

Daily Market Report

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9 January 2020

Key Global Indices

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	Last	1D%	5D%	1M%	1Y%
	Close	Chg	Chg	Chg	Chg
FTSE 100	7,574.9 û	0.01%	0.4%	4.7%	10.4%
FTSE 250	21,651.9 👃	-0.8%	-1.1%	3.5%	19.1%
DJSTOXX 50	3,424.1 🕆	0.1%	0.6%	3.0%	21.8%
FTSEurofirst 300	1,635.8 🕆	0.2%	0.7%	3.0%	20.1%
German DAX 30	13,320.2 🕆	0.7%	0.5%	1.6%	23.3%
France CAC 40	6,031.0 ①	0.3%	0.9%	3.3%	26.3%

	Last	1D%	5D%	1M%	1Y%
	Close	Chg	Chg	Chg	Chg
S&P 500	3,253.1 🕆	0.5%	0.7%	3.7%	26.4%
DJIA	28,745.1 1	0.6%	0.7%	3.0%	20.8%
Nasdaq	9,129.2 🕆	0.7%	1.7%	5.9%	32.4%
Nikkei 225*	23,666.5 👃	-0.7%	0.8%	1.7%	18.0%
Shanghai Composite*	3,081.4 1	0.5%	4.7%	5.2%	21.4%
DJIA at London close	28,775.3		*Tim	e - GMT	4:30

FTSE 100



DJIA



DJ Euro STOXX50



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UK Market Snapshot

UK markets finished mixed yesterday, as gains in financial and mining sector stocks were offset by losses in retail and energy sector stocks. NMC Health plunged 15.9%, following news that two major shareholders offloaded their stake worth £375.0 million in the healthcare group. J Sainsbury dropped 1.6%, after the supermarket retailer reported a drop in its like-forlike sales for the third quarter. Anglo American lost 0.3%, after the miner confirmed that it is in advanced discussions to acquire fertilizer maker, Sirius Minerals, up 35.4%, in a deal worth £386.0 million. On the contrary, Smiths Group advanced 1.5%, following a rating upgrade on the stock to 'Buy' from 'Underperform'. Greggs gained 1.3%, after the company forecasted annual profit to be at the higher end of its previous guidance. The FTSE 100 marginally advanced to close at 7,574.9, while the FTSE 250 fell 0.8%, to end at 21,651.9.

US Market Snapshot

US markets closed higher yesterday, after the US President, Donald Trump, stated that the US and Iran were refraining from further military action. Constellation Brands advanced 3.6%, after it reported higher than expected earnings in the third quarter and lifted its annual earnings forecast. Macy's gained 2.4%, following reports that the company is considering closing 30 stores in coming months, due to rising competition. Lennar added 0.8%, after its fourth quarter revenue and earnings topped analysts' estimates. On the flipside, Walgreens Boots Alliance declined 5.8%, after its first quarter revenue and earnings fell short of market consensus. Boeing dropped 1.8%, after the company's 737 jet operated by Ukraine International Airlines crashed soon after taking off from Tehran's international airport, killing all passengers and crew members on board. The S&P 500 gained 0.5%, to settle at 3,253.1. The DJIA rose 0.6%, to settle at 28,745.1, while the NASDAQ added 0.7%, to close at 9,129.2.

Europe Market Snapshot

European markets finished in positive territory yesterday, led by gains in banking and automobile sector stocks. Lenders, BNP Paribas, Commerzbank, Deutsche Bank advanced 0.2%, 3.0% and 4.2%, respectively. Automakers, Volkswagen, Daimler and BMW gained 0.4%, 0.9% and 1.2%, respectively. Cie de Saint-Gobain added 0.1%, following the acquisition of Brazil-based acoustic ceiling systems manufacturer and supplier, Sonex. On the flipside, Deutsche EuroShop lost 0.9%, after it forecasted a drop in its pre-tax profit for the full year. SGS fell 0.2%, after announcing the acquisition of US clinical research company, Thomas J Stephens & Associates. Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy lost 0.1%. The company secured a deal from Dominion Energy to develop turbines for its offshore wind project in Virginia. The FTSEurofirst 300 index gained 0.2%, to settle at 1,635.8. The German DAX Xetra rose 0.7%, to settle at 13,320.2, while the French CAC-40 added 0.3%, to close at 6,031.0.

Asia Market Snapshot

Markets in Asia are trading mostly higher this morning. In Japan, JGC Holdings, JXTG Holdings and Inpex have declined 1.7%, 2.8% and 3.3%, respectively. Meanwhile, CyberAgent, SUMCO and SCREEN Holdings have climbed 4.7%, 4.8% and 6.1%, respectively. In Hong Kong, WH Group, Sunny Optical Technology Group and Hengan International Group have gained 3.4%, 4.2% and 5.7%, respectively. Meanwhile, Sands China, CNOOC and PetroChina have fallen 0.2%, 0.6% and 1.5%, respectively. In South Korea, Woori Financial Group, Kakao and Samsung Electro-Mechanics have advanced 0.5%, 2.8% and 4.8%, respectively. Meanwhile, Woongjin Coway, Kia Motors and Korea Zinc have dropped 1.6%, 1.8% and 2.2%, respectively. The Nikkei 225 index is trading 0.7% lower at 23,666.5. The Hang Seng index is trading 1.1% up at 28,385.3, while the Kospi index is trading 1.2% higher at 2,176.9.

Daily Market Report

Key Corporate Releases Today

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UK

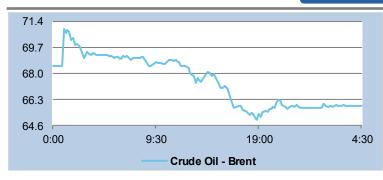
			Full Year Consensus			
Company Name	Results	Currency	Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)		
Vast Resources Plc	Interim	USD	-	-		

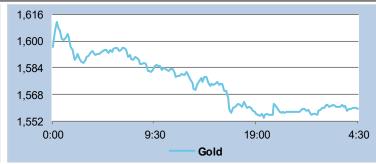
Note: All Estimates are for Full Year



Commodity, Currency and Bitcoin

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Commodity

- □ At 0430GMT today, Brent crude oil one-month futures contract is trading 0.72% or \$0.47 higher at \$65.91 per barrel. Yesterday, the contract declined 4.15% or \$2.83, to settle at \$65.44 per barrel, amid receding concerns over the situation in the Middle East. Moreover, the Energy Information Administration reported that the US crude oil inventories advanced by 1.2 million barrels in the week ended 03 January 2020.
- At 0430GMT today, Gold futures contract is trading 0.06% or \$0.90 lower at \$1559.30 per ounce. Yesterday, the contract declined 0.9% or \$14.10, to settle at \$1560.20 per ounce, as strength in the US Dollar drifted investors away from the safe-haven commodity.





Currency

- □ At 0430GMT today, the EUR is trading 0.08% higher against the USD at \$1.1114, ahead of the Euro-zone unemployment rate data for November, along with the German trade balance data and industrial production data, both for November, due in a few hours. Yesterday, the EUR weakened 0.43% versus the USD, to close at \$1.1105, after the Euro-zone consumer confidence index declined in December. Meanwhile, the Euro-zone economic sentiment rose in December. In other economic news, the US private sector employment rose to an 8-month high in December.
- □ At 0430GMT today, the GBP is trading 0.07% higher against the USD at \$1.3106, ahead of the speech by the Bank of England Governor, Mark Carney, scheduled later today. Yesterday, the GBP weakened 0.22% versus the USD, to close at \$1.3097, following comments from the European Central Bank policymaker, Klaas Knot, that the possibility of a no-deal Brexit still exists. On the data front, the UK Halifax house price index advanced to its highest level since February 2007 in December.



Bitcoin

At 0430GMT today, BTC is trading 0.8% lower against the USD at \$7940.45. Yesterday, BTC declined 0.21% against the USD to close at \$8004.26. In major news, Chinese payment giant, Ant Financial, will unveil its enterprise blockchain platform in February. In a key development, Thailand's oldest bank, Siam Commercial Bank has signed a partnership deal with Ripple to build a mobile application powered by blockchain to deliver instant, low-cost cross-border payments.

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FTSE All Share Index- Performance

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UK Top Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Fixed Line Telecommunications	2320.13	40.98	1.8%	2.6%	-13.8%
Tobacco	36895.07	629.12	1.7%	15.8%	23.1%
Mining	19153.33	168.55	0.9%	5.7%	10.3%
Beverages	25433.06	160.62	0.6%	3.9%	16.4%
Life Insurance	8118.55	41.38	0.5%	7.9%	17.1%

UK Worst Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Oil Equipment & Services	8034.58	-484.55	-5.7%	9.1%	-31.0%
Automobiles & Parts	5029.22	-162.09	-3.1%	-4.8%	-27.3%
Real Estate Investment & Services	2969.57	-68.21	-2.2%	4.3%	21.6%
Industrial Metals	3621.62	-71.33	-1.9%	7.0%	-19.2%
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	8464.67	-133.14	-1.5%	-1.1%	32.1%

Key Economic News

UK Halifax house price index advanced in December

In the UK, the Halifax house price index rose 1.70% on a MoM basis in December. In the prior month, the index had risen by a revised 1.20%.

Euro-zone consumer confidence index declined in December

In the Euro-zone, the final consumer confidence index fell to a level of -8.10 in December, compared to a level of -7.20 in the prior month.

Euro-zone services sentiment indicator climbed in December

In the Euro-zone, the services sentiment indicator climbed to a level of 11.40 in December, higher than market expectations of a rise to 9.50. The services sentiment indicator had recorded a revised to a level of 9.20 in the prior month.

Euro-zone economic sentiment indicator rose in December

In the Euro-zone, the economic sentiment indicator recorded a rise to a level of 101.50 in December, higher than market expectations of a rise to a level of 101.40. The economic sentiment indicator had registered a revised to a reading of 101.20 in the prior month.

US private sector advanced in December

In the US, the private sector employment climbed by 202.00 K in December, compared to a revised increase of 124.00 K in the previous month. Market expectation was for the private sector employment to advance to a level of 150.00 K.



Share Tips, Bids and Rumours

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- The Times (Tempus share tips): "Buy" Ocado; "Avoid" Polypipe.
- <u>Financial Times</u>: Jingye has received support from regional authorities in China to push through the takeover of the ailing U.K. steelmaker British Steel.
- <u>Financial Times</u>: Tesco's planned sale of its Thai operations will be subject to close scrutiny; Thailand's competition regulator has warned.
- The Times (Comment): Money is not going to pour into green energy without policy support.

Newspaper Summary

The Times

Ofcom puts pressure on BT over fibre network: The telecoms regulator has called on BT to commit to accelerating the introduction of faster broadband networks after it issued long-awaited proposals to increase competition in the industry.

NMC Health caught short to tune of £900 million by stock market sell-off: The Founder of NMC Health has seen about £900 million knocked off his fortune after shares in the FTSE 100 private hospitals company and in Finablr, the owner of Travelex, extended falls.

Shoe Zone Chief Anthony Smith on attack over 'rubbish' business rates reform: The head of Shoe Zone has lambasted the Prime Minister's efforts to cut business rates for small companies as "shameful" and "total rubbish" and has warned of more shop closures unless the system is properly overhauled.

Ivy head Richard Caring parts with his Star Executive David Campbell: Richard Caring, the billionaire owner of the Ivy Collection and Bill's Restaurants, has abruptly parted company with the industry veteran he brought in to run the chains only 18 months ago.

High hopes suffer new blow at Constellation Brands: A souring bet on cannabis by the American distributor of Corona and Modelo beers has again burnt its profits.

Rise in Britain's productivity shows new shoots of growth: Britain's productivity showed a glimmer of growth over the summer, with output per hour rising for the first time in more than a year.

Green turns the light out on her busy career, for now: Fittingly, given her track record in the field of technology, Harriet Green turned to Twitter and Linkedin to announce her resignation as Chairwoman

and Chief Executive of IBM Asia Pacific. The famously sleep-shy former Thomas Cook Chief Executive said that after four and a half years at the software giant, she had "made the hard decision to take some time out of my career to be with my family".

Ocado will deliver for investors: As an online grocery delivery business, Ocado does well when the supermarkets' tills are jingling on the web and on smartphones. As a technology business, it does well when the world's big international retailers expand their delivery networks. And as a listed company, it is little short of a phenomenon, loss-making and paying no dividend but managing, nonetheless, to garner a market value of £9.3 billion and a place in the FTSE 100.

Westminster council takes wrecking ball to British Land plan: British Land's miserable start to the year continued when Westminster city council rejected its application to build an 18-storey "terracotta" office block in Paddington, west London. There were concerns that the building, Five Kingdom Street, would be "too high, bulky and with the wrong colouring" and that it would affect views, block sunlight for nearby houses and look out of place.

Impossible pulls out of meat-free deal with McDonald's: Impossible Foods has pulled out of the race to supply meat-free hamburgers to McDonald's, opening the way for Beyond Meat, its closest rival, to win a potentially lucrative contract.

Bottom line at Topps Tiles takes an election hit: Topps Tiles has blamed political and economic uncertainty before the general election for a 5.4% drop in revenue in a trading update for the period to the end of December.

The Independent

Travelex customers express anger after cyber-attack leaves them without access to their money: Travelex customers have

expressed anger at being "fobbed off" and disregarded by the foreign exchange company after a cyber hack left them without access to their money.

Financial Times

Brazil prosecutors to charge Vale over dam disaster: Prosecutors in Brazil have announced they will imminently file charges against mining company Vale over a dam disaster one year ago that killed more than 250 people.

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Lithium producer Livent falls 12% after guidance cut: Shares in lithium producer Livent fell by 12% after the company cut its earnings guidance and warned the market for the battery raw material remains "challenging."

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Anglo American bids for potash mine developer Sirius Minerals: Anglo American has made a takeover bid for Sirius Minerals, throwing a potential lifeline to the U.K.-listed group battling to build a giant potash mine below a national park on the North York Moors.

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Saudi state oil tanker company suspends shipments through Hormuz: Saudi Arabia's state-backed oil tanker giant, Bahri, is temporarily suspending shipments through the Strait of Hormuz following Iranian missile strikes on U.S. military bases in Iraq, according to two sources familiar with the matter.

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Ikea picks London mall to launch citycentre push: The Ikea retail empire has bought a west London shopping centre, the first project in its multibillion-euro strategy to develop mixed-use sites around urban Ikea stores.



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Barclays' Qatar deal sealed with simple six-paragraph letter: Barclays crafted a six -paragraph letter to cement a £42 million side deal at the centre of a high-profile fraud trial after bowing to pressure from Qatari investors at the height of the financial crisis, a court has heard.

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SEC drops insider trading allegations over Anadarko deal: The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has quietly dismissed allegations of insider trading linked to the takeover of Anadarko Petroleum last year.

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Goldman's consumer unit still accounts for small sliver of profits: Goldman Sachs' consumer division generated just 3% of the group's pre-tax earnings in the first nine months of 2019, disclosures reveal, highlighting the group's continuing heavy reliance on its traditional businesses.

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Barclays pressed to stop financing some fossil fuel groups: Barclays is under pressure to stop financing some fossil fuel companies after a group of shareholders filed a landmark climate change resolution for the British bank's annual investor meeting, thrusting the European financial industry to the centre of the debate on global warming.

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SoftBank-backed companies announce lay-offs: Start-ups backed by SoftBank announced lay-offs affecting hundreds of workers this week after the Japanese conglomerate pushed its investments to cut expenses and turn quicker profits.

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British Steel rescue nears after backing from Chinese regions: A rescue deal for British Steel has edged closer after bidder Jingye received support from regional authorities in China to push through the takeover of the ailing U.K. steelmaker.

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Boeing concedes Max pilots need simulator training: Boeing has recommended that pilots for the 737 Max receive training in flight simulators instead of only using software, raising the prospect

of fresh costs and delays before the grounded aircraft returns to service.

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Renault edges closer to new Chief as Luca de Meo quits Seat: Renault's appointment of a new Chief Executive inched closer after the external frontrunner Luca de Meo quit as head of Volkswagen's Seat brand.

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FA under fire for allowing bookmakers streaming rights: The English Football Association has come under pressure from the U.K. government and anti-gambling campaigners to cancel a controversial broadcasting contract that allows high-profile FA Cup matches to be viewed through betting company websites.

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Boots launches business review as sales slide: Boots' retail sales in the three months to November were down 2.9% amid a "very challenging" market, prompting the 170-year-old company to initiate a detailed review of its business.

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Greggs to award £7 million bonus to staff after 'exceptional' year: Greggs, the U.K. bakery and snack food retailer, raised its profit forecasts and said it was awarding a £7 million one-off payment to employees following an "exceptional" year, despite warning that costs were likely to increase in 2020.

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Sainsbury's upbeat festive food sales offset by Argos weakness: J Sainsbury said same-store sales fell 0.7% over the Christmas period with a strong performance in food and clothing undermined by weak demand for toys and video games at Argos.

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Tesco Thai sale to face close regulatory scrutiny: Tesco's planned sale of its Thai operations will be subject to close scrutiny, Thailand's competition regulator has warned, adding that he is prepared to impose fines or ban the deal outright if any laws were to be breached.

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Uber loosens rules for drivers to escape California law: Uber has made changes to

the terms covering its drivers in California, as it tries to escape the impact of a new law on gig economy workers that could put a dent in its business model at a critical moment.

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TikTok was vulnerable to hackers, say researchers: The personal information and content of TikTok's 1bn users were left vulnerable to hackers, according to a group of cyber security experts, as fears persist over the security of the Chinese-owned viral video app.

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Samsung operating profit falls 34% but beats estimates: Samsung Electronics projected a fifth straight quarterly decline in profit but that guidance was better than expectations, with analysts forecasting a rebound this year in the memory chip market as the rollout of 5G smartphones and new data centres boost demand.

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FBI makes new demand for data on locked iPhone: A simmering dispute between the U.S. justice department and Apple over the use of encryption in widely used consumer technology threatened to flare up again, after the FBI asked for information contained on two locked iPhones.

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Sonos sues Google for infringing patents: Sonos is suing Google for alleged patent infringement of its pioneering wireless speaker technology, in the latest accusation that a big Silicon Valley company is using its might to squash smaller rivals.

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Iran refuses to give Boeing black box from Tehran crash: Iran's aviation authority will not hand over to the manufacturer or to U.S. authorities the flight recorders from the Ukraine International Airlines Boeing 737-800 that crashed moments after take-off from Tehran, killing all 176 passengers and crew.

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Lex:

U.S. stocks: beware buybacks: Uptick in the process is a sign that some companies are running out of ideas.



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Gold: war bride: Gulf hostilities, U.S.-China tensions and falling inflation adjusted bond yields buoy metal.

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Finablr/Travelex: hostage to fortune: Financial services group has made a good start containing the damage from the cyber attack.

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Lombard:

Sainsbury's helpful prices may yet hinder margin: When J Sainsbury head Mike Coupe failed in his takeover of Asda, retail pundits had no shortage of advice for him. It ranged from doing smaller supermarket deals to selling assets, cutting debt, mining customer data, expanding overseas, even stepping down. He made no response — but, if he had, it probably wouldn't have been arch-rival Tesco's mantra: "Every little helps". Instead, last September, Mr Coupe proposed a less drastic strategy: be better at selling groceries. And the trading update suggests this is helping more than a little.

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The Daily Telegraph

Carlos Ghosn compares arrest to attack on Pearl Harbour as he aims fury at Tokyo: Carlos Ghosn compared his arrest on corruption charges to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbour and claimed to be the victim of a vast conspiracy in an extraordinary attack on Tokyo's justice system.

Detective fights back against wealth head at centre of Credit Suisse spying scandal: A detective from the Swiss firm hired to shadow Credit Suisse's exwealth head Iqbal Khan has struck back by filling a criminal complaint against the banker.

Boots owner blames U.K. market for dent in profits and stays silent on \$70 billion buyout claims: Boots' parent company was tight-lipped about an audacious \$70 billion take-private deal as U.K. sales continued to slide amid a crisis on the high street.

Netflix rival films shows that 'flip to vertical' as streamers switch to smartphones: A rival to Netflix will make

shows that can flip between vertical and horizontal viewing in an effort to attract smartphone-addicted millennials.

Whirlpool urged to compensate families left using laundrettes because of dangerous washing machines: Whirlpool has been urged to compensate families who have been left using laundrettes because their washing machines pose a fire risk.

Bus firms attack Andy Burnham's plan for London-style services: Greater Manchester mayor Andy Burnham's has come under attack from bus operators as he bids to wrestle control of the city's sprawling public transport network.

The Questor Column:

Questor: fund firm's unique features mean it is growing fast and under no pressure to cut fees: As we unveil our tip of the year for 2020 we will hope for a repeat of last year's success: the stock we chose then, SafeCharge, made a 92% capital gain for readers when it was taken over in August. This was the biggest return made by any Questor tip in 2019. So, we have turned to Neil Hermon of Janus Henderson, whose enthusiasm for Team17. the video games company, prompted another of this column's most successful tips of 2019. This is a highly specialised area in which few fund management firms are able to operate. But it is one in that ICG, the largest holding in Mr Hermon's Henderson Smaller Companies investment trust, has built an enviable record of success for investors in its funds, invariably institutions. "The target return for the firm's main funds is 12%-15% a year," Mr Hermon said. "This is very strong indeed in a world of low interest rates and generally comes with less risk than investing in shares." "At the end of September, it managed €41 billion (£35 billion) in total and over the course of its last financial year attracted €10 billion in new money. This represents very strong growth and this year is likely to be as good. Success breeds success," Mr Hermon said. "They are likely to be putting money into the funds rather than taking it out until they are in their 50s," Mr Hermon said. Hence their personal success depends on the success of their funds. "They are very locked into the business," he added. The company distributes all the earnings from its fund management operations as dividends to shareholders. "The yield is a very appealing 2.8% and

dividends are growing at 20% a year," Mr Hermon said. Although not a household name, Intermediate Capital Group has a market value of £4.7 billion, putting it on the threshold of entry to the FTSE 100 index. "It's probably one of the biggest companies you've never heard of," Mr Hermon said. If you do want to invest in ICG, be sure not to confuse it with the investment trust it runs, ICG Enterprise Trust, tipped here in April 2017, whose ticker is ICGT. Questor says, "Buy".

Daily Mail

U.K. firms and banks on high alert amid fears Iran will mount cyber-attacks in retaliation for killing of Qassem Soleimani: It is thought providers of critical services such as water, electricity, telecoms and financial services could be targets, as well as public service contractors.

High Street suffers worst year on record: Sales (including online) fall for first time in 2019: In a sign of the trouble affecting the high street, total retail sales in stores and online fell by 0.1% in 2019, figures from KPMG and the British Retail Consortium show.

An £87 million bonanza for fund star Terry Smith as Woodford faces backlash over £14 million payday: The Mauritius-based fund manager saw profits at his firm, Fundsmith, climb to £26.4 million in the year to March 2019 from £21 million the year before. His two main funds generated stellar returns.

The Scottish Herald

Scheme to monitor at-risk whales and dolphins awarded £190k funding: A project to monitor at-risk whales, dolphins and harbour porpoises around Scotland's coast has been awarded £190,400 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to help protect the species in the Northern Isles.

Deliveroo to create 70 high-skilled jobs at Edinburgh tech HQ: Deliveroo has announced the creation of 70 high-skilled jobs and the expansion of its Edinburgh-based tech hub as a major flagship HQ in 2020.

Upheaval in North Sea could provide spur to investment in area: The bumper North Sea deals announced by Premier Oil will encourage hopes the shake up in the area triggered by the oil price fall will provide a long-term boost to activity.



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Clyde & Co agency to offer dispute resolution services to rivals' clients: International law firm Clyde & Co has taken a leaf out of Harper Macleod's book, setting up a referral service that will enable firms across Scotland to access its dispute resolution capabilities on a non-compete basis.

Veteran surveyor moves up the ranks at DM Hall: Alan Gordon, the veteran chartered surveyor, has been elevated to the post of senior partner at DM Hall, writes Scott Wright.

RockRose to ramp up spending on North Sea assets: North Sea-focused RockRose Energy has said it expects to more than double spending on new assets this year, to \$200 million, and underlined its appetite for more acquisitions.

Entrepreneur who saved McGill plans new spending spree worth £300 million: Entrepreneur Graeme Carling has signalled major expansion plans following the acquisition of two Scottish businesses.

3D printing company backed in growth push: A Scottish 3D printing specialist has received a £39,000 grant to boost growth.

ScotGov funds high welfare dairy model: New funding to "drive forward innovation" and help food and farming businesses shift to a low carbon economy has been announced by the Scottish Government — with the headline project focusing on keeping dairy calves with their mothers for longer.

Skye wind farm plans promise to slash energy bills: Plans have been lodged for a nine-turbine windfarm that promises to reduce electricity bills for local islanders.

The Scotsman

Ramsdens annual profits set to dazzle after strong Christmas: Ramsdens, which is famous for its pawnbroking services, is expecting full-year profits to outshine expectations after "strong" trading over the Christmas period.

Equity Gap and SIB help biotech MiAlgae raise seven figures: Edinburgh-based biotech start-up MiAlgae has received a seven-figure investment to focus on the commercialisation of its "revolutionary" microalgae product, which uses co-products from the whisky distillation process.

Jobs at risk as Scotland's only Aston Martin and Rolls-Royce dealer enters administration: Almost 140 staff at Leven Car Company are facing an uncertain future after the business entered administration.

Breedon buys Scottish quarries and plants as part of £178 million Cemex deal: Breedon Group has acquired a string of Scottish plants and quarries as part of a

£178 million deal with concrete supplier Cemex.

Almost 30 staff facing uncertain futures as Selkirk garage enters administration: Staff turning up for work at Selkirk's Leven Car Company dealership this morning were sent home and told the firm has entered administration.

STV buys into Two Cities Television as BBC bows out: STV's production arm has snapped up a stake in drama producer Two Cities Television, the company behind critically acclaimed Patrick Melrose, starring Benedict Cumberbatch.

Risk Warning & Disclaimer

CFD and Spread betting Risk Warning

All trading involves risk. Spread bets and CFDs are complex instruments and come with a high risk of losing money rapidly due to leverage. 68% of retail investor accounts lose money when trading spread bets and CFDs with this provider. You should consider whether you understand how spread bets and CFDs work, and whether you can afford to take the high risk of losing your money. Professional clients can lose more than they deposit.

Shares Risk Warning

The value of stocks and shares, and the income from them, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount you originally invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance.

If you are unsure about dealing in shares and other equity investments, you should contact your financial adviser as these types of investments may not be suitable for everyone.

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