STRATEGY FOR week commencing 3 May – Last weeks FOMC US announcement that they are committed to using its full range of tools to support the U.S. economy continued to help markets sustain their elevated heights **CLICK HERE.** Whether by design or acceptance by the pandemic, everything is being done that could be done to hold the US on track to prevent the US economy from faltering its way into economic maelstrom. The month of May now beckons which traditionally is a poor month for share performance being the tenth rank in month of the year. Winter portfolios [November to April) normally outperform summer portfolios [May to October] in the so called six month effect where the 'sell in May' anomaly has become fashionable in empirical studies. One of the principal attractions of the Sell in May strategy is that it keeps investors out of the market during periods of high volatility. **CLICK HERE – Podcast sell in May and go away just won't go away podcast** . Earnings season continues in the US. Big tech companies were in vibrant mood as earnings continue to accede with blind obedience by the masses. 'Diversify or die' is a phrase that helps to dismiss the notion of putting all one eggs in one basket. This is ably reflected in Tesla's recent involvement investing part of its gigantic wealth in bitcoin. Tesla was one of the first headline grabbing companies to go public with reported revenues of $10.4 billion and a record-high $438 million in net profits. The company said it made $101 million from the sale of some of its bitcoin holdings after investing $1.5 billion in February. However, what's fascinating about that is its total net income for the period was just $464 million. Now if you strip out the $272 million from the sale of bitcoin, that leaves $192 million, which would have been a 35% fall in net income from the previous quarter ending 31 December 2020. By far from an endorsement, crypto mania like any other past bubble can take the masses by storm. Standing back and asking, But what are they actually buying is something to be borne in mind? Emperor's clothes or tulips from Amsterdam. Institutional level engagement came a step closer last week with American bank JP Morgan (The one behind the failed Football Super League) offering an actively managed bitcoin fund to its clients. Another fleece of the many by the few for the commissions charged with advisory services to boot. The US has seen resurgence in housing as interest rates remain at historically low levels and helicopter money being dished out as if like confetti. The effect of which has seen residential housing in boom territory mood **CLICK HERE .** Yet one must not forgot the terrible effects of the pandemic in India that continues to experience devastation from COVID. Societal effects in the UK, by contrast, look set to improve as lockdown measures begin to ease. Consequences of the pandemic have and still will be evident as a reported 5000 retail stores closed in the UK. Interpreting trends is always a worthwhile course and as such, sector rotation a way forward for the discerning. The FTSE 100 often underperforms the S&P 500 in this month. Last week, the portfolio managed to see a weekly +1.18% increase. Fulgent Genetics continued to see a decline of -8%; Emergent Solutions saw a price decline despite earnings surprise. Week on week Teradyne saw -4%, Ultra Clean Holdings -5%. In contrast Ameresco saw a +5%, Alamei Technology +2%. Last week MARA and RIOT blockchain recovered from prior weeks declines. MARA and RIOT are heavily correlated to Bitcoin and investor sentiment in this space. The talk of a digital dollar may have a destabilising effect on the continued rise of alternative cryptos. April was a disappointing month for the portfolio and I reluctantly retain the dog COVID shares for now. This week Fulton Genetics have their earnings report and I very much doubt that they will provide any solace given its miserable three month declining performance. With the best will in the world some shares just are not favoured by the market and my inclusion of stocks that I thought would have done well have just not performed leading me to accept that sector rotation to market friendly stocks such as D R Horton as a trade idea has proven to be worthwhile up 20% since purchase as an inevitable alternative a distinct possibility. This week is one for continued review and potential dismissal of the frustrating laggards that have so disappointed. Until next time.