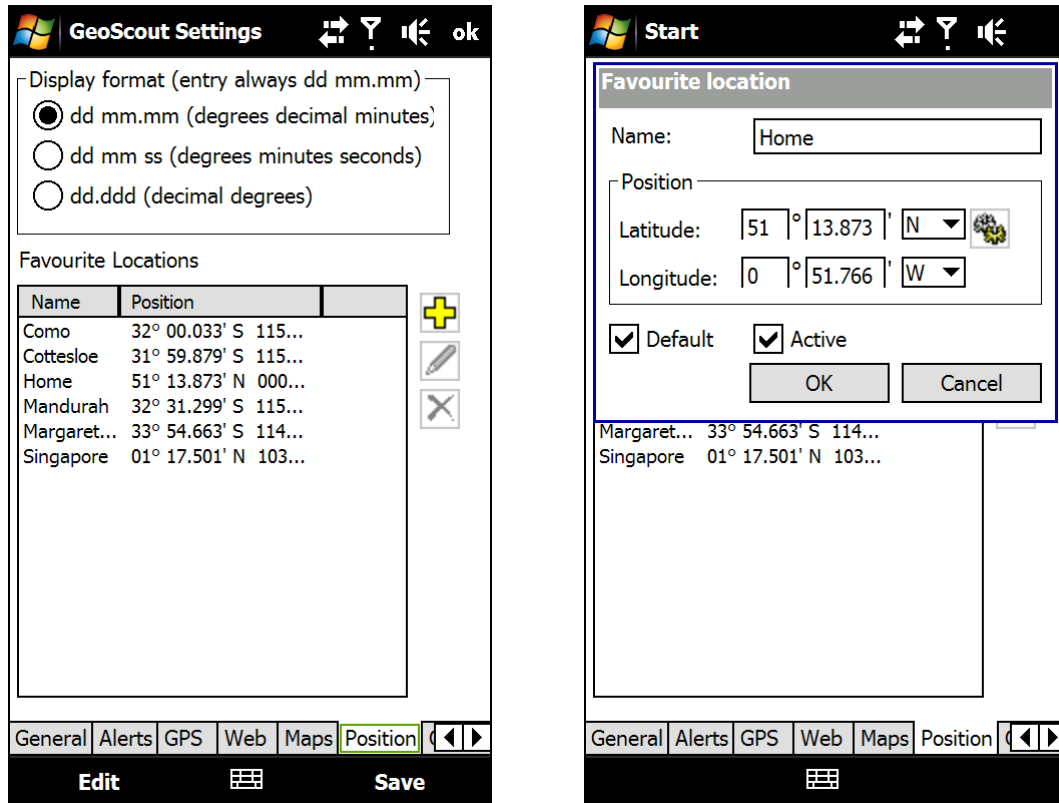
Note: This setting does not affect the number of tiles downloaded automatically for a cache.

Colours

Allows you to select the colours used for various attributes on the map. Tap the coloured square to change.

If you don't want a feature to appear on the map, select the transparent colour option from the dialog.

Position options



Position Format

You can choose the position format you prefer by selecting the appropriate *Position format* option.

Favourite locations

You can create multiple favourite locations which can be used to assist setting the position for imports or filtering.

You can select one of the favourite locations as the default which will be used as the position for calculating distance to caches when the GPS is not providing a valid position.

You can also indicate that positions are active / inactive. Inactive locations will not show in the selection dropdowns. You might use this to temporarily hide locations that are infrequently used, such as a holiday location.

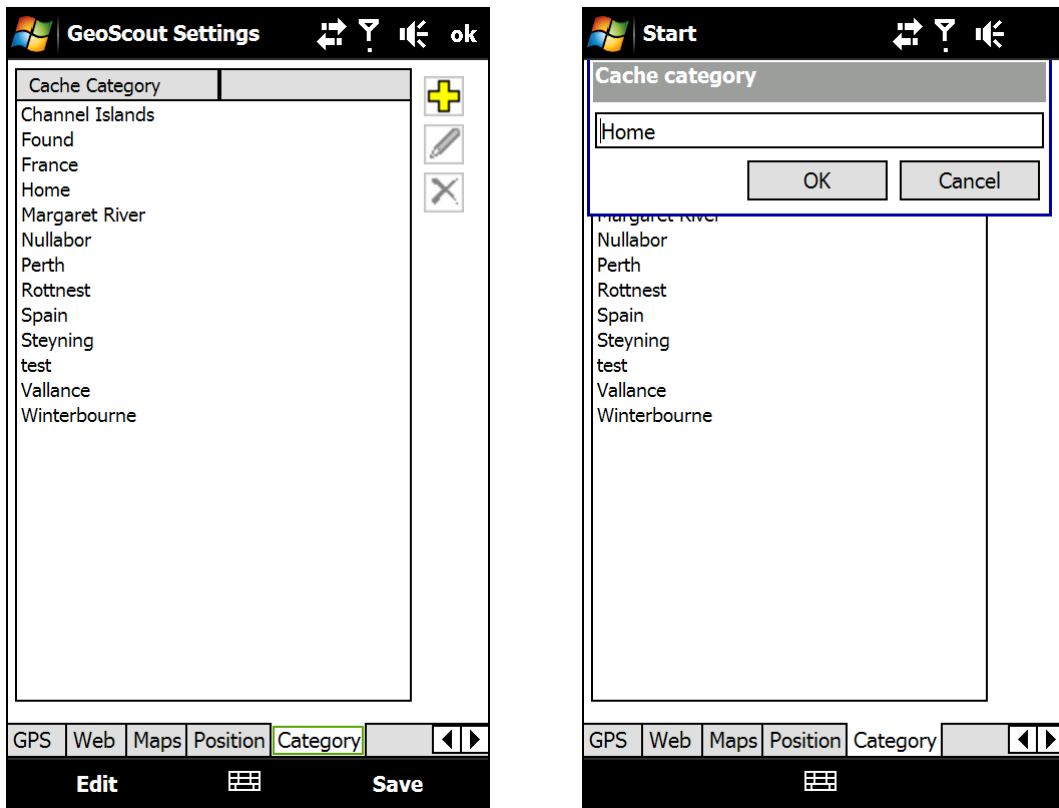
Favourite locations can also be created by using the *Favourite* toolbar button on the *GPS* screen.

To add a new favourite location, tap the *Add*  button.

To edit an existing favourite location, select it and then tap the *Edit*  button.

To delete an existing favourite location, select it and then tap the *Delete*  button.

Categories



You can review the categories that you have for grouping and filtering your caches via this tab.

To add a new category, tap the *Add*  button.

To edit an existing category, select it and then tap the *Edit*  button.

To delete an existing category, select it and then tap the *Delete*  button.

Database Diagram

