

# PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 43

<b>Date:</b> November 2021	<b>Focus Group:</b> Trailer Users
<b>Topic:</b> Trailer Inspections	<b>Issued by:</b> Craig Fisher

**Background and Incident:** The left hand wheel separated from a towed ATV trailer while travelling on the public highway. Fortunately the wheel embedded into a roadside hedge and was easily recovered. The WoF had expired 4 months ago!

**Injury Details:** No injuries – but high potential for harm or property damage.

**Risk Awareness:** A poorly maintained trailer can be a hazard to yourself and other road users. No matter how good you are at towing, you can never tow a badly maintained trailer well and safely.

**Safe Behaviours:** At PF Olsen branches, equipment is purchased and pooled for use. This requires extra diligence both before and after use. When using trailers, check the:

1. WoF and registration stickers are present and current.
2. Coupling is compatible with the towball, the securing chains/shackles are present and, if fitted with brakes, for fluid (or lack of it) in the system.
3. Tyres have no nicks and cuts, adequate tread and are correctly inflated.
4. All wheel nuts present and tight, no excessive side movement in wheels.
5. Electrical fittings are sound and all lights and indicators are operational.
6. Structure is sound – nothing loose and no visible sign of weld cracks.
7. Cleanliness and arrange for servicing and/or repairs if required.
8. Complete regular inspections on trailers and other pooled equipment.

**For Site Manager:**

Print and complete the following:

1. Discuss with employees/operators:
2. Place on site notice board or in file:

**Site Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** / /  
(initials)

