

11.10.25, WL Map Launch – Donald Tainsh competition prize

Many thanks Kirsteen for your support for this map – and for the previous edition when you launched that map as deputy Council leader.

As you said, much of the praise goes to the volunteer surveyors, who gave a great deal of time.

Today I would like to give a special mention to one of the volunteers, Donald Tainsh.

Each year Spokes runs a major competition on a different theme. This year's theme was '*My Favourite Bike Ride*' in Edinburgh or the Lothians.

The results will soon be on our website, but I would like to congratulate Donald now on putting West Lothian on the map – again! - by winning 3rd prize out of 30 amazing entries!

Donald has done a huge amount to publicise the bike routes around Livingston – check out his amazing youtube library of ride videos, if you have not already done so.

His competition entry was based on one of these videos, called Rail and River Ramble. As he says, it's a delightful ride that takes in the history of Livingston as a post-war new town, and its place in the heritage of West Lothian. It has endless points of interest, from fish bypasses to historic buildings, from rivers to skateparks, and of course refreshment stops!

And, naturally, you can trace it out on our new West Lothian map!

As his prize, Donald chose a cycling cap donated by Lanterne Rouge bike cafe, **but** not just any old cycling cap!

It's an Africap, individually made in Africa, from sustainable local materials – no plastic! – and with profits going to support cycling development in Sierra Leone.

[Pass cap to Kirsteen to present to Donald]