



THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR

Castlefield INSIGHTS

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COP 27

The United Nations climate conference COP27 took place recently at Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt. We round-up a couple of features covering COP27. **-p.3**



CASTLEFIELD ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

In our 20th anniversary year the Castlefield Symposium featured a keynote speaker presenting research around sustainable and ethical finance, followed by an expert panel discussion. **-p.5**



CO-OWNER CLOSE-UP: ANITA MISTRY

Anita is the first voice many people will hear when they call Castlefield. Find out more about our artistic receptionist, in the latest Co-owner Close-up feature. **-p.7**



'TIS THE SEASON FOR OPTIMISM



Winter can be the most magical of seasons, curled up besides the

fire engrossed in a good book or spending quality time with loved ones. There's also the prospect of a new year around the corner and the anticipation of hope this brings.

Within this final issue of 2022 we cover a number of 'big events' - from the UN's recent climate conference COP27 that took place in Sharm El Sheikh Egypt, and the women's success at the football Euros in summer, to the Chancellor's autumn statement and our 20-year anniversary Castlefield Symposium!

Some wise person once said that: "Winter is a season of recovery and preparation".

Aptly, in preparation for the year ahead, Hugh and Lucy from the advice team have composed a useful set of handy financial hints in their financial planning calendar (page 2).

Alongside our regular stock features and company news (page 4), we have some thematic pieces and an interesting article on our sustainable coffee supplier to share with you (page 5).

You'll also find thought provoking pieces designed to challenge some broader issues including greenwashing (page 4), gender diversity (page 5) and active stewardship (page 4) which go some way to show how your money is making a positive difference in the world and explain why we're known as the Thoughtful Investor ®.

You can also find out more about our artistic receptionist Anita in this issue's Co-owner close up feature (page 7), plus a round-up of charitable fundraising events taking place over the Christmas period (page 6).

However you choose to spend your winter, we hope you enjoy our latest pieces in this issue of Insights newsletter.

If you would like to provide any feedback or you have suggestions for future articles we'd be delighted to hear from you.



Nathan Cameron,
Manager, Marketing
Communications

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PHILANTHROPY

We've recently partnered with The Charity Service to launch our new Philanthropy service.

The Individual Philanthropy Account (IPA) helps Castlefield clients give money to charity in an easier and more meaningful way, ensuring donations are invested ethically. Castlefield partner Olivia Bowen introduces the Castlefield IPA and explains why we have developed it for clients in this blog article.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/castlefield-launches-individual-philanthropy-account-ipa/>



FINANCIAL PLANNING CALENDAR

Hugh Austin and Lucy Conboy from the financial advice team, introduce the Castlefield financial planning calendar: your handy financial planning guide for the year ahead.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/castlefield-financial-planning-calendar/>

CRYPTOCURRENCY

Digital cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin have plunged in value after FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried filed for bankruptcy. Other crypto businesses have also suffered including BlockFi and Bitfront.

In this piece from earlier in the year, two Castlefield professionals share their views on crypto as an investable asset, along with their concerns around the environmental impact.

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



GENERAL UPDATE

AUTUMN STATEMENT – DIFFICULT DECISIONS

The recent Autumn Statement brought little cheer, but there are things we can do to lessen the pain.

In their commentary, Castlefield's David Gorman and Hugh Austin summarise the key points and consider what the Thoughtful Investor makes of the measures announced.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/autumn-statement-difficult-decisions/>

GOOD BUSINESS CHARTER



Castlefield is proud to have been accredited by the Good Business Charter, the initiative of the Good Business Foundation charity organisation, that recognises responsible and ethical business practices.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/awards-recognition/castlefield-receives-good-business-charter-accreditation/>



The UN's climate conference COP27 recently concluded in Egypt, with world leaders discussing how they intend to tackle the climate emergency.

Castlefield's David Gorman reflected on last year's COP26 conference and looked at what thoughtful investors could hope for and expect from COP27, in this article produced exclusively for FT Adviser:

<https://www.ftadviser.com/opinion/2022/11/04/expectations-low-for-cop27-conference/?page=1>

You can learn more about Castlefield's net zero commitments and what we're doing to combat climate change here:

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

Castlefield, together with a coalition of investors and private sector firms, delivered a joint letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, urging the Government to set out a clear 'Net Zero Investment Plan' as part of the UK's upcoming 'Green Finance Strategy'.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/news/castlefield-and-investor-coalition-deliver-letter-to-government-urging-clearer-net-zero-plan/>

VALUES-BASED INVESTING

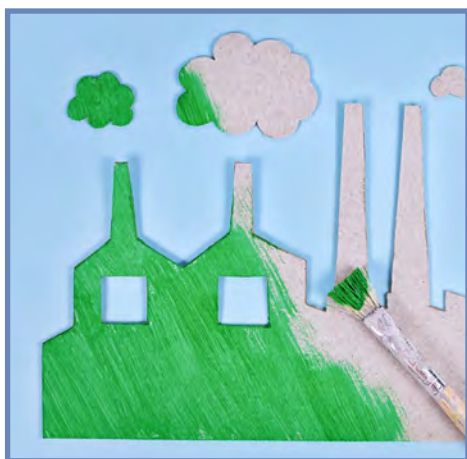
POSITIVE THEMES REPORT

Our newly published positive themes report showcases how the equity funds within our sustainable fund range incorporate our ten positive themes within their holdings.

We believe that incorporating these themes into our research helps us to identify and prioritise investment opportunities in industries and activities that can positively benefit people and the planet over the long term.

<https://www.castlefield.com/media/koskqzrs/castlefield-positive-themes-report.pdf>



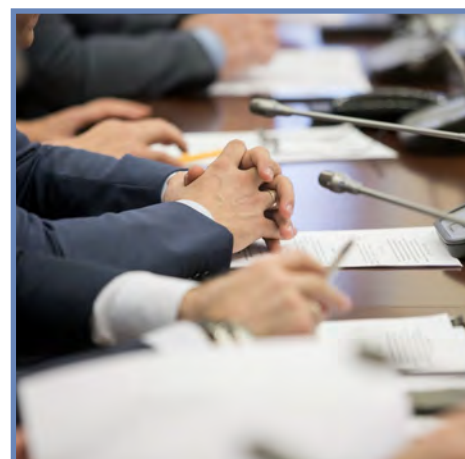


TALKING GREENWASH

Castlefield's Simon Holman made a guest appearance in the first episode of Ethical Screening's new video series. Mike Head, Ethical Screening Managing Director, interviewed Simon about greenwashing and sustainable investment strategy.

You can watch the latest Talking Greenwash episode here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=787XyR07emk&t=7s>



EXTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Our external advisory committee provides an additional level of expertise and challenge with investment and research decisions. Here you can read a summary of the investment Advisory Committee meeting from September 2022.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/september-2022-external-advisory-committee-meeting-summary/>

STEWARDSHIP

In the latest Castlefield stewardship report you can learn more about our recent voting, stewardship and engagement activities.

There's also an interesting piece on inclusive product design to combat inequality and embed accessibility.

<https://www.castlefield.com/media/mrfbagou/castlefield-stewardship-report-q3-2022.pdf>



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.

You can learn about more of our featured stocks and how they align with our ten positive themes here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/thoughtful-investor/featured-stocks-and-positive-themes/>



MEDICA

As the Thoughtful Investor, Castlefield supports positive investment themes such as Health & Wellbeing.

Here we look at Medica Group, a healthcare firm specialising in teleradiology to support the NHS in providing better outcomes for patients.

Read the Medica stock story here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/castlefield-stock-story-medica/>

TECAN

In this latest featured stock article, Castlefield's Rory Hammerson takes a closer look at the impact of some of the sustainable projects at healthcare and diagnostics specialist Tecan.

Read the Tecan stock story here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/visible-sustainability-tecan-the-factory-in-the-forest/>

VALUES-BASED MANAGER



COMMON GROUNDS - THE STORY BEHIND OUR SUSTAINABLE COFFEE PRODUCER

Like many workplaces, we get through a lot of coffee. As a values-based organisation, we want to source our coffee from an ethical supplier.

In this blog, Castlefield Investment team member Eleanor Walley explores the credentials of Datterra - a coffee farm leading the way with its sustainable ethos.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/common-grounds-the-story-behind-our-sustainable-coffee-producer/>

IT'S COMING HOME

Equality isn't a reward, it's a right.

In this latest thematic piece, Castlefield's Simon Holman takes a look at the inequality still faced within women's sport and in board rooms across the UK.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/will-board-rooms-come-home/>



A Bit About Castlefield

Featuring:
John Eckersley
Castlefield Founder



A BIT ABOUT CASTLEFIELD

In this video Founder John Eckersley introduces Castlefield and explains our purpose and how we help clients (and our team) to achieve their personal goals.

John also explains the core values, present throughout Castlefield, and why we're known as the Thoughtful Investor ®.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/videos/a-bit-about-castlefield/>

20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM

Our annual symposium event took place in October. Castlefield's India Harkishin summarises the 2022 Castlefield Symposium - celebrating 20 years of thoughtful investing (you can also find a link to watch a recording of the symposium).

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/castlefield-symposium-2022-20-years-of-thoughtful-investing/>



GIVE BACK GROUP (GBG) UPDATES



CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISERS & ACTIVITIES

As we reach the conclusion of our 2022 fundraising year, the GBG has been hosting a number of Christmas fundraising events and activities. These have included our annual Christmas quiz, a crackers crafting session and our Christmas jumper day.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/charity-work/give-back-group-gbg-christmas-activities-2022/>



RMCH LUNCH AND LEARN

So far the group has managed to raise around £2200 which means they have exceeded their original goal by more than double! It has been a really successful year for the group. A representative from our 2022 chosen charity - The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital (RMCH), is coming into the office on Dec 14th to talk about how our fundraising makes a difference and about all the excellent work the charity does helping to support their young patients.

FESTIVE THEMED ARTICLES

I'M DREAMING OF A WASTE-FREE CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a wonderful time of year, full of cheer and giving, but unfortunately it is also a period of excess waste. We've looked at a few ways in which we can all help!

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/i-m-dreaming-of-a-waste-free-christmas/>



HOW TO LOWER YOUR CHRISTMAS DINNER'S CARBON FOOTPRINT.

Over the past couple of years, around Christmas, the Castlefield team have written about ways in which we can try to reduce our waste and make our gift giving greener. Often these tips also have a positive financial impact too.

This year we look at the Christmas dinner and how we can cut down its carbon footprint as well as its financial cost.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/how-to-lower-your-christmas-dinner-s-carbon-footprint/>

WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING



Review of 'What We Owe the Future' by William MacAskill

In our latest "What we've been reading" book review series, guest author Chris Mills (head of philanthropy at The Charity Service) explores What We Owe the Future - William MacAskill thought-provoking guide to creating a better future.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/what-weve-been-reading-what-we-owe-the-future-by-william-macaskill/>



IN THE NEWS



You may have seen Castlefield and our Co-owners featured in the press. Below are a selection of articles from a range of publications and trade press over recent weeks.

- Olivia Bowen features in this piece for Professional Adviser on how advisers need to help clients understand the complexities of sustainable investing so they can better align their expectations. <https://professionaladviser.com/news/4061153/honest-about-complexities-sustainable-investing>
- Castlefield's John Alexander joined a number of other senior investment figures in a piece about UK fund distribution for Citywire Amplify. <https://citywireamplify.com/2022/12/meaning-not-meetings-sales-heads-reinvent-kpis/>
- Ita McMahon was interviewed for this piece in ESG Clarity about how the investment industry is tackling the urgent need for protections of the lowest paid. <https://esgclarity.com/cost-of-living-crisis-pushes-stewardship-into-new-territory/>
- Simon Holman featured in the first episode of Ethical Screening's new video series - Talking Greenwash - covering Castlefield's sustainable investment strategy and approach to greenwashing. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=787XyR07emk&t=7s>
- David Gorman reflected on last year's COP26 climate conference and looked at what thoughtful investors could expect from COP27 in his article on FTAdviser. <https://www.ftadviser.com/opinion/2022/11/04/expectations-low-for-cop27-conference/?page=1>

CO-OWNER CLOSE-UP: ANITA MISTRY



Anita Mistry is an executive in the client services team and the first person at Castlefield that many clients and enquirers will speak to. In this Co-owner close-up, we learn more about Castlefield's receptionist and her passion for craft.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/our-core/co-owner-close-up-anita-mistry/>

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



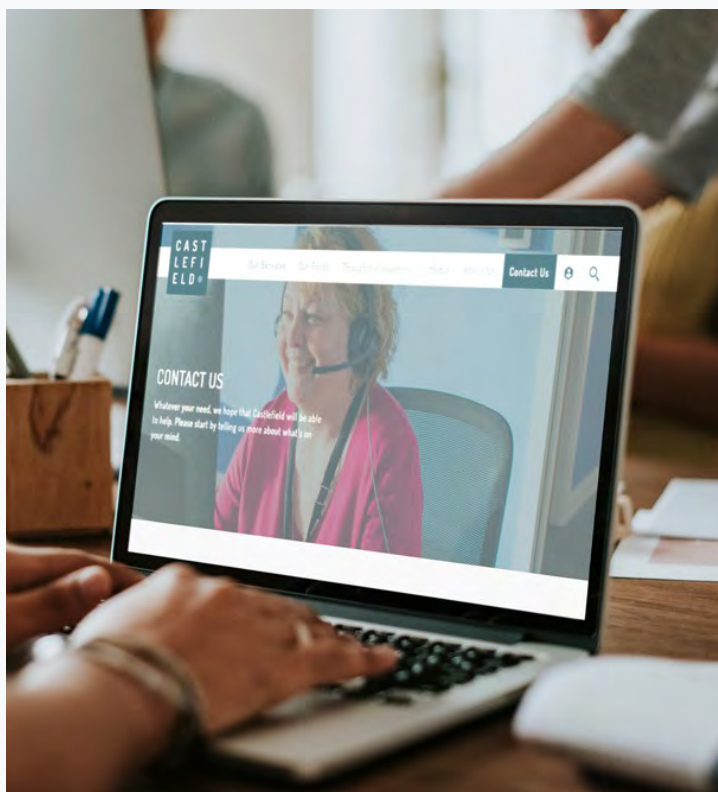
OUR VIEWS AS THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR DON'T STOP HERE!

To learn more about what Castlefield has to offer, including our Financial Advice, Investment Management and Investment Funds services, please visit our website www.castlefield.com

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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