

# Member

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARITIME SUPER MEMBERS

## FOCUS



August 2017  
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# Market review ...

## A strong year for investment markets

With global economic growth faring well, investment markets were strong throughout the financial year, hitting double digits for most asset classes. From November 2016, markets rallied following the unexpected election of US President Donald Trump; with many believing that a Trump leadership would contribute significantly to the economy as a result of fiscal spending, tax cuts and the deregulation of the financial sector. The US economy remained resilient despite reduced intervention from the Federal Reserve, which commenced its path to interest rate normalisation in December 2016 and announced plans to begin reducing the balance sheet in late 2017.

In Europe, economic recovery continued to be supported by the European Central Bank's Quantitative Easing program, which was extended by 9 months until December 2017. In the UK, equity returns were below the broader European market as uncertainty regarding the path towards 'Brexit' was compounded by the results of the snap election in June, which led to a hung parliament.

Australia's economy expanded reasonably over the year. A sharp reversal of commodity prices contributed positively to the domestic recovery and boosted Australia's monthly trade surplus to the highest ever on record in December 2016. The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) held a more constructive view on the economy as the year progressed. Interest rates have been on hold since August 2016, when the RBA cut interest rates by 0.25% to 1.5% in an attempt to further support economic recovery.

### Australian shares

Australian shares, as measured by the S&P/ASX300 Index, performed strongly for most of the year, returning 13.8%, buoyed by positive investor sentiment and expectations that the broadening economy would be supportive of the commodities markets. Market returns however weakened towards the end of the year, led down by the banking sector. The May 2017 release of the Federal Budget included a proposal to impose a new levy on major banks which led to a reduction in their returns.

There were pronounced differences in sector performance across the Australian market over the year, with the Materials sector rising (24.5%) on the back of a sharp recovery in commodity prices, while the Telecommunications Services (-21.2%) sector performed very poorly, primarily driven by stock specific issues.

### International shares

International shares, as represented by the MSCI World ex-Australia Index, rose 21.2% on a hedged basis (in AUD) while the unhedged return was also very strong at 15.4%, following the Australian dollar's appreciation over the year. Emerging markets outperformed developed markets, with the MSCI Emerging Markets Index rising 20.5% (unhedged) for the year.

The Japanese equity market was one of the best performing developed markets, rising 30.2% over the year. This was largely driven by a sharp depreciation of the Japanese Yen against the USD, which strongly increased the competitiveness of Japanese exporting companies in particular.



## Property

Australian unlisted property outperformed their listed counterparts to generate a strong 12.0% return over the financial year.

## Fixed Interest

After several years of strong returns, fixed interest markets were subdued over the financial year. Global inflation linked bonds (3.0%, hedged into AUD) provided the best returns within the Fixed Interest asset class, while global government bonds (0.5%, hedged into AUD) and Australian government bonds (0.2%) performed poorly as global yields rose over the financial year.

## Cash

The RBA lowered the cash rate by 0.25% during the year, which is currently 1.50%.

## Maritime Super's investment strategy

As always, Maritime Super's investment strategy remains focused on long-term fundamentals and diversifying across all asset classes, sectors, regions and markets.

If you have any questions about investments, call 1800 757 607 to speak with a financial planner.

## Investment performance

to 30 June 2017

	3 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Australian Shares	0.85%	11.66%	7.96%	N/A	N/A
International Shares	3.59%	17.50%	8.72%	N/A	N/A
Growth	2.30%	12.34%	8.11%	11.13%	3.89%
Growth MVP	2.08%	9.82%	6.54%	N/A	N/A
Balanced	1.99%	10.44%	6.99%	9.45%	4.39%
Moderate	1.82%	8.98%	5.91%	N/A	N/A
Conservative	1.20%	5.54%	4.30%	5.92%	4.20%
Cash Enhanced	0.48%	2.16%	2.22%	2.78%	3.57%
Cash	0.33%	1.39%	1.73%	1.94%	N/A

The 1, 3, 5 and 10-year returns are per annum for the periods ending 30 June 2017, and the 3-month return is the actual return for the quarter to 30 June 2017.

These returns are based on movements in unit prices and are net of asset-based fees and taxes. The returns apply to accumulation accounts; different rates of return apply to pension accounts. Refer to the website or call Member Services for more information.

Note that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.



NEW

# Website

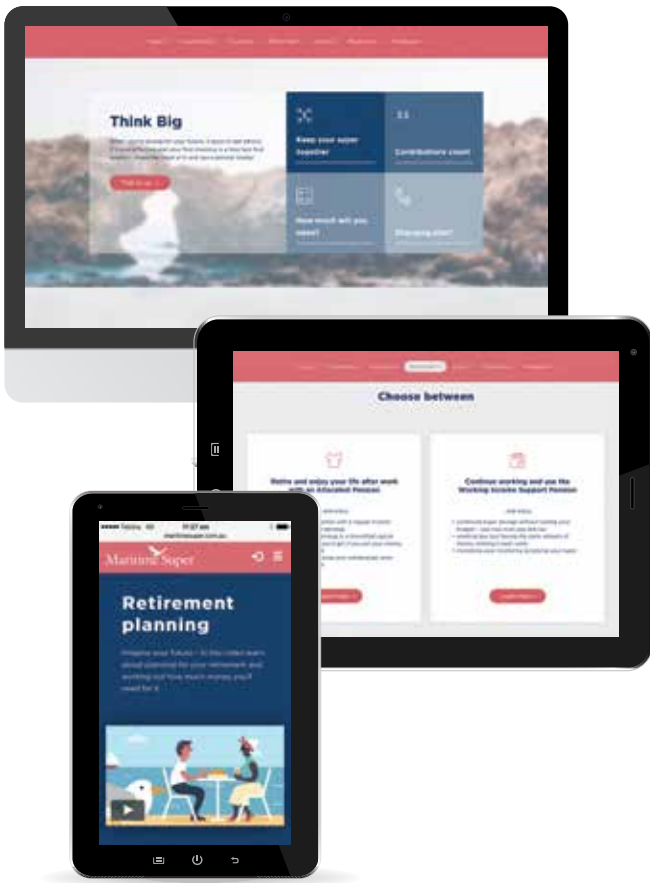
If you've visited our website recently, you'll have noticed a whole new look and feel.



Our new website provides members with a personalised online experience. With a fresh look, new resources and an intuitive design, it's geared to help you make the most of your super.

## A responsive design that's ideal for mobile devices

It's fully optimised for mobile devices, with a scroll-down format that lets you explore and easily access online information.

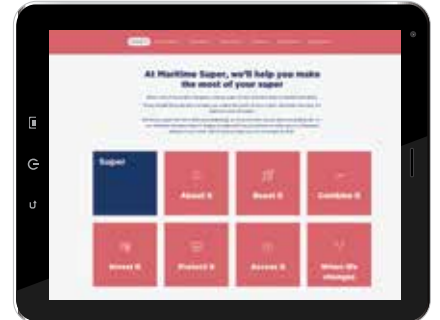


Visit [www.maritimesuper.com.au](http://www.maritimesuper.com.au) and start exploring ...

## Easy navigation

We've restructured our menus to make them easy to navigate so that you can get the information you're after with fewer clicks.

Each menu has a large graphical menu with tabs and icons for sub-menus - plus we've used easy language with no jargon!



## A unique online experience

Our website focuses on relevant content delivery to make your online experience meaningful - this is achieved through seamless integration with Member Online.

Log in to Member Online to have your online experience personalised - you'll see campaigns, tips and information that's uniquely tailored for you!

## Even more resources and new videos

In our Resources section, you'll find everything you need to learn about super - from calculators to fact sheets and everything in between!

We've introduced new videos which are a short, fun way to learn - check them out!

## Online rollover tool

Other features include an online rollover tool - combine all of your super accounts in a few quick and easy steps and directly submit.



# 6 seconds with

## Craig Austen Financial Planner



**If you live in Western Australia, there's a good chance that you've met or spoken with Craig Austen, who looks after our WA-based members. Craig has provided quality financial advice to members of Industry Super Funds for 18 years.**

**Here, Craig shares his financial planning tips and tells us what his own dream retirement looks like.**

### **Craig, you've been with Maritime Super for about 12 months - what do you enjoy most about your work?**

I really enjoy the face-to-face contact with members, helping them understand their superannuation and retirement options as well as being able to provide personal advice which is tailored to their needs.

I am driven by the goal of helping members and their families achieve financial security in retirement, and it's a very satisfying feeling to know that I am making a difference.

### **Describe your typical day ...**

I'm an early starter and I'm usually in the office by around 7.45am which allows me to catch up on emails, keep my professional development up to date and review client files.

Once I'm all caught up, a lot of my day is spent responding to telephone and email enquiries and dealing with both 'walk in' and scheduled appointments.

Some days also include visiting worksites to promote awareness of Maritime Super, how we can help members and to be on hand to answer general super questions that members have.

### **What's the most important piece of advice you could give members?**

Invest some time to learn about your superannuation and the options that you have.

It's also worthwhile remembering that Maritime Super offers reasonably priced professional advice.

### **What's a common misconception you find members have regarding financial planning?**

Some members think that we have a 'crystal ball' - financial planning is not about trying to pick which way the investment markets are going to move in the future.

Financial planning is all about sitting down with members, helping them to understand their current situation, talking through their goals and objectives and then using our professional knowledge around the superannuation system, taxation, Centrelink and other areas to devise a strategy and provide recommendations which are aligned with their goals and objectives.

### **Every member's retirement dream is different - what does your dream retirement look like?**

Having two teenage boys working through their secondary schooling and university, retirement is still some way off for me. I really enjoy the work that I do, and I have no intention to retire (fully). Ideally, at some point in the future, it would be good to be able to move to part-time employment and if this were to eventuate, I will probably continue working indefinitely.

### **When you're not helping members plan for their financial future, what would you find you doing in your spare time?**

Most of my weekend is spent either watching my kids play sport (AFL, baseball and cricket), following the amateur football club that I played for, or watching sports on TV. I'm an active contributor to the community sporting clubs which my kids and I are involved with, and have been awarded Life Membership in two of them. In the summer, I enjoy boating in the Mandurah estuary and catching Blue Manna crabs.

**Craig is a Fremantle-based financial planner who travels frequently around WA to meet with members.**

**To make an appointment with Craig, call 1800 757 607 or visit the 'Advice' section at [www.maritimesuper.com.au](http://www.maritimesuper.com.au) to book online.**



## 2018 Calendar

### Submit your photo for a chance to win!

Our members get to see some amazing landscapes and scenery – whether it's a photo of your team working on the wharf or even a selfie at sea, we love you sharing your photos with us!

We're compiling a shortlist of member photos for our 2018 Calendar. If you have a maritime-themed photo that you'd like to submit for the Calendar, email it to us (we need the highest quality images for printing purposes).

Of the 12 photos shortlisted for our 2018 Calendar, we will select a 'Photo of the Year' and the winner will receive a \$500 Coles Myer gift voucher.



 Simply email your photo to [info@maritimesuper.com.au](mailto:info@maritimesuper.com.au) by 1 October 2017.

### Save at tax-time:

## Lodge your tax return from just \$59

Members have access to discounted tax services through Guideway Financial Services, where you can lodge your tax return from just \$59.

**Call Member Services to learn more**



### Next Fixed Term Investment starts 1 September 2017

You have until **25 August 2017** to invest in the Fixed Term Investment.

Simply complete the *Fixed Term Investment application* available from our website or by calling Member Services.

Refer to the website in mid-August for the interest rates.

This newsletter has been issued by Maritime Financial Services Pty Limited (MFS). Refer to the Financial Services Guide for more information on MFS. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this newsletter, MFS gives no warranty as to the reliability of this information. This newsletter contains general information and doesn't take into account your individual objectives or financial situation or needs. Consequently, you should consider the appropriateness of any general information in relation to your situation before making an investment decision. MFS recommends you seek individual advice before making any decisions concerning your superannuation.

The Fund's Product Disclosure Statements (PDS) and MFS' Financial Services Guide are available by calling Member Services on 1800 757 607. You should consider the PDS when deciding whether to acquire or to continue to hold a product. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance.

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