

MONTHLY MATTERS

JUNE 2023



Introduction

By Julian Gilbert

There has been no slowing down during June – it has been yet another exciting and busy month for us all at Wealth Matters. In addition to the usual rhythm of day-to-day life here, we have been busy preparing our brand-new office location! To find out more about this, please read on below.

I am delighted to report that our most recent webinar, 'New Pension Opportunities, Market Outlook and Bucket List Goals', was a resounding success. It was wonderful to see so many clients join us on the night. I hope you found the topics covered interesting and informative with some key learning points and opportunities for future planning along the way.

If you weren't able to join us, but are interested to hear what we discussed, do not worry; we have included a link to the recording in our webinar article later on in this newsletter.

Without further ado, I hope you enjoy this month's update as we continue to share our stories with you all.

WHAT'S NEW

MONEY MATTERS

My Favourite Underrated Products

The Benefits of Investing on a Regular Basis

Webinar: 'New Pension Opportunities, Market Outlook and Bucket List Goals!'

TEAM NEWS

Announcing Our New Great Missenden Office

Fundraising Update

DOG TALES

What has Toby been up to?

My Favourite Underrated Products

By Chris James

We work with all kinds of financial products day-in day-out. Recently we wondered if our staff had any favourites among these products, so we put the question to Chris James, one of our Chartered Financial Planners.

He couldn't choose just one favourite, so we compromised and let him have two! Here's what he had to say about them.



[VISIT CHRIS' BIO HERE](#)

Pensions

I know it might sound a bit boring, but I am a massive fan of pensions. They offer huge tax benefits for clients, which can boost their overall financial position. There really is so much you can do with a pension, despite all the rules!

Pensions are a brilliant way to start saving for both yours and your family's financial future. You also have complete flexibility when taking money out of your pension in retirement, using flexi-access drawdown. Not only that, but you have the ability to pass these funds onto your family and loved ones outside of the estate which can avoid any potential inheritance tax on these funds.

I always consider pensions as fundamental to client's financial plans. They're a great way to grow your financial portfolio, especially with the tax relief you receive from contributions paid in. This continues all the way up until age 75 and even if you are retired.

The only time that I can't usually make a case for some sort of pension contribution is if the client will need access to the funds before age 55 (or 57 from 6th April 2028). Other than that, they're a firm favourite.

VCTs

I think Venture Capital Trusts (VCTs) offer an interesting option for the right type of client. However, they are more volatile by their nature, so are not suitable for all clients.

VCTs are a great route to investing into exciting new companies in the UK. It offers the potential for good returns whilst also helping to boost the UK economy. If supporting the local economy is something that's important to you, and you're comfortable with the level of risk, it could be a great match for you. An additional benefit for the client is that there are tax benefits available through VCTs which can further boost a client's financial position.

There are a few caveats here. As I mentioned, this is a higher risk option so is only suitable for clients who are comfortable with market volatility. We only tend to discuss VCTs as an option after we have looked at the lower-risk options, such as maximising ISA and pension contributions.

You also need to have taxable income in order to invest in a VCT, as one of the benefits is the ability to claim back some of the tax you have paid but unlike pensions, you are able to claim tax back on investment, rental or even pension income.

I would usually recommend this to a client who has already got some invested assets in place as, given the high-risk nature of this type of investment, you wouldn't want all of your money in this area.

These are simply my favourite products in the abstract sense – of course, the products that are right for you will depend on your specific aims and circumstances. If you would like to know more, please contact Wealth Matters to have an initial discussion.

Email: info@wealth-matters.co.uk

Telephone: 01582 720511

DISCLAIMER: This article is for information purposes only and does not constitute financial advice. You should always engage the services of a fully qualified financial adviser before entering any financial contract.

The Benefits of Investing on a Regular Basis

By Katherine Pautard

A common misconception around investing is the idea that you are supposed to only buy when the market is in decline and shares are cheap. This is known as 'market timing'.

In theory that is the ideal scenario, but there is one major flaw in that plan: it is impossible to predict the markets and, therefore, impossible to predict the best moment to buy. Just because the price of a share has fallen steeply, it doesn't mean it has reached the bottom. Nobody can predict this, therefore, investing on a monthly basis takes all of the 'guessing' out of investing.

We prefer to use a method called 'pound cost averaging'. This involves investing a fixed amount on a regular basis. Take your monthly pension contributions, for example; share prices rarely stay the same for a long time. So, when you invest regularly, you end up buying more shares when prices fall (and vice versa).

Additionally, investing on a regular basis can help you to become more disciplined. The regular contributions take the emotion out of investing. There is no room for you to worry about whether the price is low or high at the point of investing because your regular contribution feels like a normal part of your monthly outgoings rather than a significant lump sum investment.



[VISIT KATHERINE'S BIO HERE](#)

WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE?

Let's say you begin saving at 25 years of age, with a target retirement age of 65. You decide to start saving 12% of your annual income of £40,000. At the current rate of tax, and assuming you have a Plan 2 student loan, you take home £2,394 per month. Your income grows by 3% per year. That makes a monthly contribution of £287.28 in the first year, rising by 3% each year until your retirement age of 65.

In this hypothetical scenario, you would net more than £1.5 million by the time you retire, assuming a high savings rate. A steady stream of savings, coupled with decent investment returns and a 40-year period of compound interest, can turn a regular investor on a good salary into a millionaire by the time they retire.

It is regular contributions over a sustained period of time that creates results, not 'timing the market' or getting lucky.



Want to learn more?

If you'd like to learn more about the benefits of regular investment contributions and how to invest your way to financial freedom, we highly recommend reading our book *Invest Your Way to Financial Freedom: A simple guide to everything you need to know* by Ben Carlson & Robin Powell, with foreword by Julian Gilbert.

If you would like a copy, please get in touch with your CRM to request one - we'll be happy to send one out to you!

Webinar: New Pension Opportunities, Market Outlook and Bucket List Goals

By Ali Burton

Thank you to those of you who attended our Webinar on 20th June. It was wonderful to see so many of you!

We really enjoy being able to host these presentations for our clients. We hope you found the content insightful and were able to take away some helpful information.

Please feel free to rewatch, watch for the first time if you were unable to attend, or share with any friends, family, or colleagues who you think may benefit from watching our webinar.



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE WEBINAR](#)

If there are any topics within the webinar you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact your Client Relationship Manager.



Debbie Pacey
(Bruce Nash)

debbie@wealth-matters.co.uk



Jackie James
(Chris James and
Cameron McKay)

jackie@wealth-matters.co.uk



Alison Howe

(Katherine Pautard
and Julian Gilbert)

alison@wealth-matters.co.uk



Zoe Hughes

(Esther Walker)

zoe@wealth-matters.co.uk

Announcing our New Great Missenden Office

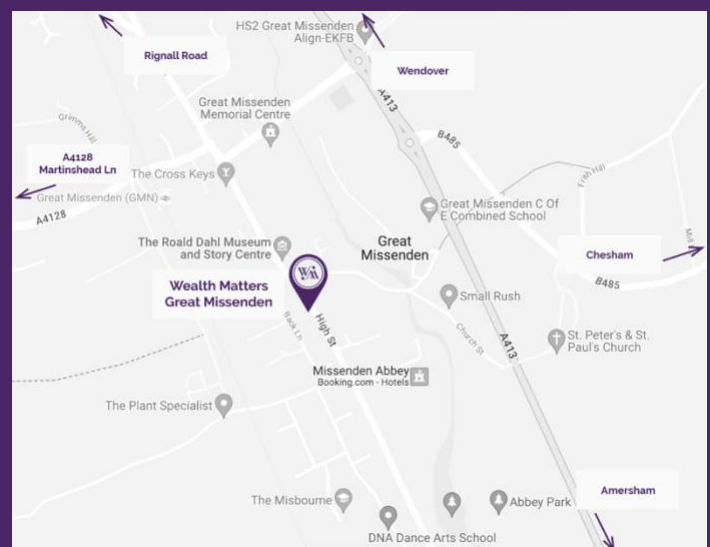
By Cameron McKay

We are pleased to announce we are branching out and have a new office location in Great Missenden.

Chris and I have been busy working out of the new office lately, as well as continuing to spend some time in our head office in Luton.

The address for our new location is:

102 High Street, Great Missenden
Buckinghamshire, HP16 0BE



Great Missenden does not replace any of our existing locations – it is simply an exciting step forward as we continue to grow as a business. We're still working on the finishing touches to make it feel like home and give it the Wealth Matters flair, but we look forward to welcoming you in our new location soon.

In the meantime, please continue to contact your Financial Planner or Client Relationship Manager in the usual way – via email or by calling us on [01582 720511](tel:01582720511).

Fundraising Update

By Ali Burton

Our fundraising efforts will culminate on the 9th September with our 20-mile Chiltern Walk.

In the meantime, with just over 10 weeks to go, we are well on track to complete the 1,588 miles for our Luton to Kyiv challenge. In fact, we are so close to the target already that we have decided to include the return journey in our challenge.

That makes our new target a total of 3,176 miles - wish us luck!

To date, we have already completed 1,073 miles. Almost 200 of these impressive miles have been achieved single-handedly by Jackie James, one of our Client Relationship Managers.

A few words from Jackie

"I am particularly enjoying our fundraising challenge as I always try to walk as much as I can anyway.

I have never monitored how far I walk before, so was surprised to learn that I have done 197 miles since the start of the challenge. I haven't been going out on special long walks to clock up that total; I've just been walking short distances regularly. It's amazing what regular 20-minute walks can achieve when they're all added together!

It's even better if doing what I enjoy can help to raise funds for our charities."



Please help support these amazing charities and the work they do by donating using the button below.

DONATE HERE

There's still time to donate

We are aiming to raise a total of £3,000, which will be donated equally to our three charities: Oracle Cancer Trust, Young Minds and Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. You can find out more about these charities by clicking on the images above

Any donation, no matter how small, will be gratefully received and will help make a difference. Thank you for your support!



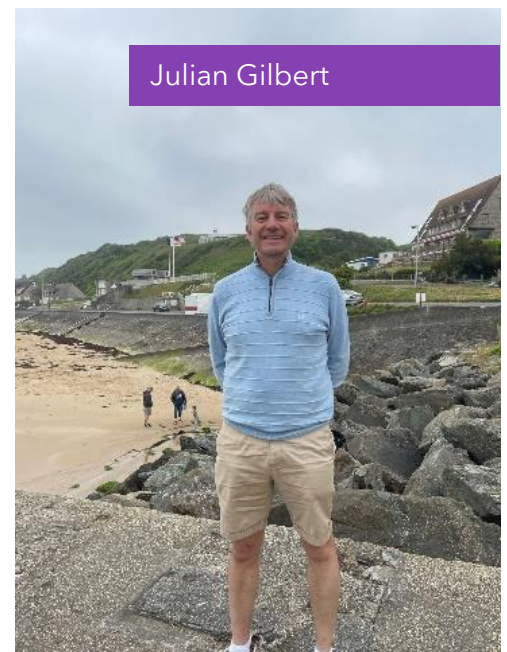
Ali Burton, Lake District



Debbie Pacey and Lexie



Taken by Esther Walker



Julian Gilbert

Dog Tales

By Ali Burton

This month was 'National Take Your Dog to Work Day', so what else could we do, but honour this with a few photos of our Team's four legged companions?

I think Toby was pleased we stuck to showing photos instead of inviting this lovely looking pack of hounds into our office – I can only imagine the madness that would have ensued!

Luckily, Toby seemed happy enough to endure his 'brother', Benji, at the Great Missenden office earlier this month.

I hope those of you who have a canine friend in your life enjoyed celebrating them this month – I'm certain that they enjoyed the extra love!



Cameron and Chris

Julian:

"I had 2 very well-behaved boys at the Great Missenden office. They were friendly to guests and ate all their treats. Toby and Benji were also there."

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Doogie

Alison



Lexie

Debbie



Sam

Bruce N



Toby

Christine



Onion

Cameron

If there is anything you wish to discuss with your Financial Planner, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Email: info@wealth-matters.co.uk
Tel: 01582720511

You can also email your CRM directly:

Alison Howe (Katherine Pautard and Julian Gilbert)
alison@wealth-matters.co.uk

Debbie Pacy (Bruce Nash)
debbie@wealth-matter.co.uk

Zoe Hughes (Esther Walker)
zoe@wealth-matters.co.uk

Jackie James (Chris James and Cameron McKay)
jackie@wealth-matters.co.uk