

Thanks to continuing sales of the hugely popular [Spokes Maps](#), we decided to allocate some of the profit to four grants to assist Spokes households towards the costs of a cargobike. Gaetan and Cristina were one household who applied. We contributed to their Urban Arrow cargobike, and this is their report. Whilst cargobikes are becoming more common in Edinburgh, we were especially pleased to help fund one in Midlothian, and hope that seeing it will encourage more locals to follow Gaetan and Cristina's example!

Thank you so much for the grant towards the costs, we are so grateful!

We got a cargo bike because we didn't want to buy a second car, and want to reduce how much we use the car we've got. We live close to the NCN route 196 which gives access to Penicuik, Bonnyrigg, Dalkeith... And Musselburgh and Edinburgh are only a bit further.

We've been using the bike to go shopping (got some smiles in the click and collect area!), to go for walks with our dog in Penicuik, Roslin Glen and Musselburgh, and we've done our first ride with baby Luca just before he turned 3 months old using the maxi-cosi adapter. He fell asleep almost immediately which is a good sign!

It is still fairly early days for child transport, given we got the Urban Arrow cargobike just a few weeks before our first baby was born, but we plan to use the bike to go to the nursery and the library with him soon.

And we've learned it's possible to take the cargo bike on the Scotrail Highland Explorer so we hope to plan a family cycling trip on the west coast soon (just need to cycle to Glasgow first!).

*Gaetan & Cristina
August 2023*