



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

ISSUE 25 | MARCH – MAY 2026 | £4 or FREE to AFWM Ltd clients

venture

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ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Celebrating 15 years of trusted advice

HISTORIC HOLIDAYS

Six unforgettable destinations



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ATKINS FERRIE
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

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Quarterly Review

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welcome



I love each of the seasons, but spring is probably my favourite of them all. It's a time of rebirth, hope and promise. I spotted my first daffodil yesterday and it brought a huge smile to my face. By the time you read this, my tulips will be almost out, my little cherry tree will be in bud, and the blue tits will have returned to the birdbox they nest in every spring.

I tend to hibernate a bit during winter and am usually in pyjamas by 7pm. I did, however, enjoy a much-needed break away in Wiltshire earlier this year. (See page 14.)

Many of us decide to make healthier choices in the spring. The layers are coming off and we're looking ahead to summer. It's still a bit cold for salads, but Jamie Oliver's Spring Soup (page 25) promises the perfect balance of healthy nourishment, warm comfort and bags of flavour.

I'm also looking forward to eating the chillis growing in my conservatory. I ordered the plant from South Devon Chilli Farm last summer and it's still going strong. I love spicy food and very much enjoyed speaking to Jenny from South Devon Chilli Farm for this issue's business profile. You can find out what she had to say from page 32.

2026 marks AFWM's 15th anniversary. The company has grown considerably over the years, but we remain true to the ethical values we were built on back in 2011. You'll find our anniversary feature on page 8.

To finish, I'd like to say thank you, both for helping to make AFWM the success it is today and for picking up this magazine to read.

Until next time...

Kate

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PLEASE RECYCLE

venture

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IMAGE © PAUL STUART 2025



Driving down costs – exclusive fund discounts for clients

WE'RE DELIGHTED TO SHARE two significant cost-saving wins that underline the benefits of our growing scale and strong relationships with leading fund managers.

First, we are one of just three UK launch clients for a new Artemis fund – SmartGARP GEM ex-China. This gives our clients a permanent discounted total fund cost of 0.51%, compared with 0.75% for the rest of the market. Uniquely, we are also the only firm to secure special terms on newly created Income units.

Secondly, we've secured an exceptional deal on the Aegon Investment Grade Bond fund. Previously available to us at 0.35%, we've now achieved just 0.15% – a rate typically reserved for the very largest institutional investors.

Once we introduce these new funds to our portfolios, the combined effect will be a reduction in overall costs for our current Actively Managed Average Growth and Average Income portfolios of 0.04% and 0.07%, respectively. For someone with a £500,000 portfolio, that's a saving of £200 and £350 p.a. respectively.

Together, these deals demonstrate how our growth, focus and conviction allow us to drive down costs and deliver a clear advantage for our clients.

Celebrating 10 years of service

AS 2025 DREW TO A CLOSE, we were proud to celebrate a significant milestone for three valued members of our team. Rob Baylis, Sally Endean and Jo Allen each marked their ten-year work anniversary – a decade of dedication, expertise and commitment to our business and our clients.

The trio were formally thanked at our Christmas company event, where they were presented with a bottle of fizz, an anniversary rose bush and a commemorative glass plaque in recognition of their outstanding contribution over the past ten years. We are incredibly grateful for their continued hard work and look forward to many more years of success together.



Sally, Rob and Jo at the AFWM Christmas event

A big thank you to all our clients

THIS YEAR, AFWM IS CELEBRATING 15 years of Actively Caring! Looking after our clients' finances and working with you to achieve your financial goals is a privilege, and we would like to thank all our clients for putting your trust in us.

We send a special thank you to the 138 clients who joined us in our first year. Sharing 15 years with you and your families has been a joy and we look forward to continuing that journey with you all, for many years to come.



Talented client's spring exhibition

IF YOU'RE VISITING SIDMOUTH between 28 April and 4 May, make sure to visit Kennaway House, where one of our clients, Alan Cotton, is exhibiting. Fans of Alan's work include King Charles, with whom Alan has visited Sri Lanka, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji as official Tour Artist. Keep an eye out for a full feature on Alan in an upcoming issue of *Venture*.

what's on *this spring*

*enjoy
days out
more*

We love spring at AFWM as it means we can meet more people at more events. Do pop over to say hello if you spot our stand

CORNWALL GARDEN SOCIETY'S SPRING FLOWER SHOW

28 & 29 March

This annual event at the Royal Cornwall Showground celebrates Cornwall's early spring flowers in all their glory. Visitors will learn about everything from sustainable gardening to Cornwall's horticultural heritage. And, no doubt, we'll all pick up a plant (or 10) to take home.

cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

RHS WISLEY CRAFT & DESIGN FAIR

30 Apr - 4 May

We really enjoyed the fair last year so can't wait to see what this year's exhibitors have in store. As well as browsing the stalls on our lunch break, we'll be soaking up the live music and partaking in plenty of samples at the food & drink stands.

rhs.org.uk/wisley

CORNWALL HOME & GARDEN SHOW

2 & 3 May

We're heading to the Royal Cornwall Showground alongside Venture advertisers Cornish Cottage Holidays and numerous other exhibitors. Whether you're thinking of building your own home or just want to make a few updates, the show is well worth a visit.

cornwallhomeshow.co.uk

RICHMOND MAY FAIR

9 May

Who doesn't enjoy a traditional May fair? From performances by local dance troupes to the ever-popular dog show and a Victorian fun fair, there really is something to keep everyone entertained.

richmondmayfair.co.uk

ROYAL CORNWALL SHOW

4 - 6 June

Cornwall's biggest annual event is back. The show has been running since 1793, and it's fair to say they really have perfected it. Alongside the agricultural classes and shows, you'll find ferret racing, falconry, fly fishing and food & drink galore.

royalcornwallshow.org



15 years and counting

AFWM was founded in 2011 when I, having been 15 years in the industry, became fed up with the generally 'lazy, selfish and greedy' way that many organisations in the industry dealt with their clients. At the outset, we set up 10 Ethics, which addressed every perceived shortcoming that we could see in the Financial Advice industry, and which put the client unequivocally first.

Key moments include the early decision to promote ourselves by supporting charity events – a commitment which has grown tremendously over the years, for the benefit of charities, clients and also AFWM. Another key moment was the decision to open new offices, beginning with St Ives, and to expand our services. The expansion into residential mortgages was a major strategic decision, beginning our transition into a 'one-stop finance shop' for multiple generations of clients.

Moving into St Agnes and ensuring it kept its one remaining cash machine, was another community-based milestone.

The decision to expand into unknown pastures in Devon was also a major event and a potentially difficult venture that has worked out exceedingly well for us – giving us confidence to pave the way for much greater expansion.

Over the long term, we plan to provide the very best Independent Advice service in the UK, crucially for the many, not just the few. In the next five years, we expect to expand considerably across the South West to become the first choice for people across the region.

Whether you're in Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, London or elsewhere in the UK, I am truly grateful for your support and trust in us over the last 15 years.

Here's to the next 15!

John Waldie
FINANCE DIRECTOR &
HEAD OF INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

"When I joined the business just over 10 years ago, it was because I wanted to help people get high quality financial advice, and that is still at the core of what AFWM provides. The ethical principles that form the foundation of everything we do are what makes us unique and successful."

Rob Baylis
FINANCIAL ADVISER IN ST IVES

"I've been working at AFWM since 2017 and have progressed from Research Assistant to Service Director in that time. I have learnt so much, loved working with all of my clients and colleagues and genuinely found the (nearly) nine years thoroughly enjoyable."

Rob Coote
SERVICE DIRECTOR

"I love that we don't have a minimum investment amount and that we offer a free initial consultation, because that means we can provide a service to everyone. The financial goals that we set are so personal and so often motivated by emotion, that forming a strong personal relationship with my clients is inevitable."

Zoe Watkins
FINANCIAL ADVISER IN BARNSTAPLE

"I've been here since May 2019, and love seeing the real positive impact we have for our clients and the communities and charities that we support."

Laura Hibble
EXECUTIVE CLIENT MANAGER

"I really enjoy the interaction with clients; it's satisfying helping people to achieve their goals. Finance is an ever-changing landscape. Every day, there's something in the news that could have a direct impact on what we're doing."

Harry Griffiths
FINANCIAL ADVISER IN ST AGNES

"I joined AFWM in 2014 when there was only the Helston office, and now we have grown to having seven. Watching the company grow and going from strength to strength has been brilliant to watch. For me personally, the variety of every day is what I like the most and the enjoyment of looking after my clients and helping each of them along their financial journeys. Here's to many more years!"

James Currie
FINANCIAL ADVISER IN HELSTON



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

Celebrating

15
YEARS

timeline

2011 AFWM FOUNDED

January 2011 saw the start of AFWM and the opening of our first office, sharing a business space in Helston.

2012 FIRST INDEPENDENT OFFICE

Our first independent office opened in Helston in March. It's now the administrative centre for the company.

2013 THE START OF OUR CHARITY WORK

Our small team began offering our support to charities and our local communities, attending many Rotary and smaller independent events.

2014 GROWING OUR CHARITY COMMITMENTS

Our first community sponsorships started as we worked with the Venus Awards and Cornwall Garden Society (CGS). Our CGS sponsorship ran until 2022 and we will be partnering with them again in 2026.

2015 NEW LOCATIONS IN CORNWALL

We opened a shared office in St Ives, and with St Agnes about to lose its last bank, AFWM stepped in to open our third Cornish office later that year, ensuring that there continues to be a cash machine in the village.

ROTARY RELATIONSHIP GROWS

Expanding on our work with Rotary, we sponsored their district conference and supported golf days and other fundraising activities. A relationship that we are delighted to say continues to this day.

2016 NATIONAL TRUST SUPPORT STARTS

Our very first National Trust event was at Coleton Fishacre. We are very proud to say that we continue to work with the National Trust 10 years on, across their South Somerset portfolio, providing our clients with VIP experiences not to be missed and supporting the Trust's local projects.

2017 NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

We launched a new website and continued to expand our charity support at local events. Memorable events included the Cornwall Hospice Care Santa run, where our directors got into the spirit of the event.

2018 SPONSORSHIP GROWS AND SO DO WE

2018 saw us move to larger premises in St Ives. We also began our RHS Sponsorship, joining RHS Rosemoor for their Flower Show. Over the coming years, this relationship has grown and we've joined them for most of their events. Our client VIP event at the Flower Show has become an annual favourite.

2019 EXPANSION INTO DEVON

Opened in March 2019, Chudleigh became our first Devon location.



Our Helston office



Cornwall Hospice Care Santa Run, 2017



Staff on a volunteering day at Montacute House, Somerset



Our stand at an RHS Rosemoor event

Our story continues overleaf...



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

Celebrating

15
YEARS

timeline



At an event on Marazion beach with the National Trust

2020 VENTURE MAGAZINE LAUNCHES

Our quarterly magazine launched. Distributed to clients and potential clients, *Venture's* aim is to help you enjoy life more and to keep you informed about finances.

2021 REACHING ACROSS THE SOUTH WEST

Barnstaple became home to our second Devon office and Sherborne home to our first Dorset branch.

2022 ANOTHER SPONSORSHIP IS BORN

We joined Sherborne Classic & Supercars as Headline Sponsor for the first time in 2022. 2026 will be our fifth year supporting this event to raise money for local charities.

2023 ELECTRIFICATION & EXPANSION

We introduced electric vehicles to our car fleet to help reduce the impact our travel has on the beautiful areas in which we live and work. Our newest office opened in Richmond upon Thames to serve our growing list of clients in London and the greater South East area.

2024 INVESTMENT PROPOSITIONS GROW

2024 saw us expand our investment portfolio choices for our clients.

A NEW CHARITY PARTNER

We also joined with the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club as a partner to assist club members with their financial planning.

2025 GROWTH WITH CLIENTS & CHARITY AT OUR HEART

We welcomed four new staff members to our AFWM family in 2025, expanding our Client Management and Paraplanning teams and taking on a new trainee adviser. This was alongside the growth of our RHS sponsorship, as we began working with RHS Wisley and joined in with some of their events.

2026 AND BEYOND...

We have some exciting plans for 2026 as we enter our 15th year and look forward to sharing them with you as the year progresses!



Venture Issue 1



AFWM goes electric



JEC sponsorship



Spring Arrives Early



Lower Tregamere

Image © Keith Tucker

Lower Tregamere, St Columb, Cornwall is a bursting with spring cheer and welcomes visitors on 30th & 31st March, and 1st April 2-4pm and also by prior arrangement 4th May - 30th Sept for groups of up to 15.

Spring arrives early in the West Country, allowing plenty of time for visitors to explore all the fabulous gardens the National Garden Scheme has to offer. To enjoy displays of blossoms and bulbs across the South West, please check out the website.

Every visit supports the work of these essential nursing and health charities:



In 2025, thanks to the generosity of visitors and garden owners, the National Garden Scheme donated over £3.8m to these good causes.

Discover more at ngs.org.uk

Registered charity number: 1112664

in the spotlight



This issue, the spotlight is on **Lauren West**, Paraplanner in our Chudleigh office, who talked to us about camping, St Ives and her love of supernatural TV series...

What were you doing before AFWM?

I worked in a bank branch for a while and then moved into mortgage brokering for five years. I paused that when I had my daughter, Elsie. While I was on maternity leave, I spent so much time in Costa Coffee that the manager suggested I work there! So, I did that for a year in between having Elsie and Artie. Making coffee was a welcome break, but I wanted to look at getting back into finance as that was a career I really enjoyed. It so happened that AFWM had a trainee role that suited me just right. I've been here almost a year now. I joined in April, at the end of the tax year, so threw myself in at the deep end!

How are you finding the role?

I'm really enjoying using my brain again and I work with a great team – Laura, Lucie and Andy. It's a really nice office in a great location. I look right out onto the high street so can see everything that's going on.

I have my Certificate in Mortgage Advice and Practice and am now doing my Pensions and Retirement Planning qualification. I'd like to do the rest of the study modules for the Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning over the next few years. Then, once Artie is at school, I might look at moving into a client-facing role.

If you could do any other job for just one day, what would it be?

Probably a midwife. Having given birth, I'm a real fan girl of midwives! I think it would be an amazing job to experience for a day.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

Mainly just spending time with my family. Elsie is five. She's a full little human now and we can have full conversations. Artie is only two. He loves Fozzie Bear from *The Muppets*, so whenever he finds anything funny, it's, "Wocka, wocka!"

My husband, Matt, and I love going for a walk along Teignmouth seafront with the children and then getting a coffee. Coffee is life for me, and it's how Matt and I met. He

started working at my parents' coffee shop when he was 17 and I was 16.

We go to festivals when we can. Now that we have kids, it's mainly day ones in places like Powderham Castle. Elsie loves getting face gems and wearing a cape!

What are your favourite places to visit in the South West?

When Matt and I first got together, we went to St Ives every year. Fast forward a few years, and Matt proposed on Hayle beach overlooking St Ives, so that area has always been special to us. It's our default place to go if we have a free weekend. I'd like to explore that bit of the coast more.

We also enjoy going camping to Slapton Sands, Dawlish Warren, places like that. You can sit outside on a hazy summer's evening and just relax while the kids are sleeping. I do like a decent level of comfort though. We've got a king-size blow-up bed and last time we went camping, we went in my brother's campervan and took the air fryer!

Do you have any restaurants or other places to recommend to readers?

One of our friends is Head Chef at the Elephant in Torquay. It's a Michelin-starred restaurant on the harbour. He invited us to come and try some of the dishes he was experimenting with. It was the first time we'd been to that kind of restaurant, and it was such an amazing experience.

Any films or TV series to recommend?

We love *Stranger Things*, *Umbrella Academy*, *Wednesday* and those types of series. I was really hoping they'd release a secret last episode of *Stranger Things*. There were lots of conspiracy theories around it.

Matt and I recently watched *Film Club*. It's a BBC series with Aimee Lou Wood. Her character has agoraphobia and anxiety. It's a comedy, but they capture the bleakness of how she's feeling really well.

Do you have anything on your bucket list?

We'd like to go interrailing around Europe. We went to Thailand for our honeymoon but were both very poorly, so we'll stay in Europe for our next big trip! If we won the lottery though, we'd go through the Canadian Rockies by train. There's just something Agatha Christie-like about being on a long train journey.

If your house was burning down, what non-living things would you want to save?

My wedding box, which has my wedding shoes, confetti and things like that in. We've got about 12 scrapbooks of the kids' photos, so I'd probably also try to balance them all as I was running down the stairs!

What's the best piece of advice you've received that you want to pass on?

Probably just the one relating to motherhood that if you're worrying about doing a good enough job, then you probably already are. Parenting is hard, especially when you're new to it. You can't be perfect; you just need to try your best.



Bucket list: train journey through Canadian Rockies



Beach day with Elsie and Artie



Camping



Festival vibes with husband Matt

The Old Town Bridge



riverside *retreat*

Kate Duggan enjoys a welcome break from family life in **Bradford on Avon**

With two children, it isn't often that Rick and I get a break away to ourselves. However, back in January, the pair of us headed off to Timbrell's yard in Bradford on Avon. Did we feel liberated or guilty at leaving the teens at home? Honestly, a bit of both, but the guilt washed away pretty quickly.

Check in wasn't until 3pm, so we had a few hours to explore Bradford on Avon. Wiltshire isn't an area we know well and neither of us had set foot in the town before, so it was fun to explore it together. Eager to stretch our legs after the car ride, we set out for a stroll along the canal. I'm not sure what I enjoyed more – the brightly painted canal barges or the tranquillity of not having a bored 14-year-old in tow.

If you're interested in history, there are several interesting sights around the town, from the 13th century town bridge (which was widened in 1769) to the imposing Grade I-listed Jacobean Hall and the Saxon St Laurence's Church.

The best-known landmark is probably Tithe Barn, which was built to store the 'tithe' – produce paid by local people to support the nuns of Shaftesbury Abbey, who owned the farmland. At 51 metres long, it's one of the largest medieval barns still standing in England. It's a beautiful building, particularly inside, where you can gaze up at the exposed beams, which we did for several minutes.

Surrounding the barn are a few old farm buildings, one of which houses a café that turned out to be the perfect spot for lunch. Little Barn has a small but perfectly formed menu. I can recommend the hummus board, which comes with chimichurri flatbreads and a rocket and feta salad.

Suitably refuelled, it was time for some window shopping. Sadly, the Tithe Barn Workshops were closed when we visited the town. The collection of artists' shops and studios looked very inviting from the outside, so we'll definitely try to plan our next visit for a day when they're open.

Handmade Bradford on Avon is also a good place to check out if you like crafty, arty, handmade stuff and want to support local businesses. It features work by 40+ local makers – everything from jewellery to paintings, handprinted lampshades and craft supplies.

You'll also want to take a walk along the Shambles. While not quite as enticing as the Shambles in York, it still features several 15th century buildings, most of which are home to independent businesses.

My idea of the perfect break away includes lots of stops for food, drinks or both. As well as being a very pretty town, Bradford on Avon has plenty of places to enjoy a pit stop. We were tempted by the Bridge Tea Room – a quaint café dating back to 1502. However, waitresses wearing mop caps



The Tithe Barn



Timbrell's Yard



Mezzanine room



Fine dining, superb pricing

squeezing past tiny tables adorned with lace doilies, aren't really Rick's cup of tea. Instead, we stopped for a cuppa at Little Rituals – a laid-back café filled with plants and zero doilies.

Then, after a bit more pottering, it was time to check into our hotel.

Timbrell's Yard

The hotel sits right next to the River Avon. It actually comprises three buildings, the largest of which, St Margaret's House, is Grade II listed and was once home to a businessman called Thomas Timbrell, hence the hotel's name.

(Fun fact for you, the town's name comes from the fact that it grew around a broad ford across the river Avon.)

Timbrell's Yard is one of those hotels that you feel right at home in as soon as you step through the door. It's part of the Stay Original Company – a family of "boutique hotels and inns with bags of character across the South West." In Timbrell Yard's case, that means exposed stonework and pillars, old wooden flooring and cracked leather sofas. It's rustic, but in a way that feels natural rather than manufactured.

Each of the 17 bedrooms are individually decorated. They're contemporary, but with a nod to the building's history. We were in a mezzanine – living area at the bottom, bedroom and bathroom up a few steps. The split of the two areas made it feel almost like a small apartment – far more spacious than a regular hotel room.

Stay Original has remembered all those finer details that make relaxing all the easier, including a digital radio, ambient lighting and cut-glass tumblers. Large, coloured letters adorn one wall. (We spent a few minutes competing to make as many words out of them as we could, most of which were rude.) However, the standout feature is the view of the river from the large window that takes up almost the entire width of one wall.

Is there a more calming view than that of a river? For me, I can feel my shoulders drop and my jaw unclench when gifted a view like that from our hotel room. The effect was no doubt helped by the fact that we'd brought a bottle of prosecco along to toast our night of freedom.

Sitting in comfy chairs watching squirrels cavorting in the trees outside the windows, the river rolling on by and cormorants diving for their dinner, all while sipping a glass of bubbles, was nothing short of heaven.

The dinner

Timbrell's Yard buys locally produced food wherever possible and makes the most of seasonal produce to avoid importing. The beef and lamb come from animals raised in Somerset and Dorset, the fish is all British, and the cheese is from local producers such as the Bath Soft Cheese Company.

For my starter, I chose the crispy aubergine with carrot baba ganoush and pickled carrot. I always enjoy finding a vegetarian offering on the menu that I haven't experienced



before, and this really hit the spot. It was a delicate flavour (and delicately presented) but tasty and the perfect opener to the meal.

My main was salt baked celeriac, with red curry sauce, king oyster mushrooms, cavolo nero and pickled chilli. Again, an intriguing veggie offering. Celeriac wouldn't usually be my first choice, but I didn't fancy risotto (the other vegetarian offering) and was surprised how much I enjoyed it. A winning combination of both flavours and textures.

I finished with chocolate nemesis cake with vanilla ice-cream – deliciously dark with a hint of orange.

Rick started with melt-in-the-mouth pressed pork belly. It was drizzled with sticky hoisin sauce, which cut through the richness to create the perfect balance of salty, sweet, meaty goodness (according to Rick at least).

He followed it with a salmon fishcake, served with chicken velouté, butter beans and spinach. In his words, it was, "The perfect texture and packed full of flavour." It was also light enough that he could fully enjoy his pudding – apple, pear and ginger crumble with butterscotch custard: "A lovely crumb, silky smooth custard and just the right amount of sweetness."

Considering how good the food is at Timbrell's Yard, it's definitely value for money. Most of the mains were under £20.

The service was also excellent – the waiting staff were all friendly, knowledgeable and attentive, without being obtrusive.

Drinks wise, Timbrell's offers all the usual drinks and cocktails and has an impressive wine list, with a full-page introduction by Natalie, the operations manager of Stay Original. Natalie has looked after the wine list for the last decade and clearly knows her stuff.

While you can order the usual cab savs, merlots etc, Timbrell's Yard also offers more unusual varietals that you don't often see, such as arneis, zweigelt and gemischter schatz. We chose a Sicilian frappato. To be honest, it didn't quite hit the mark for me, but I think that's down to personal preference.

I'd like to say that we made the most of our night away by heading to the bar to drink cocktails until closing time. Instead, I have to admit that we headed back to our room to digest dinner while watching *The Great Pottery Throwdown* in our very comfy bed.

Breakfast

The next morning's breakfast menu was similar to the evening menu, in that, alongside the usual suspects were a few more intriguing options. I was very tempted by the harissa spiced shakshuka with poached eggs, feta and dukka. However, I couldn't resist the wild mushrooms with bashed avocado and poached egg on toasted sourdough with chermoula. "What on earth is chermoula?" do you ask? I wondered the same thing. Apparently, it's a North African condiment made with coriander, parsley, lemon and garlic. See, I told you the menu offered something a bit different from the norm.

Rick, as per usual, couldn't resist a full English, which was cooked to perfection.

Our getaway wasn't quite over as we had a full day in Bath ahead of us, but we were still sad to say goodbye to Timbrell's Yard and that riverside view. Don't worry squirrels, if I get my way, we'll be back soon...

Stay here

A night at Timbrell's Yard costs from £100 for a small double. However, I'd recommend choosing a mezzanine, which costs from £165 but gives you extra space and that amazing view...

49 St. Margaret's Street, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1DE
timbrellsyard.com | info@timbrellsyard.com | 01225 869492



Timbrell's Yard bar



Barges on the Kennet and Avon Canal at Bradford on Avon

enjoy
travel
more

history beckons



David Ox from **Winged Boots** shares six world-renowned heritage destinations you really don't want to miss

In a world of ultra-modern skylines and AI-powered everything, there's something deeply grounding about stepping into places where time stands still.

Walking among ruins, wandering ancient streets, or simply standing where emperors, monks or gladiators once did, offers a connection to something bigger than ourselves. You don't just visit the ruins or admire the architecture – you step into the stories of those who came before.

You'll feel those stories in every echo of footsteps along cobbled streets, every fragment of a crumbling wall, every curve of a temple roof and suddenly the past doesn't feel so far away. From long-lost cities swallowed by the earth to sacred sites still pulsing with spiritual energy, these locations remind us that history isn't confined to textbooks. It lives on, waiting to be walked through.

Here's a curated selection of six extraordinary travel experiences steeped in heritage and where the past is ever present.

Pompeii, Italy: ***A civilisation encased in ash***

A city stopped in time, Pompeii (pictured above) is both haunting and captivating. When Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD, it buried the Roman settlement under ash, preserving an entire civilisation in eerie detail. The result is one of the world's most compelling archaeological sites.

Walk through its remarkably intact streets and you'll find bakeries with ovens still in place, bathhouses with mosaic floors and even political graffiti scrawled on walls. The amphitheatre is silent now, but you can almost hear the roar of the crowd, while ancient avenues like Via dell'Abbondanza hold a surreal kind of energy. Base yourself in Sorrento for a well-rounded taste of the region. It puts the ruins of Pompeii on your doorstep while offering easy access to the Amalfi Coast's sun-drenched charm and southern Italy's renowned culinary scene.



Angkor Wat, Cambodia: A spiritual sunrise spectacle

At dawn, when the sun begins to rise behind its lotus-like towers, Angkor Wat feels almost mythical. The world's largest religious monument and a masterpiece of Khmer architecture, this 12th-century temple complex was once the heart of a vast empire – and it still stands as one of the most spiritual sites in Southeast Asia.

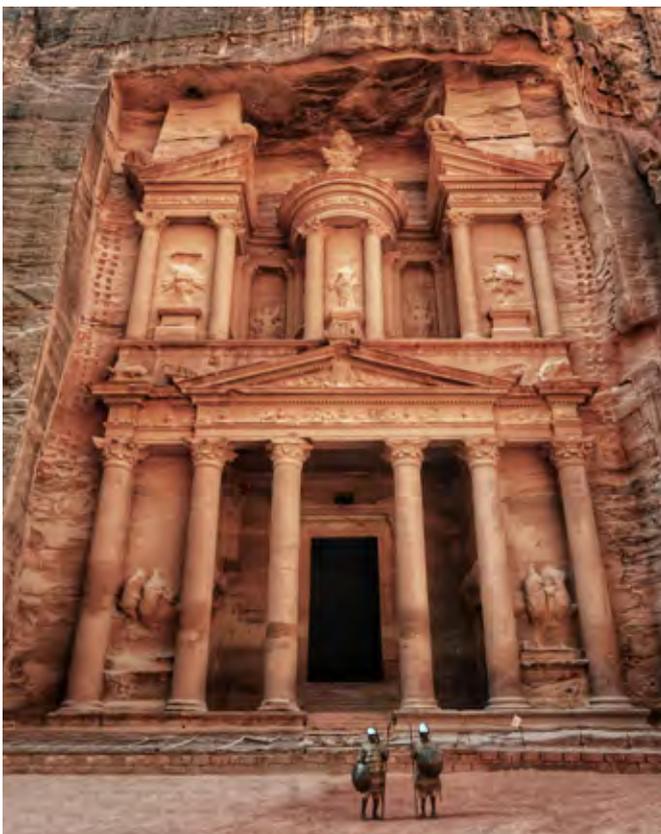
Spend a day exploring its intricate bas-reliefs, serene courtyards and hidden corners, before heading further afield to Ta Prohm, where gnarled tree roots reclaim crumbling stone in a sublime clash of nature and civilisation. Opt for accommodation in nearby Siem Reap, where lively markets and nightlife offer a vibrant contrast to the stillness of the temples. It's not a place to tick off a list; it's a place to wander, to wonder, and to get a little lost.



Kyoto, Japan: Kaiseki dinners and Kimono glimmers

Japan's former capital, Kyoto, is a city of contrasts where imperial palaces hide behind bamboo groves and centuries-old teahouses sit quietly just steps from neon-lit streets. With over a thousand years of heritage etched into its lanes, it remains the cultural soul of the country.

Gilded temples glint in the sunlight and vermilion torii gates snake into forested hills. In Gion, the heart of the old city, a flash of silk vanishes around a corner as a geiko (Kyoto's term for geisha) hurries to an appointment. Nearby, the soft sweep of a broom signals the start of another tea ceremony. That same reverence carries through to Kyoto's cuisine – from refined kaiseki feasts to steaming ramen slurped shoulder-to-shoulder with locals. In Kyoto, the past is never far behind.



Petra, Jordan: Secrets of a lost city

Carved directly into rose-red cliffs, Petra feels as close to stepping back in time as it's possible to get. Surrounded by a stark, lunar-like landscape and cliffs that glow with vivid colour, its temples and tombs rise from the rock with an otherworldly presence that has to be seen to be believed. Once a bustling Nabataean trading hub, this ancient city lay forgotten for centuries before being rediscovered in the 19th century. Today, it's rightly celebrated as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World – and as the cinematic backdrop for Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.

The journey through the narrow Siq gorge to the treasury is one of travel's most unforgettable reveals, but Petra's allure runs deeper. Climb to the monastery, explore the royal tombs, or stay after sunset when thousands of candles flicker to life. Stay in nearby Wadi Musa and arrive early as the sky streaks pink and silence still belongs to the stones.

The Great Wall of China: The endless stone dragon

Snaking across mountains, deserts and grasslands like a living scar, The Great Wall has been built and rebuilt over centuries to protect China's northern borders. Construction began as early as the 7th century BC, although much of what we see today dates to the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644).

The wall stretches over 13,000 miles, but one of the best-preserved sections is at Mutianyu, about 90 minutes from Beijing. With fewer crowds than Badaling and panoramic views of forested peaks, it offers a more serene experience. Hike along its watchtowers and rugged steps or take a cable car up and toboggan down (yes, really). Wherever you stand, the effect is humbling. The Great Wall doesn't just mark a boundary but the endurance of a civilisation.



Machu Picchu, Peru: Citadel of the Andes

High in the Peruvian Andes, Machu Picchu sits shrouded in both cloud and mystery. Built by the Incas in the 15th century and never discovered by Spanish conquistadors, it remained hidden from the wider world until 1911, when American explorer Hiram Bingham III brought it to international attention.

Its exact purpose remains debated – possibly a royal estate or sacred religious site – but its beauty is indisputable. For the best panoramic view, climb Huayna Picchu or the Sun Gate (Inti Punku), which offers a rewarding perspective for those arriving via the Inca Trail. Try to get there just after dawn to feel the hush before the crowds. When the mist lifts and stone and sky seem to merge, that early alarm clock will have been worth it. Trust us when we say it's an experience that you'll feel in your very bones.



Pompeii

Timeless journeys with Winged Boots

These are not places to rush through. They ask for presence, patience and a willingness to listen. Because when you stand among ruins older than most countries or touch the worn stone steps of a temple, you're reminded that the past is never really 'gone'. It continues to shape the stories we tell, the meals we eat, the paths we take. And while the thrill of modern travel often lies in the new, there is something deeply luxurious about surrendering to the old, to feel history beneath your feet and to witness the endurance of human ingenuity.

Travelling to historic destinations is more than ticking off sights. It's a way of communing with something far older than ourselves and when experienced with care and curiosity, it becomes less about history and more about connection.

With Winged Boots, you can travel through time as well as space, with bespoke itineraries that honour the soul of a place while ensuring every detail is taken care of. After all, the past may be present, but your experience should be nothing less than extraordinary.

Ready to walk through history? Call Winged Boots on **0203 319 4477** and allow them to craft your timeless journey.

designs on dartmoor

Dartmoor has inspired generations of poets, authors and artists, and now it's inspiring a new wave of jewellery design.

Corrinne Eira Evans reflects on how the moor shapes her work, and how her industry is changing for the better



Dartmoor At Dusk ring and Moorland Glow chainmail bracelet

“There is endless inspiration on Dartmoor – in the granite and the grassland, and the spectacular weather systems that sweep across the moor throughout the seasons. There is nowhere else I would rather be, and I am always proud to showcase the special beauty of this place in my work.”

Jewellery designer Corrinne Eira Evans spent several years perfecting her craft, studying at Plymouth University, Falmouth University and the renowned Birmingham School of Jewellery. In 2022, her debut collection featured in Goldsmiths’ Fair’s 40th anniversary exhibition, with Vogue naming her one of the “best new jewellers” to see.

The following year, Corrinne created a ring for Goldsmiths using a rare salt and pepper diamond. The inclusions in salt and pepper diamonds are celebrated for their character and detail, rather than being seen as imperfections. “Authentic, naturally flawed gems are becoming more popular,” she says, “because they are incredibly beautiful, and because our attitude to gemstones is changing. The jewellery industry sees beauty in different ways now. We have changed our opinion of what is rare and precious in the world.”

Another change Corrinne is very much in favour of is the move towards ethical sourcing. Not only can she trace her gold to the exact mine it came from, she can also be assured that the mine adheres to higher ethical standards, such as paying a fair wage to its workers.

Corrinne shares, “Beauty and craftsmanship will always be central to luxury design, but that’s no longer enough. Clients today expect a level of integrity that includes care for the environment and for those working in the gem industry, which is exactly how it should be. Wearing a beautiful piece of jewellery should be feel-good in every way.”

Corrinne’s studio is in Okehampton and she draws inspiration from her surroundings, making drawings and paintings on the moor, then translating the colours and patterns of the landscape into her jewellery designs. She works with gold for summer sunlight, silver for winter frosts, and titanium for the grey of Dartmoor’s imposing granite tors. The pinks and purples of moorland heathers, and the green of the forests and hills, are captured in the colours of the natural gemstones that have become the hallmark of her work. Corrinne is also acclaimed for her skill in weaving gold and silver together to create a silken fabric of intricately linked chainmail.

“The beauty and subtlety of woven metals is wonderful,” says Corrinne. “I love the way something as solid as precious metal can be made to drape so beautifully, and chainmailing is an endangered heritage craft, which gives it special appeal, I think.

“Fine chainmail feels almost weightless to the wearer, so it’s gorgeous to wear, and the hundreds or even thousands of links reflect the light so that the whole piece shimmers. From a maker’s point of view, it is a delicate and demanding process, but it really elevates the look and feel of the design, and the texture it introduces complements the smoothness of the gemstones, making for a perfectly balanced piece. It looks and feels incredibly luxurious, and that’s essential, because bespoke works like mine will be worn for a lifetime.”

While Corrinne designs jewellery to sell and exhibit, she also takes commissions. Coloured gemstones, particularly



CREDIT: BETH KATH KEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Corrinne sketching on Dartmoor



Dancing Dew Drops ring



Dancing Dew Drops bracelet

CREDIT: PAUL MOUNSEY

CREDIT: BETH KATH KEY PHOTOGRAPHY



Thunderbolt chainmail ring and bangle



Sunset Over Dartmoor chainmail ring

CREDIT: BETH KATH KEY PHOTOGRAPHY



Corrinne selecting gemstones for new designs

“

There is no better feeling than presenting a finished piece to my client and seeing the joy it brings them.

multi-stoned rings, are proving increasingly popular with brides-to-be seeking something different than a traditional diamond solitaire for their engagement ring.

Corrinne shares, “There is a real trend towards ‘storied’ engagement rings now. Gems hold real meaning for people. They offer a coded language of sorts – rubies for passion, diamonds for eternity, pink sapphires for a first romantic walk on Dartmoor when the heather was in bloom.”

Corrinne is a fan of sapphires for engagement rings as, she explains, they’re “a really hard gem, so for practicality and wear they match diamonds, and they come in so many beautiful colours, from soft pastels to vibrant blues, greens, yellows, pinks, purples and whites.”

She particularly loves Australian ‘parti’ sapphires, which include two or more dazzling colours within one gem. “They are so unique and surprising, and their beauty changes throughout the day as the sunlight comes and goes. They are absolutely exquisite.”

For commissioned pieces, Corrinne’s clients can select their own gems from her extensive, ethically sourced collection. “That in itself is a special experience,” says Corrinne. “Couples come to my studio with so many tales of love and romance, and celebrating that is the best part of my role as a designer and maker. Choosing the stones, discussing designs – those things become shared memories for couples at the start of their life together.”

Clients also come to Corrinne with inherited gemstones, passed down in the form of brooches, bracelets and eternity rings. “People are often gifted wonderful pieces of jewellery,” says Corrinne, “gems with a real family history. Antique stones are so precious and should be worn, not put away, so resetting them in a modern design makes them wearable again, and brings people closer to the loved ones who bequeathed them.”

The timelessness of the jewellery Corrinne makes, and its importance to the story of her clients and their loved ones, is always at the forefront of her mind. “I get to know all my clients personally, especially if they commission a bespoke piece, and there is real meaning in that. These are precious items, given to mark engagements, special birthdays, marriages, or to celebrate the arrival of children. They are incredibly special, and are always, always tokens of love to last a lifetime. That makes my work feel important and so rewarding. There is no better feeling than presenting a finished piece to my client and seeing the joy it brings them.”

You can find out more about Corrinne Eira Evans and her work by visiting corrinneeiraevans.com or dropping into her studio at the **Moon & Moor Gallery, No.19, The Victorian Arcade, Okehampton, EX20 1EX**



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good food *fast*

Tasty, healthy and on your plate in 30 minutes or less – these **Jamie Oliver** recipes tick all the boxes...

*enjoy
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Lemon tahini chicken & grains

Here we're jazzing up a handy grain packet, meaning you get big flavour, fast.

SERVES 4

Total time: 13 minutes
3 of your 7-a-day

- 160g tenderstem broccoli
- 2 x 150g free-range skinless chicken breasts
- Olive oil
- 1 x 460g jar of roasted red peppers
- 2 cloves of garlic
- ½ a bunch of basil (15g)
- 30g black olives, stone in
- 1 lemon
- 2 tablespoons tahini
- 1 x 250g packet of cooked mixed grains
- 1 x 400g tin of cannellini beans

Put a large, shallow non-stick casserole pan on a high heat. Trim the broccoli, halve any thicker stalks lengthways, and dry fry while you score deeply across the chicken breasts at 1cm intervals. Spritz with olive oil, rub with sea salt and black pepper, and cook for 3 minutes on each side, or until the chicken is golden and cooked through and the broccoli is lightly charred.

Meanwhile, tip the peppers into a blender, juice and all, then peel and add the garlic. Add the basil, stalks and all, reserving a few nice leaves, and blitz until smooth. Squash, destone and finely chop the olives. Finely grate and reserve the lemon zest. Squeeze the juice into a bowl with the tahini, which will thicken it, then loosen with splashes of water and season to perfection.

Move the chicken to a board to rest with the broccoli. Pour the pepper sauce into the pan with the grains. Drain and add the beans, mix together, boil for a couple of minutes, or until reduced, then season to perfection and divide between plates. Scatter over the broccoli, slice and add the chicken, spoon over the lemon tahini sauce, then sprinkle with the olives, lemon zest and reserved basil leaves.

ENERGY: 577kcal
FAT: 15.4g
SATURATED FAT: 3.3g
PROTEIN: 54g

CARBS: 49.9g
SUGARS: 5.4g
SALT: 1.1g
FIBRE: 15.9g



Spring soup & ricotta toasts

A truly spectacular, tasty soup that will get your face smiling and your taste buds singing.

SERVES 4

Total time: 30 minutes

3 of your 7-a-day

- 2 leeks (320g)
- 1 x 285g jar of artichoke hearts in oil
- 320g frozen peas
- 320g frozen broad beans
- 1 big bunch of mint (60g)
- 250g ricotta cheese
- 20g Parmesan cheese
- 1 lemon
- 4 slices of wholemeal sourdough bread
- Dried red chilli flakes

Trim the leeks, then halve lengthways, wash, slice and place in a large, deep non-stick pan on a medium heat. Halve and add the artichokes, along with 2 tablespoons of oil from their jar. Cook gently for 15 minutes, or until the leeks are soft and sweet, stirring occasionally. Boil the kettle.

Add the peas, broad beans and 1 litre of boiling kettle water, then turn the heat up and bring to the boil while you pick and finely chop the mint leaves. Stir them into the pan, then blend half of the soup, either removing to a blender or in the pan with a stick blender, and stir it back through the rest for a creamier texture. Season to perfection and leave to simmer.

In a bowl, beat the ricotta with the finely grated Parmesan and lemon zest, season to perfection and loosen with a little lemon juice, to taste. Toast the bread, then spread 1 heaped tablespoon of the ricotta mixture across each toast, stashing the rest in the fridge for another meal (it will keep for up to 3 days). Add a pinch of chilli flakes to each toast, then portion up the soup and serve with lemon wedges for squeezing over, if you like.

EMBELLISH IT

If you've got one, adding a Parmesan rind with the peas and broad beans will give an incredible depth of flavour. Feel free to add other green veg to the mix, too, such as asparagus, broccoli, green beans or edamame beans.

ENERGY: 396kcal

FAT: 20.1g

SATURATED FAT: 5.3g

PROTEIN: 19.9g

CARBS: 33.3g

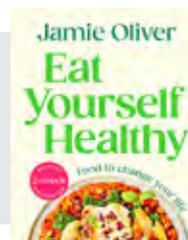
SUGARS: 6.3g

SALT: 0.9g

FIBRE: 12.5g



Recipes extracted from *Eat Yourself Healthy* by Jamie Oliver, published by Penguin Michael Joseph © Jamie Oliver Enterprises Limited (2025, *Eat Yourself Healthy*).
Recipe photography: © David Loftus, 2025.





helping to bridge the digital divide

DonateIT finds new homes for unwanted phones, iPads and laptops. We spoke to the charity's founder and trustee, Simon Barfoot, to find out more...

How many of us have a 'drawer of doom'? Or even a 'cupboard of doom'? A place where things get shoved away and forgotten about until the door will no longer close and you're forced to have a sort out?

Within that space is probably an old phone (or three), an iPad, a digital camera or even a laptop. Rather than leave them languishing, why not let them have a second life with someone who desperately needs them?

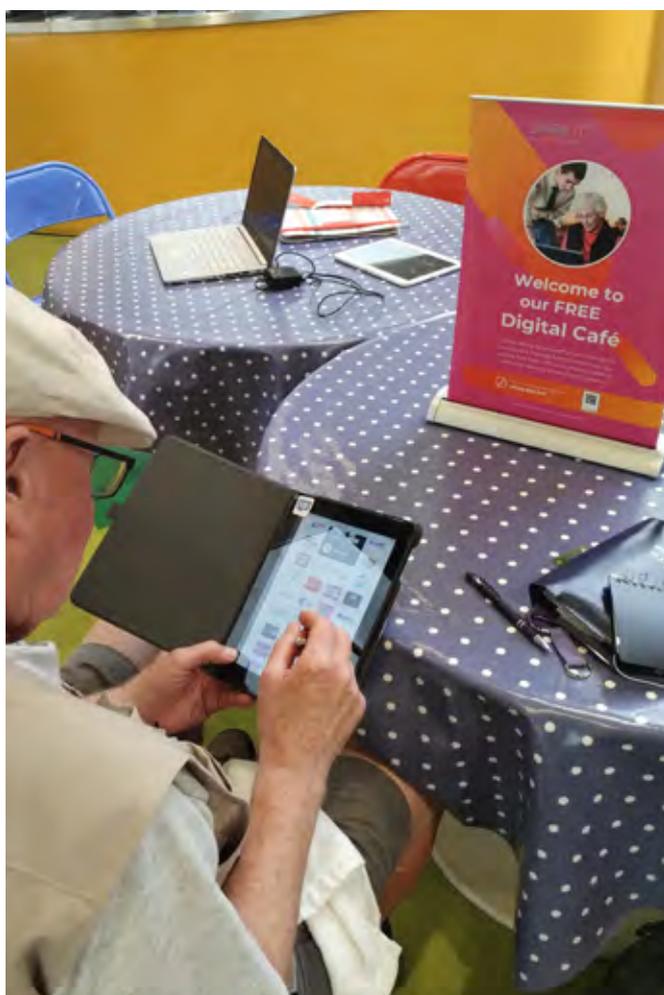
DonateIT collects unwanted tech from businesses and individuals, professionally wipes and refurbishes them, and finds them new homes. A hospital patient could soon be using that old iPad to keep in touch with their family. Your phone could be helping to monitor a diabetic child's glucose levels. Your laptop could help someone who's out of work to find a job or study for a new qualification.

Technology is intrinsic to modern life. We use it to shop, to keep in touch with friends and family, to do our finances, to learn, to play. Yet, millions of people in the UK are living in digital poverty, unable to afford even the most basic devices.

DonateIT is the brainchild of Simon Barfoot. Simon runs his own IT disposal company, Blackmore, and set up DonateIT



Simon Barfoot, founder of DonateIT



A new home for old tech

“

Most of these people are in crisis through no fault of their own. A phone, tablet or laptop can be a path to a better future.

after realising the scale of digital poverty in the South West. He explains, “It all started with Sarah Dyke, who’s now MP for Glastonbury and Somerton. Back in lockdown, she met a single mum with three kids, who were all homeschooling using the mum’s smartphone. Sarah gathered up a few laptops, asked me to data wipe, reset and check them, and then handed them over to people who needed them.

“It made the local papers; more laptops started arriving, and we decided to form a charity. I live on a farm, so we dropped a couple of 40-foot containers on site, plumbed them in, and got started.”

Devices are passed to people across the South West, through hospitals, schools, local councils and charities. Recipients are often also given six months of data and phone calls. Simon says, “Most of these people are in crisis through no fault of their own. A phone, tablet or laptop can be a path to a better future.”

Protecting your data

Blackmore is one of only seven companies in the UK to have the highest level of data wiping accreditation recognised by the Information Commissioner’s Office. DonatelT adheres to the same standards, so none of your personal or work data will remain on your phone, tablet or laptop before it’s given to a new owner. In short, getting rid of your unwanted tech through DonatelT is safer than taking it to a charity shop or throwing it in your bin.

Keeping technology out of landfill

DonatelT has already stopped around 20 tonnes of electronic waste from being sent to landfill. As Simon shares, “Every single element of a phone or laptop has a recycling solution in the UK. A phone could have 40 precious metals and minerals in it, like lithium and gold. Why dig up more lithium in Chile when we already have it in the UK? Rather than just sitting in our drawers and cupboards, these precious materials could be put back into the circular economy.”

Helping young people to find work

As well as keeping tech out of landfill and reducing digital poverty, DonatelT offers training and work experience opportunities. Simon explains, “We want to help people to get back on their feet and find a purpose. Some of the young people who work for us are neurodiverse. They didn’t get on well with the education system but are amazing with technology. We’re a charity that operates like a business, so this gives them a pathway to proving their skills in a commercial environment. Sam, for example, has recently



Simon with Sarah Dyke, MP for Glastonbury and Somerton and Patron of DonateIT, and Edward Allen Esq, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Somerset

got an apprenticeship at Hinkley Point because of the work experience he did with us.

“Another previous employee served with the army in Afghanistan and needed to be somewhere that was quiet and had a lot of space. He became a very capable technician and now works on submarines.

“We also partner with a group in Yeovil called able2achieve. It’s for adults who have learning difficulties, some of whom have proven to be very good technicians and are now processing phones and tablets for us.”

Donate unwanted items

DonateIT has secure drop-off points across the South West where you can donate:

- iPads and other tablets
- Kindles and other e-readers
- Mobile phones
- Laptops
- Smart watches
- Games consoles
- Cables and chargers
- Digital cameras
- Scientific calculators

Most devices will be professionally restored before being passed to people who need them. Broken or unusable items are recycled to raise money for the charity.

To find your nearest drop-off point, visit donateit.co.uk

Donate as a business

It’s not only individuals who can donate tech; DonateIT is also keen to hear from companies that have upgraded their technology so need to get rid of their old devices. As Simon says, “Think about the good you can do with your old kit, and the message that sends to your staff and customers. A laptop you could maybe sell for £30 can turn into incredibly valuable PR for the company. Larger businesses usually need to go through Blackmore because of its accreditations, but Blackmore can give the charity an element of the devices or the money generated.”

DonateIT can also target specific beneficiary groups aligned to an organisation’s sector. So, if your company’s customers are young people, you could choose to donate your devices to local schools.

Email donateit@blackmoreuk.com to find out more or visit donateit.co.uk. 



Who could benefit from your old tech?

Simon shares examples:

“Children with diabetes sometimes need a surgically implanted device to measure their glucose. It connects to an app on a smartphone, which will contact parents and clinicians if there’s a problem. The child can’t leave hospital without a smartphone, but some parents can’t afford to put the heating on, let alone buy a new phone. So, we deliver phones to paediatric departments for cases like these.

“Another recipient who comes to mind is a little girl from Syria. English is not her first language and she had a traumatic journey to get to this country. She was having to use the school computers at lunchtime to catch up and do her homework. We gave her a laptop to use at home, which means she can spend her lunchtimes on the playground. Her English has improved and her friendship circle has grown. Her life has got a little bit better thanks to a £70 laptop.

“One device went to a man in his 80s. After a fall put him in hospital, he needed to go into a care home while his flat was made safe. He had no control over the TV in the home and all he wanted to do was watch *Morse* and *Poirot* and look through old photos. So, we got him a large screen tablet, loaded it up with Amazon and Netflix accounts, loaded all of his photos onto the tablet, and got him a six-month data package. I have a photo of him grinning ear-to-ear because it was exactly what he wanted.

“We’ve also given phones to survivors of domestic abuse. We give them six months of free data and phone calls, and we give them headphones. That means they can have private, difficult conversations with dignity.”



CREDIT: GILLIAN DAY

seal of approval

Telling one of the West Country's two species of seal from the other should be relatively straightforward, especially if you get a long and uninterrupted view. But things get a little trickier when all you see is a head poking up from the sea. Here, **Steve Hussey** from Devon Wildlife Trust gives a few tips to help identify what kind of seal you've spotted...before it disappears below the waves

Atlantic grey seal

This is the seal you are most likely to come across in Devon and Cornwall. Atlantic grey seals are often seen singly swimming close to shore but can also be found in groups basking on rocks.

The rocky coastlines around Morteheo in North Devon and Start Point in South Devon are two good spots to search. In Cornwall, you can be lucky almost anywhere, but Godrevy Point and Trevoze Head are two popular viewing places. And if you are looking for an urban setting, visit Brixham or Padstow, where seals make regular appearances.

These are big, powerful animals, much larger than harbour seals. Adult males may reach a length of 2.6m and weigh in at 300kg. By contrast, Devon's biggest land mammal – a red deer – reaches a maximum weight of 200kg.

It's sometimes possible to tell adult female Atlantic grey seals from males. Females are smaller and tend to have paler coats with dark patches. As well as being much larger, males have darker coats with lighter markings.

The head shapes of females show a long straight profile from their brow to the nose, while the profiles of males are convex with a more prominent, bulbous nose. Look too for the animal's nostrils, which are set well apart from one another.

Harbour seals

Once known as common seals, harbour seals are much less numerous than Atlantic greys around the South West peninsula. However, they do still pop up, especially in estuaries along Devon's south coast. The Dart Estuary is one good place to look.

Out of the water, this seal appears much smaller than the Atlantic grey seal. They rarely reach more than 1.85m in length and a weight of 170kg (about twice the weight of an average adult human). They also have much shorter flippers

than Atlantic greys. The colours and markings on harbour seals vary greatly from light grey to dark brown-black.

The coats of most harbour seals also contain a fine pattern of contrasting coloured blotches – dark on light skinned animals, light on dark skinned animals. In the water, harbour seals have rounded heads and nostrils, which are slanted and joined at their base, forming a V-shape. 



CREDIT: STEFAN JOHANSSON

Harbour seal

Tips for safe seal watching

Periods spent out of the water are vital to seals. They use this time to digest their food, to moult and to rest. To minimise disturbance to seals, watch them responsibly:

- Keep your distance – 50m minimum
- Remain quiet and still
- Keep dogs on leads
- Never approach, pet or feed a seal
- If you find a pup, leave it alone – the mother will return to it



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Books to savour this spring...

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FICTION | Hardback

***Hooked* Asako Yuzuki**

Last year's *Butter* was quite the phenomenon, one of the most successful translated novels to hit the shelves in recent times. This follow-up concerns womanhood, friendship, obsession and the lesser-known Nile perch fish. Sure to be as popular with readers and book groups as its predecessor was.

FICTION | Deluxe Paperback

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HISTORY | Hardback

***Be More Bird* Candida Meyrick**

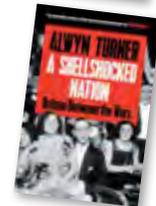
The moving and remarkable story of the author and her children training a 12-week-old Harris Hawk. Over the years, the bird became one of the family and taught them more about freedom, compassion and connection with nature than they could have possibly imagined.

NATURE | Hardback

***How To Live Like a Stoic: A Handbook for Happiness* Tom Hodgkinson**

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PHILOSOPHY | Hardback



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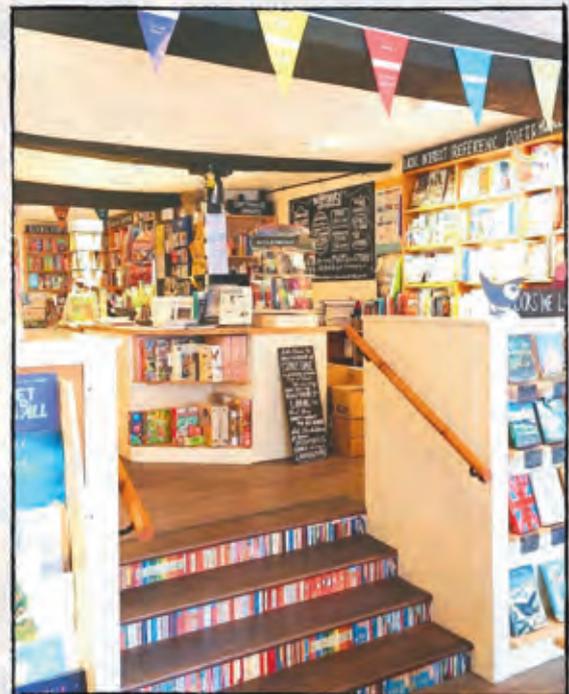
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hot *property*

Jenny and Amrit Madhoo took over **South Devon Chilli Farm** in 2022. As well as growing chilli plants and seeds, the farm produces chilli sauces, chocolate, preserves and vodka from its on-site kitchen.

While starting a new venture is never easy, taking over an established business comes with its own set of challenges. We spoke to Jenny about the couple's first few years on the farm and their ambitions for its future.



What made you decide to buy a chilli business?

We were living in Scotland, where I was working in financial advice and Amrit as a geologist in the energy sector. We wanted to move to the South West to be closer to family, but there weren't any job opportunities for Amrit down here.

Horticulture has always been one of Amrit's passions and he's originally from the Caribbean so really enjoys spicy food. My mum read in the local paper that the farm's owners were retiring and it was being put up for sale. So, here we are!

The previous owners built an incredible brand, which has good national recognition with people who are into chillis. It's been great to have that foundation for us to build on.

Did you have any experience of running a business before you made the leap?

I'd started a joint venture with my previous employer, so I had some experience, but not at this scale. The farm was a going concern, with staff and lots of bills, so we had responsibilities from day one. It's definitely been a learning curve.

We visited several times before we took over, so we had a good understanding of operations. We also took business advice in the early days and still use a coach from time to time, mainly as a sounding board.

Do you and Amrit split tasks or do you both do a little bit of everything?

We have complementary skill sets, but they're quite different, which is good. Coming from a finance background, I'm very much focused on figures, strategy, big picture stuff. Amrit is very comfortable in the horticultural and food sides of the business, so he tends to be more hands on.

Have there been any unexpected challenges since you bought the business?

The toughest challenge has been inflation – costs spiralled in the first few years of us taking over. Turnover has gone up as well, but costs grew exponentially for quite a while.

The war in Ukraine kicked off a supply chain crisis. The cost of cardboard and glass packaging, as well as raw ingredients like sugar, went bananas. The price of cocoa multiplied by five. Costs have come down a bit, but not all the way back to where they were before.

What changes have you made since you took over?

When we first came in, we planned to just carry on as is for a year while we got our feet under the table, before starting to roll out whatever changes we decided to make. But we can't sit still, apparently, so we soon started tweaking things and upgrading the kit.

When we took the farm on, it was primarily promoting itself as a chilli sauce business, but we saw massive potential in the plant nursery side because there's a lot less competition in that space. There are quite a few chilli sauce manufacturers out there, but not a lot of UK chilli growers and, since Brexit, it's become more difficult to get hold of seeds.

So, we've really been pushing that side of the business since we arrived. Every year, we're sending out more mail order seeds, plants and seedlings. We've put two new poly tunnels on site so have doubled our growing capacity. We're aiming to sell 5,000 seedlings and 10,000 plants this year. We're also growing loads of new chilli varieties.

We've still got a long list of ambitions. It's actually such an exciting space to be in, because there are so many chilli

fanatics all over the world who are cross breeding things all the time and creating these crazy new hybrids. Amrit has a much higher spice tolerance than I do!

I believe you moved to 100% renewable energy this year?

Yes, we bought solar panels, which was quite a big investment. Amrit comes from an oil and gas background, so we're pragmatic, but we're in an area of outstanding natural beauty, so we have a responsibility to care for it.

The farm has never used pesticides or preservatives and we've stuck by that. And we don't use additives like xanthan gum as they change the flavour of the product.

Have you developed any new products?

Quite a few. We've kind of leaned into Amrit's Caribbean heritage and launched a collection of Caribbean-inspired products – Manzanilla Tropical Chilli Jam, Mango Chilli Sauce, and Ginger & Lime Chilli Chocolate. We've also added a few other chocolate flavours and branched out into white chocolate.

The Manzanilla Tropical Chilli Jam is the one we were most excited about, and that we personally enjoy eating the most. Amrit used to go on holiday to Manzanilla beach in Trinidad, so there's a story behind the jam that makes us feel closer to it.

Most of our new products start with Amrit experimenting with flavours in our on-site kitchen. We scale up new products slowly, because the profile changes as you increase the volume, so you have to test at each volume until you get to commercial level.

Any other highlights you're particularly proud of?

We were really chuffed with our gold medal at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival, and we're aiming for that again this year. We're considering doing Chelsea Flower Show in 2027. We're going to visit Chelsea the week before it opens this year, when they give potential new exhibitors a tour and talk you through the logistics.

You've attracted some great press coverage, including *Gardeners' World*. How have you managed that?

Gardeners' World contacted us and arranged to do a segment with us at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival. However, they ran out of time so couldn't film us. We were gutted, but they did an interview with Amrit at Hampton Court Flower Show instead and came to see our chillies.

We haven't used a PR firm since we've been here, but our profile is building to the point where people get in touch. Amrit did an interview on James Martin's *Saturday Kitchen*, and Susan Calman came out and sowed seeds with Amrit for her *Grand Day Out* series. She was a riot!

Do you mainly sell direct to customers or through trade partnerships?

Most of the plants and seeds are direct to consumer through mail order. Our farm shop is also an important revenue channel. The farm is a unique and interesting place. People want to come down and see behind the scenes, and when they do, they get a bit more invested in us.

We've tried selling through garden centres in the past, but our product is pretty niche. Not many people go to a garden



Fresh chillis



The nursery tunnel



Red Missile chili variety



Superhot chili variety



centre looking for a Carolina reaper! Plus, garden centres prefer buying cheaper plants that are grown abroad on a mass scale. We can't compete with those prices because we do everything on site in the UK.

We do sell food & drink products through farm shops, delis and so on, but most are still sold through the website. We applied for and passed our SALSA (Safe and Local Supplier Approval) audit with flying colours, which means we can go after bigger trade customers. We got into Selfridges last year, which was great, but that's about as big an outlet as we're looking for. Any bigger and we couldn't keep production on the farm.

What do you enjoy most about running the business?

My favourite part is hearing from customers when they've enjoyed a product. They send us updates on their growing journey, which is really lovely. We've really beefed up our YouTube channel so have a lot of advice on there, covering the most common questions that we get asked. Being able to give people advice that works is very satisfying.

Do you live on site?

No, we're about 10 minutes away, in Kingsbridge. We did plan to build a house on the farm, but I'm glad that we didn't. We need that space. I don't think we'd ever see each other otherwise! 📍

Visit, grow and eat!

The best time to visit the farm is during spring and summer. Chilli growing workshops will be running during the spring. Seeds, plants, fresh and dried chillis, and food & drink products are all available to buy in the shop and from the website.

southdevonchillifarm.co.uk

BUSINESS BIO: SOUTH DEVON CHILLI FARM

Founded: 2001

Owners since 2022: Jenny and Amrit Madhoo

Team: 15 permanent staff plus seasonal workers



Do you run your own business? Email kate.venture@afwm.co.uk and you could be in the next issue of *Venture*!



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unlocking holiday let success

Cornish Cottage Holidays reveals the three common mistakes to avoid if you want to maximise your investment

Holiday lets can be an attractive investment opportunity. However, there are several pitfalls you'll need to steer away from if you want to make yours a success:

Mistake 1: Limiting flexibility

Owners who turn down short breaks, last-minute bookings or pets often miss out on significant revenue. A third of holidaymakers choose a long weekend break. Properties that welcome shorter stays generate 4% more revenue on average, and two short breaks in one week can earn up to 148% of the usual weekly rental value. Similarly, pet-friendly properties are in high demand – 27% of all bookings in 2025 included a dog, and owners who accept pets see 8% more bookings and 16% more revenue annually.

Mistake 2: Choosing the wrong letting agent

One of the biggest pitfalls is selecting an agent who over-promises on bookings and income but under-delivers. Be cautious of agencies offering unrealistically high projections or racing to the bottom with low commission rates. Instead, choose a partner who can justify their recommendations with real data and case studies. At Cornish Cottage Holidays, we provide transparent income estimates based on similar properties in our portfolio, ensuring owners have realistic expectations from day one.

Our advanced revenue management and real-time market monitoring also enable us to adjust prices in line with demand, generating the optimum amount of income for our owners. In 2025, owners that utilised our flexible pricing options saw, on average, seven more bookings and 26% more revenue than those who controlled their own pricing.

Mistake 3: Underestimating marketing

Marketing a holiday home is far from simple. Visibility is everything, and without a strong presence across multiple channels, properties risk being overlooked. As part of the national agency Sykes Cottages, Cornish Cottage Holidays benefits from a £35 million annual marketing budget, ensuring our properties appear in all the right places.

Our websites attract millions of visitors each year; we run targeted campaigns that drive year-round bookings; and we utilise major platforms like Airbnb and Booking.com. This mix, combined with our strong local brand presence and community engagement, gives our owners a competitive edge. ▼



Why owners are switching to us

Recent changes in the market have seen some well-known booking platforms increase commission fees, reducing owner income. At Cornish Cottage Holidays, we offer a stable, competitive commission rate and a wealth of added-value services, including:

- A dedicated local account manager for personalised support
- Listings on multiple platforms at no extra cost
- 24/7 guest support for peace of mind
- Optional property management services for a truly hands-off experience
- An in-house legal team, keeping owners up to date on the latest policy and regulation changes

In 2025, guest occupancy across our 800+ self-catering holiday properties rose steadily, with peak summer weeks up nearly 4% year-on-year and autumn revenue increasing by 15%. These figures highlight the resilience and profitability of Cornwall's holiday let market – and the importance of working with an experienced partner.

We offer free, no-obligation property visits, income projections, and styling tips to maximise appeal. We can even provide letters of support for mortgage applications. Our goal is simple: to help you turn a great property into a great investment.

Cornwall's holiday market is vibrant and evolving. By avoiding common mistakes, you can unlock your property's full potential.

Ready to make your holiday home work harder? Speak to our team today and discover how we can help you achieve your goals. Call **01326 331173** or email **enquiry@cornishcottageholidays.co.uk**



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FINANCE

INVESTING FOR CHILDREN
QUARTERLY REVIEW
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FINANCE



investing for your child's future: why time – and tax rules – matter

Financial Adviser GEORGE GALBRAITH reveals how even modest contributions can result in significant rewards

With the cost of education, housing and everyday living continuing to rise across the UK, many parents and grandparents are thinking earlier about how to give children a financial head start. The good news is that there are several tax-efficient ways to save and invest for children – and when these are combined with the power of compounding, even modest contributions can grow into meaningful sums.

Why starting early pays off

Children have one major advantage when it comes to investing – time. The longer money is invested, the more it can benefit from **compound growth**, where returns are reinvested and begin to generate returns of their own. Over many years, this effect can be transformative, turning regular savings into substantial amounts by adulthood.

THE POWER OF COMPOUNDING

Monthly investment: £100

Average annual return: 5%

- **After 10 years:** ~£15,500
(£12,000 contributed)
- **After 18 years (birth to age 18):** ~£41,000
(£21,600 contributed)
- **After 30 years:** ~£83,000
(£36,000 contributed)

What this shows

Over longer periods, investment growth can outweigh the money paid in – a key reason why starting early matters.

Junior ISAs: a tax-free foundation

For many UK families, the **Junior ISA (JISA)** is the cornerstone of saving for children. Up to **£9,000 per tax year** can be contributed, and all growth is free from income tax and capital gains tax.

Stocks and shares Junior ISAs are particularly suited to long-term investing. For example, **£5,000 invested at birth**, growing at 5% a year, could be worth around **£12,000 by age 18** – more if topped up regularly. At 18, the account converts into an adult ISA and the money becomes the child's to use.

Do children pay tax on savings or investments?

Children are taxed in much the same way as adults. If they have no other income, they can earn up to **£18,570 a year in interest** before paying any tax. This comes from a combination of their personal allowance and savings allowances.

However, there is an important rule designed to prevent parents using their children to avoid tax. **If parents gift money to a child aged under 18, and that money generates more than £100 a year in interest, the excess is taxed as if it were the parent's income, not the child's.** This rule does not apply to money gifted by grandparents or other relatives.

Crucially, **Junior ISAs are not affected by this £100 rule**, which is one reason they are such a popular and tax-efficient option for parents.

Junior SIPPs: thinking long term

A **Junior SIPP** allows parents to contribute to a child's pension. Up to **£2,880 per year** can be paid in, with the government adding tax relief to bring this up to **£3,600**.

The money is locked away until later life, but the benefit of compounding over decades can be striking. A **single £1,000 contribution at birth**, growing at 5% a year, could be worth around **£18,000 by age 70**, without any further payments.

Bare trusts and other options

Bare trust investment accounts offer flexibility and no contribution limits, but they are less tax-efficient than ISAs and may be affected by the parental £100 rule. Premium Bonds and cash savings provide safety and simplicity, but they may not keep up with inflation.

The bottom line

There is no single best way to invest for a child, but the principles are clear: start early, understand the tax rules, and let time and compounding do the heavy lifting. Used well, the UK's child-focused savings options can turn manageable contributions into lasting financial security for the next generation. ▼

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FINANCE



generally another excellent quarter of performance despite 'minimised risk' stance

AFWM Ltd's Head of Investment Committee, JOHN WALDIE, presents the quarterly fund review for the Actively Managed portfolios in the Prussia, Penberth and Porthgwarra services for the period 31/10/25-31/1/26

MAIN MESSAGES

- Markets remain nervous as they react to Trump foreign policy
- Our defensive stance is working well in a flattish market
- Income portfolios continue to perform exceptionally well
- Ethical funds, whilst very defensive, continue to suffer from lack of fund choice

REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

This brief was written on 2 February 2026; please bear this in mind when taking into account contents of communication, given you may be reading this as late as the end of May 2026.

Developments for the quarter

Equity markets tended to ebb and flow once again but, this time, based on Trump's foreign policy movements.

The big picture is that international investors continue to derisk and diversify away from US assets, whether that be equities, corporate debt or Treasuries. The threats to Greenland were a watershed moment where the investment world finally realised that the USA, for the moment, is no longer a safe place to invest and is now behaving like an immature emerging market economy.

This very much favoured our investment stance where we have held underweight positions in US assets for some time. The US is the biggest economy in the world and contains many highly profitable businesses that we would like to invest in, but our in-house view is that there is better value and risk reward trade-off elsewhere.

The end of November was significant for us radically reducing risk to Growth and Ethical portfolios. This was as much an opportunistic position as defensive. In essence, we have taken most of our holding in growth-based equity funds and moved to more stable, resilient investment grade corporate bonds. In essence, we have taken risk off the table now, so that in the event of a fall in equity markets, not only are capital values more protected, but we will be in a good position to reinvest in growth-based equities at much lower prices for future positive returns.

The bulk of this commentary explains the reason for actions.

Your author has professionally lived through both the 2000 dot-com bubble and the 2008 banking crisis. With 30 years of experience, I am well aware of numerous economic asset bubbles and also other circumstances behind the 1929 Wall St Crash.

As such, one always has to be vigilant and forward looking for potential bubbles bursting and having an effect on your investments.

The world equity markets have been very polarised, with around 40% of the entire world's capital value in US stocks and 12% in only seven companies. Much has been written about the potential over-valuation of US Tech stocks and the NASDAQ index in general. Having researched a number of asset bubbles in recent months, we believe there is potential for the NASDAQ to fall by a significant amount. The timing for this is uncertain and indeed may not happen, but more and more institutions like the Bank of England, European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund are publicly stating their concerns.

Why does the NASDAQ have a bearing on your funds?

In the short term, equity valuations behave like a herd; if one market falls another falls in sympathy, irrespective of value. Our judgement is that a fall in NASDAQ would drag other world equity markets down by around half the equivalent amount.

Why have we taken this action now?

There has been a downward valuation in Crypto markets of around 40% in the last few months. This correction looks more severe than past ones and, understanding how previous asset bubbles have burst, we believe there is a heightened risk that there could be very significant falls in Crypto markets.

We do not hold or recommend any form of Crypto, but many investors with stakes in Crypto have also speculated in the NASDAQ. A significant fall in Crypto markets threatens a sell-off in the NASDAQ and then into general equity markets across the world.

What action have we taken?

As you may recall, we have almost completely avoided US Tech stocks for some time. Without exception, we regarded all our equity fund holdings as good value for the medium term. However, any potential fall in the NASDAQ index would almost certainly drag with it our growth style equity fund values, at the very least in the short term.

On this basis, we have taken the precautionary measure of selling Equity Growth funds, but keeping value or income-based equity funds, as we believe these are particularly secure at present. The proceeds have been invested in Investment Grade corporate bonds, which offer a very secure short-term home with the prospect of 4-5% income return.

We feel that taking this stance is on a risk/reward basis very much in your interests as, if there is a general market fall, the assets you now hold will tend to hold value or even rise and, after a market fall we will be in a position to return to growth equity funds at much lower prices and take advantage of any recovery.

If there is no market fall in the short term, then the Investment Grade bond funds are likely to provide good returns, probably not too much less than the equities they replaced – so perhaps a little lacklustre performance.

Our third Ethic is that 'we are not afraid to give bold investment advice' that we believe is in each client's best interests. Here, you can see us communicating what we feel is in your interests.

Growth portfolios

All Growth portfolios produced returns significantly above their sectors. This was achieved with a two-pronged approach. Our investment in corporate bonds produced a solid base of 1-2.3% returns and then, through intelligent choices of the very limited equities that we hold, we produced exceptional returns. For example, Artemis Global Income returned 12.75% and Artemis SmartGARP UK Equity 9.93% in this period.

Income portfolios

Our defensive income portfolios continued to perform exceptionally well, with Cautious Income returning 3.14%, this quarter, and Average Income 3.35%. Once again, the principal reason is good fund selection but also the fact that income-producing equities, long out of fashion, are having a better year than growth-based equities. Almost all asset classes in this category continue to offer really good historic value for money and so solid returns should continue over the medium term.

Ethical portfolios

Whilst, once again, producing positive returns, Ethical portfolios continued to under-perform their respective sectors. The reason for the general under-performance continues, in large part, to be lack of choice of funds due to the screening process. For example, the best performing fund this quarter was BNY Mellon Global Equity Income (Responsible), which returned a creditable 4.55%. However, this compares with our non-ethically screened Artemis Global Income, which returned 12.75%. This, along with our low risk, defensive stance at present, whilst producing positive returns, is not enough to match average sector performance.

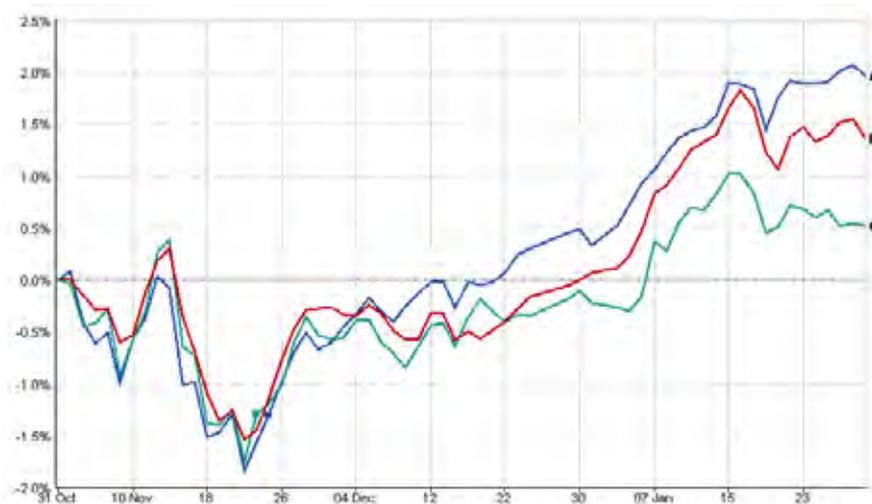
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The risk reduction exercise described above, we still regard as short-term. However, we cannot rule out some form of US move to annexe Greenland or attack Iran in 2026. Whilst this threat remains real, we are very content to retain our low-risk stance.

There remains exceptionally good value in many asset classes, outside of the US. We are comfortable that our current asset positioning can provide solid returns in the short term and take advantage of any equity market falls, should they arise in the coming months. 📈

Actively Managed Cautious Growth Portfolio & Actively Managed Ethical (Cautious) Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (20%-60% shares) Sector Average from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026..



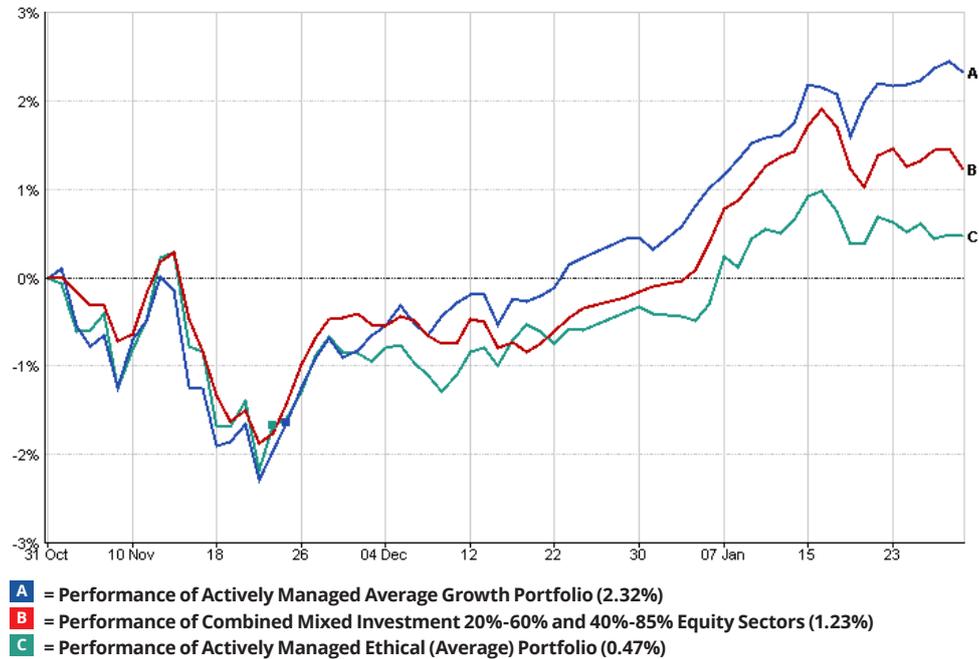
- A** = Performance of Actively Managed Cautious Growth Portfolio (1.97%)
- B** = Performance of Mixed Investment 20%-60% Equity Sector (1.37%)
- C** = Performance of Actively Managed Ethical (Cautious) Portfolio (0.52%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

FINANCE

Actively Managed Average Growth Portfolio & Actively Managed Ethical (Average)

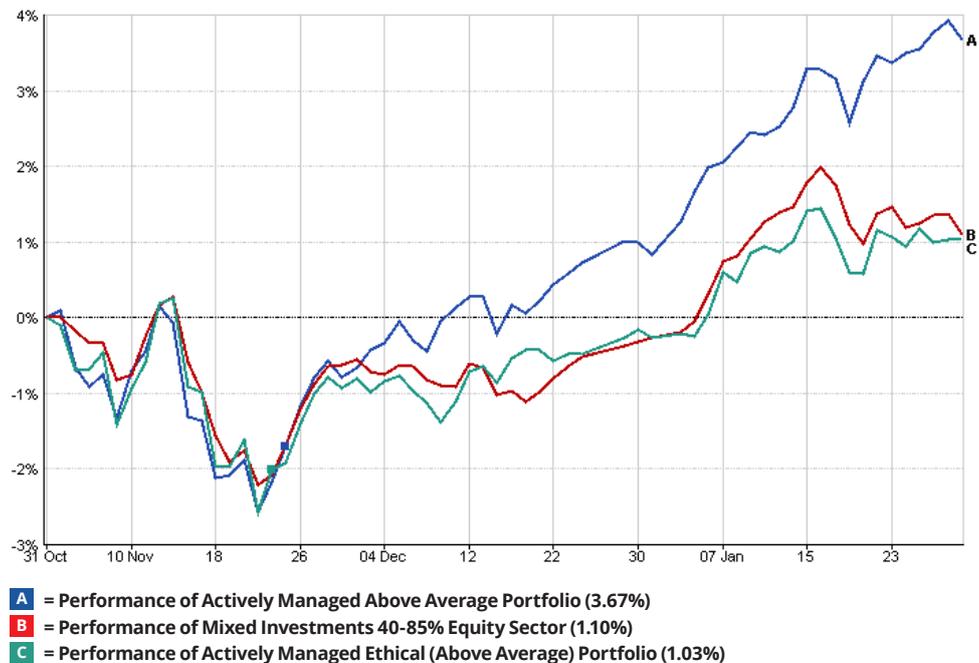
Portfolio Simulated performance and the Combined Average of Mixed Investment Sectors (20%-60% shares) and (40%-85% shares) from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.



Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Actively Managed Above Average Portfolio & Actively Managed Ethical (Above Average) Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.



Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

NOTE FOR ALL GRAPHS ON PREVIOUS AND THESE PAGES: Total return performance figures (showing the return of the instruments with all income reinvested) are calculated on a bid price to bid price basis. Performance figures are shown in sterling. The figures assume that each switch took place at the earliest possible switching window after a switch advice communication was sent. Therefore, delays will mean that individual performances will vary from the above figures. The performance includes ongoing fees and charges for the relevant service level applicable to each portfolio. Initial fees are not included. This document is provided for information purposes only and is not an invitation to invest.

THE VALUE OF UNITS CAN FALL AS WELL AS RISE. THE FIGURES REFER TO PAST PERFORMANCE. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT A RELIABLE INDICATOR OF FUTURE RESULTS.

Actively Managed Tactical Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Flexible Investment Sector Average from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.

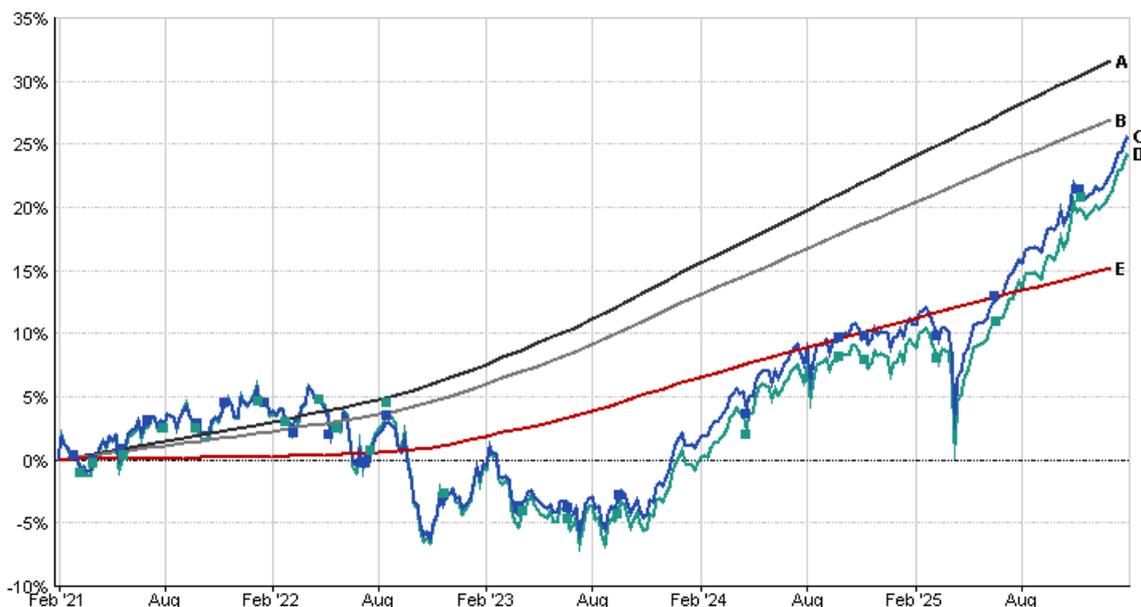


- A** = Performance of Tactical Portfolio (1.83%)
- B** = Performance of Flexible Investment Sector (1.30%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Actively Managed Cautious Income Portfolio and Actively Managed Average Income Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond, the Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2% and the Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2.75% from 30/01/21 to 30/01/26.



- A** = Performance of Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2.75% (31.65%)
- B** = Performance of Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2% (26.99%)
- C** = Performance of Actively Managed Cautious Income Portfolio (25.62%)
- D** = Performance of Actively Managed Average Income Portfolio (24.34%)
- E** = Performance of Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond (15.20%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

FINANCE

AFWM Ltd Multi-Asset Strategy (MAS) Range in review

AFWM Ltd's Head of Investment Committee, JOHN WALDIE, presents the quarterly fund review for the Multi-Asset Strategy portfolios in the Prussia, Penberth and Porthgwarra services for the period 31/10/25-31/1/26

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the first quarterly inclusion of performances of our Multi-Asset Strategy (MAS) portfolio range, which recently passed their first anniversary.

As a reminder, the MAS portfolio range make use of the very best multi-asset funds in the industry. AFWM's role is to carry out research and pick the very best performing, consistent multi-asset managers available, monitor performance over time and change both the relative composition of each fund and indeed replace funds if

performance becomes sub-optimal, with better alternatives.

Unlike our Actively Managed and Quantitative ranges, AFWM do not choose the asset allocation. It is the fund managers we have selected, underneath, who effectively define the asset allocation, although we do have an important role in ensuring that asset allocations stay within the risk parameters that you have agreed with us.

Portfolio composition is reviewed every four months and here is the latest as at 2/2/26:

	MAS CAUTIOUS	MAS AVERAGE	MAS ABOVE AVERAGE
Invesco Distribution	13.4%		
Artemis Monthly Distribution	16.6%	18.0%	
Aegon Diversified Monthly Income Fund	18.5%	11.5%	
FP Russell Investments Multi Asset Growth III	5.0%		
Premier Miton Cautious Monthly Income	12.5%	11.7%	
Barclays Global Markets Balanced	12.3%		
HSBC World Selection Dividend Distribution Portfolio	12.4%	6.2%	
Schroder MultiManager Diversity		14.0%	
RL GMAP Adventurous		3.8%	12.5%
BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced		14.8%	17.0%
HSBC World Selection Adventurous		5.0%	12.5%
Quilter Cirillium Dynamic Passive		15.0%	18.3%
CT Monthly Extra Income			10.5%
Eden Tree Managed Income			10.6%
M & G Episode Growth			13.6%
Schroder Blended 7			5.0%

REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

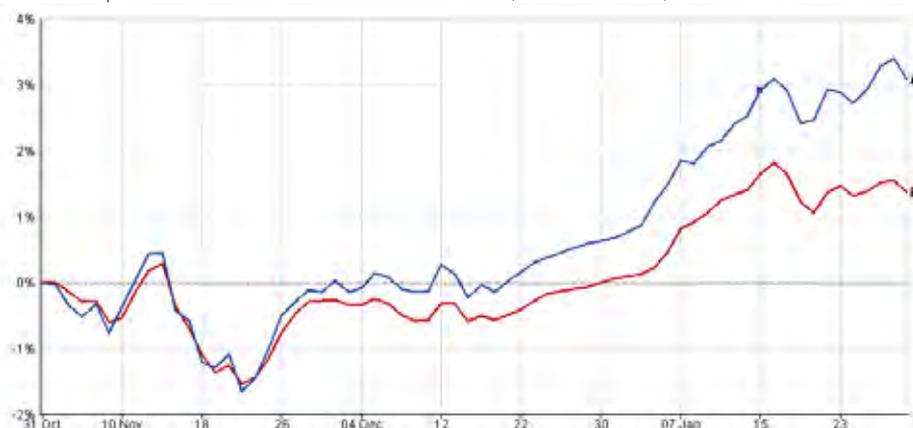
As you can see from the graphs on the next page, all MAS portfolios out-performed their respective sector averages this period. This out-performance was more pronounced in the Cautious and Average portfolios. Out-performance was much less for the Above Average risk portfolio. The main reason for this is that the equity choice of the underlying funds, which is proportionately higher for Above Average risk, is more in line with the general market and so is

a closer performance match. At the lower risk end, the underlying fund managers' skills in asset management composition as well as bond, property and alternative asset allocation selection is more prominent.

In summary, the MAS range is becoming a formidable choice as a base investment decision for clients, very much complementing our other in-house choices of Actively Managed and Quantitative portfolio ranges.

Multi-Asset Select Cautious Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (20-60% shares) Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.

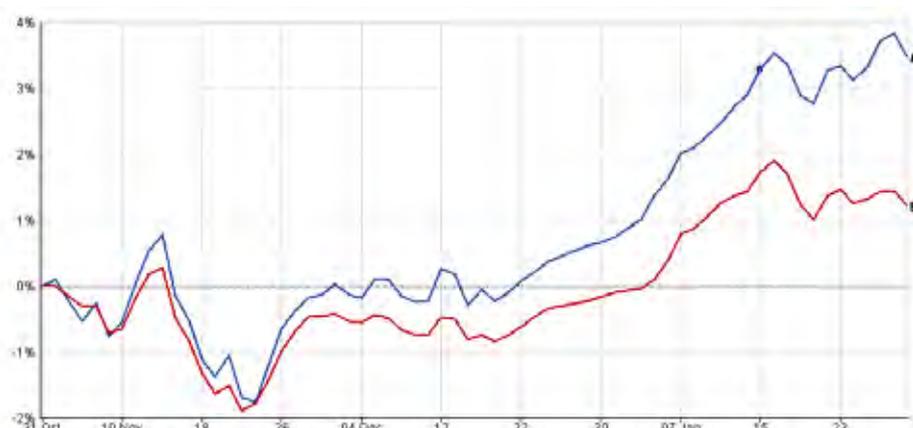


- A** = Performance of Multi-Asset Select Cautious Risk (3.07%)
- B** = Performance of Mixed Investments 20-60% Shares Sector (1.37%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Multi-Asset Select Average Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Combined Average of the Mixed Investment (20-60% shares) Sector and (40-85% shares) Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.

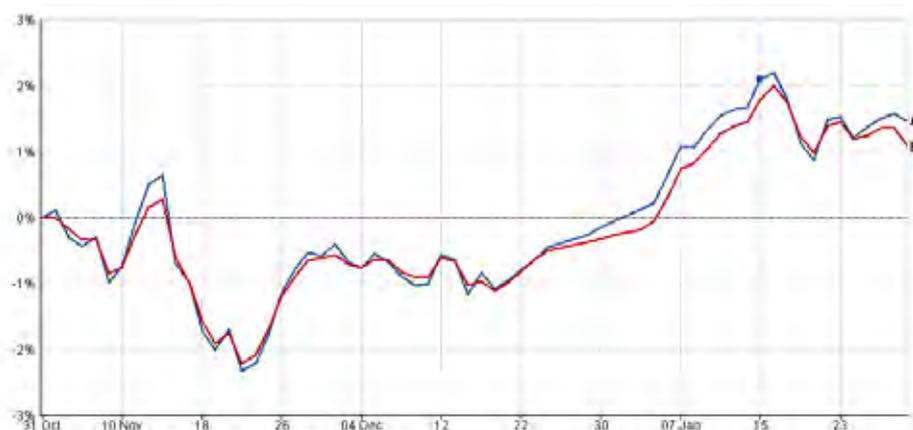


- A** = Performance of Multi-Asset Select Average Risk (3.49%)
- B** = Performance of Combined Mixed Investment 20%-60% and 40%-85% Equity Sectors (1.23%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Multi-Asset Select Above Average Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (40-85% shares) Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.



- A** = Performance of Multi-Asset Select Above Average Risk (1.46%)
- B** = Performance of Mixed Investments 40-85% Shares Sector (1.10%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

NOTE FOR ALL GRAPHS ON PAGE: Total return performance figures (showing the return of the instruments with all income reinvested) are calculated on a bid price to bid price basis. Performance figures are shown in sterling. The figures assume that each switch took place at the earliest possible switching window after a switch advice communication was sent. Therefore, delays will mean that individual performances will vary from the above figures. The performance includes ongoing fees and charges for the relevant service level applicable to each portfolio. Initial fees are not included. This document is provided for information purposes only and is not an invitation to invest.

THE VALUE OF UNITS CAN FALL AS WELL AS RISE. THE FIGURES REFER TO PAST PERFORMANCE. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT A RELIABLE INDICATOR OF FUTURE RESULTS.

FINANCE

AFWM Ltd Quantitative range in review

TREVELLYAN WARD, Quantitative Portfolio Manager and Investment Committee Member, presents a portfolio review for the Quantitative portfolios in the Prussia, Penberth and Porthgwarra services for the period 31/10/25-31/1/26

Another three months where US politics, interest rate expectations and AI valuations remained at centre stage. The quarter began with markets moving lower as investors questioned the pace at which US interest rates will likely fall. Fears that AI valuations were over-stretched also helped fuel this move lower. However, markets then rebounded upwards as these both abated. Of course, it wasn't long before we saw markets again whipsaw; this time it was geopolitics / Trump insisting the US 'needs Greenland' that caused the reversal.

After all of that, we in fact saw the AFWM Quantitative range all finish the month relatively close to being flat – Quantitative Maximum was down 0.53%, Quantitative Above Average was down 0.24%, Quantitative Average was up 0.01% and Quantitative Cautious down 0.26%.

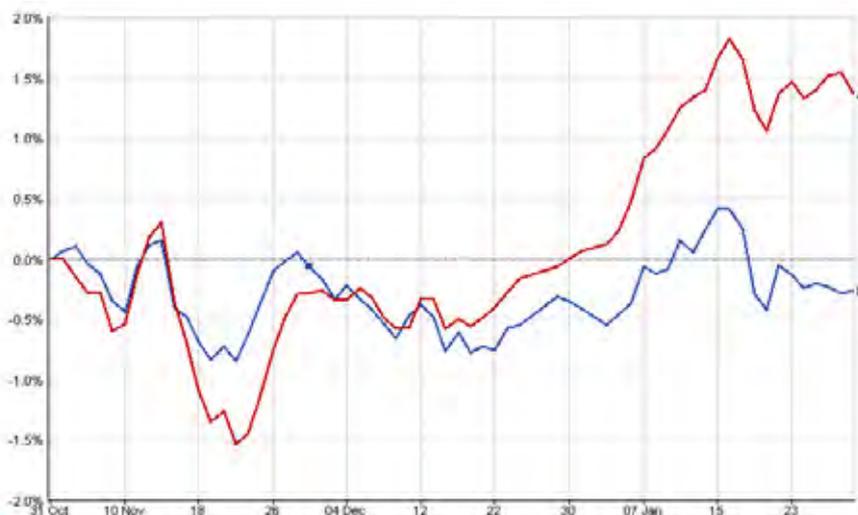
Of note is that, in a change of fortunes to that of the three months prior, all portfolios in fact underperformed their respective benchmarks. For the most part (i.e. for all portfolios except Quantitative Cautious), the relative underperformance came following the December switch.

For the Quantitative Maximum, Above Average and Average portfolios, the underperformance was driven by a move to overweight government bonds at the expense of US equities. Whilst US equities were the worst performer within its asset class over the period, this didn't pay dividends as equities still outperformed bonds in the December and January rally. Sovereign bonds being dragged lower by US Treasuries (i.e. US government bonds) also worked against the Quantitative Maximum, Above Average and Average portfolios.

For the Quantitative Cautious portfolio, overall risk levels remain reduced. Accordingly, this portfolio should be very well positioned to provide protection against any market sell-off should we see that in the near-term. However, whilst the overall low risk levels led to the portfolio being protective on the downside in November, this then conversely resulted in the portfolio failing to capture the December and early January bounce back. 📉

Quantitative Cautious Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (20-60% shares) Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.

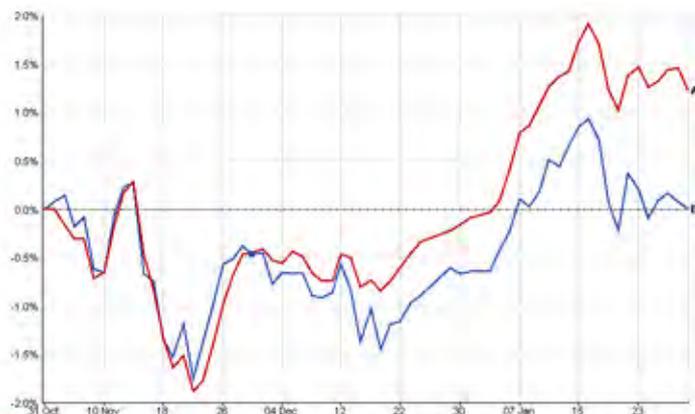


- A** = Performance of Mixed Investments 20-60% Shares Sector (1.37%)
- B** = Performance of Quantitative Cautious Risk (-0.26%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Quantitative Average Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Combined Average of the Mixed Investment (20-60% shares) Sector and (40-85% shares) Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.

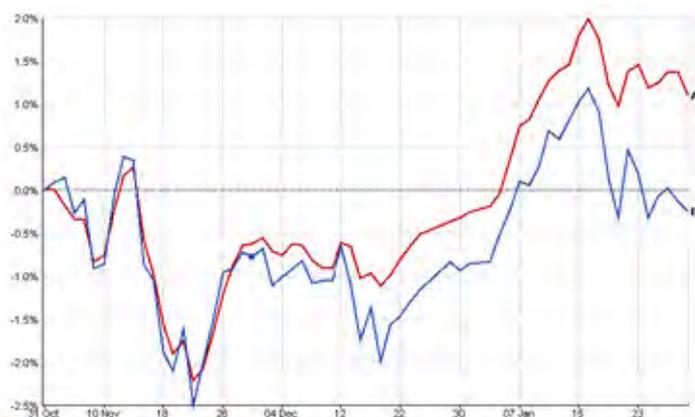


- A** = Performance of Combined Mixed Investment 20%-60% and 40%-85% Equity Sectors (1.23%)
- B** = Performance of Quantitative Average Risk (0.01%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Quantitative Above Average Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (40-85% shares) Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.

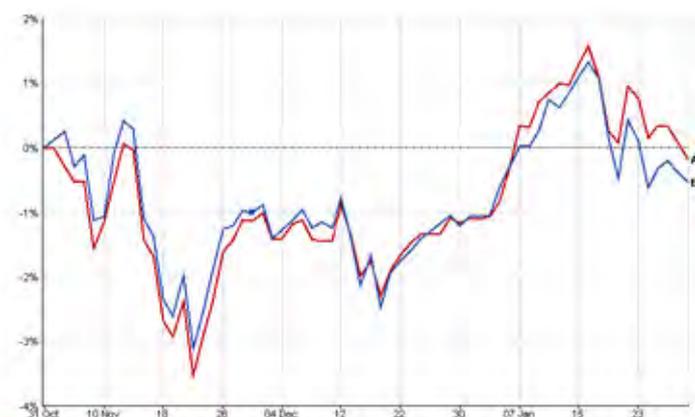


- A** = Performance of Mixed Investments 40-85% Shares Sector (1.10%)
- B** = Performance of Quantitative Above Average Risk (-0.24%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

Quantitative Maximum Risk Portfolio

Simulated performance and the UT Global Equity Sector from 31/10/2025 to 30/01/2026.



- A** = Performance of UT Global Equity Sector (-0.17%)
- B** = Performance of Quantitative Maximum Risk (-0.53%)

Source: FE Analytics on 02/02/2026

NOTE FOR ALL GRAPHS ON THIS AND PREVIOUS PAGE: Total return performance figures (showing the return of the instruments with all income reinvested) are calculated on a bid price to bid price basis. Performance figures are shown in sterling. The figures assume that each switch took place at the earliest possible switching window after a switch advice communication was sent. Therefore, delays will mean that individual performances will vary from the above figures. The performance includes ongoing fees and charges for the relevant service level applicable to each portfolio. Initial fees are not included. This document is provided for information purposes only and is not an invitation to invest.

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FINANCE

mortgage news

A mix of falling interest rates, improving affordability, and intense lender competition is setting the stage for a more active mortgage market. CHRIS TOWELL tells us more...

At the time of going to print, The Bank of England base rate is 3.75%, its lowest level since early 2023. There could be further cuts throughout 2026, potentially bringing the rate down to 3.25% or even 3%.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR PURCHASERS

Lower rates and cheaper mortgages are expected to increase buyers' spending ability and support a stronger housing market.

A significant portion of borrowers who took mortgages out during the pandemic are coming off fixed deals, creating a remortgaging cycle that's influencing lender rates and pricing. This will also impact monthly payments as customers move onto different interest rates.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR BORROWERS

If you're remortgaging:

- Locking into a deal now may save you money compared to moving onto a variable-rate mortgage.
- Many brokers are advising shorter fixes (e.g. 2-year) anticipating further cuts throughout the next couple of years.

If you're a new buyer:

- Mortgage rates remain higher than the ultra-low levels of the early 2020s but are significantly below rates seen in 2025. Your first or next purchase is therefore likely to be more affordable than if you'd bought a property of the same price during the last couple of years.
- Competitive pricing and rate competition between lenders could benefit first-time buyers who have strong credit histories and larger deposits. Higher loan-to-value products are now more affordable; these will benefit buyers with smaller deposits.
- Rents are high compared to mortgage repayments, making buying more attractive.

Regulation and future change:

- The ongoing Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) review may introduce rule changes aimed at loosening some credit constraints and expanding access to credit for groups like first-time buyers and the self-employed.



TYPES OF MORTGAGES

1. Fixed-rate mortgages

These remain the most popular mortgages and will continue to be widely offered. They lock in a set interest rate for a set period, giving borrowers certainty over monthly payments.

- Short-term fixes (1–3 years): These are highly popular when rates are expected to fall, as borrowers can secure a competitive rate now and then refinance later if rates drop further.
- Medium-term fixes (5 years): Still common for those prioritising longer-term stability. Lenders may offer more competitive pricing if interest rates are expected to continue easing.
- Longer fixes (7–10+ years): While these are less common, they are an option for security-minded borrowers wanting to lock in current rates for as long as possible – helpful if you want predictability over a long period.

Variable & tracker mortgages

Instead of a set interest rate, these move with the Bank of England base rate or another benchmark.

- Standard variable rate (SVR): The default rate many borrowers revert to once a deal ends. It can fluctuate with the base rate.
- Tracker mortgages: These track the base rate plus a set margin. They're appealing when rates are forecast to fall, as you benefit immediately from the cut. Often there are no early repayment charges with these types of mortgages. Any reduction in rates will result in a reduced monthly mortgage payment. **📌**

The mortgage market is ever changing. If you're planning to take out a mortgage this year, get in touch with our Independent Mortgage Advisor Chris Towell on **01872 306422** or **chris.towell@afwm.co.uk**

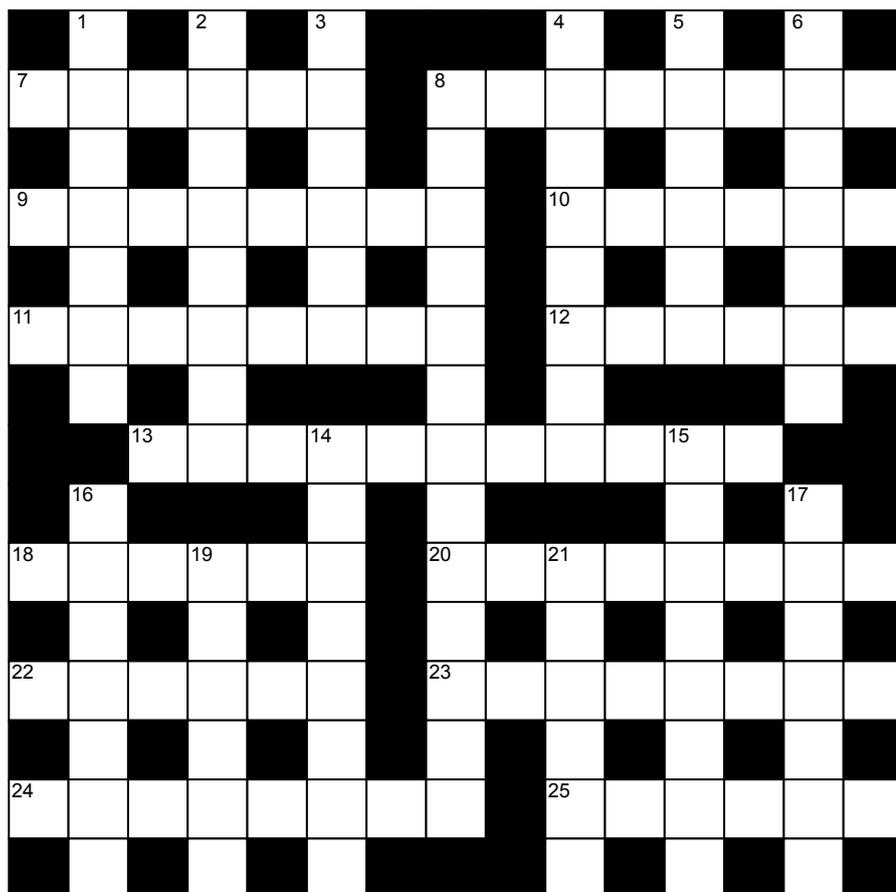
PROPERTY PRICES CAN FALL AS WELL AS RISE. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT YOU WILL MAKE BACK WHEN YOU SPEND.
YOUR PROPERTY WILL BE AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP MORTGAGE PAYMENTS.

venture prize CROSSWORD

Win! A South Devon Chilli Farm gift set



Image shown for illustration purposes only and does not represent actual prize.



Crossword compiled by Saranda

Fill in your details below and send your crossword entry to: **VENTURE CROSSWORD, AFWM Ltd, 79-80 Fore Street, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot, TQ13 0HT.** Alternatively, take a photo of your completed crossword and email it to: **kate.venture@afwm.co.uk** with your details. Closing date for entries: 20 May 2026.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TEL NO:

Crossword solution (from last issue): ACROSS 7: Mimosa; 8: Jeremiah; 9: Seawrack; 10: Maiden; 11: Branwell; 12: Exeter; 13: Paul Gallico; 18: Garden; 20: Dobwalls; 22: Burras; 23: Yachting; 24: Pennance; 25: Orchid

DOWN 1: Big Ears; 2: Morwenna; 3: Palace; 4: Cromwell; 5: Umpire; 6: Cavemen; 8: Jekyll and Hyde; 14: Land's End; 15: Crantock; 16: Matured; 17: Blondie; 19: Durant; 21: Bicton

ACROSS

7. Popular refrain once heard in holiday camps (2-2-2)
 8. Village in mid-Cornwall, fourteen miles from Redruth (8)
 9. Devon town where tennis star Sue Barker was born (8)
 10. A North Devon village which still has the UK's first Grade II listed signal box (6)
 11. Cornish village two miles from Camelford famous for slate (8)
 12. Admiral who received Freedom of the City of Exeter in 1801 (6)
 13. Hamlet near Ludgvan in Cornwall (11)
 18. Speciality of Dorset-born collector Mary Anning (6)
 20. Bull Point lighthouse is one mile from this Devon village (8)
 22. Iconic Dartmoor mushroom, fly _____ (6)
 23. Hamlet two miles north of Redruth, _____ Coombe (8)
 24 & 25. A Torquay-inspired comedy starring this actress who was evacuated to Devon in World War Two (8, 6)
 25. See 24

DOWN

1. _____ of *Penzance*, comic opera by Gilbert and Sullivan (7)
 2. Rachel Kempson married Michael _____ in Totnes 1935 and became the matriarch of an acting dynasty (8)
 3. A small restaurant offering French-style food (6)
 4. A historic church on the River Fowey near Lostwithiel (2, 6)
 5. Famous Dorset Jurassic Coast shingle beach (6)
 6. A pre-mixed alcoholic drink popular with young people (7)
 8. Dorset village midway between Dorchester and Sherborne (8, 5)
 14. Torquay-born (1987) actress and model (4, 4)
 15. Cornish hamlet north of Penzance (8)
 16. Eurovision song contestant who had a wine bar in Paignton, Clodagh _____ (7)
 17. Poet Laureate born 1774 who loved the rugged scenery of North Devon (7)
 19. Historically, the shopping area of Torquay (6)
 21. A sauce or pickle suitable to accompany a Cornish pasty (6)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS This competition is open to all UK residents aged 18 or over, excluding employees of AFWM Ltd and their families. Only one entry per person. The first correct crossword entry drawn after the closing date will win a South Devon Chilli Farm gift set up to the value of £25. There is no cash alternative. The winner will be drawn and notified by 5 June 2026. All entries will be securely disposed of and your details will not be used for any other purpose.



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

afwm.co.uk

NEW CLIENT Insight

2026 Edition



afwm

Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

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 AtkinsFerrieWealthManagementLTD



Welcome

John Waldie

FINANCE DIRECTOR & HEAD OF INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

I am delighted to welcome you to *Insight*, our introduction for new clients. Over the next 20+ pages, we hope to explain and demonstrate our dedication to unrivalled client care and our unrelenting activity in managing your wealth. *Insight* is updated annually each March. If you turn over the brochure, you can enjoy our *Venture* magazine, which is published quarterly. There you'll find a range of topical financial articles – including our Quarterly Review – alongside inspirational lifestyle features packed with ideas to help you 'enjoy life more' while we manage your financial affairs.

Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management was founded in January 2011 with the aim of offering the highest ethical principles and best service standards of any independent financial adviser in the UK. We are experts in all aspects of financial planning, including – but not limited to – investments, pensions, mortgages and various forms of tax-mitigation. Our advisers have specialist qualifications that allow them to advise on more complicated matters such as pension transfers, long-term care fee planning, equity release and holiday home mortgages.

We provide completely impartial advice, unique to you. We will always consider all options available to you and ensure that every recommendation we make is the best solution for you. Our active approach means that when you take investment advice from us it is only the start of a journey. We will regularly assess your financial position, the risks to your money and the opportunities available to you. Your investments will be reviewed in accordance with your chosen service level and we will recommend changes where appropriate.

Our success is primarily based on the quality of our advice and service to you, the client. However, we also have an excellent reputation for working efficiently so that costs to clients are minimised, fair and reasonable. We endeavour to offer appropriate advice and excellent value for money.

Approximately 4% of our turnover is used to support charities and good causes. We work in partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society and support the National Trust's South Somerset portfolio, along with many other smaller causes.

We currently have seven offices across the South of England and plan to expand our presence over the coming years. While our offices are predominantly located in the South West, our services are available anywhere in the UK and our advisers can travel to you.

Book your FREE initial consultation today.

Our mission

At Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management, our mission is to:

- Transform the expectation and quality of UK financial services.
- Actively care for our clients by providing the most ethical, honest, professional and knowledgeable advice.
- Use our success to make the world a better place by not only positively transforming the image of financial services, but also by investing our time and resources in supporting the community and working in partnership with charities.
- Share our success by providing a rewarding culture for our staff and continuously growing returns for shareholders, thereby encouraging staff and shareholder loyalty and happiness.

What our clients say...

“

I want to take the opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given me. Not only have you been polite, professional and patient, you have gone above and beyond anything I expected, or knew I needed. You have provided me with several investment options, explaining the pros and cons of each, and have never made me feel under any pressure.

TKS, Devon

“

My late husband, who had a reputation for finding really excellent people to work with, recommended you to take care of my financial affairs after his death. My adviser is bright and professional and explains things to me if I don't understand in a straightforward way. For our appointments he always arrives on time. I am impressed with him and have 100% trust in him.

KA, Cornwall

“

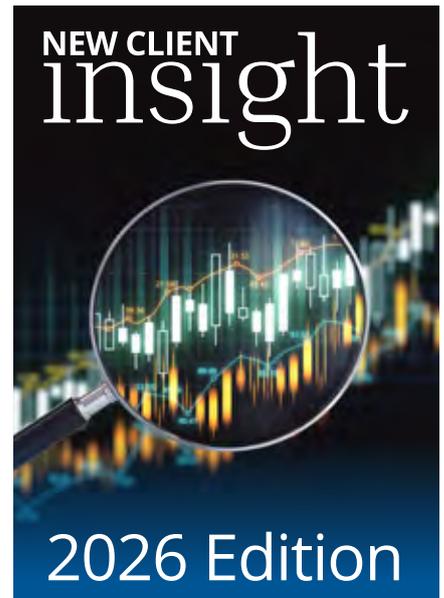
I thought I'd let you know that our meeting with your adviser went very well and that both of us were very impressed. More importantly, they explained to us clearly information that we have not received from our current FA, and that for us is a massive plus. I think it's important for you to hear that they represented AFWM exceedingly well and actually made us feel cared for – and that's something we were hoping for.

KC, Devon

“

The confusing minefield of financial processes was made possible to navigate with clear, concise explanations and unswerving support.

LB, Cornwall



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- 6 A nationwide service
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- 8 An active approach
- 9 Portfolio performance
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Holiday home mortgages
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Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management is a trading style of AFWM Ltd. AFWM Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. AFWM Ltd is entered on the FCA register (fca.org.uk/register) under reference 607283. Company registered in England & Wales. Company registration no 07502341. Registered Office: Lakeside Offices, The Old Cattle Market, Coronation Park, Helston TR13 0SR.

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE.

If you wish to register a complaint, please write to the Compliance Director, Lakeside Offices, The Old Cattle Market, Coronation Park, Helston TR13 0SR or telephone 01326 564950. A summary of our internal complaints handling procedures for the reasonable and prompt handling of complaints is available on request and if you cannot settle your complaint with us, you may be entitled to refer it to the Financial Ombudsman Service at financial-ombudsman.org.uk or by contacting them on 0800 023 4567. The provision of advice to employers is an unregulated activity. Provision of advice to employees is a regulated activity.



Our ethics

AFWM Ltd is a highly principled organisation, with its own set of unique ethical principles at its core. These ethical principles form the foundation of every business decision we make and are what truly set us apart from the majority of IFA firms in the UK. Below are our fundamental ethics and what they mean in practice:

1 To never engage in strategic investment alliances. Our duty as independent financial advisers is to have a one-to-one alliance only with clients. Independent means independent AND impartial. We will never have a personal preference for one organisation over another. The right solution for each client is all we are interested in.

2 To have the expertise, knowledge and conviction to take responsibility for client asset management in house. At AFWM, we offer both in-house active management as well as third-party approaches. However, the

majority of our clients take great comfort in our active management and AFWM having a view on how your assets should be managed, whatever the economic situation.

3 To not be afraid to give bold investment advice. Our in-house actively managed approaches enable us to give bold investment advice, that we believe is in each client's best interest. Our task is to communicate the logic for such advice to the client. Many fund management solutions merely follow and copy an industry benchmark, which vary little with changing economic circumstances.

Sometimes, this results in client assets being partially invested in asset types with very little medium-term potential. Within our in-house asset management approaches, if we don't think it will grow, we won't recommend it!

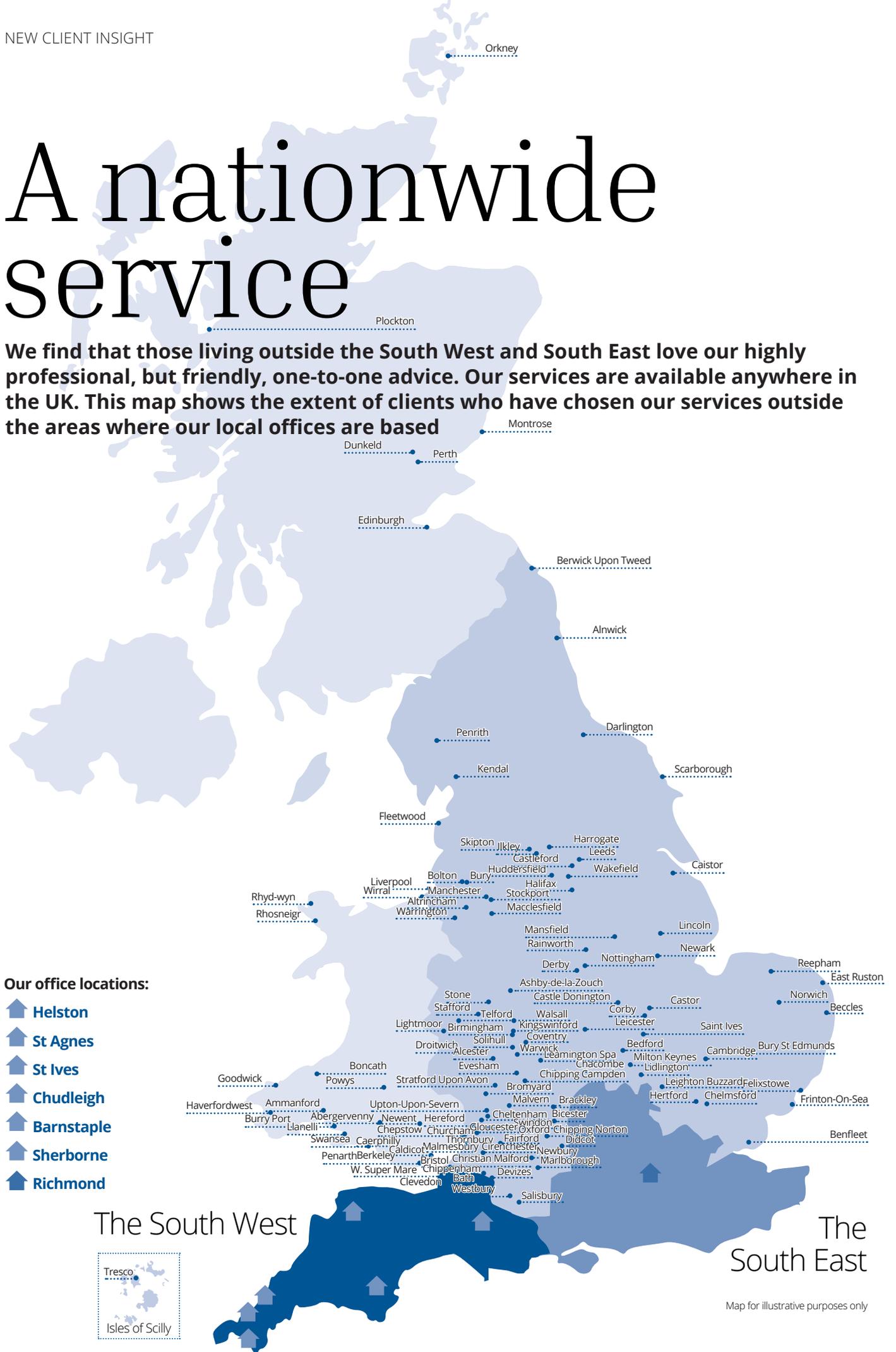
- 4 **To develop our service entirely on customer need, rather than business interests.** We have a number of recommended portfolios and investment options available. Clients who wished to invest ethically expressed an interest in us providing such a portfolio. We duly obliged by creating our Porthgwarra service. The same can be said for the development of our diverse range of asset management options available to clients.
- 5 **To provide long-term service** and only to conduct new business when wholly in the interest of the client. More than three quarters of our income is derived from looking after clients on a long-term basis NOT initial advice. Our advisers are focused on looking after you for years to come, not earning high initial fees, never to be seen again.
- 6 **Where no new business needs to be written – to end an appointment happy that a good job has been done.** Our review meetings are just that. We inform you how things have gone and recommend alterations to your portfolio where required. If no further work is required, then we are happy to say so. Our advisers are motivated to provide service rather than sales.
- 7 **To treat all clients with the same courtesy irrespective of wealth or budget.** Many adviser firms now have minimum fund sizes or high minimum fees making it

sometimes difficult to receive cost-effective advice. We believe this to be unfair and unethical. Whether you have £10,000 or £10,000,000, we have no minimum investment size; there will be a service to fit your needs enabling you to receive quality advice, now and in the future.

- 8 **To always provide advice or recommendations, which are wholly right for each individual client,** not the most convenient to our business. We provide the best solution to each client at any given time. Historically, having consistently recommended a particular fund platform, when their administration became poor, we stopped recommending this provider and found a better solution for our clients.
- 9 **As our business grows, to not lose our ability to service clients to the highest standards** through overburdening staff and advisers. It is important that you always get a great service, now and in the future. Our advisers are limited on the number of clients they can look after. This means that your adviser will not be overworked and will have the time to properly review your investments over the years to come. It also allows them to get to know you very well over time.
- 10 **To relentlessly strive to provide ever higher service standards, including the most customer-friendly office environment.** We will not stand still and pat ourselves on the back. We listen to our clients and adapt our services to meet their needs. A trip to our offices will be a pleasant experience, with friendly staff and a great range of refreshments available.

A nationwide service

We find that those living outside the South West and South East love our highly professional, but friendly, one-to-one advice. Our services are available anywhere in the UK. This map shows the extent of clients who have chosen our services outside the areas where our local offices are based





An active approach

An introduction to our 'Actively Managed' in-house portfolio management style from John Waldie, Head of the Investment Committee & Finance Director

At Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management, we offer clients above everything else – choice. Not only do we independently carry out our own research across the widest range of financial products, but we offer our own asset management services in addition to the asset management services of the rest of the industry.

Our most popular in-house asset management style is known as the 'Actively Managed' range. This article will go into more detail around this specific style; however, we also offer a 'Quantitative' range of pure data-driven in-house managed portfolios; a 'Multi-Asset Select' range, which makes use of the very best multi-asset funds in the industry; and a diligently researched 'Market Tracking' range. In addition to all of this, we can ultimately recommend any other asset manager's direct fund management as the situation might require, so we really have every angle covered in terms of fund management.

In practice, historically, we have found that a high percentage of our clients prefer us to be in control of their situation and to make regular recommendations on their asset management, thus the 'Actively Managed' range is favoured.

HOW OUR OWN 'ACTIVELY MANAGED' ASSET MANAGEMENT ADVICE WORKS

Our principal role is to provide advice. Firstly, on which asset types, for example, Cash, Bonds, Property, Equities and Alternatives. Secondly, on which parts of the world to invest in, for example, UK, Europe, North America, Asia and Emerging Markets. Having determined this, we then carry out our own independent research on the best fund managers of each asset class and geography and put together a portfolio of the best fund managers in the industry from a range of circa 3,000.

In other words, our role is to get the 'big picture' asset type and geography right, then select the fund managers

who are the best in their niche market, for example, Emerging Market Bonds or North American Equities. As the saying goes, 'it is better to be with the worst fund manager in the best sector than the best fund manager in the worst sector', so our role is exceedingly important – to select the best sectors and then select the best managers of each sector also.

As time progresses, we continually assess the economic situation and recommend changes to your asset profile and recommend the niche fund managers in which to invest. Typically, we would carry out 3–10 asset changes in a year. We always ask your permission to carry out any changes.

WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO GIVE BOLD INVESTMENT ADVICE

At first glance, our third ethical principle sounds as though we may be over eager with taking risks in client portfolios. In reality, our approach is the opposite of this, in that, above all else, we look firstly at what can go wrong and how one could lose money. All my personal pension funds are invested in the Actively Managed Tactical portfolio. I am sure, like me, you would never like your funds to fall in value. It is impossible to achieve this, all of the time, with any form of risk-based investments, but that does not detract from the strong motivation to avoid holding assets that are vulnerable to a downward correction in value. Therefore, before looking at what opportunities exist to make good returns, we analyse the risks in our portfolios and take action to remove funds which we believe offer poor value and prospects compared to the risks being taken.

An important point needs to be made here: while we compare our performance to the rest of the industry using a suitable benchmark when we conduct our review meetings, we do not believe in sticking to industry-recognised benchmarks in asset allocation. We believe much of the industry tracks and simulates the benchmark they compare themselves with and this could lead to

staying with asset types that just don't offer value for risk. If we don't think that an asset offers value, then we simply won't hold it – irrespective of the rest of the industry's position, because our only duty is to look after your money, not follow the masses.

Only after assessing downside risk, do we then analyse how best to make your assets grow with the least risk possible. In doing so, we can be very nimble and swift at switching assets, and we have a history of radically and quickly changing portfolios in order to respond to political and economic opportunities.

The following graphs on pages 9 and 10 indicate the past performance of our 'Actively Managed' range (although they are not necessarily a guide to the future).

ETHICAL AND TACTICAL INVESTING

Alongside our strong ethical principles, we are proud to manage our clients' money in a different format, where we take a view of the market under a 'Tactical' and/or 'Ethical' view as illustrated in the graphs on page 10. Our Actively Managed Tactical portfolio is designed to alter its risk tolerance through different points in time where we see it would be prudent to do so. The nature of this causes it to potentially move from high risk to low risk and so it is popular with our experienced investors. The Ethical portfolio has been tailored to our clients who wish to invest in a socially responsible manner. A key theme to delimit suitable 'ethical' funds is a process called screening. This is where companies may be excluded or 'screened out' from investments because of their involvement in certain activities deemed to be negative, such as heavy polluters, arms companies or animal testing companies. This approach also applies where companies are included and 'screened in' for their positive contributions to society and the environment, such as those providing renewable energy, waste and recycling services or organic farming.

Portfolio performance since launch

(for portfolios with more than a 5-year track record)

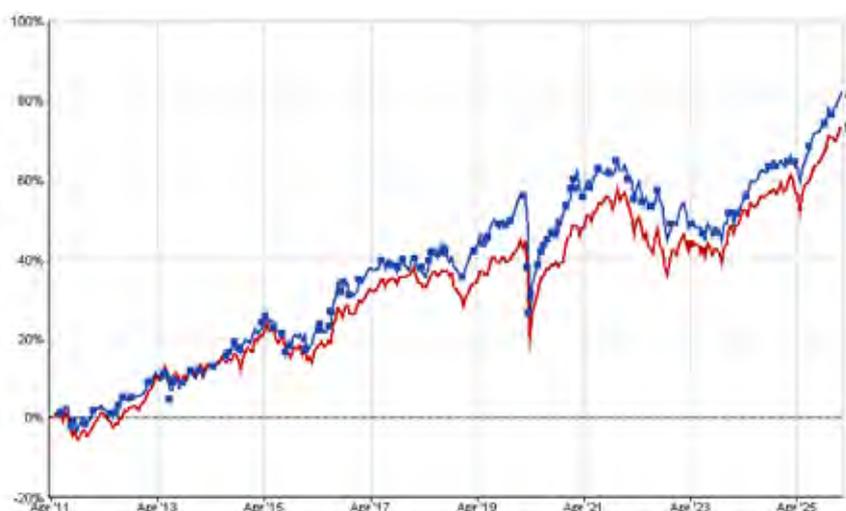


Actively Managed Cautious Income Portfolio and Actively Managed Average Income Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond, the Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2% and the Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2.75% from 01/04/2011 to 30/01/2026.

- A** = Performance of Actively Managed Average Income Portfolio (112.96%)
- B** = Performance of Actively Managed Cautious Income Portfolio (102.34%)
- C** = Performance of Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2.75% (95.68%)
- D** = Performance of Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond +2% (75.63%)
- E** = Performance of Bank of England 1 Year Fixed Rate Bond (31.13%)

Source: FE Analytics on 03/02/2026

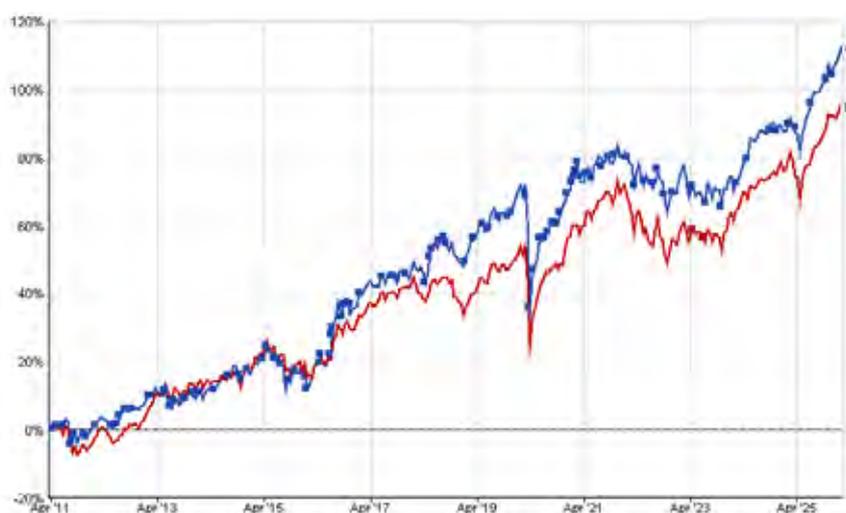


Actively Managed Cautious Growth Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (20%-60% shares) Sector from 01/04/2011 to 30/01/2026.

- A** = Performance of Actively Managed Cautious Growth Portfolio (81.99%)
- B** = Performance of Mixed Investment 20%-60% Equity Sector (73.19%)

Source: FE Analytics on 03/02/2026



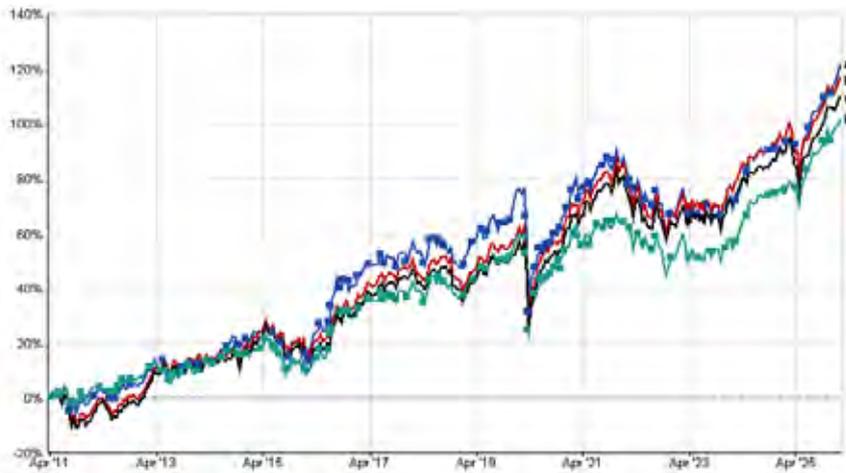
Actively Managed Average Growth Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Combined Average of Mixed Investment Sectors (20%-60% shares) and (40%-85% shares) from 01/04/2011 to 30/01/2026.

- A** = Performance of Actively Managed Average Growth Portfolio (112.63%)
- B** = Performance of Combined Mixed Investment 20%-60% and 40%-85% Equity Sectors (95.17%)

Source: FE Analytics on 03/02/2026

Ethical and Tactical investing



Actively Managed Above Average and Actively Managed Tactical Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment (40%-85% shares) Sector and the Flexible Investment Sector from 01/04/2011 to 30/01/2026.

- A** = Performance of Actively Managed Above Average Portfolio (122.01%)
- B** = Performance of Mixed Investments 40-85% Equity Sector (116.02%)
- C** = Performance of Flexible Investment Sector (109.20%)
- D** = Performance of Actively Managed Tactical Portfolio (101.66%)

Source: FE Analytics on 03/02/2026

Benchmark for Above Average is Mixed Investment 40-85% shares, benchmark for Tactical is Flexible Investment Sector Average.



Actively Managed Ethical (Average) Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Combined Average of Mixed Investment Sectors (20%-60% shares) and (40%-85% shares) from 30/12/2011 to 30/01/2026.

- A** = Performance of Actively Managed Ethical (Average) Portfolio (140.35%)
- B** = Performance of Combined Mixed Investment 20%-60% and 40%-85% Equity Sectors (104.36%)

Source: FE Analytics on 03/02/2026



Actively Managed Ethical (Cautious) Portfolio and Actively Managed Ethical (Above Average) Portfolio

Simulated performance and the Mixed Investment Sectors (20%-60% shares) and Mixed Investment (40%-85% shares) from 01/04/2019 to 30/01/2026.

- A** = Performance of Mixed Investment 40-85% Equity Sector (46.05%)
- B** = Performance of Actively Managed Ethical (Above Average) Portfolio (36.44%)
- C** = Performance of Mixed Investment 20%-60% Equity Sectors (28.15%)
- D** = Performance of Actively Managed Ethical (Cautious) Portfolio (26.69%)

Source: FE Analytics on 03/02/2026

Benchmark for Ethical (Cautious) is Mixed Investment 20-60% Equity, benchmark for Ethical (Above Average) is Mixed Investment 40-85% Equity.

NOTE FOR ALL GRAPHS: Total return performance figures (showing the return of the instruments with all income reinvested) are calculated on a bid price to bid price basis. Performance figures are shown in sterling. The figures assume that each switch took place at the earliest possible switching window after a switch advice communication was sent. Therefore, delays will mean that individual performances will vary from the above figures. The performance includes ongoing fees and charges for the relevant service level applicable to each portfolio. Initial fees are not included. This document is provided for information purposes only and is not an invitation to invest.

THE VALUE OF UNITS CAN FALL AS WELL AS RISE. THE FIGURES REFER TO PAST PERFORMANCE. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT A RELIABLE INDICATOR OF FUTURE RESULTS.

Our investment service levels

Regardless of the investment service you choose with us, we believe there are elements that should always be included. As part of our commitment to delivering an excellent customer experience, we provide all our clients with:



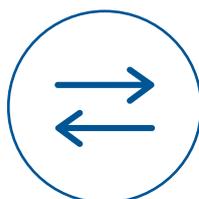
A dedicated adviser and support team



Regular review meetings



Personalised valuation reports



Free switching of funds



Tailored suitability reports for all business arranged



Quarterly Venture lifestyle magazine

PRUSSIA

- Review with your adviser annually.
- Continuous overview of your investments.
- Where changes are necessary, we will contact you with our recommendations.

PENBERTH

Available when your total assets under our stewardship reach £200,000 or more.

- Meet with your adviser twice a year.
- Continuous overview of your investments.
- Where changes are necessary, we will contact you with our recommendations.

TREVAUNANCE

- Review with your adviser annually.
- Where changes are necessary, we will make these at your review.

LULWORTH

Available when your total assets under our stewardship reach £200,000 or more.

- Meet with your adviser twice a year.
- Where changes are necessary, we will make these at your review.

PORTHWARRA ETHICAL

This service is designed for our clients looking to invest with a sustainable, ethical and socially responsible mandate.

- Review with your adviser up to twice a year.
- Continuous overview of your investments.
- Where changes are necessary, we will contact you with our recommendations.

TEIGN

This service is available to clients with over £2,000,000 to invest.

- A more targeted and specialist advice service.
- Meetings, reviews and valuations arranged to meet your needs.
- A bespoke service, tailored and agreed on an individual basis.



CLOVELLY Mortgage Service

Our Clovelly service is designed to give our Mortgage customers ongoing care after the point of purchasing a new home, holiday home or buy-to-let property or releasing equity from an existing property.

Please contact an adviser for more information on our services including costs

A team of the highest quality and integrity

We are proud to attract top-quality professionals to Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management. Please browse our staff backgrounds within each of our offices to be confident of the overall quality of service we can offer

ST IVES



Rob Baylis BA (Hons) FCA DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

Rob has a BA (Hons) in Accountancy from Birmingham Polytechnic and was awarded the tax prize whilst he was there. He qualified as a chartered accountant with Price Waterhouse in 1993 and worked for Magneti Marelli as a financial controller and as part of the senior management team. He spent 15 years in the renewable energy industry, including time with Nuon and Vattenfall. During this time, he was Head of Finance for the UK, Senior Acquisition Manager UK and Head of Onshore Development England & Wales. Rob joined AFWM Ltd in March 2015 after completing his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. Rob gained the additional qualification to become a pension transfer specialist in June 2019.



Harry Griffiths BDS DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

Harry joined AFWM in 2022. Having graduated with a degree in Dentistry in 2016, he worked as a dentist for several years before deciding to pursue his passion for finance. He gained his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning in 2023. While Harry enjoys working with clients from all backgrounds, he has a particular interest in helping dentists with all aspects of their financial planning.



Jennine Screen
HEAD OF CLIENT MANAGEMENT

Jen brings a wealth of administrative experience to AFWM, joining us from a senior role within a large IFA firm that she held for 12 years. Previously supporting an operations management team and individual advisers on a 121 basis, enabled her to develop processes and procedures to improve working practices. Our company ethics resonate strongly with her own beliefs and Jen puts client centricity at the heart of all her work. Outside of work she enjoys sea swimming (weather permitting), walking and plays tennis.



Hayley Goodchild BSc (Hons) DipPFS
SENIOR CLIENT MANAGER & PARAPLANNER

Hayley joined AFWM Ltd in January 2020 as an administrator and research assistant. Hayley studied Psychology at the University of Plymouth and prior to joining AFWM Ltd was Production Co-ordinator for a Cornish retail company. In 2022, Hayley successfully completed her Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning.

CHUDLEIGH



John Waldie BSc (Hons) DipPFS
FINANCE DIRECTOR & HEAD OF INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

John obtained a first-class Aeronautical Engineering degree from Manchester and enjoyed a ten-year career with Rolls Royce PLC as a turbine technologist. Following this, he made the move into financial planning and worked for various large firms before founding AFWM Ltd in 2011 with Tom Tripp. John has four advanced planning qualifications, including Pensions and Investment Portfolio Management, meaning he is able to advise on a superior range of issues and offer a first-class service to his clients.



George Galbraith BSc (Hons) MSc DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

George has achieved a Master's degree with distinction in Finance and Investment as well as holding a degree in International Relations and Politics from Plymouth University. He now works for AFWM Ltd as a financial adviser based at our Chudleigh office. Outside of work, George has a passion for hockey – playing National League for Ashmoor.



Laura Hibble
EXECUTIVE CLIENT MANAGER

Laura joined AFWM Ltd in May 2019 as an administrator in our Chudleigh office. Prior to joining the team at AFWM Ltd, Laura worked in the health and social care sector for 15 years, the last three of which were spent providing apprenticeships in a work-based training capacity. Laura provides training and mentoring support for our Client Management team in the East region.



Dan Driscoll BA (Hons) DipPFS
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Dan is a qualified investment adviser and has responsibility for our Client Management team, marketing and the development of our strategic partnerships. Prior to joining AFWM Ltd in 2021, Dan spent 13 years at Standard Life specialising in helping advisers and their clients with investments, pensions and high-net-worth financial planning.



Andy Sweet
HEAD OF PARAPLANNING

Andy joined AFWM in February 2024 as a research assistant in the Chudleigh office. He has over 20 years' experience in the financial services industry, having previously worked as an independent financial adviser and pension transfer specialist, and has held paraplanning and compliance support roles. Andy uses this wealth of experience to support our advisers in providing the best possible service to our clients.



Lucinda Mead DipPFS
SENIOR PARAPLANNER

Lucinda gained a degree in Business Management and a Graduate Diploma in Law before achieving the Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. She has more than ten years' experience in both the financial services and legal industries, working for a mix of large firms as well as smaller independent IFAs and a Devon-based law firm. Joining AFWM in May 2025 as a Senior Paraplanner, Lucinda provides support to advisers from our Chudleigh office. When she isn't working, Lucinda enjoys spending time with her two young daughters, partner Tom and Golden Retriever, Wilf.



Lauren West
PARAPLANNER

Lauren has over ten years of professional experience in financial services. Beginning her career in branch banking with RBS, she progressed into the mortgage world and moved to a regional brokerage. She built a strong foundation in client-focused lending solutions before moving into broader financial planning. Lauren joined AFWM in 2025 and is based in the Chudleigh office, not far from where she lives. She is passionate about driving ethical and tailored financial advice. Working part time, Lauren is able to enjoy the local beaches and coffee shops with her family.

SHERBORNE



Tabitha Parham DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

Tabitha joined AFWM Ltd in spring 2021 as a trainee financial adviser supporting our qualified advisers and John Waldie, alongside completing her Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. Having achieved this in summer 2022, Tabitha went on to complete her qualification in long-term care planning and is now looking forward to using her past experiences to give the highest quality financial advice to her clients.



Oliver Walker MSc BSc (Hons) DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

Oliver graduated with a Master's in Astrophysics from the Autonomous University of Barcelona in 2017. He returned to Cornwall to join AFWM Ltd as a research assistant in April 2019 and, alongside this role, completed a Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. Now a qualified financial adviser, he works at our Sherborne office and strives to provide the highest service to his clients and community alike.



Rhia Palazzo
CLIENT MANAGER

Rhia joined AFWM in September 2024 as Client Manager in our Sherborne Office. Prior to this, she worked in healthcare for nearly nine years as a midwife and health visitor but decided on a career change. She is enjoying learning about the finance industry and supporting our advisers and clients. Rhia is excited for the opportunities ahead within AFWM.

HELSTON

**Ronnie Williams** BA (Hons) DipPFS Cert PFS (DM) Certs CII (MP & ER)
QUALITY ASSURANCE DIRECTOR & FINANCIAL ADVISER

Ronnie has a BA (Hons) in Economics and Geography from the University of Exeter. After graduating, he worked for a multinational firm where he obtained his mortgage qualifications. Ronnie joined AFWM Ltd in August 2011, and worked closely with John Waldie whilst he obtained his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. He has worked as a financial adviser since 2013 and his wide range of skills enable him to provide a quality holistic approach to financial advice.

**Tom Tripp** FCCA ACA MIOd
CO-FOUNDER & STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

A qualified chartered accountant and chartered certified accountant, Tom has worked in the finance industry since 1987 and is a shareholder and director in the chartered accountancy practice, Atkins Ferrie. He is also a member of the Institute of Directors (London). Tom is responsible for the marketing and business development of AFWM Ltd and has bolstered strong relationships with some of our charity and corporate partners, including the National Trust and many more.

**James Currie** BSc (Hons) DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

James has a first-class degree in Accounting and Finance from Swansea University. He joined AFWM Ltd as a research assistant, providing technical support to the advisers while researching investments and products to recommend to clients. Having qualified for his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning, he has been a financial adviser at the company since 2016.

**Sally Endean**
HEAD OF OPERATIONS AND GOVERNANCE

Sally assists Ronnie Williams on overseeing and managing the regulatory compliance needs of the business and does general administration. Prior to joining AFWM Ltd in 2015, Sally enjoyed a varied career of 35 years with NatWest Bank, including Joint Branch Manager of St Ives with Jo Allen for 14 years.

**Katy Morris** BA (Hons) DipPFS
HEAD OF PORTFOLIO ADMINISTRATION

Katy joined AFWM Ltd in March 2018 as a Research Assistant providing technical support to the advisers. She studied History at the University of Birmingham and in 2020 successfully completed her Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. Katy is based at our Helston office as Head of Portfolio Administration. She oversees the day-to-day running of our Asset Management service and is responsible for compiling our annual due diligence reports and fund research, as well as continuing to provide technical support to advisers.

**Angela Reid**
SENIOR CLIENT MANAGER

Angela joined AFWM Ltd in January 2020 as an administrator with a previous background of working for independent financial advisers. Prior to this she had over ten years' experience of the hospitality and events industry including working at several five-star hotels.

BARNSTAPLE

**Zoe Watkins** BA (Hons) MA DipPFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER

Zoe obtained a first-class degree in Economics whilst on a soccer scholarship at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, followed by a Master's in International Relations from the University of Exeter. Having obtained her Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning, Zoe is now the financial adviser based at our Barnstaple office. Having previously played football for West Bromwich Albion, Zoe currently plays for Exeter City.

**Anthea Bradshaw**
SENIOR CLIENT MANAGER

Anthea joined AFWM Ltd in May 2021 and is based at our Barnstaple office. Providing client management support to Zoe Watkins, Anthea brings with her a wealth of experience, having previously worked in a variety of administrative roles encompassing various industries across the United States, Ireland and the U.K., most recently within the continuing healthcare environment.

**Sharon West**
MARKETING MANAGER

Sharon joined AFWM Ltd in May 2021 after a long and varied career in the travel industry spent working for a major UK airline and leading leisure and business travel agencies. Sharon brings with her strong communication and organisational skills and takes responsibility for co-ordinating the large number of events AFWM Ltd sponsors each year, supporting our local communities and working in partnership with our local charities.

**Andrew Roebuck** BA (Hons)
TRAINEE FINANCIAL ADVISER

Andrew holds a degree in Business & Management (Economics) from Bournemouth University. Following graduation, he began his career as a sales negotiator in his hometown of Bude before joining AFWM in July 2025. Based in our Barnstaple office as a Trainee Financial Adviser, Andrew supports Zoe Watkins whilst working towards his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning. Outside of work, Andrew enjoys spending quality time with friends and family and loves being outdoors, including camping whenever he can.

ST AGNES



Christine Clark

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

Christine oversees the administration of our Asset Management department. After successfully completing the London Chamber of Commerce Industry Secretarial Intensive course at Cornwall College, Christine spent 12 years in architectural administration with a further 17 years in financial administration covering both the mortgage and investment fields, which gave her essential skills and knowledge prior to joining AFWM Ltd in February 2011.



Chris Towell CeMAP CeRER

MORTGAGE ADVISER

Chris joined AFWM Ltd in April 2017 following an 18-year career with GE Money, where he worked in several different roles including underwriting, Mortgage Adviser, Team Leader and Customer Experience and Outcome Manager. His current role is to drive the mortgage side of the business forward, incorporating a strong ethics-based belief into the mortgage field. He deals with both residential and buy-to-let or holiday home mortgages, as well as equity release and reviews the protection needs of his clients.



Trevelyan Ward BSc (Hons) DipPFS

FINANCIAL ADVISER

Trevelyan joined in 2019 and brings with him a wealth of investment experience. After graduating with an Economics degree from the University of Bath, Trevelyan began a career in institutional asset management at Strathmore Capital, advising some of the world's largest pension funds on their investment strategies. He then moved to GAIN Capital to manage the firm's discretionary equity investment strategy and was integral in improving the firm's discretionary trading performance. As an adviser, Trevelyan draws upon his extensive investment and client management experience to provide the first-class service AFWM Ltd is renowned for.



Rob Coote BEng (Hons) DipPFS

SERVICE DIRECTOR

Rob graduated from the University of Exeter in 2015 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and Management. During university, Rob played for the Exeter Chiefs, England Students and Great Britain Students rugby teams. Rob's sporting background has provided him with a strong work-ethic, great communication skills and the ability to lead. Combining these with the optimisation and management skills learnt whilst acquiring his degree, gives him the relevant attributes to be an asset to the AFWM Ltd team and to help clients achieve their financial goals.



Jo Allen

EXECUTIVE CLIENT MANAGER – MORTGAGES

Jo joined AFWM Ltd in 2015 following a 28-year career with NatWest Bank, the last 14 years of which she was Joint Branch Manager with Sally Endean in St Ives. Jo works closely with Chris Towell and assists with all client management aspects of our mortgage and equity release applications.



Arran Gill MChem (Hons) PhD DipPFS

FINANCIAL ADVISER

Arran relocated from West Yorkshire to the South West in 2022 and joined AFWM. He completed his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning and long-term care planning qualification in 2023. He also holds a first-class Master's degree and PhD in Chemistry from the University of Southampton and now relishes the opportunity to provide personalised, holistic financial advice to his clients. Arran's ambition is to become a chartered financial planner. Away from work, Arran enjoys golf, badminton, snowboarding and camping, particularly on the Isles of Scilly.

RICHMOND



Arran Sawyer BSc (Hons) DipPFS

FINANCIAL ADVISER

Arran joined AFWM in August 2021 after graduating with a first-class BSc (Hons) degree in Economics from the University of the West of England. Arran spent two years supporting our advisers in a trainee capacity, before gaining his Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning in July 2023. Arran is committed to providing the high-quality service AFWM is renowned for and assisting his clients in meeting their financial goals.

Mortgage matters

Using a mortgage broker can speed up the mortgage application process and remove some of the stress involved in buying a new property or re-mortgaging your current home. A broker can also be particularly helpful for those clients with individual needs or circumstances as they know each lender's specific criteria.

- **When did you last review your mortgage?**
- **Are you concerned that your mortgage payments are going to increase?**
- **Is your current fixed rate due to expire within the next six months and have you explored the whole market to get a lower rate?**
- **Are you interested in a lifetime mortgage / equity release and would like to know how it works?**
- **Are you looking to move home soon or do you need to fund a large purchase?**
- **Do you want to help a family member get on to the property ladder?**
- **Do you have an interest-only mortgage with no repayment vehicle?**
- **Does your interest-only mortgage term have fewer than ten years to run?**

Fully independent and directly authorised, our Mortgage Adviser Chris Towell is able to research every mortgage product available to the independent market, including those which are not available on the high street.

The first appointment is free of charge and Chris will then provide you with a tailor-made solution for your needs.

Chris believes in providing an outstanding service to our clients, supporting you through every part of the process and explaining what happens at each stage of an application. He also remains in contact with you throughout the lifetime of your mortgage.

"It is a rapidly changing landscape within the mortgage market and rates are changing frequently, so it is always a great idea to use my services as an independent mortgage adviser to ensure that you are getting the best rate possible for your new mortgage or from your current lender when your review is due. Lenders also have different criteria, so I can help to locate a lender who is a fit for your own personal circumstances."



Many thanks for your time this morning! A very insightful and positive meeting! I just wanted to drop you a line of thanks. Having met with a few brokers over the last couple of months I just wanted to say the level of professionalism and information was tenfold more from yourself than I have found elsewhere!.

H & EJ, Cornwall

If you would like to know more, please contact either Chris Towell or Jo Allen on 01872 306422 or email chris.towell@afwm.co.uk



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management



Special offer

Receive a bottle of
Camel Valley wine
 when you refer friends
 and family to us...



As a thank you, clients who refer a friend or family member to us will receive a complimentary bottle of Camel Valley wine for each successful referral.¹

Winemakers at Camel Valley vineyard have won countless international awards for their still and sparkling wines, standing firm against major competitors.

Camel Valley is the only UK vineyard to be granted a Royal Warrant after its wines were chosen by the royal family for both a state banquet at Buckingham Palace and the Queen's birthday reception at Clarence House. Camel Valley's wines are also served in some of the finest restaurants in the country. It is, therefore, no surprise that the vineyard has been heralded as the 'finest wine estate in England'.²

The quality produced by Camel Valley is undoubtedly excellent and we are delighted to present our loyal customers with a bottle.

If you are pleased with the service and advice that you receive from AFWM Ltd, please pass the good news on to your family and friends.

afwm.co.uk | 01872 306422

¹ A referral is deemed successful if our advice is taken up by the referred client

² Matthew Jukes, English Wine Compendium, *Mail Weekend* magazine



An introduction to equity release

Are you over the age of 55 and want to release cash tied up in your property without having to sell your home or downsize? Then a lifetime mortgage may be a good option for you.

A lifetime mortgage is a form of equity release that allows you to take a tax-free portion of the cash tied up in your home. The amount you can borrow depends on your age and the value of your property.

Unlike a regular mortgage, you are not required to make any repayments before the end of the plan. Instead, each year, interest is added to the loan. However, voluntary payments can be made if you choose to do so. The loan and the interest are repaid in full, usually from the sale of your property, when you die or go into long-term care.

There are all sorts of reasons you may wish to release cash from your home, including but not limited to: home improvements, supplementing your retirement income, purchasing an investment property, gifting to a loved one, a move to a more suitable property, repaying an outstanding mortgage or making special purchases.

Independent financial advice should always be sought before considering any form of equity release as it is vital that you are fully informed of the risks and costs.

“
There are all sorts of reasons you may wish to release cash from your home.”

Holiday home and buy-to-let mortgages

Our research shows that many investment property homeowners and potential investment property purchasers are not aware that there are specialist mortgages available.



These are specialist types of mortgages and lenders will have specific criteria which they will require borrowers to meet.

All mortgage providers will require a deposit and you can raise this in a number of ways, including existing savings, inheritance, accessing your pension (if over the age of 55) or by remortgaging your main residential property.

We are specialists in this area and as independent financial advisers we can consider your individual circumstances and advise you on the most cost-effective and tax-efficient method of buying your investment property.

If you would like to discuss your options on either of the above, or would like some help or advice, please contact us for a free consultation. Email: chris.towell@afwm.co.uk or call 01872 306422



National
Trust

Moments to remember

made at Lytes Cary Manor

Visit Lytes Cary Manor for spring blossoms in the orchards,
bright flowers in the garden and treats from the tea-room.

nationaltrust.org.uk/lytes-cary-manor

For everyone, for ever

Kindly supported by



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

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AFWM Ltd in the community

At Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management, we are passionate about helping our community and supporting local charities

Part of our mission statement is to use our success to help make the world a better place. We achieve this by not only positively transforming the image of financial services, but also investing our time and resources in supporting the community and working in partnership with charities. Each year, we support our local charities and causes by donating, sponsoring and attending many events across the South of England.

We work closely with the National Trust, Rotary International and the Jaguar Enthusiasts Club. We are also proud of our work with the RHS and continue to support both RHS Rosemoor and RHS Wisley. You will find us attending many events across the year at both locations and we always enjoy meeting members and visitors alike. Please do drop by our stand and say hello if you see us during the year.

We are always keen to hear about what is happening in our local area. If you know about an event or charity that would be interested in our support and would like to discuss sponsorship, please contact our Marketing Manager by emailing sharon.west@afwm.co.uk

We do hope to see you at some of our planned events, so please check our social media pages for details of where we will be visiting next.

 afwm.co.uk

 [AtkinsFerrieWealthManagementLTD](https://www.facebook.com/AtkinsFerrieWealthManagementLTD)

CHARITY EVENTS AND ORGANISATIONS THAT WE SUPPORT

South Somerset National Trust

Montacute House
Lytes Cary Manor
Barrington Court
Tintinhull Garden

Royal Horticultural Society

RHS Festival of Roses (*Rosemoor*)
RHS Vintage Weekend (*Rosemoor*)
RHS Rosemoor Garden Festival (*Rosemoor*)
RHS Plot to Plate (*Rosemoor & Wisley*)
RHS Wisley Flower Show (*Wisley*)
RHS Craft & Design Fair 2026 (*Wisley*)

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland

Rotary Regional Conference

Jaguar Enthusiasts Club

Other Events and Sponsorship

Chudfest Summer Fete
Chudfest Christmas Fayre
Cornwall Home Improvement / Home Build Show
Honiton Agricultural Show
Richmond May Fair
Sherborne Business Awards
Sherborne Classic and Supercars
Barnes Food Fair



After a days volunteering work with the National Trust at Montacute House, Somerset, AFWM team members enjoy a well-deserved break





RHS

Garden Rosemoor



Atkins Ferrie Wealth Management

rhs.org.uk/rosemoor

Spring events at RHS Rosemoor



Celebration of Snowdrops

Mon 2 – Sun 13 Feb

Join our midday walks and learn all about the wonderful spring blooms that bring the garden to life at the start of the year.

Feb Half Term: The Wind in the Willows Garden Adventure

Sat 14 – Sun 22 Feb

Step into the world of Mr Toad, Ratty, Mole and Badger with a hands-on garden trail brought to life with EH Shepard's original illustrations.

Community Open Weekend

Sat 28 Feb – Sun 1 Mar

Book your £1 ticket today to witness the beauty of spring in our garden and explore the Weddings & Life's Celebrations Fayre in The Garden Room.

Spring Flower Showcase

Sat 14 – Sun 15 Mar

Enter your blooms for a competition or just come and admire stunning displays of daffodils, rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias.

Easter Detectives: Who Framed the Easter Bunny?

Fri 3 – Sun 18 Apr

Become an Easter Detective... find the clues, solve the crime and rescue the Easter bunny - chocolate reward offered!*

Natural Fibre Weekend

Sat 18 – Sun 19 Apr

Learn about materials and processes, browse wool and crafts from spinners, weavers and artists and take part in a workshop.

RHS National Rhododendron Show

Sat 25 – Sun 26 Apr

Celebrate the variety and colour of these beautiful spring-flowering blooms. Meet specialist growers, buy quality plants and hear from rhododendron experts.

Plant Heritage Spring Fair

Sun 10 May

Browse and buy a wide selection of rare and unusual plants grown by specialist Devon nurseries.

You can also improve your horticultural knowledge or learn a new creative skill at one of our regular courses and workshops.

Scan the QR code for full listing information.





What is inheritance tax (IHT)?

Our basic guide to this important financial question

IHT is a tax paid on any money or assets (the estate) exceeding the relevant threshold at time of death, that a person leaves behind when they die. For the tax year 2025/26 the threshold is £325,000. The value of any assets below this amount will not be subject to IHT. Anything over the amount is POTENTIALLY Subject to a 40%* deduction of IHT (*36% if more than 10% of the estate is left to charity).

Married couples and civil partners can pass assets to each other free of tax on death. They can also pass on any of their unused threshold to the surviving partner. An additional 'nil-rate band' will be applied to those leaving their main residence to direct descendants (conditions and qualifying criteria apply). In 2025/26 this band is £175,000.

MINIMISING IHT AND REDUCING YOUR ESTATE

A simple way of reducing your estate is to 'gift' your assets away. However, there are limits to the extent to which you can do this. Below is a list of the limits that apply to certain gifts for the tax year 2025/26:

- Annual Exemption = £3,000 p.a. (you can carry any unused annual exemption forward to the next year, but only for one year)
- Small Gifts Exemption = £250 (as many as you like in a tax year as long as no other exemption has been used on that person)
- Wedding Gifts: £5,000 per child, £2,500 per grandchild. £1,000 to anyone else (e.g. friend)
- Gifts to charities, national museums, universities, the National Trust, political parties and other institutions are exempt in full
- Regular gifts from income after tax are fully exempt provided they fall within normal expenditure and do not impact their standard of living (see Regular Gifts from Normal Income Record opposite)

OTHER WAYS OF REDUCING YOUR IHT LIABILITY

There are other mechanisms that can also be used to reduce your potential IHT liability, such as:

- Making a Potentially Exempt Transfer (PET)
- Making a Chargeable Lifetime Transfer (CLT)
- Gifting into a Trust
- Tax-efficient investments that offer benefit such as Business Property Relief (BPR) after two years

THE FUTURE OF IHT

The autumn 2024 budget introduced a series of significant changes to IHT, amongst them:

- IHT nil rate band and residence nil-rate band thresholds are to remain frozen until April 2030
- Notice that there will be IHT on unused pensions from 2027
- Changes to agricultural relief and business property relief commencing 6th April 2026

If you would like to discuss these changes, please speak to your AFWM financial adviser.

RECORDING GIFTS

When you die, the Executors of your estate will need to produce evidence of the gifts made during the last seven years of your life. Keeping a record of this will expedite the process of any HMRC checks.

Also, as gifts made as part of normal expenditure are exempt from IHT, it is good practice to keep a record of your income and normal expenditure. This will support your Executors as it shows that the gifts are regular and evidences that you can afford the gifts through your income without withdrawing them from your capital.

This list is not exhaustive. Please call us on 01872 306422 to book a free, non-obligatory appointment with one of our advisers to discuss your circumstances in more detail.

We recommend this be kept with your will

INHERITANCE TAX GIFT RECORD

DATE OF GIFT	NAME AND RELATIONSHIP OF GIFT RECIPIENT	DESCRIPTION OF ASSETS FORMING GIFTS AND EXEMPTION UTILISED	VALUE AT DATE OF GIFT
<i>e.g. 01/01/25</i>	<i>John Smith (Son)</i>	<i>Cash – annual exemption</i>	<i>£3,000</i>

REGULAR GIFTS FROM NORMAL INCOME RECORD

INCOME	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7
Tax year in which gifts made							
Salary							
Pensions							
Bank and other interest							
Investments							
Rents							
Annuities (income element)							
Other							
Minus income tax paid							
Net income							

EXPENDITURE	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7
Mortgages							
Insurance							
Household bills							
Council tax							
Travelling costs							
Entertainment							
Holidays							
Nursing home fees							
Other							
Total expenditure							
Surplus (deficit) income for the year							
Gifts made (must not exceed surplus income)							