



The Bottom Line

August 2017

BACK TO FRONT!



Local nomadic cricketing team, The Ramsbottom Traders, play fixtures against local clubs (and touring teams) and provide opportunities to participate in cricket for those who, because of work / family commitments, cannot play regularly in Saturday League Cricket.

Through their generosity they have raised monies for charity and local youth cricket and would like to thank their local business sponsors: The Vineyard, The Chocolate Café, Northern Star, Liberty SIPP, Eagle & Child, Cowgill Holloway and Munro Greenhalgh.

UNIVERSITY OF LIFE

As many of us are preparing (saving) for our children to enter the next stage of their education and leave home for university – it is worth also reminding us not to forget our own finances. Planning our future financial wellbeing is tricky and unpredictable as our circumstances (and governmental legislation) constantly change.

Always best to come in and have a chat – about anything specifically (pension / tax / investment/ etc), but more importantly about your overall plan – and your 'what if' Plans B, C and D.

AUTO ENROLMENT

Since its inception in October 2012, the Government scheme to get employees into work placed pensions has been a massive success – the figures speak for themselves: before Auto Enrolment 30-35% of workers were in workplace pension schemes – this has risen to 70-75% and includes an overall figure of 8m new employees enrolled.

If you have any queries regarding Auto Enrolment – please do not hesitate to ask Mike

TESTIMONIAL – CARL SILLETT

"Shrewd financial decisions.... I am often incapable of such (being a Bolton Wanderers season ticket holder). However, I am happy to say I actually made one last year when I "graduated" from work. On a recommendation from a good friend of ours, who was fortunate to be with Northern Star, Karen and I met with Leigh at our home.

We were pleased that his family, community and sport oriented outlook on his life/work ethic was central to him.

Leigh didn't bring up investment amounts in our first meeting.

Impressed? Well, I was.

I then met the other parts of the Northern Star team at the office, where I found that the coffee machine gets plenty of stick!

Here I met with Leigh, Mike, Sarah and Kat:

A happy and humorous, but always patient and professional team.

They work hard at making their clients feel individually valued and not just a client account. I appreciated that.

Coming on board with Northern Star has been a good decision for us. I'm pretty confident that the possibly difficult and unpredictable times ahead will be less hazardous with team Northern Star."



INHERITANCE TAX IHT – 2017 UPDATE

Inheritance Tax is a tax on the estate (the property, money and possessions) of someone who's died.

There's normally no Inheritance Tax to pay if either:

- the value of your estate is below the £325,000 threshold
- you leave everything to your spouse or civil partner, a charity or a community amateur sports club

Everyone gets an allowance of £325,000 for IHT, meaning married couples get £650,000 before 40% tax is applied.

As of this tax-year everyone gets an extra £100,000 allowance for their home, this is set to increase over the coming years to £175,000 meaning the realistic allowance will effectively be £1 million for a family.