



Welcome To Our Latest Newsletter

Welcome to our latest newsletter which outlines what has been happening at True Bearing and provides topical and current advice on aspects of financial planning.



Jon Neale, Associate Director

The last few years have seen market volatility and it is interesting to note that following the result of the EU Referendum in June, we saw markets fall significantly, to then rebound promptly. Many equity and bond type funds have seen double-digit gains in the last few weeks.

Sterling as a currency has been weaker and although this is good for the price of our exports, it does not help with the cost of imports (or the price of holiday expenditure whilst you're abroad!).

Linked to the fall in Sterling, we have seen inflation rise to 0.6% (CPI) in

August 2016. Although it is pleasing to see these results, we remain aware of the risks ahead, both from a UK and a global perspective.

We are advocates of investment diversification and have experienced a significant uplift in investment enquiries in August after the decision by the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to cut the base rate for the first time since 2009. The indications are that rates will remain low. The aim of ensuring that our economy remains vibrant.

Despite the economic uncertainty we are extremely busy at True Bearing and continue to help North West individuals and businesses with their financial planning issues. We are very active within our local community, and again are organising the 'Last Choir Singing' competition for local junior schools, but, we don't stop there! We have donated our second defibrillator to a Chorley school, raised money for the Bubble Foundation and have eaten lots of yummy cake at our coffee morning in aid of MacMillan, read all about our work on page 4.

We Did It!



Winner

Professional Practice of the Year

Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility

Be Inspired Business Awards (BIBAs) 2016



Full details on page 2

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We Did It!



On Friday 16 September we floated away with two awards from the prestigious BIBAs.

Following a gruelling application and interview process and fighting off very tough competition, our firm took home the awards for: Professional Practice of the Year and Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility.

The awards are an accolade for elite Lancashire businesses and winning not one but two categories is one of the major highlights of the year for the firm.

Hailed as ‘the one they all want to win’, BIBA stands for Be Inspired Business Awards and the event is organised by the North West Chamber of Commerce. The awards recognise and honour the breadth of business achievement in Lancashire in all its variety.

Winning the two awards is a true reflection of just where this company is heading.

Chairman, George Critchley, said: “The company values do not just tick a box, they are lived and breathed by the whole team, and they are there to support the employees and to help our clients make decisions. We are certainly on an exciting journey.

“These awards are a fantastic win for our company; I am really pleased for the whole team. All our employees show great effort, enthusiasm, engagement, belief and most of all trust, in our firm. The directors were able to wow the judges and demonstrate why we excel in all areas across the business and how we go above and beyond that of a typical IFA firm.”

The wins are a culmination to a series of successes this year, including a Red Rose Award for ‘Financial Firm of the Year’ in March.

Protecting the Future: A Matter of Trust

10 Reasons Why Everyone Should Consider Setting Up A Trust

In order to plan for the future, you should set up a trust to ensure that your estate is given to the people you choose, when you choose. A trust is a legal arrangement where one or more ‘trustees’ are made legally responsible for holding assets (such as land, money, buildings, shares, etc.). The assets are placed in trust for the benefit of one or more ‘Beneficiaries’.

So why should you have a trust?

1 Managing assets

If your beneficiaries don’t have the capability or desire to manage the assets (ie. young children) you’ll be giving them, having trustees manage those assets can solve the problem.

2 Protecting assets

If you want to protect assets from a marriage breakdown or from those who might influence your beneficiaries.

3 Controlling distributions

If, for example, the beneficiaries are very young, you can distribute assets to them over time through a trust.

4 Providing privacy

Your Will is likely to be probated becoming a public document, along with the value of the assets that formed your estate.

5 Avoiding compulsory succession

In some cases, it may be possible for your will to be changed after your death. A properly drafted trust can be watertight to avoid challenges.

6 Saving taxes

When you put money or property in a trust, you don’t own it any longer – so it may not count towards your Inheritance Tax bill when you die.

7 Avoiding probate

Assets held in a trust fall outside of your estate and, therefore, do not require probate.

8 Preserving disability benefits

A properly worded trust can be used to hold assets for the beneficiary while still entitling the beneficiary to receive certain disability payments.

9 Helping charity

A trust can be set up with the purpose of providing gifts to charity.

10 Achieve peace of mind

It can be reassuring to know that everything has been arranged and your wishes will be carried out in a way that causes the least stress.



HOW WE CAN HELP

At True Bearing Legal Services, we can help you with all your trust needs. We will:

- Review your circumstances with you to see if a trust is suitable to protect your assets
- Help you set up a trust by preparing all the paperwork for you to sign
- Inform you of your responsibilities and duties in regards to the Trust
- Provide you with in-depth advice throughout the whole process

Call **01257 260011** and ask for **Debbie Newsham** or **Diane Bush**.

We're growing...again!

We have recently strengthened our team with three new appointments.

David Houghton joins the firm as an Independent Financial Adviser. From Chorley, he brings extensive professional knowledge and a proven track record in delivering top quality financial planning advice to entrepreneurial clients in the North West.

Supporting the financial advisers of the practice is Amy Bamber, Adviser Assistant. Amy has a wealth of experience in financial services. Amy, who is from Longridge, joins the firm to help advisers with their day-to-day tasks, allowing them to further assist their clients.

As part of the firm's graduate placement programme, William Rickson will be spending a six month placement with True Bearing. William, from Treales,

will gain an insight in to all areas of the business from the day-to-day work to investment research.

David Houghton said: "I came to work for True Bearing looking for a new challenge. I'd heard about their reputation for great service to clients and as I am passionate about client relationship building, I knew the firm would be a good fit for me. I'm really looking forward to hitting the ground running and getting settled in."

George Critchley, Chairman at True Bearing, said: "As a firm we pride ourselves on our extensive service offering, David, Amy and William will be very valuable assets to the team. We are pleased to welcome them on board and wish them well in their new roles.

"These appointments come as we continue to develop our firm and be



the very best in our industry. After winning two accolades at the recent Be Inspired Business Awards, one of the best endorsements a Lancashire business could ask for, we continue to demonstrate innovation, excellence and passion through hiring the very best people."

Public demand for sustainable investing on the rise

Annual research for 'Good Money Week' found that 54% of British investors want their investments to have a positive impact, beyond just making money.

So just what is sustainable investing? It conjures up a whole host of images of wind farms and solar panels.

The reality is that over the years there have been many misconceptions about what are and what aren't sustainable investments. Sustainable funds are an absolutely vital part of what we're doing here at True Bearing.

For us, sustainability is about finding funds that will survive and thrive in a

future where the global landscape could look very different. These funds are all about finding those companies with sustainable business models that will really stand the test of time, regardless of the fact of economic changing circumstances, macro changing circumstances and, changing societal needs. These companies are on the increase, may be well known brand names and need not necessarily be in the field of green energy.

Investors seeking a 'sustainable' strategy need to be confident that their money is being used in a way that really does make a social difference whilst meeting their investment return needs.

Investors may worry that if they invest 'sustainably', they will not get a decent return on their money. Sustainable investing is of course about making a return, investors are becoming more aware that they don't necessarily have to choose between 'doing well' and 'doing good'.

With a passion for advising in the field of sustainable and impact investing, the advisers at True Bearing are well versed in helping clients with their investing decisions.

If you would like to find out more, talk to your adviser or call our office on **01257 260011**.

Local school benefits from our hard work!

In conjunction with the charity 'Hand on Heart' we have donated a defibrillator to Gillibrand Primary School in Chorley.

Through a series of year-long fundraising initiatives, including raffles for extra days holidays, Easter extravaganzas, Christmas quizzes and much more, the firm has managed to supply a defibrillator and training provided by 'Hand on Heart'.



About 12 young people die every week from sudden cardiac arrest. Of these, 270 are children who will die at school and 80 per cent of those will have had no previous symptoms.

Susan Peary, Managing Director at True Bearing, said: "We are delighted to be

helping our local community.

"Thank you to all our team at True Bearing who have been involved in this project, they unselfishly give their donations which clearly benefit our local community."

Head Teacher (pictured), Ms S Bryson, of Gillibrand Primary, said: "The call came out of the blue and we were delighted that True Bearing chose us. Having a defibrillator in the school has been on our agenda for some time, but, budget constraints have meant that we have been unable to do this."

Last Choir Returns for Third Year

Imagine an audience of thousands, a live radio recording, an international vocalist, teenage pop idols, and, best of all, performances from junior school choirs who just couldn't be more excited to be singing. Sounds impossible?

This was the dream of our Chairman, George Critchley. His vision became a reality in 2015 at the Last Choir Singing heats and finals.

"I was totally overwhelmed," said George. "Not just at the sheer volume of entries, but at the enthusiasm and passion of all those competing. I had a vision to create something amazing but this was beyond my dreams. To do this two years in a row has been totally remarkable."

The team at True Bearing are equally as passionate about the Last Choir Singing competition, all giving up their own personal time to help with the competition.

Now going in to its third year, Last Choir Singing is a competition for Lancashire based junior schools.



Battling it out at a series of regional heats, winning choirs go through to a Grand Final, with the winner receiving £1,000 towards music equipment for their school.

George explained; "I wanted to give something back to the community that has supported us over the last 13 years.

The major reason for doing this is the sheer pleasure the children get out of it. Their joy is infectious. It really is heaven on earth!"

For more information on Last Choir Singing visit: lastchoirsinging.co.uk, call: 01257 260011 or email: liz.armstrong@truebearing.co.uk

It's all in the Bubble!

The team at True Bearing have been on a fund raising spree in aid of The Bubble Foundation.

The Bubble Foundation, a specialist unit in Newcastle for babies and children born without an immune system, is very close to the heart of Judy Marshall, a member of staff at True Bearing. She decided to ask the firm to help in her quest to raise money after her great-nephew, Seth, was treated in the unit after being born without an immune system.

Raising a total of £256.33 through a raffle and cake sale all monies went to The Bubble Foundation to assist with medical equipment, parent support and much needed research into better ways of saving lives.

Gill Johnston, Fundraising Manager for The Bubble Foundation said: "We are very grateful for the support that True Bearing have given to the Foundation, without this we wouldn't be able to continue our ground breaking research into treating babies and children born with defective immune systems."



For more information about our services, please visit the website www.truebearing.co.uk or call us on 01257 260011.

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