



celebrating, encouraging & supporting volunteers **Village Halls Week • 17-23 March 2025**

Get involved – encourage support and celebrate your volunteers !

Dear friend,

Thank you for your interest in [#VillageHallsWeek](#) 2025!

Our seventh annual campaign will run from Monday 17 to Sunday 23 March and provide you with a great opportunity to celebrate, encourage and support the people who volunteer their time and make these community buildings such special places.

During the week we will:

- Start the week with a Blog from Louise Beaton OBE which will celebrate the role of volunteers through the last 100 years. Louise has written a book '[Halls for All](#)' which will launch during Village Halls Week.
- Feature photos and quotes recognising the contribution of volunteers.
- Release information about succession planning and recruitment to encourage new volunteers.
- Work with County based hall advisers to create a series of short video clips discussing the support available volunteers managing village 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.

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**, 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 takes your interest.

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](#). We will also be using an app called Buzz Social Posters which will allow you to create and share directly to the ACRE website.

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, and to get their views on new offerings. 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 will be available from the ACRE website in due course and add details to promote the event and signify your involvement with Village Halls Week.

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 in due course. 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 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 volunteers 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

