



Connecting communities to **health and wellbeing**

Village Halls Week 2026 - Get Involved!

Dear friend,

Thank you for your interest in [#VillageHallsWeek](#) 2026!

Village halls are at the heart of rural life, playing a vital role in keeping people healthy, active, and connected. By providing spaces for exercise, social clubs, health sessions, and peer support, they help prevent isolation and promote wellbeing at every stage of life.

Our annual campaign will run from Monday 16 to Sunday 22 March 2026 and provide you with a great opportunity to showcase the importance of your hall in supporting the health and wellbeing of your community.

Highlights of the week:

- A launch event is to be held in Lancashire on 13th March. You are welcome to come along. Check the ACRE webpage for details.
- Blogs and podcasts contributed by ACRE and its partners in Scotland and Wales.
- Photos and case studies show the wide range of activities taking place in your halls.
- Many ACRE members will be hosting activities locally in celebration of Village Halls Week. They are also on hand to support you with any activities you have in mind. Check out their website or give them a call to find out what's happening in your area. Similarly contact [Scottish Rural Action](#) or [WCVA](#) if your hall is based in Scotland or Wales.

It's entirely up to you how you choose to get involved, however we've provided a few tips below to help you get started and make the most of the week.

Tips for getting involved

Follow us on social media

ACRE, together with Village Halls Week sponsors, [Utility Aid](#) and [Hallmaster](#) will be sharing news, stories, and viewpoints on social media about the brilliant work of volunteers and encouraging others.

Be sure to follow our accounts on [Instagram](#), [X\(formerly Twitter\)](#), [Facebook](#) and [Threads](#). You can also search for the hashtag [#VillageHallsWeek](#) on these platforms, so please like and repost any content that you are interested in.

1. Share your stories

We will be looking out for interesting stories on social media to share and feature during the week. Simply post a picture or video of the volunteers that are important to your hall; make them feel valued! Use the hashtag [#VillageHallsWeek](#).



2. Hold an event

Holding an event or open day is a great way of engaging people in your community and reminding them what your hall offers and how it is run. It's also an opportunity to reach out to people who don't already use the building, to see if there's anything they might like to get involved with or events they would like, or your committee could support them to attend. Some members of the community may have some new ideas! This could be a standalone event or simply an open door with information and a friendly welcome fitted around existing activities.

Please use the downloadable posters that are available from the ACRE website. Wear your badges and use the free bunting from your packs if you were lucky enough to be the first to sign up! You may have bunting and badges from last year so do reuse them.

3. Write to your MP

Members of Parliament like to be seen supporting local communities and the volunteers that make things happen! If you have time, write to your MP to tell them about the work your hall does, the difference it is making to members of your community, and any plans you have for the future. And of course, invite them along to your open day. We have created a template letter you can use for this purpose which can be downloaded from the ACRE website. MP's contact details can be found here:

<https://members.parliament.uk/members/commons>

4. Get in touch with local journalists

If you are planning any events or have news that you would like to announce during Village Halls Week, it's always worth contacting local newspapers and [BBC radio stations](#) in advance to see if they can feature you. Journalists will always be interested in stories about human impact, so don't be afraid of telling them about the wonderful activities in your community and the people your hall has helped. Or why not invite them along to see what's happening?

We look forward to hearing your stories!

The ACRE Team