

Alchemy

Kismet Financial Services

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Commentary taken from "Oliver's Insights". Dr Shane Oliver is AMP's Chief Economist. Market update of 15/3/2011.

Oliver's Insights. The likely economic and financial impact of Japan's earthquake.

- The Japanese earthquake has caused terrible human suffering and our thoughts are with the Japanese people and all those affected.
- In the short term, the earthquake will likely depress Japan's economy as a result of damage to factories, power supply, transport infrastructure and confidence. However, by the second half of the year the rebuilding effort is likely to result in a boost to growth.
- While it has added to short-term uncertainty in global investment markets, we don't expect the earthquake to derail the global economic recovery or growth in Australia. In fact, increased commodity demand associated with rebuilding will ultimately provide a boost for Australia. We continue to see the recent pullback in share markets as a correction, and not the start of a new bear market.

Special competition for our newsletter readers.

Email our office on kismet@ampfp.com.au and tell us what the maximum number of times a piece of paper can be folded, and you will go into a draw to win 2 tickets to Village, Greater Union, Birch Carroll & Coyle or Event Cinemas. The answer can be found within the newsletter. The tickets are valid until September 2011 but cannot be used on Saturdays after 5pm. Forward our newsletter to your family and friends and they are welcome to enter. Answers must be sent via email by 30/4/2011 to be accepted. Good luck and have fun!



Need a home, commercial or personal loan?

Natalie is accredited to broker loan solutions to our clients. If you are looking for a personal loan, commercial loan or a home loan or simply wish to see if your current loan is the best available for your needs, call the office for an appointment on 9467 3355 or 5964 6099.



Another Bonus With your Newborn

Are you expecting a baby? Here's some more great news to look forward to.

For babies born after 1 January 2011, the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme will provide you with up to 18 weeks of paid leave. And this is on top of any work provided leave entitlements you are also eligible for!

Generally speaking, paid parental leave will be available to the primary carer of a newborn (or adopted) child – typically the child's mother – where that person meets certain criteria including a work, residency and income test. There are also specific rules around returning to work.

The Government's paid parental leave scheme will mean that young families will have an extra \$570 a week (before tax), and the only real catch is that the payment must be received during a continuous 18 week period and within 12 months of the child's birth or adoption (a maximum payment of \$10,260 over 18 weeks).

This means that by carefully planning how you take any work provided leave entitlements, you can get the best from both the Government and your employer.

Consider Mary and Michael, who are expecting their third child in June. It is something that they have been planning for some time and Mary has saved up 6 weeks of annual leave. She is also fortunate enough to work for an employer who provides paid maternity leave of 6 weeks.

Given their family's current financial situation, Mary is expecting to return to work after 6 months on a part-time basis.

Mary has nominated for her paid parental leave to start immediately after her 12 weeks of work-provided leave. Unfortunately, as Mary is planning to return to work after 26 weeks (ie. 6 months), she will only be eligible for 14 weeks of the government paid parental leave, not the maximum 18 weeks.

To maximise Mary's entitlement to the Government Paid Parental Leave Scheme, Mary could save a few weeks of her annual leave – by nominating an earlier commencement date – or defer her return to work by several weeks.

It also means that for new parents, who have had (or adopted) a child since 1 January 2011, but have not yet claimed their paid parental leave entitlement, it is not too late – but time is ticking.

While for the majority of parents, this new scheme will be a welcome benefit to accompany their newest addition to the family, it is important to understand the impacts of claiming this payment. In some cases, claiming this payment may leave you worse off.

For example, payments received will be taxable and, if you claim this payment, it will mean that you are not eligible for the Baby Bonus. In some cases, it may be possible to salary sacrifice these payments into super to minimise tax. There are also a number of other considerations that may affect certain Family Tax Benefits.

As with any financial decision you make, it is important to get the right advice. So contact us today to make sure you are able to maximise the benefits of this new scheme.

What you need to know

Information current as at February 2011. This article contains general information only. It does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Please consider the appropriateness of the information in light of your personal circumstances. Some of the information in this article is based on our interpretation of the law. It is a summary of the subject matter covered and is not intended to be comprehensive legal, tax or financial advice. No reader should act on the basis of this article without obtaining specific professional advice. Further details are available from your planner or AMP Financial Planning Pty Limited, telephone **1300 157 173**.

“Delicious Autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive Autumns.”

George Elliot

Classic Autumn Fare

Chicken Provencale

Serves 4

Ingredients

1 red capsicum, quartered & deseeded
1 yellow capsicum, quartered & deseeded
1tbs olive oil
1.5kg chicken thigh pieces, excess fat trimmed
2 brown onions, halved & cut into wedges
2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
1/2 cup of white wine
1 660ml bottle of passata (tomato pasta sauce)
1 cup of chicken stock
8 sprigs of fresh thyme
1/2 cup of pitted black olives



Method

Preheat grill on high. Place combined capsicum, skin side up, under the grill and cook for 8-10 minutes or until charred and blistered. Transfer to a sealed bag. Set aside for 10 minutes (this helps lift the skin). Remove the skin from the capsicum and cut the flesh into thick strips.

Preheat oven to 200°C. Heat the oil in a large frying pan over medium-high heat. Add half the chicken and cook, turning occasionally, for 5 minutes or until browned. Transfer to a large baking dish. Repeat with the remaining chicken.

Add the onion to the pan and cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes or until golden. Add the garlic and cook for 2 minutes or until aromatic. Add the wine and cook for 2 minutes or until reduced by half. Add the capsicum, passata, stock and thyme. Season with salt and pepper.

Pour the sauce over the chicken. Bake for 45 minutes or until chicken is cooked through

Notes

May be served with mixed salad leaves, or for those colder Autumn days try mashed potato and fresh crusty bread

Recipe adapted from taste.com.au



Our wine guru, Natalie, suggests the following to accompany:

< \$15 Borsao Tocado grenache blend. Rich, juicy, lightly oaked grenache which will not overpower the chicken. Spanish import, retails for the bargain price of @ \$9

\$15-\$30 Giant Steps chardonnay. A Yarra Valley Chardonnay with rich fruit and butterscotch flavours. Has a crisp finish that will go well with the flavoursome chicken

\$30-\$50 Dog Point pinot noir. From New Zealand, this pinot has big flavours of dark cherries with a very smooth finish. A relatively heavy pinot that won't be washed out by the richness of the dish

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“I think animal testing is a terrible idea; they get all nervous and give the wrong answers.”

Unknown

Yet More Completely Useless Facts

- One out of 20 people have an extra rib
- Istanbul, Turkey is the only city in the world located on two continents
- Orca's when travelling in groups, breath in unison
- No piece of paper can be folded more than seven times
- Most lipsticks contain fish scales
- Chickens with red earlobes will produce brown eggs, and a chicken with white earlobes will produce white eggs
- The shortest war in history was between Zanzibar and England in 1896. Zanzibar surrendered after 38 minutes
- Emus cannot walk backwards
- Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise
- French soldiers during World War 1 had the nickname “poilu” which translates to “hairy one”
- Tomato sauce is a good conditioner for the hair. It also helps with the greenish tinge that some blonde people get after swimming in water with chlorine in it
- The word “lethologica” describes the state of not being able to remember the word you want (bit of a self fulfilling prophesy with this one!)
- An armadillo can walk under water
- A rabbit is not able to vomit
- Apples are part of the rose family

Greatfacts.com

From the big to the small, Kismet does it all!

Just a reminder that our financial advisors can assist you with anything from arranging extremely attractive corporate super packages for business's of all sizes, to developing your personal budget and dealing with Centrelink. If you are wondering if we can help you or your business, call us today on **94673355** or **59646099** and let our planners guide you to a better future.