



THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR

Castlefield INSIGHTS



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CASTLEFIELD SHORTLISTED

We've recently received recognition by a couple of industry bodies for our sustainable approach. -p.5



SPLENDID SPRING IN BLOOM



Springtime brings the hope of bright flowers coming into bloom

and the chance of consecutive days of sunshine. For many people, spring is also a time of cleansing and marks the end of the tax year. If tax is your thing, there are a few tips you may be interested in reading on the Castlefield financial planning calendar (page 2). And while we can't promise good weather, we do present a new charity investment advice service, providing support to trustees on their investment duties and responsibilities to ensure their charity is guided through the initial steps (page 2).

Within this first 2023 issue of Insights,

you'll find our regular features including stock stories highlighting typical firms we invest in. Rory Hammerson details these case studies and includes how one investee firm has an innovative approach to Net Zero within its supply chain (page 4).

There are also examples of our active approach to stewardship, along with opinion pieces to raise awareness of issues around sustainability and inclusion (page 3). As the Thoughtful Investor®, Castlefield Co-owners are frequently asked to provide comment or an opinion on such matters – we've included a couple of external press pieces, including an interesting piece on Inclusive Product Design (page 3).

Hopefully these go some way to illustrate what it means to be the Thoughtful Investor®.

There's also a review of our charitable activities (page 5) and close-up interview with Castlefield's Head of People & Training, plus a Client Corner feature with renowned author and visionary Colin Tudge (page 4).

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



Nathan Cameron,
Manager, Marketing
Communications

FINANCIAL ADVICE



CLIENT PORTAL BRINGS INCREASED FLEXIBILITY AND SECURITY

Advances in tech have enabled our clients to be able to view their finances online whenever and wherever suits them. In this piece Mundia Oluda explains our Personal Finance Portal.

Learn more about how this helps our clients communicate securely, with increased flexibility and a lower carbon footprint.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/personal-finance-portal-communicate-securely-increased-flexibility-and-lower-carbon-footprint/>

STAYING SAFE AND SECURE ONLINE

The increase in online shopping and remote working has also seen a rise in hacking attempts by cyber criminals. With more places storing your personal details, how can you protect your digital accounts and stay safe online? This article outlines some simple ways to protect your online accounts against scammers and helps you to avoid identity theft.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/top-tips-for-staying-safe-and-secure-online/>

SUPPORTING CHARITY TRUSTEES WITH OUR INVESTMENT ADVICE SERVICE

Our specialist Charity Investment Advice Service has been designed to benefit charities who have identified a specific need for one-off advice, by guiding them through the necessary steps and working with them to ensure their mission is supported for the long-term. This may include helping to understand what level of risk they're comfortable with, providing guidance on the investment duties and responsibilities of a charity trustee, or helping to define their objectives so they have clarity on their short- and medium-term priorities. Find out more about our range of services here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/our-services/>

PHILANTHROPY

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

The Individual Philanthropy Account helps Castlefield clients give money to charity in an easier and more meaningful way, ensuring donations are invested ethically.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/our-services/philanthropy/>

FINANCIAL PLANNING CALENDAR

The Castlefield financial planning calendar is your handy planning guide for the year ahead. Find out what tips Hugh and Lucy have included for the spring months here:

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



VALUES BASED INVESTING

CASTLEFIELD RESPONSE TO FCA SUSTAINABILITY DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS CONSULTATION

We recently submitted our response to the Financial Conduct Authority’s consultation on Sustainability Disclosure Requirements - which aims to make investing thoughtfully simpler for investors and protect from greenwashing.

We’re broadly supportive of the measures outlined in the consultation. Indeed, our view is that they would bring rigor to the industry by introducing a labelling scheme for funds with solid sustainability credentials.

In the interests of transparency, we’ve made our full response publicly available on our website:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/news/castlefield-response-to-fca-sustainable-disclosure-requirements-consultation/>



SIGNED INVESTOR STATEMENT TO SUPPORT LOWEST PAID THROUGH COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS

We recently joined a group of investors to publish a statement calling on UK-listed businesses to support their lowest paid employees through the cost-of-living crisis. Amelia Overd outlines some of the actions that businesses could take to help those on the lowest incomes.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/news/castlefield-signs-investor-statement-to-support-lowest-paid/>

INCLUSIVE PRODUCT DESIGN

Businesses are increasingly under pressure to incorporate diversity and inclusion into their product and service design. Castlefield’s Ellie Walley discusses engaging with investee firms on inclusive product design with Investment Week’s Sustainable Investment team.

<http://ow.ly/Jjhu50MKUbH>

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY 2023

To celebrate International Women’s Day 2023, we asked a selection of female Co-owners what they enjoy most about working at Castlefield and why they think it is a great place to work for others in a similar situation.

Hear what they had to say:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/our-core/international-women-s-day-2023/>



WOMEN IN THE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY

Research suggests that the asset management and institutional investment industries are more inclusive for women today, but there is still a lot more progress to be made. This blog post explores the current trends of female representation in the industry, possible theories which uphold these trends and what current legislation is doing to help.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/women-in-the-investment-management-industry/>

FEATURED STOCK STORIES

Our featured stock stories help to show how our sustainable approach works in practice. The below represent some of the typical companies held in our sustainable funds and show what being the Thoughtful Investor® is all about.



ION BEAM APPLICATIONS

Rory Hammerson examines Belgian listed Ion Beam Applications (IBA). Held in our Sustainable European Fund, IBA is involved in treating cancer in sensitive areas such as the brain and other vital organs.

Read the IB Applications stock story here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/european-stock-story-of-the-month-iba/>

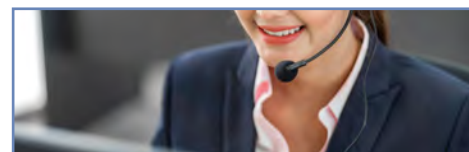


DURR GROUP

Castlefield's Rory Hammerson looks at German engineering group Durr. He surveys their approach to Net Zero and looks at some of the innovative supply chain incentives they have devised to reduce their carbon footprint.

Read the Durr Group stock story here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/european-stock-story-of-the-month-durr/>



TELEPERFORMANCE

Sustainability criteria are powerful drivers of a company's valuation. In this piece, we look at a recent example of how this played out for Teleperformance - one of the largest holdings in our European Fund.

Read the teleperformance stock story here:

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

OUR CORE



CO-OWNER CLOSE-UP: EWELINA NIZIOLEK-WILSON

In this Co-owner close-up we learn more about Castlefield's Head of People and Training, Ewelina Niziolek-Wilson. Ewelina discusses her passion for employee ownership and shared values, along with how she balances her roles of representing the board of the shared ownership trust alongside leading Castlefield's internal development programmes.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/our-core/co-owner-close-up-ewelina-niziolek-wilson/>

CLIENT CORNER: COLIN TUDGE

Our Client Corner section focuses on the lives and achievements of some of our clients. In this piece, Castlefield's Olivia Bowen interviews Colin Tudge, a writer, biologist and founder of The Real Farming Trust. Colin explains how he evolved the idea of "Enlightened Agriculture", aka "Real Farming".

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/our-core/client-corner-colin-tudge/>



GIVE BACK GROUP (GBG) UPDATES



FUNDRAISING GROUP RAISES OVER £2500!

Following a successful year of fundraising efforts, the Give Back Group are pleased to announce that at the end of 2022, Castlefield co-owners have raised an incredible £2,510 (with another c. £570.65 in gift aid contributions) for our chosen charities: Burdens Charitable Foundation and the Royal Manchester Childrens' Hospital Charity. Read our full review of the year here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/charity-work/castlefield-s-give-back-group-a-year-in-review/>



GBG HELPS RELAUNCH CASTLEFIELD CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The Give Back Group are pleased to announce the relaunch of the Castlefield Charitable Foundation (CCF). Originally established in 2006, donations from Castlefield Partners Limited and Burdens Charitable Foundation have provided CCF with the means to support worthwhile local projects with a positive social or environmental impact. More information on this to follow soon, so please keep a look out for future updates here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/charity-work/>



FLIPPING MARVELLOUS

The GBG kickstarted fundraising activities this year by hosting a pancake flipping competition on pancake day.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/charity-work/flipping-marvellous-pancake-competition/>

RECENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



CASTLEFIELD SHORTLISTED FOR TWO AWARDS

We've recently received recognition by a couple of industry bodies for our sustainable approach. Castlefield has been shortlisted for two industry awards at the City of London Wealth Manager Awards - in the 'Best Advisory Service' and 'Best ESG Investment Strategy' categories

Learn more here:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/awards-recognition/castlefield-shortlisted-for-two-wealth-management-awards/>

SHORTLISTED FOR BEST ESG ADVISER FIRM IN UK

We're also thrilled to have been shortlisted in the 'Best Adviser Firm for ESG (nationwide)' category at the Professional Adviser awards.

Find out more:

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/awards-recognition/castlefield-recognised-as-one-of-best-esg-advisers-in-the-uk/?Investor=Individual>

WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING



Review of 'Sapiens' by Yuval Noah Harari

In this book review, Castlefield's George Williams discusses Yuval Noah Harari's 'Sapiens', which charts the progress of the human species from our hunter-gatherer past to the world-domination of today.

<https://www.castlefield.com/home/media/blog/what-weve-been-reading-sapiens-by-yuval-noah-harari/>



IN THE NEWS

Part of our role as the Thoughtful Investor® involves raising awareness of relevant ESG issues. As a result, our co-owners are regularly approached to feature within the industry press. Below are a few recent interviews and opinion pieces we've featured within:



- Castlefield partner Olivia Bowen features in this piece for Professional Adviser, where she discusses the FCA's recent proposals to reduce greenwashing (by providing labels for investment products), and why sustainable investing shouldn't be over-simplified.
<https://www.professionaladviser.com/opinion/4061457/sdr-%E2%80%94-snapshot-todays-carbon-intensity>
- Castlefield's Ita McMahon was asked to share her thoughts with Financial Times Adviser on our response to the FCA's sustainability disclosures requirements (SDR) consultation.
<https://www.ftadviser.com/investments/2023/01/27/esg-specialist-castlefield-urges-greater-clarity-from-fca/>

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



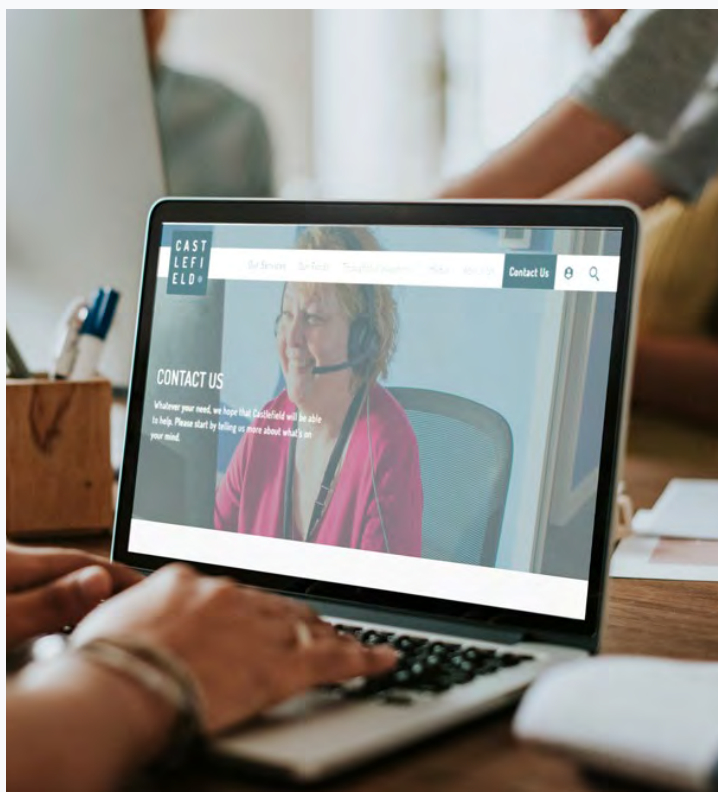
OUR VIEWS AS THE THOUGHTFUL INVESTOR® DON'T STOP HERE!

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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