STRATEGY FOR week commencing 25 January –

There has been a general sense of optimism sweeping the markets with the President Biden's inauguration signalling the end of Donald Trump's period in charge. This has been reflected in equities and other risk markets, to which gold (a traditional 'safe haven' bet) is diametrically opposed. Political theatre will be on the agenda in the next few weeks as a new broom sweeps clean as the previous US administration legacy becomes redundant. Many of Trumps executive orders on Climate Change and COVID treasury assistance have been revoked as President Biden sets his own agenda as the leader of the free world. The markets for January have deviated from the norm as they continue with upward momentum. January has so far exceeded expectation.

In the UK the continued policy of lockdown will do nothing for the domestic UK economy as retail and car sales see significant declines. The UK has for many years being a consumer led society. The rapid growth in the once proud high street, looks certain for decline as shops upon shops close down come back to haunt recessions of the past. With recessions comes unemployment as UK regions suffer their worse period for many a year. That together with extensive travel bans with the closing of UK borders mean a further harsh hit on UK GDP. Leading sectors may come to the rescue as a risk on situation would seem prevail at the moment. The best asset now for 2021 can be viewed **HERE.** It would seem alternatives have become once again flavour of the month with crypto currency and gold sparkling to euphoric optimism. Gold has been on a good run with price at a last week multi high nearing $1950 following a very strong rally from around $1750 just a month before.

Last week the portfolio saw a +3.17% increase. The major movers last were recent purchase Ameresco +8.32%, First Solar +9.38%, Halozyme Therapeutics +3.09%. UK housing shares continue to show weak signs with Bellway -1.28% and Redrow -2.67%. Most other shares were in non- neutral performance. Last week collapse went to Fulgent Genetics which saw a -2.97% weekly decline. Not much one would say but it's high at one stage being on $79.50 declining significant to $64.00 a share. A lesson that I learnt last week is that when targets are set which meet designate risk reward ratios one should consider taking profits gained thereby protecting profits from diluting. One always needs to re-evaluate what went right, went wrong to prevent it happening again. This week is again one for review and reset on targets for the portfolio. Until next time.

STRATEGY FOR week commencing 18 January 11 January 4 January 28 December 21 December 14 Dec 9 Nov 2 Nov 26 Oct 19 October 12 October 5 October 28 September 21 September 14 Sept 7 Sept 31 Aug 24 Aug 17-10 Aug 3 Aug 27 July 20 July