

Model Carts at Brize Norton Village Festival

The model carts were made by Brize Norton resident Eric Faulkner in the late 1970s and they depict the carts - and through them the people and businesses - he remembers from the village during 1920s and 1930s, such as an Oxfordshire Wagon from C W Wilkins Manor Farm and a tip cart that was actually used by Faulkner's grandfather who worked the quarries in Burford Road.

They were donated to the [Oxfordshire Museums Service](#) in 2012 by the maker's stepson Peter Faulkner, and now the Service wants to find out more about the businesses they represent and enable more people in Brize Norton to see the models. This is being made possible through funding from Arts Council England.

We have started researching the history of the people and businesses that the carts represent and now we are taking them back to Brize Norton to share stories and find out more. We will be displaying them at the Summer Village Festival on 24th August, where the people of the village will have the opportunity to see the carts for the first time in 10 years.

They will be displayed alongside other objects from the Oxfordshire Museums Service collections and historic photographs that map Brize Norton's past, plus people have been asked to bring their own historic objects for a 'show and tell'. Oxfordshire artist, Lizzy McBain, will be joining us on the day to collect people's personal memories and stories, and to help us find out more about these interesting objects for our own research.

Following on from the festival the Museums Service, along with Lizzy, will be working with pupils from Brize Norton Primary School. The pupils will get the opportunity to see the model carts and to hear people's memories of the village, before creating their own artistic and dramatic responses.

Research into the Brize Norton model carts and the wider Oxfordshire carts collection that is undertaken as part of this project will then feed into our collections documentation and become available to the public on the [Heritage Search website](#), and hopefully also Brize Norton's own community website.