

Dear Spokes

I have received the **Christiana cargo bike** and I absolutely love it. Thank you so much for the grant that helped to pay for it. I remember clearly the day that I received the email from Spokes saying that we'd been awarded the grant. It was such a happy moment because our old cargo bike was falling to bits and I used it every day with my children, so I was delighted that I could now buy the cargo bike I wanted as it is such an essential piece of kit to us.

I have two small children and I live in central Edinburgh and getting around by cargo bike has always made complete sense to me. Our old cargo bike was brilliant and I'd used it since the children were babies, although it was in the autumn of its years and I'd been thinking of replacing it when I saw the Spokes cargo bike grant being advertised. **It is such a treat having the new one... it is a pleasure to ride, has loads of lovely components, a spacious box for growing children plus shopping and swimming kits, and the snazzy yellow colour always makes us smile.**

I mostly use the cargo bike on cycle paths, although I use it on roads too and have never had any problems. It's brilliant with small children because I never have to stress about parking or catching a bus, so even when getting out the door is unpredictable, **I know that once we're away on the cargo bike everything else is predictable. It is faster and more fun than walking, I never bother with a buggy, I can chat to the children and I never run out of shopping space even if I see something really good in a charity shop.**

We really do go everywhere on it in central Edinburgh... toddler cinema, classes, friends' houses, swimming lessons, parks and shopping. I can fit so much more into my day by whizzing about on the cargo bike and we go further and are able to do more interesting things.



A cargo bike has been part of my life with the children for four years now. It's nice that so often people wave and smile at us, even from cars. I'd love to see more people using them, especially to transport children, it makes so much sense and they really love it. It's the best decision I've made after having kids.

Joanna
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