

# Roam Scotland Bikepacking Society Membership Offer

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

RSBS is a Charitable Community Benefit Society (CBS), supporting group bikepacking rides in Scotland. RSBS registered with the Financial Conduct Authority on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024, registration [number 92556](#). It functions for the benefit of a wider community of Roam Scotland (RS) riders and potential riders.



*Cnoc Eille Mor hill, Steve Grace*

## What's the purpose of RSBS?

1. To offer more RS group bikepacking rides, which are:
  - ✓ free-entry
  - ✓ open-access
  - ✓ non-competitive
  - ✓ self-supported
2. To bring new riders into the RS community, reaching as wide and diverse a group of potential riders as possible, to share the joys and health benefits of group bikepacking.



# Roam Scotland Bikepacking Society

## Membership Offer

### Why do we want you to join us?

Roam Scotland started with Calum Munro, founder member, making one route from Edinburgh to Inverness. It's now grown to five week long routes and a wee community of regular riders, growing with each annual ride. If you've enjoyed a rally yourself, we want you to get involved to help share the experience with more people. You don't have to live in Scotland, most of the contributions people could make can be done from anywhere. To sustain RS over time, and offer some long weekend rides, it now needs to be a collective group thing. And don't forget there are benefits to reward members for getting involved.

### What does becoming a member of a community benefit society involve?

Membership involves buying shares. Shares in a CBS are not for financial gain but for social benefit. Community shares are a form of social investment that allows people to come together and own a stake in a shared community venture. Shareholders become members of RSBS for life, but may choose to withdraw their shareholding, ceasing to be a member, or leave the value of their shareholding as a donation to the society and end their membership. For more details see our 'rules' document ([link](#)). 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 within the organisation, the 1 member 1 vote principle.

#### *Risk warning:*

We must remind you that community shares, like all investments, may be at risk. You could lose some or all of the money you invest. For more information, see the more detailed risk document [here](#) ([link](#)). Please don't invest any money you can't afford to lose.

### What are the plans for future RS rides?

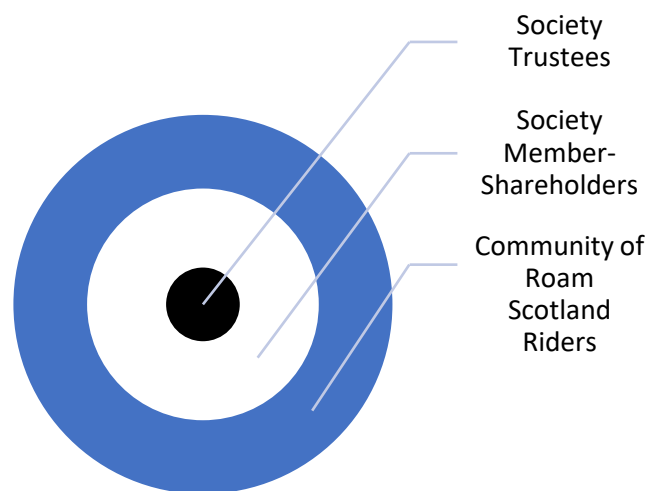
- Five week-long RS Rally routes & guides will be completed in 2025
  - the plan is to rotate through a different RS rally ride each year
  - allowing people to explore the whole of Scotland
  - limiting to 90 entrants (expecting 10-15% drop-out, down to around 80 riders)
  - retaining 20 entries for non-members
- Five 3-day long weekend routes are sketched-out, with ride guides to be completed
  - the plan is to start rotating through 1 or 2 RS Wild Weekend rides each year
  - allowing people to experience group bikepacking mini-adventures
  - a smaller group of riders, around 40-50.
- A germ of a crazy idea about a 'Gathering' event in 2026... in Calum's head!
  - a number of group rides on different routes, all finishing in the same place (probably Glenmore) for a social gathering



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## How will the society be organised?

Four trustees will lead the organisation of the society, managing its finances and meeting its legal requirements. Trustees are elected to a maximum 4 year term by the members. We plan to have three meetings a year, including an AGM. The meetings will be hybrid (in-person & online), a chance for a social catch-up and to deal with any society business. All members will be encouraged to join meetings and contribute. For further details on the modest expected contributions of the trustees, see here (link). The contributions of the society members are to serve the wider community of Roam Scotland riders (past & future), of which they are also members.



## What's in it for you?

- Priority entry to all RS rides
- Access to all RS Ride Guides
- A society patch-badge thingy!
- A members WhatsApp group to keep in touch
- Easy Access to all RS tested and provisional routes on our RidewithGPS club account.
- Access to all the premium route building tools of RidewithGPS with our club account
- The democratic power to elect trustees & influence the direction of RSBS
- The reward of spreading the joy of group bikepacking!

## What does the society need from you in return?

Simply to make some contribution to the work of the society (see possible member contributions doc), to pitch in what you are able to. There will not be a lot to be done each year, so members volunteering even a wee bit of time will make it work. As you know if you've ridden a rally, doing something together adds something special.



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*Skipness climb, joy or suffering? Steve Grace*



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## What work will the society actually do?

The society will serve the wider Roam Scotland riders community to:

1. Coordinate future rides - probably a team of 2 ride coordinators for each ride
2. Finish off testing of the remaining un-tested sections of route
3. Spread the word, building a wider community of RS riders eg. social media posts
4. Keep ride guides updated with new info
5. Raise donations to cover the costs
6. Use any surplus revenue to support riders from disadvantaged groups to cycle

## How will the finances work?

The main source of revenue will be donations from riders, if they can afford to do so. The average rider donation in previous years was £37.50. We need 36 donations of this value per year to cover the expected costs of running the society. We expect to spend any surplus revenue raised in two main ways:

1. Donating to a partner charity who are increasing access to cycling for those from disadvantaged groups, as we have in the past with Gallatown Bike Hub and Talking Tandems.
2. Providing Ride Grants to help those from disadvantaged groups to join RS rides

Further details of the financial plan are here ([link](#))

## How do I become a member?

You can join RSBS for significantly less than the price of one gravel tyre! For £25 you buy a stake, a shareholding in RSBS, and become a member-shareholder of the society. An RSBS membership page will be up on the [RS website](#) soon.

If you are in any way curious about becoming a member or a trustee, please get in touch:

- [roamscotland@gmail.com](mailto:roamscotland@gmail.com)
- DM on Instagram [@roamscotland](#) .

Let's ride, roam and replenish together!

Cheers,

*Calum*



# Roam Scotland Bikepacking Society Membership Offer



*Machrie Moor, Arran. Calum Munro*

