



# RHODES

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Client Bulletin  
October 2020



## Foreword

Adam Rhodes

*Managing Director, Rhodes Wealth Management*

As the autumn leaves begin to fall, and we move into colder months, I think many of us were hoping that the Coronavirus pandemic would be a distant memory. With increased infection levels and recent government announcements, it has become abundantly clear that this is not the case.

What we can rely on though, is our ability to continually adapt to the challenges we are facing whilst supporting one another.

When we think of our health, we often think of our physical fitness, but it is more important than ever to consider mental health as an aspect of our overall wellbeing. At the beginning of lockdown, we saw many examples of support for neighbours and vulnerable members of the community, and recognition for the hard work of our health service's frontline staff.

Sometimes, providing support can take smaller forms. Taking the time to pick up the phone to a family member for a catch up, arranging a virtual coffee chat with a colleague, or simply making an effort to ask people how their day is going all contribute positively to our mental wellbeing.

We are each facing individual challenges during this pandemic, and whilst we cannot control many aspects of what is happening around us, we can control the support we offer to others.

At Rhodes Wealth Management, we have recently conducted our second team wellbeing survey and asked for suggestions on how else we might be able to provide support to our colleagues during this uncertain time. We have diarised regular video catch ups throughout the week, and even have the odd virtual quiz!

We are of course also here to support you, our clients. We are happy to provide telephone, video or socially distanced face to face consultations at a time convenient to you. We are also proud to have dedicated Client Services Manager Nina Blurton on the team, who will be happy to talk through any feedback you may have for the practice – we are always seeking to improve the service we deliver.

Adam Rhodes BA Hons ACSI Dip PFS Cert CII (FS)  
Director of Rhodes Wealth Management Ltd



# Derbyshire Business Awards

## *Finalists*



This year, we are delighted to be announced as finalists in two categories for the Derbyshire East Midlands Chamber Business Awards.

We are competing as finalists in the 'Excellence for Customer Service' and 'Commitment to People Development' categories. The awards will be judged virtually by a panel of representatives from both the East Midlands Chamber and local business owner sponsors.

In November 2019, we created the role of Client Service Manager and Nina Blurton to join the team at Rhodes. As a result, we have been able to closely measure our levels of client satisfaction through personalised phone calls and build a world-class level of client excellence, according to the globally recognised Net Promoter Score.

Our reputation and brand image has continued to grow, helping us to build more client referrals through providing the best levels of service at every opportunity.

It has been a challenging year and we have quickly had to adapt some of our traditional activities. We have maximised our virtual presence by hosting a range of complimentary webinars this summer, both educational and social, whilst reaching out to clients through a monthly newsletter and well-being calls, to maintain regular contact with our clients and keep them up to date with the latest practice information.

Despite the challenges of the year, our team of 27 have continued to focus on their professional development throughout 2020, further building their qualifications. We continue to work closely as a management team on our team's wellbeing as they work from home in unprecedented circumstances and carry out wellbeing surveys to identify any issues the team may be facing or improvements to be made.

We look forward to the awards and wish all finalists the best of luck, we are thrilled to be amongst such a fantastic range of businesses throughout the Midlands.



# Life under lockdown in Tanzania

## *An update from Pamoja Leo*



Rhodes Wealth Management is proud to partner with Tanzania and UK based charity 'Pamoja Leo', and they have been kind enough to provide an insight into how the Coronavirus pandemic has affected life in their community and the work they do:

'The spread of Coronavirus was something that came to Tanzania quickly and without time for us to prepare. We were told on the 18th of March that all school and day-cares would be closed to help reduce the spread of Coronavirus. My number one worry was ensuring the children had food available for them.

Pamoja Leo's amazing team set out to create a response plan that would address all the concerns we had:

### ***Food Parcels***

We delivered food for 370 people every two weeks throughout the crisis – over 4.4 tonnes of food in total.

I am so proud and thankful for a big team of donors and volunteers that made it possible and because of that we were able to feed and keep all the children in the project healthy and happy. Many of our children who were underweight had gained weight and were getting healthier.

This would not have been accomplished without the amazing staff that Rhodes Wealth Management support at Pamoja Leo that packed and dropped all the food out every 2 weeks.

### ***Health and Hygiene***

The day lockdown was announced we distributed over 200 bars of soap and we carried out training for all caregivers. The training included the best ways to keep hygienic and safe as well as how to protect their children and their community.

In the following weeks we distributed 250 reusable masks to the community as well as 100s to all social workers and community workers within the Tanga region with hand washing stations and sanitizers.

### ***Education***

Education is a crucial part of helping them deal with trauma as well as get them prepared for starting school. To ensure the children's education was not impacted by coronavirus we printed 1000s of worksheets that were given out every 2 weeks, we purchased toys to distribute to ensure they were playing during lockdown and we bought 25 MP3 players and distributed them with pre-recorded lessons to ensure all children were supported through their learning.



# Life under lockdown in Tanzania

## *An update from Pamoja Leo - Cont.*



The past 3 months in lockdown were some of the most challenging I have experienced since we have opened the centre. I am forever thankful that I have some such an amazing team that brought together our Covid-19 response plan.

That is the beauty of being a small charity is we can be responsive and deeply connected to the needs of the children we help. It is also why the consistent monthly support of our Business partners that donate each month is important as we are able to respond to the families and children's needs.

We are already starting to get back to a new normal; redesigning the path to independence for each family.

Just last week we started 4 new chicken keeping businesses for grandmas, aunts and single mothers caring for orphaned and vulnerable children that attend our Family First Daycare.

We know that times are hard but we also have felt the true spirit of togetherness through the support of a large global community that continues to show up for children.'

**Georgina Harris-Hill,**  
*cofounder of Pamoja Leo.*

If you would like to find out more about the fantastic work that Pamoja Leo do, or become a regular contributor, please visit their website: <https://pamojaleo.org/>



## Client Events

Stay in touch with us through our regular client events

### **Quarterly Market Update**

Webinar with guest speaker Tim Knight from  
St. James's Place Wealth Management

*When: 14th October 2020*

*Time: 2pm*

*Location: Virtual*

### **Earn It, Keep It, Grow It! Children's Interactive Session (7-11 years old)**

Webinar with Investment Director Rob Gardner from St. James's  
Place Wealth Management

*When: 22nd October 2020*

*Time: 4:30pm*

*Location: Virtual*

### **Quarterly Market Update**

Webinar with guest speaker Tim Knight from  
St. James's Place Wealth Management

*When: 2nd November 2020*

*Time: 6pm*

*Location: Virtual*

*Register your interest at*  
[www.rhodeswealthmanagement.co.uk/events](http://www.rhodeswealthmanagement.co.uk/events)



# Could now be the ideal time to move home?



Earlier this year, Rishi Sunak announced a stamp duty holiday across England and Northern Ireland, running until March 2021 to boost the housing market in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to this change, if you are thinking of moving home, you could save up to £15,000 on the purchase of a new property. First-time buyers were already exempt from stamp duty up to the property value of £300,000 (or in the case of a property purchase between £300-£500,000 the first £300,000 of the value), so those looking to get on the property ladder for the first time are unaffected.

Stamp duty can be one of the most significant costs for consideration when purchasing a house and could be a deal-breaker for some weighing up whether to improve their existing home or take the leap and move somewhere new.

As a result, now could be a great opportunity to make the move and start looking for that dream home.

What could you do with your additional savings? Savings on stamp duty could provide the opportunity to refresh a dated kitchen, replace an avocado bathroom suite or even overhaul the garden.

Stamp duty savings could also be an opportunity to explore overpaying your mortgage on your new home. Paying off your mortgage sooner than planned can assist with saving on interest incurred over the long-term.

At Rhodes Wealth Management, we have a dedicated mortgage team available to assist you in exploring your options. If you are looking to purchase a property or remortgage, we are here to help.

Call us today to arrange a friendly conversation with one of our mortgage advisers, on 01332 497670, or email the office at [rwm@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:rwm@sjpp.co.uk).

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.



# *Keeping in touch with you*

As our normal way of life continues to be affected, we at Rhodes Wealth Management are looking at new ways in which we can ensure you are fully up to date with your St. James's Place policies and plans. Further disruptions are expected to the Royal Mail network, so we want to ensure that you do not miss out on any important communications, by inviting you to register for your Online Wealth Account.

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The St. James's Place Online Wealth Account offers secure access to the following services online:

- View the value of your investments in a range of currencies and see a breakdown of that valuation.
- Access SJP Insights for the latest investment news.
- Receive electronic correspondence and update your future mail preferences.
- Receive important electronic communications directly from St. James's Place.
- Use your debit card to make payments to St. James's Place.
- Top up your ISA with your debit card at a time that suits you.
- By registering for electronic correspondence, you will also be helping us to reduce our environmental impact.

Contact the team on 01332 497670 or via email on [rwm@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:rwm@sjpp.co.uk) to register for the Online Wealth Account.

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Did you know that St. James's Place produces regular informative and topical insights into the world of investments and finance? Covering a range of topics from retirement to protecting your business, insights are here to help you make informed decisions about your wealth.

Visit the 'Insights' section of our website to access the most recent market updates and register for our complimentary e-briefing service.



## Testimonials



At Rhodes Wealth Management we sincerely value feedback from our clients. We aim to deliver the highest levels of satisfaction and build long-term relationships, meaning that we are able to provide support through major life events and all phases of our clients' financial journeys.

*"Gavin has been giving me financial advice and life advice for over 4 years and has always put my needs first. He is always professional but friendly when he visits to keep information and advice updated. I would thoroughly recommend him, and indeed have, to anyone who is looking for a reliable and trustworthy service."*

*"I worked with Adam Rhodes to review my pensions and to evaluate potential options. Adam provided sound advice on the advantage and disadvantages of the alternatives, and has also introduced me to people he trusts to review our mortgage and update wills\*. I am very happy with the decisions taken and feel confident that working with Adam has provided financial security for me and my family."*

*"This, my first investment with Mr. Webster, proved to be satisfactory in every way. The points raised by myself were all adequately cleared and discussion of performance indicators and other cyclical elements affecting investment most interesting and assuring – a sound Partner."*

*"We have loved working with Tiffany. She has always taken time to understand our needs and found solutions that work, often in difficult circumstances. Tiffany is adept at dealing with challenging personalities, and we would recommend her to anyone needing advice and support in moving forwards."*

\*Will writing involves the referral to a service that is separate and distinct to those offered by St. James's Place. Wills are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.





# RHODES

## WEALTH MANAGEMENT

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