

# Roam Scotland Bikepacking Society Membership Open Offer




## What is Roam Scotland Bikepacking Society (RSBS)?

RSBS is a Charitable Community Benefit Society (CCBS), supporting group bikepacking rides in Scotland. RSBS registered with the Financial Conduct Authority on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024, registration [number 9256](#) and with OSCR the charity regulator [SC053709](#) on 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024. It exists for the benefit of the community of Roam Scotland (RS) riders and potential riders.



*Cnoc Eille Mor hill, Spine Rally (2019) Steve Grace*

## What's the purpose of RSBS?

1. To offer more group bikepacking rides in Scotland which are:
  -  Entry by donation (as large or small as you like)
  -  Essentially self-supported, but with guides and route files provided
  -  Non-competitive, but with other riders for company
2. To share the joys and health benefits of group bikepacking with a diverse group of riders
3. To raise money for charities or social enterprises increasing access to cycling for disadvantaged groups



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*Joy, suffering or both?! Steve Grace*



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### What does the society do?



We make and test multi-day gravel bikepacking routes and write guides for each one. The routes are freely available to all on our website. The guides are developed for riders on our rally or weekend rides, but can also be shared with anyone who requests them, in exchange for a donation.

We have established five 7-day rally routes into every corner of Scotland. The annual rally ride completes our exploration of Scotland in 2026, with the Trossachs, Argyll & Cowal route. Then, of course, we will ride them all again over the next 5 years! Each ride has the full 'rugged' route and a 'rolling' slightly less challenging route, making the rides suitable for a range of riders.

We are developing a collection of wild weekend routes around the country. These will be 2 or 3 day rides, some 'rolling' and some 'rugged', to appeal to as wide a range of riders as possible. These are aimed at those who can't find time or wouldn't feel confident taking on a 7-day ride. In particular, we want to support riders who have yet to experience the over-night experience of multi-day bikepacking.

### How do we use the money raised?

We use donations and shareholding funds to fulfil our charitable purpose in two ways:

-  To coordinate group rides, supporting individuals to gain the physical and mental health benefits of participating in group bikepacking rides. The work of the trustees in developing routes and guides is voluntary. The funds raised cover our minimal running costs, such as those associated with our website, providing patches for riders, providing a RidewithGPS club membership etc.
-  The majority of the money raised is donated onwards to charities or social enterprises in Scotland which are increasing access to cycling in all its forms for those in disadvantaged groups. In recent years we've donated money to: [Talking Tandems](#) a charity supporting visually impaired cyclists; [Gallatown Bikehub](#) which is a social enterprise in Gallatown, Kirkcaldy.



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### What does becoming a member involve?

Membership involves buying shares. Community shares are not for financial gain, but are a form of social investment that allows people to join a shared venture for the public good. Shareholders become members of RSBS for life, but you can leave whenever you like too! For more details see our 'rules' document on the website.

The share price is set at £1 per share. The minimum shareholding is 25 shares (£25). Those who can afford to contribute more may invest up to the maximum shareholding of 100 (£100). However, every member-shareholder has *equal democratic rights*, the 1 member 1 vote principle. We'd like you to join us and contribute to our mission by simply coming along for some group rides and spreading the word. If you want to get more involved as a trustee, a ride coordinator or a member with some other helpful skills to offer the society, all the better.









**Risk warning:** Community shares, like all investments, may be at risk. However unlikely, you could lose some or all of the money you spend to buy shares. Please don't invest any money you can't afford to lose. For more information, see the more detailed risk document on the website.

### How is the society organised?

A group of trustees, elected by members for 4 year terms, lead the society: managing its finances, meeting its legal requirements and planning its activities. Trustees encourage member contributions, like spreading the word about what we do, or testing a bit of track.

### What's in it for you?

Well apart from sharing the joys of group bikepacking with some lovely people...

-  Priority entry to all Roam Scotland rides
-  Access to all the Roam Scotland Ride Guides
-  Easy access to all Roam Scotland route files
-  Membership of our RidewithGPS club account
-  Membership of our WhatsApp Community
-  Access to bikepacking related resources on our website members page
-  The democratic power to elect trustees & influence the future of RSBS
-  A cool society members badge thingy!



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*Machrie Moor, Arran. West 8 Islands 2022* Calum Munro

## How do I become a member?

You can join for less than the price of one gravel tyre! For £25 you become a member-shareholder of the society. Go [here](#) to the society page on the website to sign up.

Let's ride, roam and replenish together!

Cheers,

The Trustees,

Roam Scotland Bikepacking Society Limited

