GFM Wealth Advisory

TRADE SECRETS

May 2021

SMSF Specialists | Investment Management | Financial Planning | Accounting

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ONE YEAR SINCE THE DOWNTURN: STAYING THE COURSE

By James Malliaros

Twelve months ago, COVID-19 was wreaking havoc on people's lives, financial markets and the economy. Significant uncertainty weighed on markets. Questions around vaccines, the impact on the economy, the timeline of a return to "normality", and government stimulus levels were yet to be answered.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit Australia in March 2020, it brought immediate and severe financial gloom. Shares plunged 37%, and the economy slumped to its first recession in nearly 30 years.

While the health impact of COVID-19 is still severe in various parts of the world, developments in the interim, mainly the production of vaccines, have positively surprised financial markets and led to several unexpected outcomes. The anticipation of an economic recovery, along with ultra-low interest rates and massive government stimulus, drove a rebound in investment markets within the space of only a few months. 2020 turned out to be a far better year for diversified investors than was initially feared early in the pandemic.

Recent share market gains have contributed to a significant 38.3% return over the past 12 months, when the local market touched its cycle lows on 23 March 2020.

S&P/ASX 300 TR Index three-year rolling returns (% p.a.) to 31 March 2021

Source: Lonsec, Financial Express

2020 was a much better year for investors than initially feared

After the pandemic's initial fear and uncertainty, several key positives drove investment markets higher in the second half of the calendar year.

Massive fiscal support provided by governments both here and overseas shielded businesses from collapse and saved jobs and incomes. Debt relief arrangements headed off defaults, while record-low interest rates helped borrowers service loans.

Economies began to re-open after social distancing helped contain the virus, with nations like Australia, New Zealand and some parts of Asia doing better than the US and Europe. Also, the November 2020 election of a new US President offered the prospect of less global policy uncertainty and reduced international tensions in 2021 and beyond.

Finally, the incredible work performed by many scientists around the world brought on the rapid development of vaccines, which provided hope for the better management of the pandemic and the re-opening of economies much sooner than was ever thought possible.

The investment lessons we should have learned from 2020

Despite the large fall and rapid recovery in share markets, timing market moves are extremely difficult. Getting out at the top of the share market in February 2020 was hard, but getting on board again for the unexpected rally in March last year was probably even harder given the uncertainty facing the world.

Also, whilst Central Banks around the world could not prevent the magnitude of the fall in share markets, their quick decisions to significantly reduce interest rates and provide monetary stimulus were key drivers of the recovery in financial markets.

Finally, despite many economies staring into the abyss as growth stalled and unemployment rose during the lockdowns, rapid and well-targeted economic policy responses from governments protected economies and enabled them to rebound quickly.

Outlook for 2021

In 2021, the market's focus has turned to the early stages of economic recovery and a return to normal. After last year's false start, the prospects for a sustained re-opening of economies through the second half of 2021 appear promising. The vaccination rollout means that 60-70% of the population in most developed economies should have some immunity by the end of the calendar year.

The medium-term outlook for economies and earnings is positive, and the global economy is in the early post-recession recovery phase. Due to a large amount of spare capacity in the system (i.e. elevated levels of unemployment), economies should produce low inflationary growth, which tends to be good for equity markets.

The unprecedented stimulus measures implemented over the past 12 months should continue over the medium term but gradually taper off. This is on the basis that COVID-19 is well contained and an economic re-opening is sustainable. The data shows that many of the major economies are slowly moving towards a solid recovery phase. However, given the uncertainties around the pandemic, it is not expected to be all smooth sailing from here.

After running up relatively hard since early November 2020 on the news of vaccine development, shares are probably vulnerable to a short-term pullback. In addition, there will likely be a continuing shift away from investments that benefitted from the pandemic and lockdowns (growth stocks) to investments that will benefit from the ongoing economic recovery (cyclical stocks).

GRAHAM & JENNY EDDY: CLIENTS OF GFM SINCE 2015

By Patrick Malcolm

Jenny has kindly written the article below on her and Graham's working life, family, retirement, and relationship with GFM Wealth Advisory. We greatly appreciate Jenny's contribution to Trade Secrets.

Graham and I are relatively new members of the GFM family, signing up with Patrick as our advisor in July 2015. When we began to talk more about our plans for our golden years, we knew that our financial plans were integral to what they would look like and managing ourselves would detract from spending time on the activities that would bring us more pleasure. So, confidence in our financial support and guidance was crucial in moving forward into retirement. GFM was recommended by my sister, a client of many years, and we had them handling my 97 year old mother's financial affairs.

Graham was born and raised in WA, and I lived my early years in Bendigo, Ballarat, and settled in Melbourne in 1971. Graham and I met after moving to Melbourne in 1973 and working for my father at Humes Ltd. I was working for a stockbroker. After a couple of years, Graham was feeling homesick, so after visiting Perth for a holiday, we moved over in 1975.

Perth was home for ten years. We married in 1976 and spent the first year as live-in managers of a block of units, and there was rarely a dull moment. Graham worked at a real estate firm before taking a job at BP Australia. I worked with a stockbroker until our son Nick was born in 1983. We built our own home, and both of us became involved in playing hockey, a passion of mine since the age of 11. Graham was transferred to Melbourne in 1985, and we settled in Glen Waverley, where we still live today. Our son Rhys was born shortly after, and Sam in 1987. Graham's roles with BP revolved around work with the distributor network computer systems, field audit manager and stock compliance manager, travelling to many parts of the country. I became involved in volunteer work until I became a permanent employee with the Australian Electoral Commission for twenty years until retirement. The boys also became keen hockey players with us at Waverley HC, and physical activities remain important to all of us.

By 2015 we had elderly parents in Perth and Queensland, and Sam married and living in Florida. Once we had met Patrick and determined that our finances were in excellent hands, we retired in 2016. We planned to spend quality time with our family here and the US, to continue to travel while we were fit and healthy, work on my golf handicap and Graham to play more bowls. Memorable trips have been staying on the Tundra Lodge in Churchill, Canada, watching polar bears migrate, a self-drive tour of Iceland and a cycle and sailing trip off the Croatian coast.

Patrick and GFM have become the financial rock in our lives. Working for a stockbroker, I appreciate that one needs someone looking after your interests, monitoring the market plays and analysis on a full-time basis, along with experts being on top of financial legislation requirements. The biggest factors in choosing GFM was that they are independently owned, and the business is well established. They have exhibited via their seminars and webinars that they have great relationships with the top investment companies and their investment heads to inform them about the investment landscape. Achieving a consistent presence in highly regarded industry recognition lists is also a testament to the quality knowledge and drive that fuels the GFM objectives. Graham and I are continually impressed with their commitment to investment transparency and client education, building a sense of community. We only hear praise for GFM whenever we meet other clients.

We have no hesitation in suggesting to friends and family that having a chat with a GFM advisor may be beneficial and have often brought friends to seminars and luncheons. They have always learnt something relevant and been impressed by the friendly ambience of the event. Becoming a client of GFM has been one of the best life decisions we have made, and we look forward to our continuing relationship with Patrick and all the fantastic staff.

FEDERAL BUDGET

By Paul Nicol

On Tuesday 11th May 2021 the Federal Government handed down its Budget for the 2021–22 Financial Year.

Compared with last year's record deficit of $213.7 billion, the underlying cash deficit is projected to decrease to $161 billion as the economy continues on the path to recovery from Coronavirus.

It's important to note that the legislated increases to the superannuation guarantee were not amended in the Budget. Therefore, the superannuation guarantee rate will increase to 10% from 1 July 2021, as previously legislated.

Also, keep in mind that the announcements made in the Budget remain proposals at this stage. Parliament must pass all of the proposals mentioned before they become law. Many of the measures are proposed to have effect from the start of the first Financial Year after the enabling legislation receives Royal Assent. The Government has stated it expects this to occur before 1 July 2022.

Some of the key Budget announcements that are of particular interest include:

Removing the work test for non–concessional contributions and salary sacrifice contributions for people aged 67 to 74

The Government has announced it will allow individuals aged 67 to 74 to make non–concessional (including under the bring–forward rule) or salary sacrifice superannuation contributions without meeting the work test, subject to existing contribution caps.

However, individuals aged 67 to 74 years wanting to make personal deductible contributions will still have to meet the existing work test.

Removing the work test for people aged 67–74 to make non–concessional contributions will provide more flexibility for retirees under 75 to top up their super without needing to work 40 hours within 30 consecutive days in a year before contributing. It will also allow advisers to implement strategies, such as the re–contribution strategy, that are not normally available to retirees in this age group.

Reducing the eligibility age for downsizer contributions to 60

The Government has announced it intends to reduce the eligibility age to make a downsizer contribution from 65 to 60.

The downsizer contribution rules allow people to make a one-off after-tax contribution to super of up to $300,000 from the proceeds of selling their home they have held for at least ten years. Under the rules, both members of a couple can make downsizer contributions for the same home, and the contributions do not count towards a member's non–concessional contribution cap.

First Home Super Saver Scheme – increasing the maximum releasable amount to $50,000

The Government has announced it will increase the maximum releasable amount for the First Home Super Saver Scheme (FHSSS) from $30,000 to $50,000.

Under the existing FHSSS rules, an eligible person can only apply to have up to $30,000 of their eligible (voluntary) contributions, plus a deemed earnings amount, released from super to purchase their first home.

Personal income tax cuts – retaining the low and middle–income tax offset for the 2021–22 income year (Effective 1 July 2021)

The Low and Middle–Income Tax Offset (LMITO) was due to be removed at the end of the current Financial Year. However, the Government has announced it will retain LMITO for the 2021–22 income year.

The LMITO provides a reduction in tax of up to $1,080. The table below shows the amount of offset an individual is entitled to depending on their taxable income:

2021–22 Taxable income	Low and Middle Income Tax Offset
$37,000 or less	$255
Between $37,001 and $48,000	$255 plus 7.5 cents for every dollar above $37,000, up to a maximum of $1,080
Between $48,001 and $90,000	$1,080
Between $90,001 and $126,000	$1,080 minus 3 cents for every dollar of the amount above $90,000

If the LMITO were removed as scheduled from 1 July 2021, individuals earning between $48,000 pa and $90,000 pa would have seen an increase of $1,080 in income tax and other individuals with taxable income between the effective tax–free threshold and $126,000 would also have been affected.

This announcement means that personal income tax will stay the same in the 2021–22 Financial Year compared with the current Financial Year.

STAFF PROFILE: IVAN YEUNG

By Andrew Goldman

We are delighted and proud of Ivan Yeung for reaching ten years of service with GFM Gruchy Accounting. Ivan is an outstanding accountant who always strives to achieve the best outcomes for our clients. He is a wonderful person, and we are lucky to have him on our team. Congratulations Ivan!

Here's a quick Q and A with Ivan:

Q. How long have you worked at GFM?

It makes me feel a little old saying this, but I recently celebrated my tenth anniversary at GFM! The time has flown by, but I guess that happens when you're having fun.

Q. What does your job involve?

As part of the GFM Gruchy team, one of my main roles is assisting clients with their tax returns and financial statements. These can range from individuals, companies, partnerships and trusts.

Another part of my role involves providing consulting and advisory service to clients over a wide range of areas. This can include tax minimisation matters, business structuring and capital gains tax, to name a few.

Q. What do you like to do when you aren't working?

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my partner Wai, family and friends, which usually involves plenty of food and drinks. I also enjoy cooking in my spare time, which I find to be a great source of escapism and one of the very few ways to express my creative side!

Gardening is slowly growing on me. I've recently put up a raised garden bed at home and am currently mulling over what herbs and vegetables to grow over the winter months. Any suggestions would be great!

Q. What is the one thing you can't live without?

I am an absolute sport tragic, and there's hardly a day where I won't be checking the score of some sort. Be it the AFL (go Cats!), NBA or the English Premier League, there's a strong chance that I'll have an interest in it.

I also play indoor soccer once a week, and most mornings, you'll usually find me out on an early run or walk.

Q. If you could meet anyone in the world, past or present, who would it be and why?

My maternal grandfather. Unfortunately, he passed away when I was about 18 months old, so I never got the opportunity to know him. Family is very important to me, and it would have been great to have a relationship with him and get to know him beyond the few photos that I have of us together.

Q. Favourite book?

Band of Brothers by Stephen E Ambrose chronicles the missions and members of Easy Company of the 101st Airborne Divison in WWII. I got hooked watching the television series and read the book from there. The stories are quite remarkable, and the fact that the entire company was made up of civilian volunteers makes what they achieved throughout the war even more amazing.

Q. Favourite movie or TV show?

I'm a huge fan of any movies from Christopher Nolan. The Prestige and the Batman Trilogy are particular favourites. The multidimensional, science-based, and sometimes non-linear storylines make for a thought-provoking experience and usually means multiple viewings before you wrap your head around it all!

Q. What's something interesting about you that people may not know?

Whilst I do most things left-handed, I play golf and cricket right-handed. I imitated what I saw on TV, but, strangely, I never corrected myself.

Q. What do you like most about working in Financial Services?

Seeing our clients succeed and achieving their financial goals is deeply gratifying, especially if you have a level of involvement. Knowing that you assisted in some way, the advice you provided set them on the right path or solved a pressing question or problem fills you with a sense of pride and fulfilment.

INCREASED ENGAGEMENT IN SUPER POST-COVID SPURS SMSF GROWTH

By Witi Suma

It has no doubt been a very turbulent year in sharemarkets for investors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Daily virus updates, policy announcements, and rapidly changing economic data have contributed to the market volatility that has impacted retirement balances worldwide. Although sharemarkets have fortunately rebounded, the large swings in super balances over the past year caused by this economic uncertainty have led to many individuals in industry and retail funds (known as "APRA" funds) becoming more and more interested in their superannuation funds and how they are being managed.

Whilst APRA funds suffered heavy losses following the market downturn caused by the pandemic, SMSFs have been able to avoid the full brunt of the impact due to their relatively higher exposure to cash and other low-risk assets. In June 2020, 21% of SMSF assets were held in cash/term deposits and 32% held in shares, whereas APRA funds held 10% and 60%, respectively. Generally, most SMSFs tend to hold a higher portion of their assets in cash and other liquid investments to meet ongoing obligations, particularly those paying pensions to members. A heavy weighting in cash within SMSFs tends to draw criticism, especially in bull markets, but over the last 12 months in which we have seen prolonged market volatility, it has been considered a blessing.

Despite all the economic uncertainty caused by COVID, the SMSF sector continues to grow, with nearly 5,000 funds established in the December 2020 quarter. Total SMSF assets increased by 5.1% over the quarter to $764.2 billion, making it the largest sector in superannuation. A similar surge in SMSF establishments occurred during and after the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) as people began to lose confidence in how the large funds were managing their retirement benefits. Traditionally when investment markets start to fall, individuals pay closer attention to where their super is invested and how it is managed. One of the major reasons why people are attracted to setting up SMSFs is control. The increased consumer engagement that followed the GFC and the COVID crisis has led to individuals wanting to take their retirement savings into their own hands by taking control of their investment selection and asset allocation.

Transparency is another major reason why people choose to set up SMSFs – the trustees can see what they're invested in and how the assets are performing. Having visibility of the underlying investments, particularly during market turmoil, helps give the members a sense of control compared to APRA funds. Most APRA fund members have little idea about where the money is invested.

The 2020 Vanguard/Investment Trends SMSF Investor Report conducted in August last year surveyed trustees' responses to the COVID pandemic regarding how the share market volatility affected them and how they have positioned themselves to cope with the impact on their retirement benefits. Although there was naturally a high level of concern, only a small minority of trustees made substantial changes to their asset allocation, many choosing to hold firm, with many using the downturn as a buying opportunity.

One of the major attractions of SMSFs is the ability to purchase property and borrow funds to do this. Therefore, it is not surprising that limited recourse borrowing arrangements (LRBAs) in SMSFs have surged in popularity over the last 12 months. LRBA levels reached $50 billion in late 2020 – up from $400 million ten years ago – and an 8% increase over the last year. Property is seen as a very attractive investment option for SMSF trustees who can purchase property within the concessionally-taxed superannuation environment.

Conclusion

Many people have been paying closer attention to their superannuation than ever before due to the impact that the COVID-induced economic uncertainty has had on their balances, becoming keen to be more actively involved. The SMSF sector has proven to be resilient during the crisis. With consumer engagement levels increasing during this time, the sector has seen a spike in the number of funds established.

SMSFs provide an increased level of choice, flexibility and control compared to retail and industry funds. They are not for everyone, so anyone considering changing their super arrangements must seek professional advice. GFM is a specialist SMSF firm that provides an end-to-end service to assist trustees in managing all aspects of their fund. If you are interested in setting up an SMSF and would like more information, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

PREPARING FOR JUNE 30

By Denise Slattery

The end of the Financial Year is fast approaching. Several opportunities may be available to you before June 30, 2021.

Maximising your personal concessional contributions and reducing your income tax

What are concessional contributions?

Concessional contributions are those that are made into superannuation on a pre-tax basis. This includes your mandated employer contributions, any salary sacrifice contributions and any personal contributions deposited into superannuation, for which a tax deduction is claimed.

If you contribute some of your after-tax income or savings into super, you may be eligible to claim a tax deduction. This means you'll reduce your taxable income for this Financial Year – and potentially pay less tax. And at the same time, you'll be boosting your super balance.

The concessional contribution limit

The concessional contribution cap for the 2020/21 Financial Year is $25,000 per person, including the 9.5% superannuation guarantee contribution. From the 2021/22 Financial Year, the maximum concessional contribution limit is set to increase to $27,500 per person.

If you are between the ages of 67 and 74, you must meet the work test, working 40 hours of paid work over a consecutive 30 day period.

Advantage of making concessional contributions to super

The primary advantage of making concessional contributions is the difference in the amount of tax paid. Every dollar concessionally contributed to superannuation is taxed at 15% rather than at your marginal tax rate.

The taxation advantages, at each marginal tax rate, are summarised in the table below:

Taxable Income	Marginal Tax Rate	For $1,000 in salary, you receive	For $1,000 of salary sacrifice, your super fund receives	Extra Benefit
$45,001 to $120,000	34.5%	$655	$850	29.77%
$120,001 to $180,000	39.0%	$610	$850	39.34%
$180,001 to $250,000	47.0%	$530	$850	60.37%
$250,000 +	47.0%	$530	$700	32.07%

**Individuals with income above $250,000 per annum for Division 293 tax incur an additional 15% tax on concessional contributions.*

Carry Forward Concessional Contributions

Since July 1 2018, if an individual did not utilise all of their concessional contribution cap in the Financial Year, they can "carry-forward" the unused cap amount to subsequent years. The 2018/19 Financial Year was the first year an individual could start accruing unused concessional contributions. The 2019/20 Financial Year was the first year an individual could make carry-forward concessional contributions.

To be eligible to make carry-forward concessional contributions, an individual must:

- Have a total superannuation balance of less than $500,000 as of June 30 of the prior year
- Be eligible to make contributions:
    - Individuals under age 67 are eligible
    - Individuals over age 67 need to meet the work test, working 40 hours in a consecutive 30 day period in the Financial Year they plan to make the contribution

Government Co-Contribution

For eligible people who make non-concessional contributions, the Government will kick in up to a further $500 into their superannuation account.

How does the Co-contribution work?

Suppose you earn less than $54,837 in the 2020/21 Financial Year, make a non-concessional contribution and meet other eligibility criteria. In that case, the Government will make an additional contribution at the rate of 50 cents for every $1 you put in, to a maximum of $500.

What are the eligibility criteria?

You will be eligible for the superannuation co-contribution in this Financial Year if:

- You make personal non-concessional (after-tax) contributions to a complying superannuation fund;
- Your total income is less than $54,837
- At least 10% of your "Total Income" is from eligible employment, carrying on a business, or a combination of the two;
- You do not hold an eligible temporary resident visa during the Financial Year;
- You are under age 71 at the end of the Financial Year;
- Have a total superannuation balance of less than $1.6 million as of June 30 2020; and
- You lodge a tax return.

"Total Income" is your assessable income plus reportable fringe benefits and reportable employer superannuation contributions (essentially salary sacrifice and personal concessional contributions).

Eligible Spouse Contribution

An eligible spouse contribution is simply a superannuation contribution you can make on behalf of your spouse. There are rules on when a person can make an eligible spouse contribution and be classified as an 'eligible spouse'.

The spouse contributing can be any age and does not have to meet any employment rules. However, if the spouse receiving the contribution is age 67 or over, they need to have been gainfully employed for at least 40 hours within 30 consecutive days in the Financial Year. Contributions cannot be made once the spouse receiving the contribution reaches age 75.

If the spouse's total income (as already outlined under the Co-contribution) is less than $37,000, you can claim an 18% tax offset on the first $3,000 of contributions you make to their account. The maximum offset is $540 and is reduced by $1 for every $1 by which the total of assessable income exceeds $37,000. No tax offset is payable when income reaches $40,000. The offset is also reduced if the contribution you make is less than $3,000.

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR TAX CONSIDERATIONS

By Ivan Yeung

As we reach the end of another Financial Year, below we have outlined some things to consider as we head towards June 30:

Temporary full expensing

The ATO has allowed more generous write-offs for eligible business assets purchased between October 6 2020 and June 30 2022 for eligible businesses. For assets purchased before October 6, they can be written off subject to a per asset limit of $150,000. Eligible assets include leasehold fit-outs, vehicles, computers and plant and equipment. Not all assets are eligible, and there are tax consequences when the asset is later sold that need to be considered. It is important to speak with your accountant before making any purchases to take advantage of temporary full expensing.

Maximising Super Contributions

For eligible individuals, making additional tax-deductible contributions into your superannuation fund is an effective way to minimise tax paid.

The timing of capital gains

The trigger date for capital gains calculations is generally the date of the contract and not the settlement date. If you are considering the sale of an asset that will be subject to potential capital gains tax, you may want to consider the timing of the contract date.

Home Office expenses

Over the last 12 months, more people have found themselves working from home and, as such, are potentially eligible to tax claims associated with your home office. You may be entitled to claim the work-related portion of home telephone, internet, stationery, computer equipment and printers. You can also claim a portion of electricity and gas rates if you maintain dedicated office space.

Alternatively, the ATO has allowed the continued use of the "shortcut method" of 80 cents per hour in calculating your home office claim for the entire 2021 Financial Year.

It is also important to note the following concessions, which are scheduled to end on June 30 2021:

Stamp Duty Waiver

For the purchase of a new or established Victorian residential property with a dutiable value up to $1 million and a contract signed after November 25 2020, the Victorian Government has been reducing stamp duties as follows:

- New residential properties – a 50% reduction in stamp duty
- Existing residential properties – a 25% reduction in stamp duty
- Vacant residential land – a 25% reduction in stamp duty

These concessions will come to an end on July 1 2021.

POWER SAVER BONUS

By Rebecca Lowe

The Power Saver Bonus is a one-off $250 payment to eligible Victorian residents, providing support to households experiencing bill stress during the coronavirus pandemic.

To be eligible for the Power Saver Bonus, you must be a Victorian resident with a residential electricity account and be receiving payments under one of the following concession programs:

- Centrelink Concession Card;
- JobSeeker, Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy;
- A Department of Veterans Affair Pensioner Concession; or
- A Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card

The Bonus is available from February 1 2021 to January 31 2022, and is limited to one payment per eligible household.

When applying, make sure you have a copy of your most recent electricity bill showing the NMI number and your Concession Card number. For further information, or to apply for the Power Saver Bonus, visit the website https://powersavingbonus2.energy.vic.gov.au/

10 YEAR TEAM DINNER

By Witi Suma

On Friday, February 26, we celebrated at Bottega to acknowledge those team members that have been with the company for more than ten years.

We are delighted and proud of Ivan Yeung for reaching ten years of service with GFM Gruchy Accounting.

It is quite amazing to think that with 28 staff members, sixteen have now been with the company for more than ten years. We are looking forward to other staff members joining the ten-year club in the next few years.

This is our 11th celebration and is an annual event. The team members are:

Ivan Yeung	10 Years
Kushal Sharma	12 Years
Jacqui Umali	13 Years
Andrew Goldman	13 Years
Miryam	14 Years
Denise Slattery	15 Years
Annie An	15 Years
Bryan Meehan	16 Years
James Malliaros	19 years
Patrick Malcolm	19 years
Lorraine Miller	20 years
Paul Nicol	22 years
Maree Meehan	24 years
Witi Suma	24 years
Mai Davies	31 years
Phil Gruchy	43 years

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING: FOODBANK

By Paul Nicol

The team at GFM are very excited to be supporting Foodbank by getting involved in their Corporate Group Volunteering program. Volunteers are integral to their warehouse's day-to-day functions, ensuring food relief is provided to families in need. Three teams of eight staff will participate in the program. The teams will be hands-on in the warehouse, packing food for distribution to over 530 charities across Victoria.

We are looking forward to working together, having a bit of fun while making a difference.

It is our first time at Corporate Volunteering, and we envisage supporting other worthy charities in the future. We are open to ideas and suggestions for other charities that we can support. Please email mai@gfmwealth.com.au with any ideas or suggestions for consideration.

GFM WEBINAR

By Mai Davies

Meet The Manager – Magellan Global Fund

We held our second webinar for the year on Wednesday, April 14, where we provided an update on the Magellan Global Fund.

We were delighted to see so many interested clients and guests dialling in to hear from Paul Nicol, our Managing Partner and our special guest Arvid Streimann, the Head of Macro co-Portfolio Manager of the Global Equity Strategy.

Paul and Arvid were very insightful in discussing the current macroeconomic environment and Magellan's investment process, and current stock positions in the Global Fund portfolio.

Meet The Manager – Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited (ASX Code: PIC).

We held our third webinar for the year on Wednesday, May 5, where we provided an update on the Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited.

Again, we were delighted to see so many dialling in to hear from Paul Nicol and our special guest Vince Pezzullo. Vince is the Deputy Head of Equities at Perpetual Investments and is the Portfolio Manager of Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited.

Vince discussed the positioning of the PIC portfolio against the backdrop of the current complex economic conditions. He provided an update of his current views on the market and opportunities and risks in the market.

Vince is recognised as one of Australia's very best portfolio managers and is an incredibly insightful presenter.

We look forward to hosting live seminars again in 2021, with our first one this year coming up on May 31. We will continue to host additional webinars and hope you can join us.

If you have missed any of the previous webinars, they are located on the GFM website. Click on the link below to watch the recordings of the previous webinars.

https://www.gfmwealth.com.au/news-info/past-webinars/

UPCOMING SEMINAR: MONDAY, MAY 31, 2021, AT NOON - INVESTING FOR YIELD SEMINAR

By Mai Davies

We have missed seeing our clients face to face in the last year. It is fantastic to have clients coming into the office again for appointments, and we are looking forward to hosting our first face to face seminar this year on Monday, May 31, at Leonda By The Yarra.

The topics that we will cover include:

- With so many available investments, how do we filter down which companies or investments to research?
- The GFM research process
- What available tools do we (GFM) have to give us the edge when selecting investments?
- Why a reliable and growing yield is essential when in the retirement phase
- Our preferred investments for a yield orientated portfolio

Invitations were sent to clients in early May. If you would like to attend and haven't registered, please call Mai on 9809 1221.

ANNUAL GOLF DAY: FRIDAY, MARCH 26 2021

By Paul Nicol

We held our 18th Annual Golf Day at Riversdale Golf Club on Friday, March 26 2021, attended by many keen golfing clients. Everyone had a fantastic time, and we were blessed to have perfect weather.

It was also great to have new players join us this year. The course was in perfect condition, and we had some terrific prizes on offer.

Congratulations to Chris Simpson, Olivia Fleming, Patrick Malcolm, Michael Fogarty (Absent from the photo) with an Ambrose Score of 51.02.

The Runners-Up with a score of 54.41 were Greg Beaman, Ron Yee, Tony Kemm, Brian Harriss

The photos from the day can be found on our website

https://www.gfmwealth.com.au/news-info/events/past-events/

GFM IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

GFM has recently established a company Facebook page, and we will share our webinars, articles of interest and a range of other informative content.

GFM Wealth would like to connect with you on Facebook. You can "Like" our page by clicking on the button on our page. Please feel free to invite your friends, family or colleagues to "Like" our page as well.

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