

INVESTING IN RELATIONSHIPS





The last of the summer is officially behind us but we're not letting this dampen our spirits.

It's been a pleasure to begin reconnecting with you in person and finding a balance between the online/offline hybrid that we have wholeheartedly embraced.

We really hope you are enjoying our newsletters. If there is anything in particular you would like us to discuss, please don't hesitate to get in contact with your suggestions. Your feedback and input are always welcomed.

MARKET UPDATE

In any period, there is often a dominant topic that occupies the headlines of investment news and currently that topic is rising prices. This is not only relevant to the future performance of investments but also for the general standard of living for each and every one of us. Much of the recent news has focussed on energy prices and there has been something of an alignment of contributory factors that has driven prices higher. Hopefully these factors will largely be (and we expect them to be) temporary.

As economies have restarted, demand for natural resources has increased dramatically and available supply has not yet been able to meet that demand. For example, in Europe, gas prices have risen some 400% as a result of a confluence several factors: low reserves, competition for supply from Asia, limited supply from Russia and a low level of energy production from renewables.

Looking in more detail at this last factor, the switch away from carbon-based energy sources to renewable energy sources is driven by the fairly undisputed need to create a more sustainable existence of human life on Planet Earth. However, this transition will take time and actually who is prepared to make the necessary changes and pay for them is a little less clear (as well as exactly what all those changes actually are). The EU is currently implementing initiatives to expand the proportion of renewables that make up the energy supply, however increased reliance on renewables, particularly those that are weather dependent, can lead to more volatile supply (and consequently more volatile prices) in the near term.

There are a number of potential consequences from rising energy prices. In the short term, it has led to production cuts across the globe and the collapse of some smaller energy suppliers in the UK. Inevitably these factors will feed through to consumers in the coming months as energy price caps are reset, competition is reduced and suppliers of goods pass on the increased input cost of raw materials. Thankfully pricing structures and the possibility of subsidies or reduced taxation rates have so far insulated businesses and consumers from the worst effects.

A rise in consumer prices will of course ultimately drive workers to demand higher wages. Demands from unions in Germany, Spain and France recently have already elevated expected wage growth. Higher wages can have a more permanent effect on inflation than volatile commodity prices and unless there are accompanying productivity gains this will weigh on corporate profits and equity prices.

This inflationary pressure also comes at a time when central bankers are discussing the withdrawal of economic support through tapering bond purchases and increasing overnight interest rates. Bond purchases are likely to begin to decline this year and next which should see longer term interest rates rise. However, the current fragility of the economic cycle and the pressure consumers and businesses are currently under does raise a question over the likelihood and pace of any immediate overnight interest rate rises.

Robert Blinkhorn



NOVEMBER NEWS

Exciting news - building for our brand new client meeting rooms is underway! As we increase the number of face to face meetings, we have been building out our office to allow for more meeting room space. We are thrilled to have you back in person and are working hard to ensure we're ready to welcome you anytime you feel like dropping by.



In bittersweet news, we bid farewell wishes to Tony Yarrow, who founded Wise Investment in 1992 before leaving in 2016 to become co-portfolio manager of our then sister company, Wise Funds

Tony's career as an advisor and investor spans almost four decades, becoming an advisor in 1984 and a fund manager in 1989. He founded Wise Investment to help private individuals receive the sort of financial advice that he would like to receive himself, helping them to manage their investments and financial affairs.

We're pleased to say that Tony is now happily enjoying his retirement, spending time with his energetic grandchildren and his beloved bees. We're even more pleased to say that Tony has agreed to guest-write some blogs for us, so he's not getting rid of us that easily.

You can wish Tony well via LinkedIn: https://uk.linkedin.com/in/tony-yarrow-096803a

THE END OF THE TAX YEAR IS LOOMING

Believe it or not, we will soon begin planning our end of tax year project. This includes things like funding your ISAs, making fund switches to mitigate Capital Gains Tax (CGT) and ensuring everything is done by the deadline of 5th April 2022. We're here to help you knock this task on the head and get the most from your investments.

We will be contacting anyone with remaining ISA allowance to get their top ups done soon, to avoid a mad rush at the end of the tax year. If you aren't sure if you've used your allowances, get in touch and we can help you.









Wise Investment is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (firm reference number 230553). Your capital is at risk as values can go down as well as up.

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CHARITY UPDATE



CHARITY WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Every month we spin our 'Charity Wheel of Fortune' to pick a worthy cause to receive a £250 donation. This initiative is staff-led, with each person in the company nominating a local charity or worthy organisation. In August we were pleased to donate £250 to the Sunshine Cat Rescue.

We would love your input - Tell us which local worthy causes we should add to our charity wheel.

This simple initiative helps us to support local schools, food banks, animal sanctuaries and other worthy organisations and causes. November's £250 donation will go to Help for Heroes as part of Remembrance Day.

https://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/



TWINTOWN 2022 UPDATE

Plans for the TwinTown Challenge move ahead as the team announced their theme for the 2022 car - KISS. Rocking out in the Wise KISS car will be CEO Alex, joined by Jo Radcliffe, Jamal Moche, and Chris Kerridge, all dressed to kill for their epic adventure from Oxfordshire to Le Touquet in France.

What is the TwinTown challenge? https://www.twintown.org.uk/

The Twin Town Challenge is a team-based car challenge raising money for SpecialEffect (www.specialeffect.org.uk), an incredible charity impacting lives through technology that connects differently-abled people through video games. Each team buys a car for no more than £500, 'pimps it' with their chosen theme and drives it over a long weekend, raising awareness to increase donations for the cause.

The Twin Town Challenge has so far raised an amazing £830,000 for this charity, and we cannot wait to increase these efforts in 2022.

MEET THE TEAM

Pith a sizable team now spanning our office, we like to keep you up to date on who's who so that you can recognise friendly faces on your next visit.

This month, we introduce you to our Operations team, without whom we would simply not function. The Ops team monitors, maintains and audits our various databases. They optimise the way we run and keep tight checks on quarterly valuations, annual tax information, managing fees and cash balances so that we can deliver our quality services to you. https://wiseinvestment.co.uk/news/who-we-all-are-and-what-we-all-do

Heading up our Operations team is Heather Cooper-Harris, who oversees a talented troop of four, including: Senior Operations Technician Claire Burrows; Operations Technician Laura-Jane Higgins; Operations Technician Chris Kerridge; and Operations Technical Assistant Kim Hobday.

https://wiseinvestment.co.uk/about-wise-investment/investment-team







