

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. Gavin and Gill were one household who applied. We contributed to their Urban Arrow cargobike, and this is their report.

What a great story! We hope that seeing it will encourage more locals to follow Gavin & Gill's example!

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2023

Subject: Cargo bike grant - household

To: Spokes <spokes@spokes.org.uk>

A couple years ago our daughter was born and like many families this started a period of change in our living circumstances and making decisions. Along with purchasing car seat for the baby, the choice was made to move to only one car. We would make more journeys by bicycle where possible. Our daughter enjoyed riding in the bike trailer on the bike seat and she was just starting to have a shot on her balance bike. After a visit from a friend who owned a cargo bike, a seed was sown & I investigated the possibilities.

I spoke to David & Laid back bikes and had a very nervous test ride. I decided to and was rent an urban Arrow from the Festival of cycling for the weekend to see how it would fit our circumstances & also see if our daughter would enjoy the bike. A fabulous day trip to Portobello along the Innocent railway and a lot of smiles from our daughter convinced us this was the way forward.

David was very generous with his time, communications and patience whilst we found the right bike for us. An initial service at the Bicycle Works was included and they were excellent.

We store our cargo bike outside, with a massive lock and ground anchor that was set into concrete. The purchase of the rain cover to keep the bike dry overnight was a great decision.

The bike had been used to collect large tools from The Edinburgh Tool library, wood from the timber yard & food from the supermarket. We cycle to nursery every day and onto my work, we visit my parents for dinner & go to the local swimming pool. It always out a smile on our face along with many passer by.

Many thanks to spokes for the grant. This bike does not just have purpose, it has soul.

Gavin, Gillian & Neva.