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## **New Year Newsletter**

**Down Ratley**

**RAYMOND JAMES®**  

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**INVESTMENT SERVICES**

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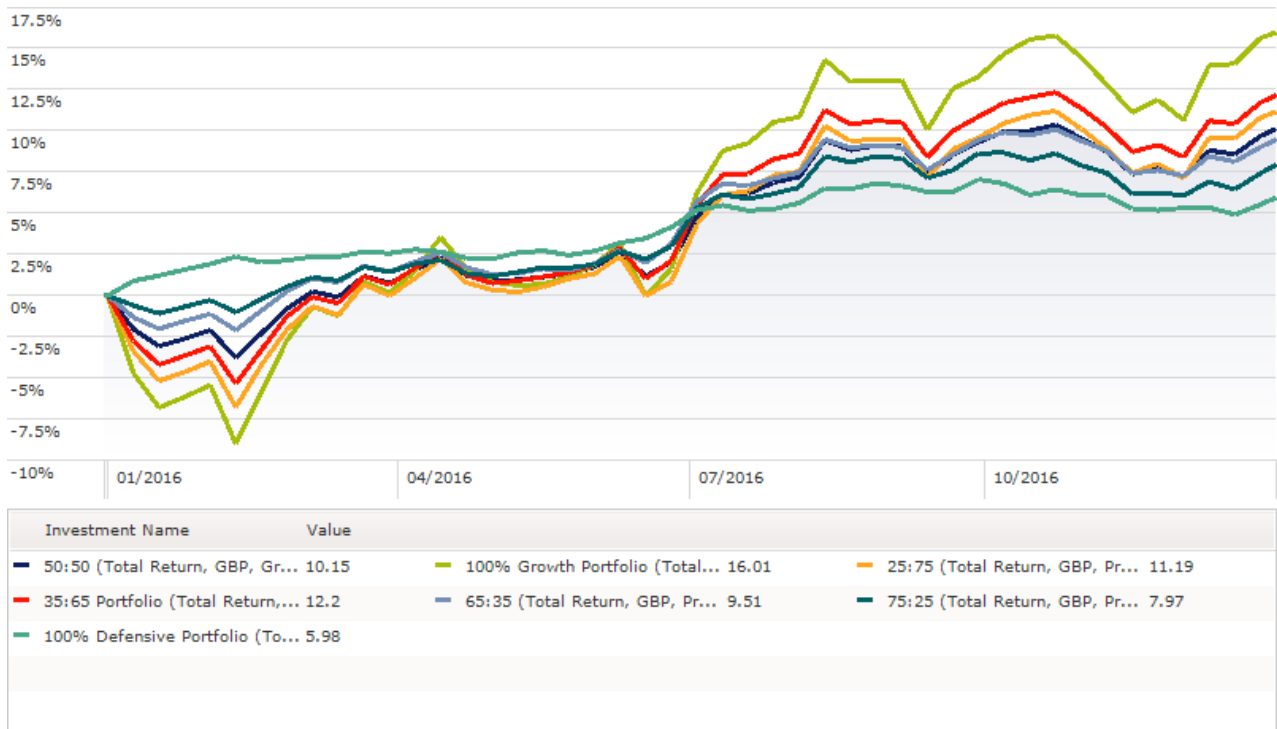
## Last Year/This Year

There is a lot to be said for keeping life simple particularly when it comes to investing.

Last year in 2016 this was more evident than ever. Who could have predicted Brexit, Trump and that Marmite would rise in price by 12.5%!!

If the experts had successfully predicted the above, would they then have predicted the positive investment returns as experienced in our portfolios over the year (see the chart below)?

As a result, over the Christmas period we completed our quarterly review and rebalance of your portfolios and in general have sold down on growth assets which have risen and added to our defensive elements in order to keep the required weightings.



Source- Morningstar Adviser Workstation

Please note that management fees and associated costs levied in conjunction with all portfolios will reduce the gross performance shown.

## **Going forward**

The truth is nobody knows and that it is impossible to consistently call the direction of markets. We will have plenty to fret over in 2017 particularly with the political landscape in Europe and the media will ensure there is plenty of doom and gloom to sell their papers.

As ever, we will not spend too much time trying to forecast events and predict the outcomes of such events.

Instead we will, as always, keep a diversified portfolio of fixed interest, property and shares across the world and review regularly. Some assets will do well, some not so well.

This strategy works in most years and certainly over a number of years.

Our suggestion for the New Year is to keep enough cash for your holidays and any emergencies and concentrate on the pastimes you enjoy.

We will continue to monitor the portfolios and keep a good spread of investments to smooth the way.

As ever if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us

Best wishes.

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