

STRATEGY FOR week commencing 19 April

Last week the S&P 500 and the Dow hit record highs on Friday wrapped up by bumper quarterly earnings reports from big U.S. banks, while optimism about a solid economic rebound put the main indexes on course for weekly gains. The S&P index recorded 136 new 52-week highs and no new low, while the Nasdaq recorded 129 new highs and 91 new lows. The Federal Reserve's pledge to keep interest rates low despite higher inflation has also revived demand for richly valued technology stocks, although bond yields edged higher again. Market watchers hailed last week with the trading debut of Coinbase (NASDAQ:[COIN](#)) as crypto's road to the mainstream. The crypto excitement has seen Bitcoin and Ethereum hit new all-time highs this week. But it hasn't been without its speed bumps. A further blow to the crypto enthusiast was seen last week as Turkey banned the use of cryptocurrencies and crypto assets to purchase goods and services. This followed recent sovereign decisions by India and China. [India will propose a ban on cryptocurrencies CLICK HERE](#) and fines on those trading or holding the assets. China banned such trading in 2017, slamming the brakes on a free-wheeling emerging crypto industry. [CLICK HERE](#). The popularity of decentralised finance have now begun to threaten the establishment of central Governments and their banks and monetary supply, as if Quantitative Easing hasn't already done so. These restrictive action bear the hallmark of concern regarding the alternatives which perceive to threaten traditional monetary systems. Bitcoin-related stocks including Riot Blockchain and Marathon Digital slumped about 4% after Turkey banned the use of cryptocurrencies and crypto assets to purchase goods and services. [CLICK HERE](#). The rise of Centralised Bank Digital currency will now come to the fore but the damage to the established Crypto currency market will initially be negative. Volatility is particularly acute in this unregulated bubble world of crypto trading. One must however be aware that the blockchain will not be going anywhere with \$1m payments being made through this mechanism, Crypto currency and its siblings will have their following despite attempts by Central Governments and Banks to derail its popularity to countries willing to adopt the alternative equivalent payment mechanism. One must always be observant of geopolitical threats in existence (Ukraine/ Russia military build-up, Taiwan US/ China relations) that may provide crypto a unique hedge against fiat currencies political risks. The proverb all that glitters is not always gold is resonant, but conversely expect gold to shine brightly in the event of continuing geo political tensions. The portfolio saw another disappointing week with a -4.75% decline. Much of the decline affected by the sporadic volatility of the crypto stocks. The portfolio holds Bitcoin-related stocks including Riot Blockchain and Marathon Digital which contributed significantly with a -11% [RB] and -20% [MH] a. High beta stocks always susceptible to market volatility. Most of the other shares saw lesser declines, notably Lakeland industrials [-6%] and Co diagnostics [-4%] which continues to frustrate. Co diagnostics despite their own hyperbole has seen a -55% fall since purchase recognising the fact that despite the topical choice when the market doesn't like a share lemmings fall away. The depletion in share price performance of Co-diagnostics is nothing but miserable and focusing on the stocks with far greater potential will be my aim for the future. The barking sounds of woof woof is all I here from co diagnostics and alas I now consider a lost cause. My focus for the remaining month of April will now be on stabilization and balancing the portfolio with decisions trying to stem disappointing shares which seem to be prevalent. I look to see if MARA and RIOT can bounce back but as in Life nothing is ever certain. As US earnings season is now upon us, earnings surprises (Stocks that beat analyst expectations) may show the way to the golden nuggets one which I will be looking for this week. Until next time.

[STRATEGY FOR week commencing 12 April](#) [6 April](#) [29 March](#) [22nd March](#) [15 March](#) [8 March](#) [1 March](#) [22nd February](#) [15 Feb](#) [8 Feb](#) [1 Feb](#) [25 Jan](#) [18 Jan](#) [11 Jan](#) [4 Jan](#) [28 Dec](#) [21 Dec](#) [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](#)