

Investment Q1

The latter half of 2007 saw significant falls across most investment markets, this was reflected in statements that many of you received in November, which were disappointing compared to May 2007 statements. 2008 began with signs of recovery but clearly the global credit crunch has had a major effect on investment markets. I am generally urging cautious investment at the moment.

I remain concerned about the US and UK economies which have both had Governments failing to set aside reserves from an abundance of tax revenues. The main problem with both economies is the over reliance upon consumer spending and levels of personal borrowing. The Japanese economy remains an enigma and virtually impossible to predict.



I am pleased that many of our favoured Fund Managers continue to perform well against their peers within their own market sectors. I spend considerable time (increasingly) reviewing funds and am watchful of significant changes. For those of you that invest into ethically screened funds, I am afraid that when markets are poor, ethical funds tend to perform badly. The vast majority of ethical funds are consistently in the bottom half performance tables over the last 12 months.

We have developed fund management techniques and are now able to provide an even more comprehensive service. Please request details about this so that we can ensure that your pension and investments properly reflect your attitude towards investment risk.

Dominic Thomas