



"Plan today, protect tomorrow"

M: 021 883 995 T: (09) 410 2014

P: PO Box 65033, Mairangi Bay, 0754

E: malcolm@momentumfinancial.co.nz

W: www.momentumfinancial.co.nz

6 ways to get your finances under control



We all want to be worry free and enjoy life when it comes to money. But if a good proportion goes towards the mortgage, school costs, car running and other general expenses, then it's not easy. But here are some things that can help a lot.

1. Start an emergency fund. Say \$30 per payday. If you are paid fortnightly, that builds to \$780 a year. This is for car bills, dentist or other unexpected expenses. Just having this takes pressure away.
2. Pay yourself and your partner a weekly allowance (in cash). This is for coffees, drinks, lunches... all the little discretionary things.

3. Set up auto-payments for everything you can. This way you will never be late with a bill and know how much you have left each month.

4. Give yourself a BIG goal and you will be amazed at how quickly you reach it. This could be a trip overseas, a new car or a new deck on the house... if it is a clear goal then every time you go to spend, you will think "That could be going towards the deck". Get it?

5. Never pay full price! Once you know what you want, internet stalk it! Find the cheapest place to buy it. You might be surprised what 10 minutes searching will save you.

6. Park the credit card! This is the big one. Take it out of your wallet and put it away somewhere. It is for emergencies and not for everyday expenses.

No single thing will make a huge difference, but lots of little things like these do. Have a good think about them and watch the difference they can make.



With so many people paying more for houses and buying more "stuff" on credit, the focus in this edition is on debt.

There are some helpful hints on managing your money, but also a reminder that where you have debt you are exposing yourself and your family to risk.

And that's not just about personal debt. If you have your own business and you've used the family home as security for the loan from your 'friendly bank', your exposure to risk is even greater.

Let me know if I can help you put a plan in place to manage your exposure to that risk. Happy reading!

- Malcolm Aston



Germany is to blame!

No, not for another war, but in 1880, Germany's first Chancellor, Otto von Bismarck introduced the world's first state pension. He deliberately chose 65 because the average life expectancy of a German at the time was just 45 and the

burden on the state would therefore be minimal. But now we live longer, a LOT longer! 85 and 90 are not rare at all now.

So having kiwiSaver and other retirement investment strategies in place for your 20 to 30 years in retirement is must now. Ask me about this if it concerns you at all.

Why should you review your life insurances?



The reason you should regularly review your insurances is that at the time they were taken out, they were exactly what was appropriate.

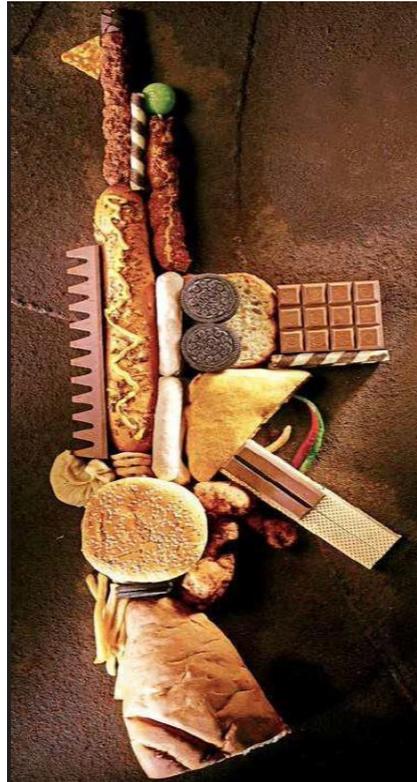
BUT, nothing ever stays the same and you may now have policies you don't need or may be grossly inadequate or the wrong type. Why should you review?

- * Your income changed.
- * You changed houses.
- * You added to your mortgage.
- * You bought a rental property.
- * You had a new child.
- * You went into business.
- * You took on a business partner.
- * You took on business debt.
- * You either got married or divorced. This is without doubt a very important time to review!
- * You changed jobs
- * You are about to retire.

As you can see, this list is extensive, and each one has an implication to your family's life insurances.

Answers: 1) He was born on December 31st and spoke about it on January 1st. 2) Everest. It just wasn't discovered yet. 3) Just one if they are all combined

Your health's real weapons of mass destruction



Simple approach to a healthy life...

Cut down on carbs – bread, rice, potatoes, flour based products

Cut down on sugar filled products like chocolate, donuts, ice-cream and cakes.

Don't eliminate them – that's too hard – just cut back.

Is the family home the security for your business debt?



Many new businesses use the family home and other personal assets as security for capital.

This is fine if you have the right protections in place such as family trusts and insurances. Protecting against an inability to generate an income if the business relies on your personal work efforts or that of a business partner is important.

It is very easy to set up such protections, so that an issue on one side doesn't affect the other.

I am able to advise you on the right mix of protections for if you have indeed mixed personal and business assets.

Call me now for a conversation about how I can help.

1. The day before yesterday I was 25 and the next year I will be 28. This is true only one day in a year. What day is my birthday?
2. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
3. A farmer has five haystacks in one field and four haystacks in another. How many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in one field?



I am delighted to say that most of my new clients are referrals from happy existing clients. Please pass my name and number on to friends, work colleagues and family whom you believe may benefit from my services.