

# Spokes Action-Update 30 Nov 2019

**... includes some VERY IMMINENT items!**

## 1. Spokes grants: cargobike for your family / ebike for a friend - **ends Sunday**

As outlined on page 2 of [Spokesworker 15 November](#), thanks to a big anonymous donation, Spokes is offering two grants of up to £1500 towards a family cargobike (or trailer) for Spokes members, and two grants of up to £500 towards an ebike for someone you know who would then start using bike frequently. [Note that the e-bike offer is not for existing regular cyclists and need not be for a spokes member].

Applications were due to close on Nov 30, but we will keep them open till the end of the weekend (Sunday Dec 1).

**All you need do right now is email [spokes@spokes.org.uk](mailto:spokes@spokes.org.uk) to express your interest and say you are happy with the conditions in the above Spokesworker.** See also (2) below for how to find out more about e-bikes or cargobikes this Sunday.

## 2. Open Streets - **Sunday 1 December**

Remember the Council's Open Streets event, with streets in the heart of the Old Town free of motor traffic from midday till 5pm. And the weather is looking good!!

Unfortunately we weren't able to organise a Spokes stall at this event, but there is a very big programme of events. You can find a map and list of events on [this flyer](#) or see the Council website [here](#). Events include...

- ★ 12-4.30 **Free e-bike trials** [Harts Cyclery](#) starting at the bottom of Victoria Street (and cycling up it!)
- ★ 12-5 **Try the hire bikes** [Edinburgh Cycle Hire \(Just Eat\)](#) City Chambers Quad
- ★ 12-3 **Try one of the new e-bikes** [Edinburgh Cycle Hire \(Just Eat\)](#) which will be on hire in Spring 2020. Canongate area
- ★ 12-3 **Police?? Security Bike Marking** West High Street.

**If you're interested in the offers in (1) above** but you've never tried an ebike or cargo bikes, this is a great chance for people to try an e-bike. Graeme of [Hart's](#) (who is a Spokes member) will anyway be able to chat to you about cargobikes and/or e-bikes.

There will *probably* also be one or two cargo bikes around, including the Urban Arrow from (another Spokes member!) David Gardiner of [Laidback Bikes](#). If David is there he may be in the same area as Hart's above, or at Canongate (or both).

## 3. General Election - **many hustings this week**

Make sure to check out the election article [on our website](#). There are lots of hustings in the coming week, including in East and West Lothian as well as Edinburgh. A hustings in Midlothian last week was so full that it had to be moved to a bigger hall!

**It would be great to have several questions on transport, cycling and/or climate at every hustings, and plenty people to applaud the more positive answers!!**

*Please help publicise the hustings by retweeting our tweet, [here](#).*

#### 4. Spokes website future - **by 6 January**

We are considering revising the [Spokes website](#) and would be grateful if you would complete the short online survey [here](#).

Please complete the survey whether or not you ever use the Spokes website.

#### 5. Climate meetings

- ★ Thurs 5 Dec, 7-9pm [Flight-Free UK, Edinburgh Group](#) - open meeting at the Pleasance Courtyard, 60 Pleasance EH8 9TJ. Includes discussions on travelling flight-free; and also the reasons why it is very difficult for some people not to fly. Personal stories welcomed. More info [joelston764@gmail.com](mailto:joelston764@gmail.com).
- ★ Fri 6 Dec [Climate Change Vigil](#). Speeches and 'climate carols' outside Usher Hall at 5pm, then 6.15 human chain at West End, then 7pm St Cuthberts Church for talks, including live from the Madrid Climate Conference.
- ★ Mon 9 December Edinburgh FOE is *hoping* to organise a **Climate hustings** at Augustine United, George IV Bridge. This is not yet definite - for details contact [edinburghfoe@gmail.com](mailto:edinburghfoe@gmail.com)
- ★ Tue 17 December Flight Free UK Edinburgh Group is *hoping* to have a publicity event at the Leith Walk former police box - for more info, contact the email address in the first bullet point above.

#### 6. Edinburgh Climate Emergency - **consultation, by 29 Feb**

Having declared a Climate Emergency, Edinburgh City Council "is embarking on a city-wide programme including a city Climate Commission to support and encourage public, private and third sector partners to take action."

The Council is keen to get feedback from as many citizens as possible. Please complete the 15-minute survey [here](#). For further information, or to submit more detailed ideas, email [strategyandinsight@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:strategyandinsight@edinburgh.gov.uk).

#### 7. New Cycling Solutions for Edinburgh

Although our public meetings are usually pretty good(!), the November meeting, covering the forthcoming cargobike, ebike and secure bike storage plans for Edinburgh was one of the best. There's a detailed report on our website [here](#), and it includes a link to a full video of the event.

#### 8. Keeping in touch

- ★ Remember to check out our **website** every so often [www.spokes.org.uk](http://www.spokes.org.uk)
- ★ We are active on **Twitter** [@SpokesLothian](#). Follow us and ReTweet tweets that you support. Recent tweets also appear on our website in the right-hand column.
- ★ If you use **Facebook**, please like, share, etc the [Spokes Facebook page](#).
- ★ To campaign effectively Spokes needs as many supporters as possible. If you are not already a member, you like what we do, and you'd like to keep in touch with developments, please join Spokes. For details of membership and how to join, go to [www.spokes.org.uk/membership](http://www.spokes.org.uk/membership).