

# INFORMED

Beyond Informed Magazine  
July – September Edition

## Beyond the Headlines

A collection of recent financial news

## Beyond Economics

This quarter's economic review

## Beyond the Budget

New rules and things you should know

## Beyond Numbers

Tax bandings at a glance

## Beyond Living

Empowering people to discover  
the way to their best life

Beyond Advice Group Ltd (no 09305214) is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (reference 830162). Any marketing material, including our website, is for information purposes only and cannot be relied upon as constituting financial advice. Please contact us for a holistic advice review.

**BEYOND**  
Advice Group

# WELCOME!!

Welcome to our first ever quarterly newsletter produced in-house! We have decided to publish our own newsletter now because we want the content to be less generic and more relevant to the needs and circumstances of you, our valued clients.

Our plan is to publish content regularly and publish online but then provide a roundup of information and activity through this quarterly publication.

What can you expect from Beyond Informed? Firstly, you'll hear news from me and the Beyond Advice Group leadership team about what's happening across the network of advisers and advice firms we support nationally. We've endeavoured to bring you a summary of interesting information from our trusted investment and financial services partners, which will inform you about recent market movements, legislative developments and other factors that may be relevant to your financial planning.

With our company vision: 'Empowering people to discover the way to their best life', we want to bring you content related to the finer things in life such as travel, food and drink, hobbies and interests. We hope you'll find something that inspires new ideas or enriches your experiences. As part of our vision, we'll also update you on our progress in raising funds and awareness for the charities we support as we intentionally aim to enhance the lives of those less fortunate.

Part of our mission is to provide the tools, training and knowledge to stay ahead of the curve whatever the landscape. Knowing the terrain will help you do this, so we'll provide relevant economic updates and tax numbers and allowances in a concise format so you can see where you stand at a quick glance.

In addition to this great content found below, we are really pleased to announce the nomination of Beyond Advice Group for two awards. One is a nomination for Best Transformation Award at The Verve Awards 2026, the second is a nomination for 'Contribution to Gender Diversity - Financial Services' at the Professional Adviser Women in Financial Advice Awards 2026. Furthermore, we are delighted to share that our Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, Karina Bowden, has been personally shortlisted by Professional Adviser for Woman of the year- in-house adviser support (small/medium firms).



We are striving to be the best firm we can be, so if you need any support or advice at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your dedicated adviser or contact and we'll be pleased to assist you.

For now, please enjoy the read!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'David Dawson'.

**David Dawson**  
Chief Executive Officer



# BEYOND THE HEADLINES

Here is a carefully selected collection of recent financial news from a handful of our trusted sources.

This market update is intended for general information and should not be interpreted as financial advice or a recommendation to take any action. The views expressed are those of the relevant investment partners and may change without notice. Investments can fall as well as rise, and you may not get back the amount originally invested. If you are unsure how this information applies to your circumstances, please speak with your adviser.

(JAMES HAMBRO &amp; PARTNERS)

# AI POWER DEMAND FUELS RECORD WAVE OF ENERGY IPOs



Energy companies are raising capital through IPOs at their fastest pace this century as investors seek opportunities to benefit from the rapid expansion of AI infrastructure. US-listed energy IPOs raised \$12.6bn in the first half of 2026, surpassing the annual totals of recent years as surging electricity demand from data centres drives investment across the power sector. Rather than focusing solely on chipmakers, investors are increasingly backing the infrastructure needed to support AI growth, including power generation, grid equipment and electrical distribution.

Companies involved in nuclear, geothermal and natural gas projects, alongside suppliers of transformers and switchgear, have attracted strong demand, while firms such as Innio, Fervo and Forgent Power Solutions have successfully raised billions to fund expansion. Analysts also note that comparatively lower valuations in the energy sector have boosted investor appetite, while concerns over whether major technology companies can sustain current growth have encouraged a rotation into businesses positioned to benefit from the broader AI investment cycle.

The information provided on IPO activity and AI related energy investment trends is general commentary and should not be interpreted as advice or an invitation to invest. IPOs and thematic investments can be volatile and may involve higher risk. If you are considering investing, please seek personalised advice.

(OPINION PROVIDED BY RATHBONES)

# HOW COULD ANDY BURNHAM'S TAX PLANS AFFECT YOUR WEALTH AND FINANCIAL PLANNING?

Andy Burnham's proposed tax reforms could have significant implications for personal wealth and financial planning, although the details and timing of any changes remain uncertain. There are several areas that investors and individuals should monitor, including potential reforms to capital gains tax, inheritance tax, pensions, property taxation and the taxation of investment income.

Capital Gains Tax could become less favourable for investors through changes to reliefs, exemptions or allowances. This may include tightening existing reliefs, amending gifting rules or bringing more assets into the tax net. This may increase the tax payable when selling investments, second homes or other assets, making it more important to consider the timing of disposals and tax-efficient investment structures.

Inheritance Tax remains a potential target for reform. These proposals are not confirmed and may change. Changes could include tightening existing reliefs, amending gifting rules or bringing more assets into the IHT net. Individuals with significant estates may wish to review estate planning strategies to ensure they remain appropriate.

Pension tax relief and pension taxation could be reviewed as governments look for additional revenue. Any reduction in tax incentives would affect the attractiveness of pension contributions, particularly for higher-rate taxpayers, making regular reviews of retirement planning increasingly important.



Property owners could see changes to Stamp Duty, council tax or taxation on second homes and investment properties. Such reforms could influence the cost of buying, owning and passing on property, particularly for landlords and those with larger property portfolios.

The taxation of dividends, savings and investment income could become less generous through lower allowances or revised tax rates. Investors may therefore benefit from making full use of tax-efficient wrappers such as ISAs and pensions where appropriate.

The potential tax changes discussed are proposals and may be subject to amendment or withdrawal. Their impact will vary depending on personal circumstances. This information is not intended as tax or financial advice. You should seek personalised guidance before making any decisions relating to tax planning.

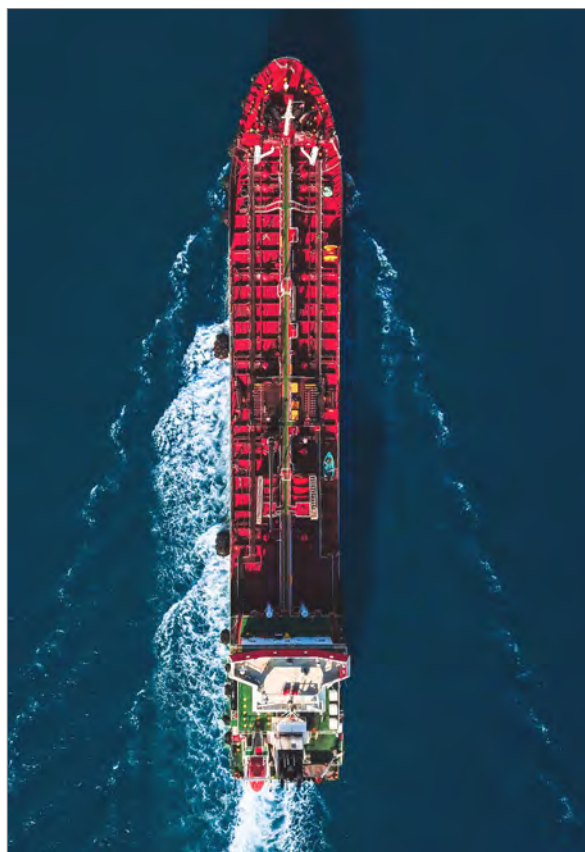
(JAMES HAMBRO &amp; PARTNERS)

# OIL MARKETS ON EDGE AS HORMUZ TENSIONS THREATEN GLOBAL SUPPLY

Renewed tensions between the US and Iran have reignited concerns over global oil supplies, with attacks in and around the Strait of Hormuz threatening a vital shipping route that carries around a fifth of the world's oil.

Brent crude briefly rose above \$87 a barrel after the collapse of the ceasefire, highlighting growing market anxiety despite earlier price declines. Traders warn that many of the measures used to cushion previous disruptions, including strategic petroleum reserve releases and inventory drawdowns, have largely been exhausted, leaving the market more vulnerable to a prolonged supply shock.

While Gulf producers have rerouted some exports and refiners have increased output, diesel markets remain particularly tight following disruptions to Russian supplies. The International Energy Agency has warned of potential shortages of refined fuels if disruptions persist, with inventories expected to decline further during peak summer demand. Although some expect prices to ease if tensions subside, markets remain highly sensitive to geopolitical developments and the risk of further interruptions to energy exports.



Energy market movements are unpredictable and can be significantly affected by geopolitical tensions. The views expressed are those of James Hambro & Partners and may change. This information is not investment advice. Investment decisions should be based on your personal circumstances and risk profile.

(RBC BREWIN DOLPHIN)

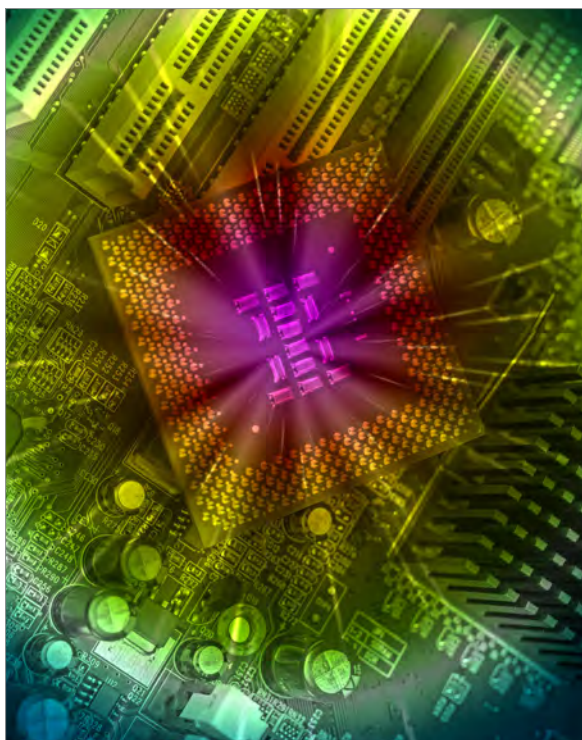
# QUANTUM COMPUTING AND THE NEXT TECHNOLOGY CONTEST

Quantum computing is emerging as a potentially transformative technology alongside artificial intelligence, although widespread commercial use remains years away. Unlike AI, which excels at identifying patterns in large datasets, quantum computers are designed to solve highly complex problems by exploring many possible solutions simultaneously. This capability could lead to major advances in areas such as drug discovery, materials science, finance, logistics, and chemistry.

Governments increasingly view quantum computing as a strategic priority because of its economic and national security implications. One of the biggest concerns is its potential to break current encryption methods that protect financial systems, communications, and defence infrastructure, driving investment in post-quantum cryptography.

Despite its promise, significant technical challenges remain. Quantum systems are highly sensitive to environmental disturbances, require extremely low operating temperatures, and still struggle with error correction and scalability. Researchers continue to make progress, but practical, fault-tolerant quantum computers have not yet been achieved.

For investors, quantum computing should be viewed as a long-term opportunity rather than an immediate commercial market. While the technology is still in its early stages, it is already influencing research ecosystems, industrial policy, and geopolitical competition, making it an important area to watch over the coming decades.



The views expressed on quantum computing reflect long term industry trends and are not intended as investment advice. Early stage technologies can be speculative and may not be suitable for all investors. Please seek personalised guidance before making investment decisions.

REVIEW

# BEYOND ECONOMICS

This quarter’s economic review is brought to you by Canaccord, one of Beyond Advice Group’s investment partners.

The first half of 2026 has been marked by a familiar mix of political uncertainty, geopolitical tensions and market volatility. Despite these challenges, global markets have continued to prove remarkably resilient. Strong corporate earnings, a supportive economic backdrop and improving investor confidence have helped equities recover from periods of turbulence and move higher.

Earlier in the year, concerns surrounding the conflict in the Middle East and disruption to energy markets created a bout of volatility across both equity and bond markets. Investors worried that higher energy prices would reignite inflation and put pressure on central banks to raise interest rates. The recent resumption in hostilities between the US and Iran means these worries are being reignited.

**Gilt and bond markets**

Bond markets have experienced significant swings in expectations throughout 2026. At the start of the year, many investors anticipated interest rate cuts across major economies. Those expectations changed rapidly as geopolitical events pushed up energy prices and inflation concerns resurfaced. More recently, easing oil prices and softer-than-expected inflation data have helped calm markets and reduce fears of imminent rate rises.

The UK bond market has faced additional pressures. Rising political uncertainty, concerns around the UK’s fiscal position, sluggish economic growth and inflationary pressures have all contributed to higher gilt yields. UK consumers have also felt the impact of persistent inflation, with purchasing power significantly eroded over recent years.

Recent economic data has painted a mixed picture. UK GDP growth proved stronger than expected in March, suggesting parts of the economy have remained more resilient than forecast. Some economists believe businesses and consumers may have brought forward spending in anticipation of future price increases linked to rising energy costs and wider inflation pressures.

While higher gilt yields often reflect investor concerns, they may also present opportunities. For domestic investors, government bond yields above 5% may offer more attractive income levels depending on individual circumstances.

In the near term, markets are likely to remain highly sensitive to developments in inflation, economic growth and government finances. However, with yields now at levels not seen for many years, government bonds are once



again becoming an increasingly important component of diversified portfolios.

**Political Uncertainty**

The arrival of Andy Burnham as Prime Minister has naturally become a major talking point for investors. While markets have so far remained relatively calm, attention is now focused on how the new government intends to balance growth ambitions, public spending and fiscal responsibility.

Investors appear to be taking a pragmatic ‘wait and see’ approach. Burnham’s choice of Chancellor of the Exchequer (John Healey) was unexpected, but markets have responded calmly so far. Markets are closely monitoring

# Canaccord WEALTH



signals around government spending, taxation and fiscal rules, recognising that policy decisions can have a meaningful impact on inflation expectations and government borrowing costs. Recent market movements have demonstrated just how sensitive gilt investors remain to policy announcements and fiscal credibility.

There could also be important implications at a sector level. Defence companies may benefit from continued commitments to increased defence spending, while parts of the infrastructure and industrial sectors could gain support from policies focused on economic regeneration and regional

investment. At the same time, sectors such as banking, utilities and gambling may face greater regulatory scrutiny as the new government's agenda develops.

Ultimately, markets tend to respond more to the practical delivery of policy than political headlines. As investors gain a clearer understanding of the government's plans over the coming months, attention will remain firmly focused on whether policy supports sustainable economic growth while maintaining confidence in the UK's public finances.

## Outlook for investors

Looking ahead, the global economy continues to grow, albeit at a moderate pace.

The US remains the strongest major economy, supported by resilient consumer spending, strong corporate investment and continued enthusiasm around artificial intelligence. Meanwhile, growth in the UK and Europe remains slower but still broadly positive.

Corporate earnings remain one of the most supportive factors for financial markets. Companies have generally continued to outperform expectations, helping justify strong market returns despite a backdrop of political and geopolitical uncertainty. While periods of volatility should be expected, many analysts believe fears of an imminent global recession may be overstated.

For investors, the key message remains one of balance and perspective. Political events, inflation concerns and market volatility are likely to remain features of the investment landscape. However, with economic growth holding up, corporate profitability remaining robust and inflation pressures showing signs of easing, the foundations for long-term investors remain broadly constructive.

This economic update reflects Canaccord's views at the time of publication and may change. It is intended for general information only and does not constitute financial advice. Economic forecasts are not guaranteed and should not be relied upon when making investment decisions without personalised guidance.



## GUIDE

# BEYOND THE BUDGET

## What the New ISA Rules mean for your Savings and Investments

ISAs have long been one of the simplest ways to save and invest tax-efficiently. But new rules announced by HMRC could change how some people use Cash ISAs and Stocks & Shares ISAs from April 2027.

We know that changes to savings rules can feel uncertain. That's why it's important to focus on what these changes could mean for you, your goals, and the choices available to you moving forward.

We'll walk you through the key changes, explain what they could mean in practice, and help you feel more confident about the road ahead.

### What is Changing with ISAs?

The government plans to reduce the amount that people under 65 can pay into a Cash ISA each year.

Right now, most adults can save up to £20,000 each tax year across their ISA accounts. Under the proposed rules, people under 65 will only be able to put £12,000 into a Cash ISA from April 2027.

The overall ISA allowance will stay at £20,000. However, the remaining £8,000 would need to go into another type of ISA, such as a Stocks & Shares ISA.

The stated aim is to encourage longer term investing rather than keeping large amounts in cash savings alone.

# THREE IMPORTANT THINGS INVESTORS SHOULD KNOW

## 1. Cash held inside investment ISAs could face new charges

At the moment, cash held within a Stocks & Shares ISA is usually protected from tax.

Under the proposed rules, HMRC plans to introduce a 22% charge on interest earned from cash sitting inside investment ISAs. This is a flat rate charge, so it doesn't vary depending on how much tax you pay.

This matters because many investors temporarily hold cash in their investment account while deciding where to invest, receiving dividends, or covering account fees.

At this stage, there is still uncertainty around exactly how these charges would work. HMRC has not yet confirmed all the details.

The important thing is not to rush decisions before the final rules are confirmed.

## 2. Some 'cash-like' investments may no longer qualify

HMRC also plans to test whether certain investments are considered too similar to cash.

This could affect products such as money market funds or short-term fixed-income investments that many cautious investors currently use inside Stocks & Shares ISAs.

For some investors, these products offer a steady stepping stone between cash savings and full stock market investing.

This is why many providers are asking for more clarity. Investors need confidence that they can still manage risk in a way that suits their goals and comfort levels.

Investing is rarely about taking giant leaps. Often, it is about building confidence one step at a time as you climb towards your long-term goals.

## 3. types could become more limited

Another proposed change would stop transfers from Stocks & Shares ISAs into Cash ISAs for people under 65.

Currently, many savers value the ability to move between cash and investments as their circumstances change.

For example:

- Someone nearing retirement may want to reduce investment risk
- A first-time investor may start cautiously before investing fully
- Others may temporarily move into cash during uncertain periods

The proposed rules could make these journeys less flexible.

While the intention is to encourage investing, some experts believe added complexity could leave savers feeling unsure rather than empowered.

# Why This Matters for Long-Term Planning



Cash savings play an important role in financial wellbeing.

They provide security, flexibility, and peace of mind. But over longer periods, inflation can reduce the spending power of cash sitting still.

Investing carries risk, and values can rise and fall. However, over time, investing has historically offered greater potential for growth than cash savings alone.

The challenge is finding the right balance for your goals.

Think of financial planning like preparing for a long climb. Cash can provide the stable base camp that keeps you secure, while investments may help you move higher toward long-term growth. Many people choose to use a mix of cash savings and investments, depending on their goals and risk tolerance.

## How We Can Support You

Changes to financial rules can sometimes feel like difficult terrain. But you do not have to navigate them alone.

We believe good financial planning should feel clear, supportive, and empowering. Whether you prefer cash savings, investing, or a mix of both, the key is building a plan that works for your life and your goals.

The financial journey is rarely about quick wins. It is about taking steady, confident steps toward the future you want.

And we're here to help guide you. Please contact us if you need help.

# BEYOND NUMBERS

Here are the current tax bandings and allowances at a glance to support your financial planning.

## Income Tax

(England, Wales, Northern Ireland):

Personal Allowance (up to £12,570) – 0%

Basic Rate (£12,571 to £50,270) – 20%

Higher Rate (£50,271 to £125,140) – 40%

Additional Rate (Over £125,140) – 45%

\*Note: for every £2 earned over £100,000, £1 of your Personal Allowance is lost. This creates an effective tax rate of 60% on earnings between £100,000 and £125,140.

## Dividend Tax (UK):

Basic Rate (up to £50,270) – 10.75%

Higher Rate (£50,271 to £125,140) – 35.75%

Additional Rate (over £125,140) – 39.35%

\*Note: You do not have to pay tax on the first £500 of dividend income you receive. This allowance is entirely separate from your standard Personal Allowance. Dividends count as your top slice of income. If you have both earned income (like a salary) and dividend income, your earned income is used up first when calculating which tax band your dividends fall into.

## Inheritance Tax Rate (UK):

Standard UK rate is 40% on the portion of an estate that exceeds your tax-free allowances.

Nil-rate band: the first £325,000 is entirely tax-free. Any unused amount can typically be passed to a surviving spouse or civil partner.

Residence nil-rate band: you get an additional £175,000 allowance if you leave your main home to your children or direct descendants.

Charity rate: the rate reduces to 36% if you leave 10% or more of your net estate to a registered charity.

## Capital Gains Tax Rate (UK):

Standard Assets: Standard rate is 18% for basic-rate taxpayers and 24% for higher and additional-rate taxpayers.

Residential Property: 18% for basic-rate taxpayers and 24% for higher and additional-rate taxpayers.

Business Asset Disposal Relief: 18% (up to £1m lifetime limit).

Annual Exempt Amount: £3,000 for individuals.

Trustees and Personal Representatives: 24%.

## Investment Allowances

### ISAs

- Overall ISA limit: £20,000 per year across all adult ISA types
- Cash ISA: up to £20,000 can be held in cash, dropping to £12,000 in April 2027 with the other £8,000 going into a different type of ISA
- Stocks & Shares ISA: up to £20,000 per year
- LISA: up to £4,000 per year (counts towards your overall £20,000 limit) for those aged 18-39. The government adds a 25% bonus
- JISA: £9,000 per year per child under 18

## Friendly Society Savings

- Maximum limit: £25 per month (or £270 per year)
- Key advantage: operates completely separately from and on top of your £20,000 ISA limit. It is available to both adults and children, usually requiring a regular commitment of 10-25 years.

## Pensions

- Standard limit: £60,000 per year or 100% of your relevant UK earnings (whichever is lower)
- Low/zero earners/Juniors: you can still contribute up to £3,600 per year and receive government tax relief even with no earnings
- Tapered annual allowance: for higher earners with an 'adjusted income' above £260,000 and 'threshold income' over £200,000, the allowance scales down to a minimum of £10,000
- Money Purchase Annual Allowance: if you have already flexibly accessed your defined contribution pension pot, your future contribution allowance drops permanently to £10,000 per year



FEATURE

## BEYOND LIVING

In this feature, we bring our vision: ‘Empowering people to discover the way to their best life’ – to life!

---

After such a glorious summer, we look ahead to the next season and explore Britain’s Seasonal Escapes. Some of life’s richest experiences aren’t found on long-haul flights or remote islands, they’re often just a train ride away.

The UK is full of extraordinary places to explore, from timeless railway journeys and rugged coastlines to serene gardens, heritage-rich cities and hidden countryside gems.

Whether you’re looking for a peaceful day surrounded by nature, a scenic coastal adventure or a cosy winter city break, Britain offers remarkable experiences throughout the year, proving you don’t need to travel far to make lasting memories.

---

## Late Summer



Late Summer leading into early autumn is the perfect time to make the most of Britain's coastlines and waterways, some of which have been at extremely low levels this year.

On Scotland's Loch Lomond, calm waters and tiny islands create an idyllic setting for kayaking, swimming or simply enjoying a picnic surrounded by breathtaking scenery.

Guided wildlife tours and private boat hires are available from Luss. Further south, the Dartmouth Steam Railway and River Cruise offer a nostalgic way to experience South Devon, combining a heritage steam train journey with a ferry crossing and scenic river cruise before exploring the charming streets and waterfront of Dartmouth.

We'd recommend trying The Seahorse in Dartmouth for elegant seafood with a view. Along Northern Ireland's Causeway Coastal Route, dramatic cliffs, ruined castles, rope bridges and the iconic Giant's Causeway reward those who take the journey slowly, stopping to appreciate the spectacular scenery along the way. Here, the Bushmills Inn for lunch and a distillery tour is always a good idea!

## Autumn



As autumn arrives, Britain's landscapes are transformed by rich shades of gold, amber and crimson.

Westonbirt Arboretum in Gloucestershire becomes one of the country's most spectacular displays of seasonal colour, while the Settle to Carlisle Railway offers one of Britain's most scenic train journeys as it crosses the Yorkshire Dales and the famous Ribbleshead Viaduct.

Pair the Arboretum with lunch at Calcot Manor or a stay at Thyme for a luxurious retreat or stop at Appleby or Dent on the railway for a short circular walk and tea at a local inn. In the Lake District, the beautifully restored Victorian Steam yacht Gondola glides across Coniston Water beneath colourful hillsides, creating one of the region's most atmospheric experiences. Nearby, you can visit Brantwood, the home of John Ruskin, for lakeside views or culture.

## Winter

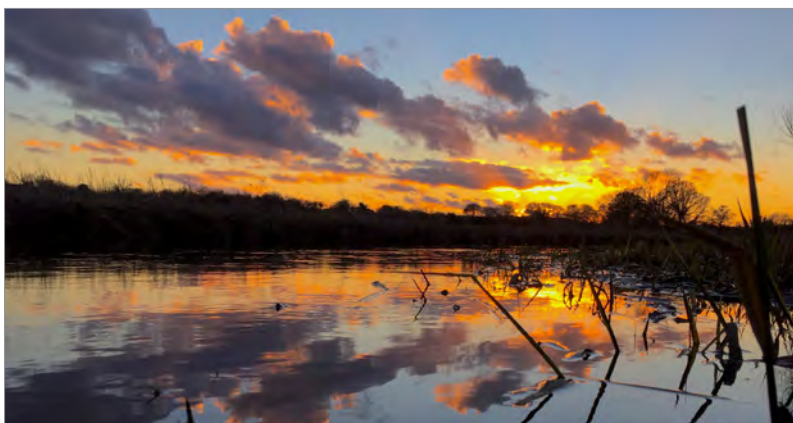


Winter brings a different kind of magic. London comes alive with festive lights, world-class exhibitions and West End performances, while Edinburgh combines the history of the Royal Mile and Edinburgh Castle with Christmas markets, light trails and cosy whisky experiences.

In London, we'd recommend booking dinner at Clos Maggiore or visiting Somerset House ice rink and, in Edinburgh, a stay at The Balmoral or Prestonfield House is perfect for those seeking historic indulgence.

For those looking to embrace the festive season, Castle Howard in Yorkshire offers an unforgettable experience, with candlelit interiors, roaring fires and beautifully decorated rooms bringing one of England's grandest stately homes to life. A seasonal highlight here is afternoon tea in the Long Gallery.

## Waterways, Coastlines and More



Britain's waterways and coastlines continue to offer unforgettable escapes throughout the year. Cornwall's Fowey Estuary provides peaceful boat trips through hidden creeks and secluded beaches, while the Norfolk Broads are ideal for sailing, paddleboarding or spotting wildlife from the water. Off Scotland's west coast, the Isle of Arran packs mountains, castles, beaches and coastal charm into a single island, earning its nickname as 'Scotland in miniature'.

There are countless other places worth exploring too, from the ridge walks of the Peak District and the dramatic scenery of the Isle of Skye to the elegant streets of Bath, the wildlife-rich Pembrokeshire Coast and the fascinating history of Hadrian's Wall.

## Discovering the Best of Britain

Britain's landscapes change with the seasons, but the appeal of getting out and exploring remains the same. Whether by train, boat or on foot, some of the most rewarding experiences can be found much closer to home than we often realise. Sometimes, the best days out are simply the ones that remind us how much there is still to discover on our own doorstep.

# BEYOND CHARITY

With the summer football World Cup in America, Canada and Mexico, we took the opportunity to raise money for our charity of the year, Northern Lights Parkinson's Support Group.

We have raised over £3,100 for Northern Lights this year to date.

In addition to a 'wear your sports shirt to work' day, we have also held a company Quiz, charity walks and World Cup sweepstake.

The funds raised have been gratefully received as the charity have opened their new Aurora Hub in Merseyside to act as a support centre for the local Parkinson's community offering therapy, counselling and a place to connect. To see the Hub in action, please visit <https://www.nlpd2019.com/>



# BEYOND THE PAGES

We're always here to support you in your pursuit of your best life. Whether you are planning to build your asset base whilst you're young, juggling mid-life commitments, entering retirement or have been retired for some time, we aim to support you with clear information and guidance, whatever the financial landscape, so if you need some advice get in touch with your adviser today.

This publication is for general information only and does not constitute financial, investment or tax advice. The content reflects the views of our investment partners at the time of writing and may change. If you require personalised advice, please contact your adviser.



**BEYOND**  
Advice Group

Learn  
Grow  
Achieve