Contacts Log Book

Operating Manual

Version 1.2

Contacts Log Book

Welcome to a very simple contacts logging program. The reason for writing this was to provide something basic for the simple logging I wanted for every day use.

For those who want more detail there are a host of programs available that provide far more detail than this one however many come with complexities that need to be grappled with.

The software does provide for access to QRZ.com for lookup of callsign details. To make best use of that you will need a QRZ login and a subscription to their XML Callbook Data Service.

This installation is a new version , Version 1.2 which is essentially the same as Version 1.1 but with a few improvements. Your version number can be viewed from the About Screen. Some of the changes are—the .dll files are no longer required, The program size on screen can be enlarged by a change in settings, Navigation and data entry has been improved in some places.

To Update

Your Data old data file may be retained so none of your entries should be lost. The reports are the same—they have not been changed.
- The simplest way to update would be to backup your existing installation and especially your data. Simply replace the old LogBook.exe with the new one—you could also delete the two .dll files.
- Alternatively completely remove the old installation and install the new, then replace the new Data file with your old one to retain your previous entries. If you have the Data file in a different directory see the installation manual—you will need to indicate that.

General Editing

Don't skip this page—the key to all editing

When finished here you need to update the settings before using the program—see the notes on Settings (Next Page)

A number of screens have similar methods of editing the stored data. The controls to do this are described below.

Navigation Bar

Most screens will show the navigation bar like this initially. The arrow keys move through the records—as do the arrow keys on the keyboard. The green arrow is used to refresh the data display which may not have kept up with changes elsewhere in the program.

The Mode Button needs to be pressed before any editing can take place. To protect against accidental changing of the data a deliberate press is needed to enter an editing mode.

If the Mode button has been pressed then the bar shows some more actions. The yellow + button will add a new record, the red — will delete the record. The green triangle button will show the record as being edited as will changing the data in any of the fields on the record.
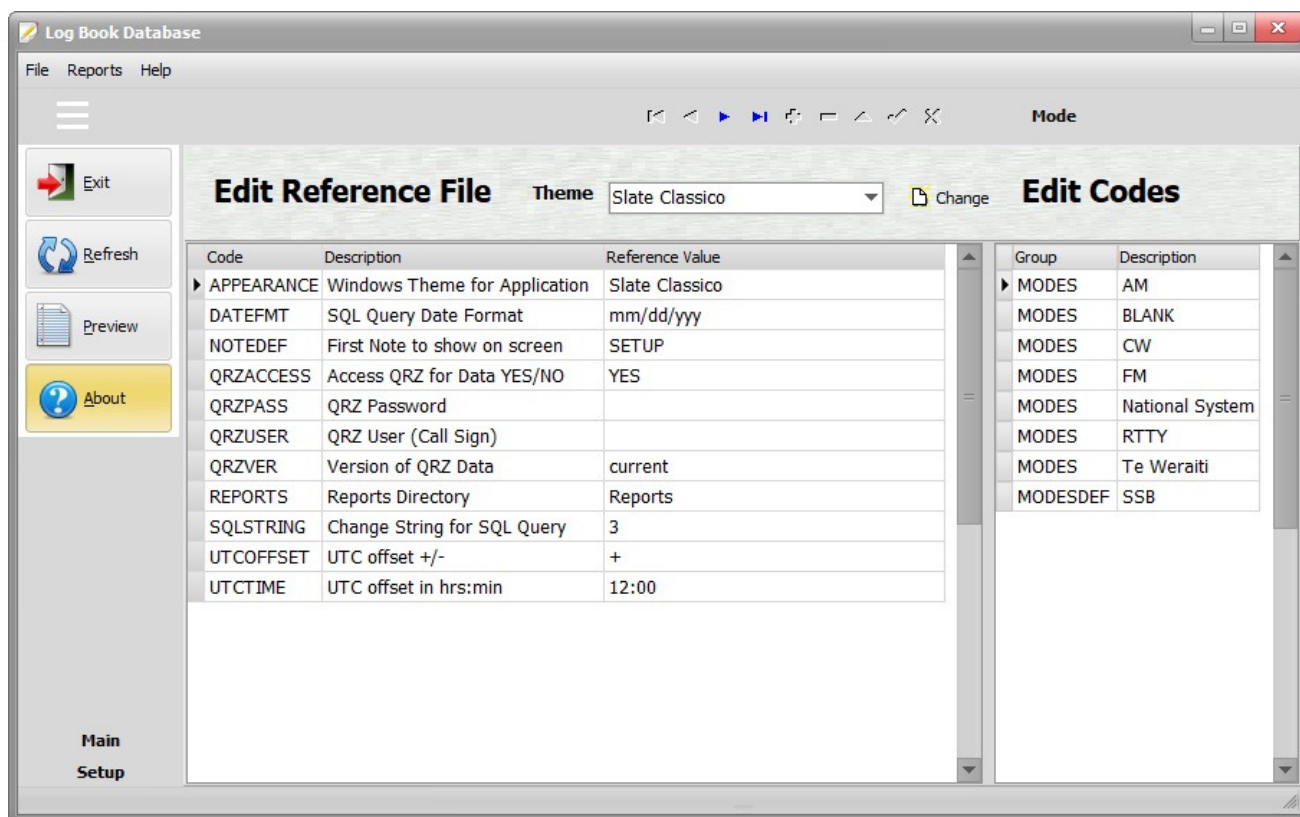
If the green triangle button has been pressed or a change made on the screen so that the record is being edited the navigation bar changes to that shown above.
Now the red tick or (F2 on the keyboard in some places) can be used to save changes or the red cross to cancel any changes made.

Once any editing has been completed on a screen it is a good idea to press the Mode button again to take the screen back to Read Only mode.

If you are not sure what mode you are in take a look at what buttons are lit up on the Navigation Bar.

Settings

The first thing to do is to edit the Setup to your requirements. **To get to this screen press the "Setup" button on the lower left of the screen**. The "Main" button on the lower left will take you back to the main editing screens.


APPEARANCE	This setting is used to change the appearance of the application by selecting a theme. Using the Theme dropdown at the top of the screen various themes can be selected. When you have the theme you want use the "Change" button alongside the dropdown—the new theme will be written to this field. The theme used for this manual is "Slate Classico" because it is easy to print. The program preference is "Auric" which is a dark theme.
DATEFMT	Not used at this stage
NOTEDEF	The program enables the creation of notes—this sets which note will appear on screen when the program is first loaded.
QRZACCESS	Choose to have access to the QRZ data or not
QRZPASS	Your QRZ password
QRZUSER	Your QRZ login (Your Callsign)
QRZVER	current is used but change might be needed in the future
REPORTS	Best with a full directory path here for the reports
SCALE	Make the application larger. 100 for normal but anything up to 150. Must be an integer between 100 and 150. 120 is good to view—i.e. 120% zoom.
SQLSTRING	Not used at this stage
UTCOFFSET	+ or—depending on your country
UTCTIME	NZ is 12 hours—change to 13 for daylight saving

Settings Cont...

Edit Codes

Group	Description
▶ MODES	AM
MODES	BLANK
MODES	CW
MODES	FM
MODES	National System
MODES	RTTY
MODES	Te Weraiti
MODESDEF	SSB

These codes are used on the main entry screen to select the Mode of transmission. You can add or remove these to simplify your selections. The name for the group is MODES but one may be labelled MODESDEF to default that mode to show on screen. In this case SSB will show on screen as default with other modes selected from the Mode dropdown on the main screen.
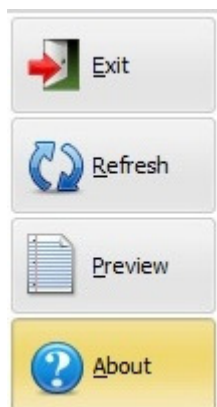
If Codes or settings have been changed those changes are not necessarily reflected in other areas of the program. To update the other areas press the Refresh button or otherwise Exit and restart the program.

The preview button is used to access reports.

Lookup and Logging Screen

First Enter a Call Sign, press <ENTER> or <TAB> to progress to the QRZ Lookup button, then <ENTER> to find the details Name, Address etc. from QRZ if the settings have enabled QRZ.
The settings as described earlier set the ability to access QRZ but if you want to disable access on this screen then uncheck the Access QRZ check box on this screen.
If QRZ is not accessed, and even if it is the entries may be freely edited on this screen. Also if QRZ is not accessed then any previously entered data for this contact will be recalled.


To progress from field to field on the screen press <ENTER> or <TAB>. Because the Call Sign lookup fills a number of the fields those fields are skipped over. To include the skipped fields when you Tab through the fields press the "Tabs" button.
"QRZ" or the "QRZ Page" buttons will load the QRZ page for the Call Sign entered in Microsoft Edge.

The "Now" button will update the date time to the present date and time. Local Time is your own country local time—UTC Time gets calculated from that and your settings.
Comments may be entered and any previous contacts with the entered call are shown on the bottom right.

After entering the details press the "LOG" button to log the call.

Contacts Screen
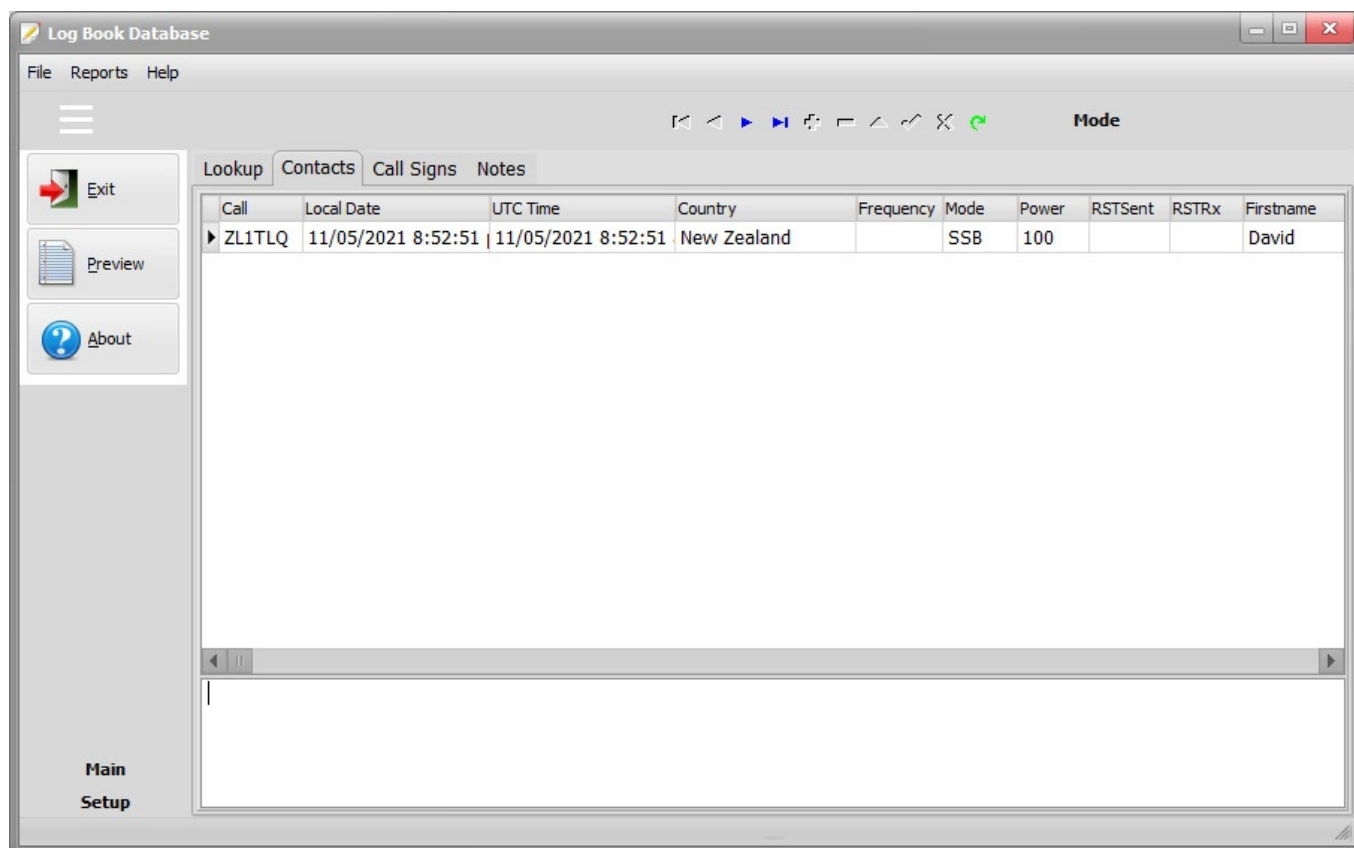
Contacts created on the Lookup screen become listed here. A contact cannot be added on this screen but previous contacts may be edited or deleted if necessary. One contact example only is shown here but there will be many after other contacts are recorded.

The contacts are ordered by the date by default but try clicking on the Titles—some will reorder the display—for example the records can be ordered by Call.

Any comments for the selected contact will be displayed in the bottom of the screen

DoubleClick on a contact will popup an alternative display panel for viewing only.

The previous contact shown here is an entry of a contact with myself—which is nonsense. Unlike the poor example here the Call displayed on the previous contacts will not normally be your own callsign.

Call Signs

Callsigns may be added and edited here. Any new callsign contact logged on the Lookup screen will automatically add to the callsigns here.   If a newly logged callsign does not appear here press the Refresh button on the Navigator bar.

Records may be found by typing the callsign in the screen dropdown enter field and pressing <F9> on the keyboard or clicking the button associated with the Call Sign dropdown.

Previous contacts will show on the bottom right of the screen and a double click on a previous contact will pop up a more readable display of the previous contact.

The example here would arise from a contact with myself—which is nonsense of course.

Notes
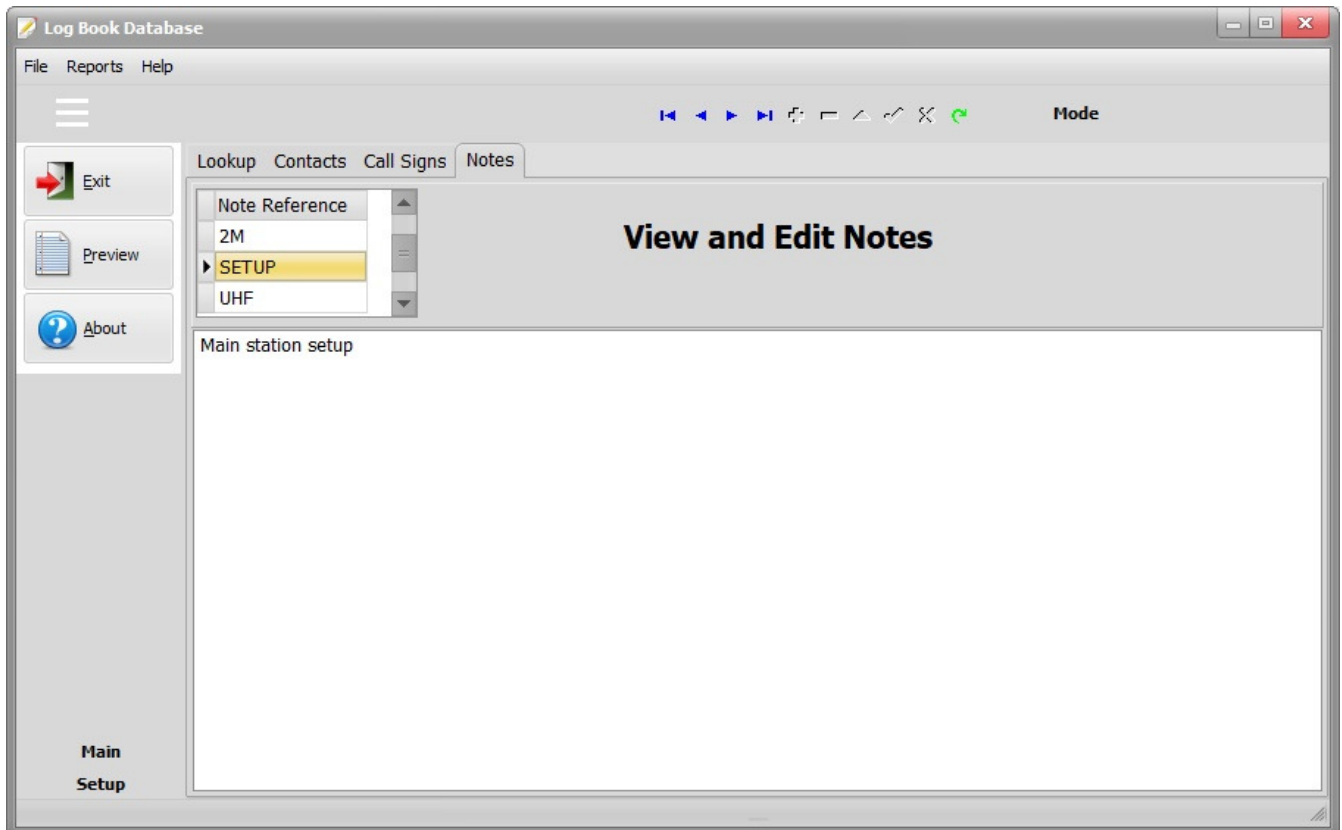
You may add any new notes you like here. They are simply there for your own use.
To create a new note in Edit Mode press the "+" button on the navigator or the keyboard
<INSERT> while in the Note Reference list. Simply type in a new name for the note—the
actual note contents may be added or edited at any time.

Notice the note "SETUP" is selected here and showing by default since that was defined in the
setup settings described previously.

Backups

The program uses an SQLite Database with the data stored in the file LogBook.db
To make a backup simply copy LogBook.db to some backup media—another drive, memory stick, cloud backup or whatever as long as it can be recovered if things go wrong. You can of course backup the whole program directory but at least backup LogBook.db.

Exit the program before backing up the data.

For various reasons you may want to locate LogBook.db in another directory in which case the software needs to know where to find it. The LogBook Installation instructions describe how to do that.

Support

Probably not that great—this is definitely a non-commercial hobby project however I will do my best to help if I can. Contact may be made through my web site at https://davestech.nz

It would be great to hear from you if you are finding this software of some use.