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**GPS technology used to support Children in Need event**

We have been involved in supporting our friends at [Rather be Cycling](#) & [ViewRanger](#) in the route preparation for Matt Baker's Rickshaw Challenge in aid of Children in Need starting this Friday. The challenge involves him cycling by rickshaw from Edinburgh to London a total of 484 miles. Matt and his support team will be following route guidance on set up on Garmin Dakota GPS

He will be cycling up to ten hours a day and burning a daily total of up to 9000 calories on the journey which starts on the Castle Esplanade in Edinburgh on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November and will culminate in London during the The One Show's BBC Children in Need live special on the night of the Appeal, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Throughout the journey he will be conducting interviews with celebrity passengers and each day you'll be able to cheer him on at his daily start and finish lines



Better still; the guys at ViewRanger have set up an app you can download to your Smartphone that allows you to follow Matt's progress live using Buddy Beacon. Personally I think he's mad but wish him all the best and would encourage you to support this challenge by donating to this great cause by following these links to the [Rickshaw Challenge](#) on the Children in Need website where you can follow the links to download the ViewRanger app.

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**Galileo proving to commence with the launch of first satellites**

The first signs of the huge investment by the European Commission in a dedicated European GPS system commissioned by the European Space Agency are two satellites launched by a Russian Soyuz rocket from its new base in French Guiana at 07:30 on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011.



The programme has been named Galileo and is expected to bring significant returns to EU nations in the form of new businesses that can exploit precise space-borne timing and location data. These initial two satellites together with another pair of satellites to be lofted next year, they will prove that Galileo works as designed, from the spacecraft in the sky to all the control and management operations on the ground.

Eventually there will be upto 30 satellites in place which are likely to be launched in batches over the coming years. The Plan is for Galileo to work alongside the already operational US GPS and the Russian Glonass systems; however Europe's full system promises real-time positioning down to a metre or less and could open the doors to significant high-value markets already initiated by GPS system in place.

GPS users themselves will not immediately see any benefits from Galileo during this proving stage, however. That will have to wait until a navigation signal is switched on, and it is likely to be 2015 before there are enough spacecraft in orbit for Galileo to start to show its true capability. Deployment of the full Galileo system is likely to take most of the decade. So its work in progress for the ESA; lets hope the system is up and running in the promised timescales as it seems like Galileo can deliver significant benefits to all GPS users.

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**Garmin update the eTrex range and add Christmas Bonus**



The long awaited update for the eTrex range has arrived; we've had a chance to play and think that the whole range is going to be a appealing to all; with prices ranging from just under £100 to £230 we think it delivers a hell of a bang for the minimum of bucks and will appeal to wide range of users!

The basic eTrex 10 is going to have wide appeal offering as it does a waterproof & robust GPS with high quality GPS reception & 2'2" greyscale screen, USB connectivity & cable and paperless geocaching all for under £109.99

(GPST price £99 with access to online resource)

We would have no hesitation in recommending the whole range and think that there will be a large number of potential users & geocachers who will be happy to go for the basic unit; however we feel that our clients are going to go for the eTrex 20 (£179.99) & eTrex 30 (£229.99) purely because of the colour screen, SD card slot & huge internal memory offering access to OS mapping; both of these devices come with a free BirdsEye Select OS map voucher (worth £19.99) allowing new users to get started by downloading 600sqk of OS 25k Explorer mapping of their favourite walking areas direct to the internal memory of the device, leaving the SD card slot free for any pre-programmed mapping like OS regional or whole GB cards (available with 10% from GPST).

We think that all these units offer an inexpensive way to purchase what will no doubt be an extremely popular range of Garmin devices which will appeal to anyone wishing to get started with GPS; however before you take the plunge we would recommend you just think about what is the most cost effective OS map bundle for your intended use. If your activities take you across the country then it could pay you to look at a Garmin Whole GB bundle like say the Oregon 450 or GPSMap62s and you still get the free BirdsEye Select OS map and a larger screen size.

Which ever way you decide to go all purchases of Garmin mapping GPS between now and Christmas will receive a free BirdsEye Select OS map worth £19.99 with access to BaseCamp Garmin's free PC software that allows users to plan and manage trips, routes and waypoints and transfer them between the computer and eTrex. More details can be found on [this page on our website](#)



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### News updates from the World of GPS & Digital Mapping.

**Going to Northumberland? Then beware MOD are to experiment with GPS jamming** – The Ministry of Defence will jam GPS signals around RAF Spadeadam on the Cumbria-Northumberland boundary between 28 November and 9 December. The jamming is likely to affect any GPS units up to 5km from Berry Hill in the Spadeadam Forest when walkers and outdoor enthusiasts may find their hand-held electronic GPS & SatNav devices unable to give a reading during the exercises. Interestingly RAF Spadeadam covers the biggest area of any of the air force's bases in the UK and is home to the Electronic Warfare Tactics Range. We wonder what that's all leading to.

**GPS Training programme for 2012** – our training dates for the first half of next year are now available on our website

**GPST Open Day a success & raises funds for good causes** – Apart from a great day with loads of free activities going on at our open day last month Kirkby Steven Mountain Rescue Team raised over £500 by putting on map & compass training sessions and Sound Advice (Cumbria) raised over £125 by selling home made cakes and refreshments so well done to everyone who took part and thanks to all those who attended **Google or Bing: you can choose at Garmin Connect** – when Garmin switched map provider the online community of fitness fans and outdoor adventurers who use Garmin Connect to view & upload their activities were up in arms. Garmin have moved to sooth the troubled waters by upgrading Connect to allow users to use a drop down menu to toggle between Google & Bing in the Dashboard and Activity pages. Map Selection will be extended to other pages on the site in due course – Well done Garmin for listening to the consumer!!

**New feature added for ViewRanger users** - they can now access Ordnance Survey mapping which they've bought for their Smartphone or iPad on line at My [ViewRanger.com](#). Previously users could use the site to plan routes, but were limited to Open Mapping like Google Map, but now by creating an account and signing in, you'll be able to access the same mapping that you've bought for your app and plan routes using it before downloading to your phone.

**New Topo maps available** – Garmin have released new third party Topo maps for Czech Republic, Hungary and Switzerland all are BaseCamp compatible allowing the user to plan routes etc, save and manage user data and send user data to/from a compatible Garmin GPS.

**Software update for Anquet users available** – users are strongly advised to update Anquet software to version 6.5.1 as it delivers improved significantly faster map downloads, changes to Pocket Anquet to make it compatible with maps around the world and the usual bug fixes.

**Garmin Unit software updates available** – unit software updates are available for Dakota 20 to software version 4.70 – Oregon range to software version 5.20 – GPS Map62s to software version 3.60 – New eTrex to version 2.40 - Montana to software version 3.60 the latest updates for the Oregon 450 & Montana ranges advance the use of these devices with paperless Opencaching & Geocaching for more info on the new features on offer visit software support [Trail Tech](#) – this time there is an update for the Webupdater itself to 2.5.4.1

**Satmap offer Harvey Maps** – always popular above the fell wall and have all the detail for safe and easy navigation in mountainous and hilly regions. Satmap now offer three new maps of Dartmoor, the Yorkshire Dales and Loch Lomond & The Trossachs at 1:25k and 1:40k scale the maps display rights of way, car parking, land use, fencing, walls, campsites and mountain rescue posts.

**Garmin announce fitness app for iPhone & Android** – Garmin Fit lets users track metrics such as speed, pace, distance, time, calories and with the help of accessories that display heart rate and cadence: it also maps and automatically uploads workouts to Garmin Connect™. At the same time they also introduce the ANT+ adapter for iPhone allowing users to use their Garmin ANT+ accessories with their iPhone

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