

# ATCHIN TAN PROJECT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026, ISSUE 1

## Welcome to our first Newsletter!

I'm delighted to share with you our new project logo and an update on what we have planned. The project, funded by Arts Council England and Elmley Foundation, seeks to bring to life the nationally significant Vardo collection at the Worcestershire County Museum, focusing on reinterpretation, community involvement, reintroducing endangered crafts and negating stereotypes.

## Working with local schools for GRT History Month

We have formed good relationships with two local primary schools with a high proportion of GRT students. Looking towards June and GRT History month, we are delivering wooden Vardo cutouts for the children to design. These will then be displayed at the Museum.

We have two exciting days planned for these schools, with performances from Crystal's Vardo and storytelling workshops by Richard O'Neill.

We plan to decorate the County Museum during GRT History month with conversation starters and a QR code about local Gypsy and Traveller communities.

## Partners and reach

We are working with a local charity, Circle of Hope, and the Worcestershire GRT Network, to ensure we are collaborating and reaching as many people as we can. Join the discussion on our new Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/atchintan/>

**Verity Worthington – Atchin Tan Project Team**

## Transport Gallery update

*We are excited to report that we have a plan to replace the roof of the Transport Gallery without having to move the Vardos. Work is due to start on this shortly and we will keep you updated about the progress and estimated date of reopening.*



## Vardo Forum

The Vardo Forum has been created to enable partners, artists, staff and community members to come together to discuss the project, reflect on ideas and hold ourselves accountable.

We appreciate that finding time in busy schedules for meetings can be difficult, so we have made a survey to see which methods of meeting suit you best. The survey will be sent out with this newsletter, and I really encourage you to fill it in. We want to respond to the needs of our partners and community and can be flexible.

## Get in involved

If you have any questions or would like to be involved, please email: [VWorthington1@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:VWorthington1@worcestershire.gov.uk)  
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