



Let's hope the Chancellor's pre budget report hasn't dampened everyone's Christmas spirit too much. The festive holiday period is often a time to put some of these wider economic issues aside, to reflect on the important things in life and to enjoy the company of those closest to us, although one of our articles contains a breakdown of all of the speech's key points to keep you feeling in the loop.

We hope this information will help you to feel more up to date and informed with what's going on in the financial world.

Warmest regards,



Taylor & Taylor Associates

MONTHLY NEWS, VIEWS AND UPDATES

December market commentary

When you realise that the 'Italian 10' trending on Twitter refers not to Antonio Cassano's goal against Northern Ireland but to the yield on the Italian 10 Year Bond, then you know the European debt crisis – and the consequent turmoil on the world stock markets – remains alive and well.



Click [here](#) to read more

Deposit accounts - the good, the bad and the ugly

On Thursday March 5th 2009 the Bank of England reduced its base rate to 0.5% where it has remained ever since – and with fears about European defaults and a possible double-dip recession stalking the economy, it is unlikely to rise in the near future. Indeed, some economists are predicting that any rise before 2014 is now unlikely.



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The Chancellor's Autumn Statement

Chancellor George Osborne delivered his Autumn Statement at lunchtime on Tuesday, November 29th against a backdrop of gloomy economic forecasts.



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MONTHLY ECONOMIC UPDATES

Good points

Markets have made another impressive rise from the 'new' coordinated central bank action to reduce the cost of borrowing. This has helped provide a catalyst for what we think could be an equity market rally into the New Year. In light of fund switches we completed for many clients this would help achieve a reasonable short term gain for our clients portfolios. However, exposure to long equity will be reviewed for each client at the beginning of 2012...

Not so good points

The eurozone has continued to make progress to improve and secure a robust plan to prevent debt contagion in the eurozone from spreading. Whilst we are pleased to see a more united front in Europe, we are concerned that the equity markets will in effect price in a swift debt recovery, when we feel this will only be achieved over a number of years of austerity. Equally, years of austerity can be both bad or good for investment markets, we shall see.

AND FINALLY

We all know how exciting Christmas can be, especially for children, but have you ever given a gift that's induced the kind of euphoria experienced by the boy in this clip? Take a look and watch dreams come true...

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