

Tiny Toy Van Worth Thousands

A Dinky model of a Pickfords removal van, bought for just £4 from a charity shop, is estimated to sell for £2,000 at the Charterhouse collector's auction in Sherborne.

"In 35 years this is the first time I have seen one of these particular Pickfords vans such is its rarity," commented Richard Bromell. "The market for Dinky and other models cars and trains continues to be strong and this will be a highly sought after van by collectors when it goes under the hammer."

This Pickford van is one of the earliest models made by Dinky Toys. Dating to between 1934 and 1936 it is a 1st type of van made in a two piece lead construction featuring metal wheels.



Rare pre-war Dinky Pickfords van



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Today pre-war Dinky models are rare survivors. This is not just down to decades of children playing with them, but also down to metal fatigue which resulted in many of them literally disintegrating.

The Pickfords van in the Charterhouse auction has lasted in pretty good condition for a toy of about 85 years old. No doubt having been involved in a few traffic altercations which resulted in a few areas of paint loss, it is still in good condition and is a remarkable survivor.

Painted blue and with "Pickfords Removals and Storage Over 100 Branches" printed on the side this measures just under 4 cm high. More likely destined for a display cabinet rather than a playground this little van is estimated at £1,500 - £2,000.

Charterhouse are now accepting further entries for their two day collectors auction of model cars, trains, toys, dolls, coins medals and stamps on **Thursday 5th and Friday 6th March.**

For further information regarding this auction, contact Richard Bromell at Charterhouse, The Long Street Salerooms, Sherborne DT9 3BS **01935 812277** or email **info@charterhouse-auction.com**