

From: Grow | Marinis Group
Sent: Friday, 31 January 2014 2:36 PM
To: Grow | Marinis Group
Subject: Happy New Year 2014

Dear Friends

Happy 2014 and indeed, the signs are that it will be a good year for investors and savers but as all my fellow economists quote the Latin "Ceteris Paribus"... which roughly translates to mean 'if everything stays the same'.

The primary reason for my confidence is that it seems the US and Europe have managed to come out of the GFC – they are two of the three legs of the 'economic stool' the world rests upon (China being the third.)

Locally, we can expect some silliness in Canberra after the new senate is sworn in mid-year when the balance of power changes, however the effect on the market is likely to be minor as investors primarily draw their lead from overseas.

Australia will experience a raft of federal public servants either taking redundancy or choosing to retire due to the extra burden the work-force reduction will cause. While I am concerned about the lost experience from the country's point of view, it is probably a great time for the individuals involved. They have some exciting opportunities to maximise their retirement benefits – if they get advice first.

Many Marinis Financial Group investors will be delighted when they look at the returns their investments generated in 2013. They will see, in most cases, the best figures in 20 years! Of course I should pretend that this is all because of my brilliant skills... but as you know, I'm not into fibs. The underlying returns are good, healthy, stable long-term benefits of continued investing, the froth and bubble which makes them look so exciting is generated by the international markets 'coming good' and the Australian dollar returning to a more sensible level against the US dollar.

One upside of the depressed investment period over the last five years is that those who have been quietly putting their superannuation away every fortnight, or those investing in a structured manner, have been buying very good quality assets at a far cheaper price than in more normal times. This discount means that the long-term impact on retirement benefits should be very good.

Over the Christmas period it is quite normal for families to make important decisions such as when to retire, to sell a property or to change circumstances. If you have reached an important decision making time like this, there may be some important financial planning issues you need to consider – and opportunities for you to take advantage of before the decision becomes a reality. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the team at Marinis Financial Group if you would like to discuss your personal financial situation. We are here for you.

Finally best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014.

Yours sincerely

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