



THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR



20 YEARS
ANNIVERSARY

Castlefield INSIGHTS

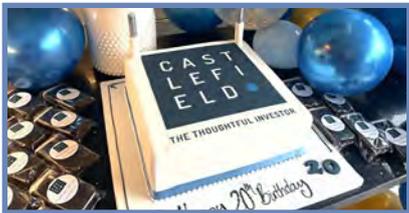


In this issue:

Summer 2022 | Issue 7

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

We interviewed Castlefield founder, John Eckersley, about how the company has evolved over the last 20 years. -p.2



ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT

We're delighted to launch our latest Annual Stewardship Report where you'll find even more information about our stewardship and engagement activities from the last year. -p.4



CLIENT CORNER LAUNCH

In this issue we launch a new feature showcasing the achievements of some Castlefield clients. -p.5



A WARM WELCOME FROM WILLIAM



Summer is upon us; gardens are in full bloom and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations have been enjoyed by many after a difficult two years. Hopefully the feel-good factor will sustain us over the coming months.

Despite the grim headlines about inflation, rising cost of living and the continuing war in Ukraine, there's much to look forward to. The world continues to recover strongly from the pandemic. The new normal will be different to pre-pandemic, but we seem to be learning the lessons that we need to take better care of ourselves, as well as each other. Our Co-owners have been busy in that regard too - see our latest Charity Champion piece and an update from our

charitable focused 'Give Back Group' (p.7).

Whatever the economy will throw at us, we have become very adept at adapting to new circumstances, as those of us of a certain age will remember, mortgage rates in the early-teens and almost double-digit inflation. Hard at the time, but followed by almost ten years of uninterrupted growth.

Underpinning much of what we do is our belief of gathering assets to do good, which is demonstrated in practice through our featured stock stories (p.4). Details of our engagement and stewardship are also outlined in our comprehensive Annual Stewardship Report (p.4). This year's report also includes our first independent impact

assessment of our funds along with a detailed review of what we're doing and how we do it, to make sure our authentic approach remains robust and relevant, and aligned to our clients' needs.

Have we mentioned, we're twenty years old this year? Our 20th Anniversary celebrations started with a bang (you can see pictures from our Co-owner evening on the next page). We also interviewed Castlefield founder John Eckersley to explain how the ethical investing landscape



William Thomson,
Associate, Investment
Management

has changed over the last two decades, while Hugh Austin collates stories from other Co-owners as they share their experiences of Castlefield over the last twenty years. There's lots more to celebrate in this issue too as our strong run of award nominations continue, and Co-owner Amelia Overd features in an exclusive list of

the UK's up-and-coming wealth managers. But of course, it's not about us. We wouldn't have a business without our amazing clients. Our new Client Corner highlights some of our wonderful Castlefield clients, starting with an inspirational client who founded a cancer counselling service following the loss of her husband (p.5).

As ever, your feedback is always welcome, so please get in touch with any suggestions or questions you may have; we're good listeners.

**William Thomson, Associate,
Investment Management**



20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS UNDER WAY

Celebrations for our milestone 20 year anniversary have started, with all Co-owners being invited to enjoy an evening together at Barça in Manchester. Here you can see a number of Co-owners toasting 20 years of being at the forefront of ethical and sustainable investment.





CO-OWNERS SHARE THEIR STORIES

As part of our 20 year anniversary celebrations, we reached out to Co-owners to share their experiences of working at Castlefield.

We asked them to recall if there was anything in particular that stood out before joining which first attracted them and how their journey at Castlefield has evolved.

Read what they had to say here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/our-core/20-years-of-castlefield/>



JOHN ECKERSLEY ON 20 YEARS OF CASTLEFIELD

We recently interviewed Castlefield founder John Eckersley. He talks through why he set up Castlefield 20 years ago and how the landscape of sustainable and ethical investing has changed over this time.

Watch the full interview here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/videos/20-year-anniversary-interview-with-castlefield-founder/>



FEATURED STOCK STORIES

Our featured stocks help to demonstrate what being the thoughtful investor® is all about. These highlight the type of companies that we invest in and some of the activities around environmental, social and governance factors the firms have delivered.



Cyber and digital security is one of our positive investment themes and one of the reasons why in we invested in ECKOH. In this AIM portfolio stock feature, Castlefield fund manager David Elton explains how ECKOH is making our online lives safer and more efficient.

Read the ECKOH AIM stock story here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/blog/aim-stock-story-eckoh/>



We dislike the environmental impact of packaging but recognise its importance. Building the machines that assemble things like food and medicine, MPAC group is at the forefront of new developments in packaging. Learn more about how they help customers meet demand for eco-friendly packaging and reduce plastic.

Learn more about MPAC Group here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/blog/uk-stock-story-mpac-group/>



“Our employees are our most important asset.” How many times have we read this bit of vacuous corporate-speak and rolled our eyes? If employers truly value their staff, they will be investing properly in training and development. David Gorman introduces Learning Technologies Group (LTG) here to help with that.

Find out more about LTG here:

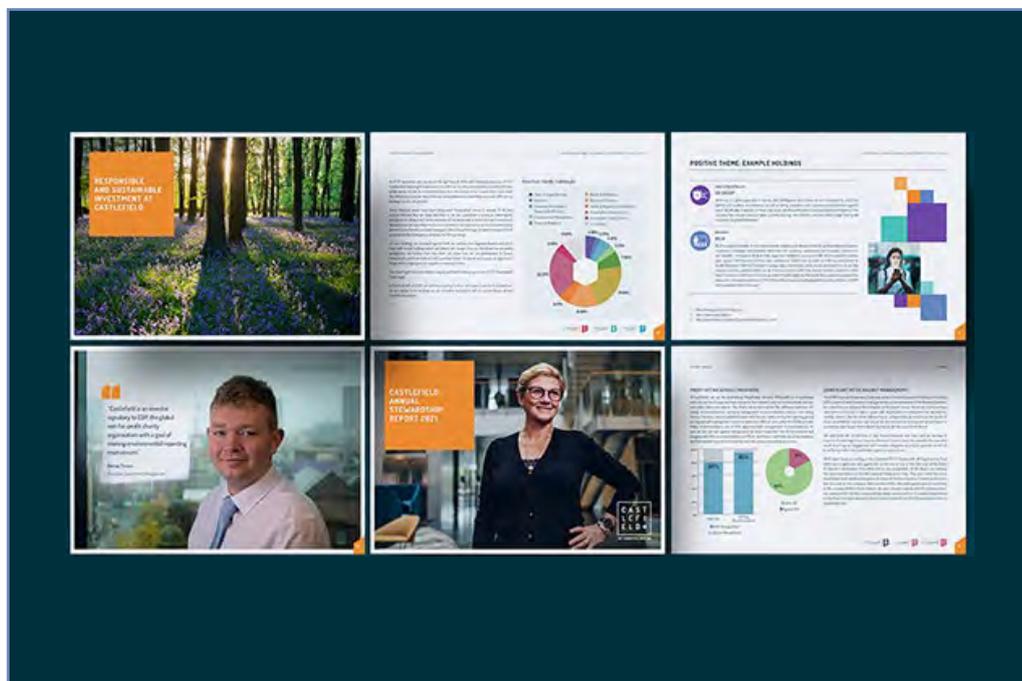
<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/blog/uk-stock-story-learning-technologies-group/>

LATEST ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT LAUNCHED

We're delighted to launch our latest Annual Stewardship Report where you'll find even more information about our stewardship and engagement activities from the last year. The report also includes details of our collaboration, positive investment themes, net zero, fund impact, and shows why we're known as 'the thoughtful investor®'.

Find the full report here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/company-news/launch-of-the-latest-castlefield-annual-stewardship-report/>



IMPACT MEASUREMENT

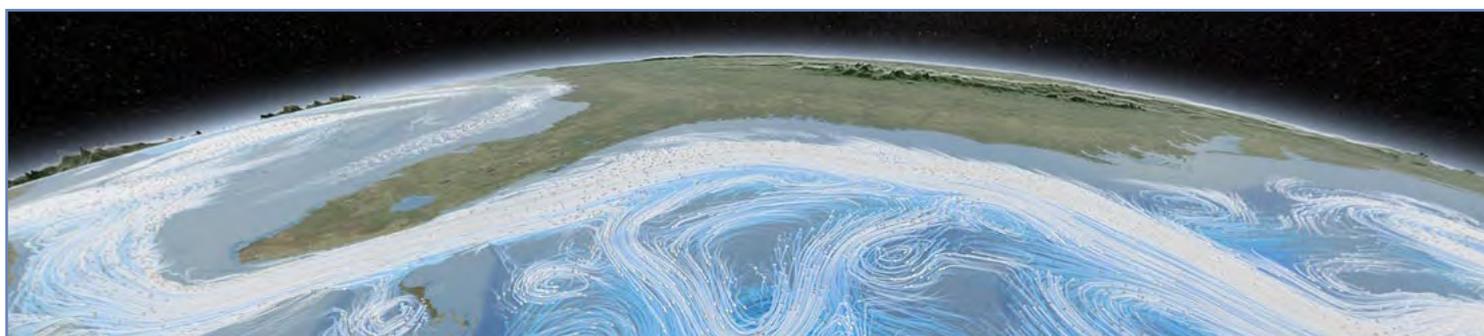
We recently conducted an independent impact assessment of our B.E.S.T Sustainable Fund Range. External consultants compared the six funds against their respective benchmarks. To see how our B.E.S.T Sustainable Fund Range compared, view a summary of their assessment here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/media/3672/castlefield-annual-stewardship-report-2020-2021.pdf#page=19>

CLIENT CORNER: LARA PENNINGTON

Our new Client Corner feature, aims to highlight the skills, businesses, achievements and values of some Castlefield clients – a wonderful community of like-minded people. In this inaugural Client Corner piece, Castlefield's Olivia Bowen introduces Lara Pennington, an inspirational client who retrained as a counsellor then founded a specialist cancer counselling service following the loss of her husband.

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/our-core/client-corner-meet-inspiring-cancer-counsellor-lara-pennington/>



CASTLEFIELD COMMITMENT TO NET ZERO

Castlefield recently announced its net zero policy. In this piece, Ita McMahon from the Castlefield investment team outlines our net zero commitments and explains the rationale for the target dates we have chosen.

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/company-news/castlefields-commitment-to-net-zero/>

Image Dynamic Earth - Ocean Currents by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. Image sourced [here](#). License terms available [here](#). The image has been cropped.

ETHICAL SCREENING 'FUND IN FOCUS'

The Castlefield CFP B.E.S.T Sustainable UK Smaller Companies Fund was recently featured by Ethical Screening as their "fund in focus". Here, fund manager David Elton gives a brief introduction to UK smaller companies and explains why this fund is an exciting investment opportunity.

Find the video here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/cfp-castlefield-best-sustainable-funds/cfp-castlefield-best-sustainable-uk-smaller-companies-fund/>





BITCOIN & CRYPTO CURRENCIES

Bitcoin and other crypto currencies have plunged in value recently, with warnings of the potential loss of crypto assets from the Coinbase platform CEO. In this piece we asked two Castlefield financial professionals to share their views on Bitcoin and other digital currencies as an investable asset. Find out what they said here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/blog/cryptocurrencies/>



EXTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Our Investment advisory committee recently welcomed an additional member, as Lisa Stonestreet from the EIRIS foundation joined their latest meeting. A summary of the advisory committee meeting, along with Lisa's biography, can be found here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/about-castlefield/external-advisory-committee/>

LIVING WAGE FOUNDATION

As a living wage foundation employer, we are delighted to hear the movement announced a landmark milestone of 10,000 UK living wage employers. Together, they have put over £1.8 million back into the pockets of over 350,000 low-paid workers.



TAX TABLES

We are pleased to publish the Castlefield Personal Taxation guide for the 2022/23 tax year: <https://www.castlefield.com/media/3284/castlefield-personal-taxation.pdf>

If you have any concerns regarding your tax position, please do not hesitate to contact your financial advisor or make an enquiry via our website: <https://www.castlefield.com/individuals/financial-advice/>

RECENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



CASTLEFIELD FUNDS SHORTLISTED FOR TWO AWARDS

Two of Castlefield's sustainable funds have been shortlisted for industry awards. The CFP Castlefield B.E.S.T Sustainable Income Fund was shortlisted for an ESG Clarity Award and the CFP Castlefield B.E.S.T Sustainable UK Smaller Companies Fund has been shortlisted by the Small Cap Network (fund manager of the year).

Learn more here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/awards-recognition/>

AMELIA MAKES 30 UNDER 30 SHORTLIST

You may have read that Castlefield manager Amelia Overd has been named as one of the UK's wealth and investment rising stars after making Citywire Wealth Manager's '30 Under 30' list.

Find out more:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/awards-recognition/castlefield-manager-amelia-overd-makes-30-under-30-shortlist/>



GIVE BACK GROUP



GIVE BACK GROUP (GBG) UPDATES

At the end of May, four Castlefield Co-owners formed a team to run the Great Manchester Run 10K, raising money for our chosen charities.

To find out more about how they got on visit:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/charity-work/castlefield-team-competes-in-the-great-manchester-run-2022/>

From June 1st to the 26th The GBG is hosting a company wide step and cycle challenge in a bid to raise further funds for our chosen charities.

If you'd like to support our fundraising efforts please donate to our online pot:

<https://www.collectionpot.com/pot/1717925/>



CASTLEFIELD CHARITY CHAMPION

John Alexander

Like many Castlefield Co-owners, John Alexander is a proud charitable campaigner outside of his 'day job'. In this piece, he explains a little about Forever Manchester, the charity closest to his heart, and his involvement as one of the charity's ambassadors.

Read more here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/charity-work/charity-champion-john-alexander/>

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT CASTLEFIELD

As the thoughtful investor®, corporate governance is high on the agenda when making investment decisions with investee firms. This article introduces the first diversity and inclusion report at Castlefield, where you'll see that we apply the same high standards.

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/company-news/diversity-and-inclusion-at-castlefield/>

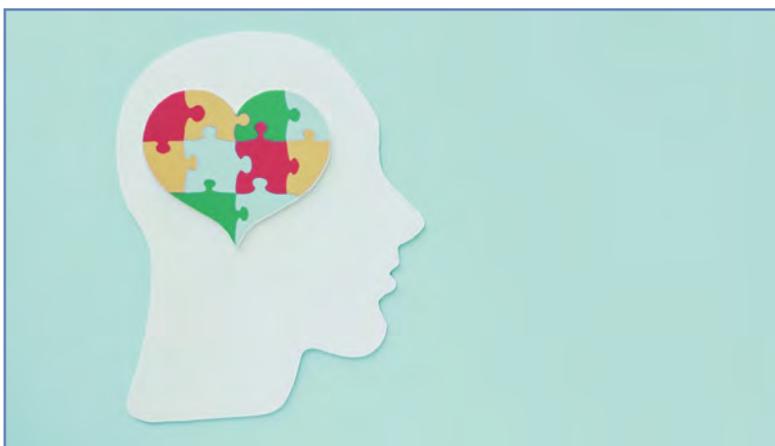


MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Mental health awareness week took place between May 9-15th, with the theme for this year being loneliness. The Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter created a useful tool kit and other resources for employers to address mental health within the workplace, which we contributed towards.

Find out more here:

<https://www.gmgoodemploymentcharter.co.uk/news-blogs/posts/2022/may/mental-health-toolkit/>



CO-OWNER CLOSE UP: LUCY CONBOY

In this Co-owner close-up, Lucy Conboy gives an insight into her role at Castlefield as an Executive on the Financial Advice team.

Read Lucy's blog here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/news-media/our-core/co-owner-close-up-lucy-conboy/>



OUR SERVICES

FINANCIAL ADVICE

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

INVESTMENT FUNDS

To learn more about Castlefield's range of services, please visit our website:

www.castlefield.com

REFER A FRIEND AND RECEIVE A FREE GIFT!

We're delighted so many of our clients speak positively about Castlefield to their friends and family. If you know someone who may benefit from our services, please forward them this newsletter to give them a taste of what we're about. As a thank you, you'll receive a year's subscription to Ethical Consumer magazine if they subsequently become a client. Just tell them to provide your name as the source for how they heard about us.

Contact: enquiries@castlefield.com



OUR VIEWS AS THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR® DON'T STOP HERE!

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Call us on:
0161 233 4890

Visit our contact page here:
www.castlefield.com/contact-us/

Email us:
enquiries@castlefield.com



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