

communiqué

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The events of 2008/09 have been incredible, sending shockwaves around the world. This feels like a near miss to us: as we stand on our car brake and miss the car in front by inches, smugly admiring our driving skills, but looking nervously in our mirror.

aftershock: dealing with a new world

We know that businesses will always find a way through even the biggest of crashes. And we're delighted to see our clients' funds growing once again. But the aftershocks will continue for some time and we feel caution is needed.

The cornerstone of our strategy is always to protect wealth and try to smooth out investment returns, achieved in the good old days by investing in With Profit type funds. But with a couple of exceptions, these are no longer the panacea they used to be - time has moved on.

Clients' pension funds and personal savings have been on a roller coaster ride since the start of the new millennium. For this reason, we have been building partnerships with some of the leading names in the world of fund management, and are considering a new strategy going forward: a redesigned Beaumont Robinson investment proposition.

Some of the investment opportunities mentioned in this Communiqué are part of this strategy and we hope to explain this more fully face to face with you and in future Communiqués.

the BIG 3

To make Communiqué a quick and worthwhile read, we're introducing something called the Beaumont Robinson BIG 3. Each time we'll highlight 3 important topics currently of real concern to clients.

Spend a few minutes here, we hope you get something useful out of your read.

- 1 Are You 50?
- 2 Cash: making it work harder.
- 3 Should you reduce your risk?



are you 50? rules are changing

Did you realise that your Retirement Options are changing from 5th April 2010?

After 6th April 2010 you will need to be age 55 to draw any pension benefits.

Some firms are actively encouraging clients to draw their tax free cash prematurely before the rules change. Whilst you need to be aware of this option, please understand that this could reduce your final pension benefits at retirement.

For advice on these changes please contact us.

ISAs

Another rule change affects those at 50+. ISA allowances have now been raised for this tax year: £20,400 per couple, making ISAs an excellent tax efficient investment vehicle.



cash: making it work harder

Are interest rates set to remain miserably low? You may be sitting on a large pile of cash right now, as many of us have taken refuge from the financial ups and downs of the last 18 months.

These are unprecedented times and we all need to think differently about making our money work for us going forward. Beyond the fixed rate cash bonds we can all check out on the comparison websites, there are some other ideas worth considering:

The Freehold Income Trust (FIT)

An investment which currently yields over 4% return plus growth and has never fallen in value in 15 years.

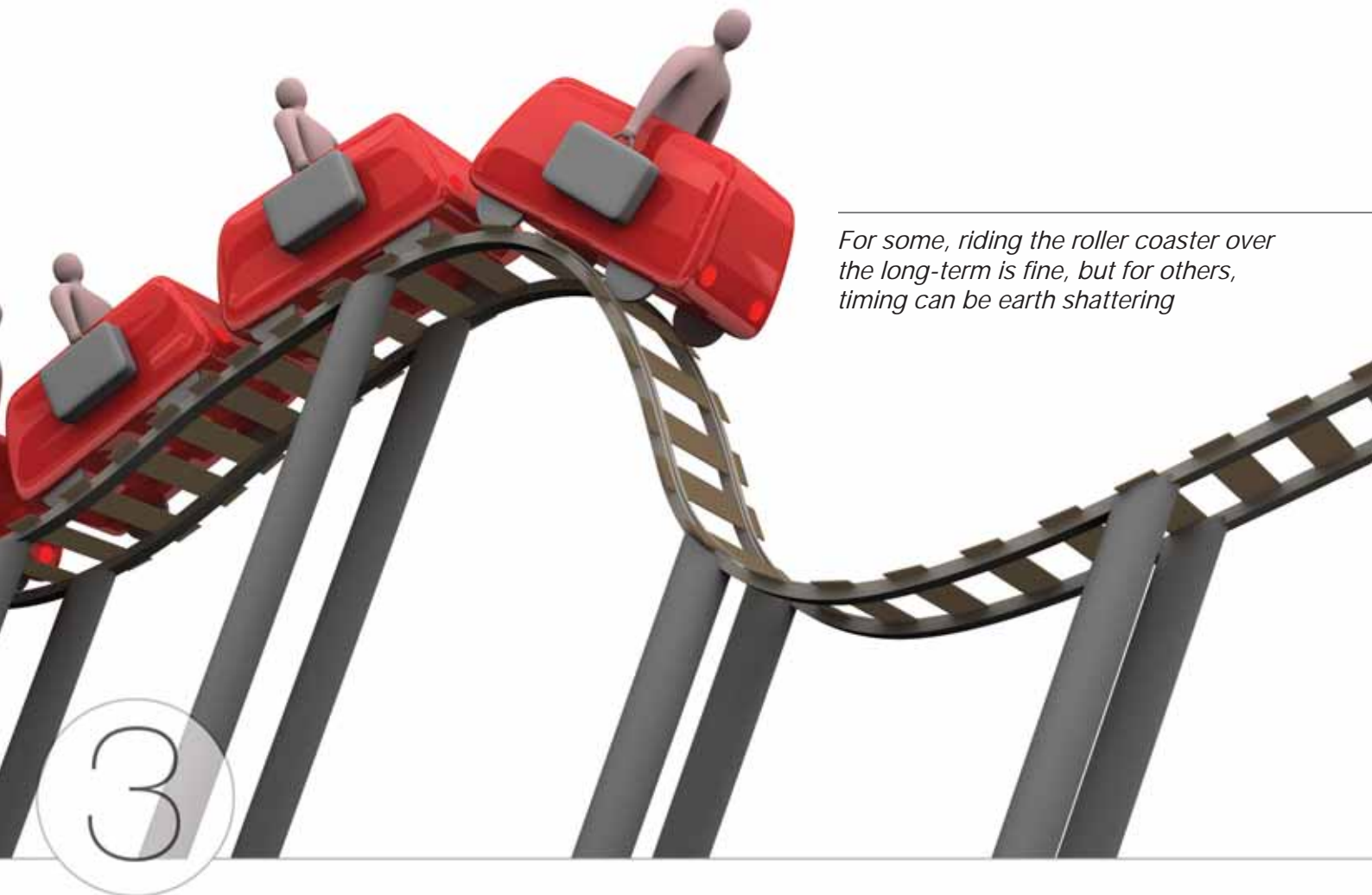
Life Settlement Funds

With yields of up to 8% per annum being achieved by buying into the American life assurance market.

Lower Risk Absolute Return Funds

Aims to beat inflation, creating steady growth and trying to protect the downside. Can be useful as part of a wider portfolio.

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Typically, most investments from them can fall as well as rise. Returns are not guaranteed and you may not get back the tax implications that could arise based on your personal circumstances. Many of



For some, riding the roller coaster over the long-term is fine, but for others, timing can be earth shattering

should you reduce your risk?

We have just been through the deepest economic downturn since the Great Depression. But things will get better, won't they?

Potentially yes. But where will this journey take us next? History tells us this won't be the last crash.

market crashes

1987 BLACK MONDAY

1992 BLACK WEDNESDAY

1997 ASIAN FINANCIAL CRISIS

1998 RUSSIAN FINANCIAL CRISIS

2000 DOT-COM BUBBLE BURST

2001 SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACKS

2008/2009/?

GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS

For some, riding the roller coaster over the long-term is fine, but for others, timing can be earth shattering:

if you're in drawdown and your 5 yearly review takes place during a trough... you would be seriously affected;

if you reach 75 at the bottom of the markets... your annuity rate could be ghastly;

you're made redundant in a slump... you may have to take your pension.

The scenarios are numerous.

risk reducing

ABSOLUTE RETURN FUNDS

DISCRETIONARY MANAGEMENT FUNDS

SINGLE ASSET FUNDS

Risk is a personal choice. But reducing risk may be sensible. Put another way - we all drive different cars and have different styles of driving, but we all wear a seat belt. There are a number of ways of reducing risk in your portfolio. They are best discussed on a case-by-case basis.

Come and talk to us: contact your consultant or David Cubitt on

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a bit about us

in the office



Greg Farrar is taking over the reins with many of John Currie's clients.



Lee Hanson is our recently appointed Senior Consultant.



Michael Wall is our new Operations Director, bringing his vast experience to bear on our systems and processes.

John Currie will be retiring as a Director at the end of the year, but will remain available in a consultancy role. Our best wishes go to John.

There are major changes ongoing at Beaumont Robinson as we reposition ourselves ahead of new rules affecting our profession in 2012.

These rule changes are designed to benefit clients and that's also the reason why we are founder members of the new Yorkshire IFA Forum. The forum is launching the UK's first Financial Planning degree with Bradford School of Management. Better trained advisers offering clients the highest standards of guidance - it's our passion.



on the internet

We'd like to keep you abreast of new opportunities and our thinking on current financial issues. Doing this online is by far the most convenient way for everyone.

Please make sure we have your current email address. Simply send us an email with your name in the subject line to: elaine.griggs@beaumont-robinson.co.uk

We are also pleased to announce the launch of our completely redesigned website. Take a look at: www.beaumont-robinson.co.uk

independent
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To talk to us at Beaumont Robinson as Independent Financial Advisers please contact your consultant or David Cubitt on
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