

# Johnny Timpson's 2016 Overview

Johnny Timpson of Scottish Widows (our 2014 Personality of the Year award winner) has long been a key player in helping what we at Protection Review and others are trying to achieve in getting the messages about protection insurance across better. Years ago Johnny facilitated getting the late Dr Marius Barnard (eminent heart surgeon, the inventor of critical illness insurance and one of our personal heroes) to speak at our annual conference. Most recently, he has been heavily involved in Seven Families. In between, he has done and continues to do great work, not just for Scottish Widows, but for the wider protection insurance sector and of course its customers.

We asked Johnny what key lessons he had learned from Seven Families and he kindly also agreed to share with us some of the key dates in his diary for 2016: "I've taken a great deal of personal and professional development from my involvement with the Seven Families Project over the last two years. Key learnings for me being that the financial services industry can take significant learning from UK health and disability charities in terms of campaign theme planning and co-ordination, plus the embracement of social media to improve personal and commercial customer reach, education, communication, real story sharing, engagement, trust building and relationship development.

It is striking that many of the themes raised and discussed day in day out by health charities also have significant financial and/or contractual capacity consequences and offer the opportunity to highlight to consumers the benefits of appropriate financial advice and resilience plus protection, pension and retirement solutions not to mention wills and LPAs. I've sought in what follows to map most of the major charity campaigns and activity plus events in 2016 that may aid industry colleagues shape and build consumer financial and educational blogs, comms, talking points, social media content and campaigns. I hope that you find it of benefit."

## **JANUARY:**

31<sup>st</sup> The deadline for online submission of 2014/15 self-assessment tax returns to HMRC.

TBC Government considering devolving responsibility for Attendance Allowance to local authorities; consultation on proposals anticipated.

## **FEBRUARY:**

1-28<sup>th</sup> National Heart Month [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk).

4<sup>th</sup> World Cancer Day [www.worldcancerday.org](http://www.worldcancerday.org).

4<sup>th</sup> Defaqto 2016 5 star ratings announced.

5<sup>th</sup> Wear It Red Day [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk).

17<sup>th</sup> Industry event - Mortgage Strategy Awards.

## **MARCH:**

1-31<sup>st</sup> Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month [www.targetovariancancer.org.uk](http://www.targetovariancancer.org.uk).

1-31<sup>st</sup> Prostate Cancer Awareness Month [www.prostatecanceruk.org](http://www.prostatecanceruk.org).

1-31<sup>st</sup> Brain Tumour Awareness Month [www.braintumoursupport.co.uk](http://www.braintumoursupport.co.uk).

1-31<sup>st</sup> Free Wills Month [www.freewillsmoth.org.uk](http://www.freewillsmoth.org.uk).

3-9<sup>th</sup> Endometriosis Awareness Week [www.endometriosis-UK.org](http://www.endometriosis-UK.org).

14-20<sup>th</sup> Brain Awareness Week [www.brainandspine.org.uk](http://www.brainandspine.org.uk).

2<sup>nd</sup> Industry Event - LifeSearch Awards.

6<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day (Mothering Sunday).

8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day.

9<sup>th</sup> No Smoking Day [www.nosmokingday.org.uk](http://www.nosmokingday.org.uk).

16<sup>th</sup> Budget Day - Highly anticipated is news on pension taxation. The Chancellor may also announce changes to the rate of tax relief, perhaps moving from a tiered system to a flat rate of tax relief.

21<sup>st</sup> European Mortgage Credit Directive. One of the biggest, yet scarcely mentioned financial changes in 2016 will be the MCD, or European Mortgage Credit Directive. This will come into play in March, introducing an EU-wide framework of conduct rules for all mortgage firms.

TBC LV= normally releases its cost of raising a child and value of a mum material.

TBC The Syndicate releases its protection thought leadership. This offers opportunities to build on the stats etc [*To find out more about joining The Syndicate contact Jo Miller at [jo@lebeauvisage.co.uk](mailto:jo@lebeauvisage.co.uk)*].

## **APRIL:**

1-30<sup>th</sup> Bowel Cancer Awareness Month [www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk](http://www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk).

18-24<sup>th</sup> Parkinson's Awareness Week [www.parkinsons.org.uk](http://www.parkinsons.org.uk).

25-1<sup>st</sup> May MS (multiple sclerosis) Week [www.mssociety.org.uk](http://www.mssociety.org.uk).

1<sup>st</sup> Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT). Changes will mean higher rates of SDLT will be charged on purchases of additional residential properties (above £40,000), such as buy to let properties and second homes.

1<sup>st</sup> Phase 1 of change to Support for Mortgage Interest (SMI) benefit (this impacts both current and new mortgage holders).

5<sup>th</sup> Last day of the 2015/16 tax year. It is also the deadline for claiming a PAYE tax refund for the 2011/12 tax year and any tax overpaid under self-assessment for 2010/11.

6<sup>th</sup> A raft of changes announced previously, affecting pensions, earnings and working age welfare - come into effect:

#### **TAX & EARNINGS:**

- Reduction in lifetime allowance to £1m.
- Reduced annual allowance for those people with 'adjusted annual incomes' over £150k.
- Introduction of a new personal savings annual allowance (£1,000 for basic rate taxpayers; £500 for higher rate taxpayers).
- New rules for flexible ISAs become effective, allowing investors to withdraw cash and replace it in the same tax year without impacting their annual ISA allowance.
- Pension input periods to align with tax years.
- New £5k tax-free dividend allowance replaces the 10% notional tax credit. Dividend income in excess of the allowance will be taxed at 7.5%, 32.5% or 38.1%, as appropriate.
- FCA trail commission on platforms is stopped for existing business.
- Scottish Rate of Income Tax goes live.
- Amateur Buy to Let Stamp Duty changes go live.
- New £155 flat rate State pension starts.

#### **WORKING AGE WELFARE:**

- Benefit cap reduced and regionalised, outside London £20k for families and £13.4k for singletons, in London £23k for families and £15.41K for singletons.
- Working age welfare benefits commence a four year freeze.
- Housing Benefit not available for the under 22s.

TBC Aviva normally releases its very detailed personal protection MI, and looks at household types and needs.

#### **MAY:**

1- 31<sup>st</sup> Stroke Awareness Month [www.stroke.org.uk](http://www.stroke.org.uk).

2-8<sup>th</sup> Deaf Awareness Week [www.deafcouncil.org.uk](http://www.deafcouncil.org.uk).

9-15<sup>th</sup> Dying Matters Week [www.mariecurie.org.uk](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk).

9-15<sup>th</sup> Huntington's Disease Awareness Week [www.hda.org.uk](http://www.hda.org.uk).

15-21<sup>st</sup> Dementia Awareness Week [www.alzheimers.org.uk](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk).

16-22<sup>nd</sup> Mental Health Awareness Week [www.mentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk).

23-29<sup>th</sup> Children's Hospice Week [www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk](http://www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk).

26-1<sup>st</sup> June National Family Week [www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk](http://www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk).

5<sup>th</sup> Scottish parliamentary elections. This will be the fifth general election since the devolved parliament was established in 1999.

7<sup>th</sup> World Ovarian Cancer Day [www.NHS.uk](http://www.NHS.uk).

10<sup>th</sup> World Lupus Day [www.NHS.uk](http://www.NHS.uk).

17<sup>th</sup> World Hypertension Day [www.NHS.uk](http://www.NHS.uk).

24<sup>th</sup> Industry event Joint CII and Seven Families protection conference [www.7families.co.uk](http://www.7families.co.uk).

Industry event TBC The ABI is expected to release protection insurance claim stats for 2015, GRiD is doing similar for group risks.

TBC State Opening of Parliament. The State opening marks the start of the parliamentary year and is the main ceremonial event of the parliamentary calendar, setting out the Government's agenda for the coming session.

TBC Swiss Re normally issues its Group Watch and Term Watch data.

#### **JUNE:**

6-12<sup>th</sup> Carers Week [www.carersuk.org](http://www.carersuk.org).

7-15<sup>th</sup> British Heart Week [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk).

13-19<sup>th</sup> My Money Week [www.pfeg.org](http://www.pfeg.org).

13-19<sup>th</sup> Men's Health Week [www.menshealthforum.org.uk](http://www.menshealthforum.org.uk).

14-20<sup>th</sup> Diabetes Week [www.diabetesuk.co.uk](http://www.diabetesuk.co.uk).

5<sup>th</sup> National Cancer Survivors Day [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk).

9<sup>th</sup> Industry event - Money Marketing Awards.

19<sup>th</sup> Father's Day.

#### **JULY:**

10<sup>th</sup> Disability Awareness Day [www.diasbilityawarenessday.org.uk](http://www.diasbilityawarenessday.org.uk).

**14<sup>th</sup> Industry event 14th Protection Review Conference and Awards Dinner.**

Industry event - Seven Families Project ends and learning will be shared via trade media.

TBC - FCA annual meeting. This tends to throw up interesting insights into FCA thinking. Although no exact date has yet been set, previous ones were held in mid-July.

Exam results and uni application issues are covered in the media, along with the costs of raising a child comment etc.

**AUGUST:**

6<sup>th</sup> The 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of CI launch to the world.

**SEPTEMBER:**

1-30<sup>th</sup> Leukaemia and Lymphoma Awareness Month [www.leukaemiacare.org.uk](http://www.leukaemiacare.org.uk).

2-5<sup>th</sup> Conservative Party Conference (ICC Birmingham).

7-13<sup>th</sup> Transplant Awareness Week [www.transplantweek.co.uk](http://www.transplantweek.co.uk).

10<sup>th</sup> World Suicide Prevention Day [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk).

17-21<sup>st</sup> Liberal Democrat Party Conference (The Brighton Centre, Brighton).

21<sup>st</sup> World Alzheimer's Day [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).

25-28<sup>th</sup> Labour Party Conference (ACC Liverpool).

29<sup>th</sup> World Heart Day [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk).

30<sup>th</sup> Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk).

**OCTOBER:**

1-31<sup>st</sup> Breast Cancer Awareness Month [www.breastcancer.org](http://www.breastcancer.org).

1-31<sup>st</sup> Lupus Awareness Month [www.lupusuk.org.uk](http://www.lupusuk.org.uk).

7-11<sup>th</sup> BackCare Awareness Week [www.backcare.co.uk](http://www.backcare.co.uk).

10<sup>th</sup> World Mental Health Day [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).

Date TBC Stand Up To Cancer [www.standuptocancer.org.uk](http://www.standuptocancer.org.uk).

Industry event - Cover Summit, date to be confirmed.

**NOVEMBER:**

1-30<sup>th</sup> Movember [www.uk.movember.com](http://www.uk.movember.com).

1-30<sup>th</sup> Lung Cancer Awareness Month [www.roycastle.org](http://www.roycastle.org).

1-30<sup>th</sup> Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month [www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk](http://www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk).

14<sup>th</sup> World Diabetes Day [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).

3<sup>rd</sup> Industry event PFS Dinner.

10<sup>th</sup> Industry event ILAG Dinner.

Industry Event Date TBC Tisa conference, protection will feature for the first time.

Industry Event Date TBC Health Insurance Awards.

Industry Event Date TBC ABI Conference (formerly a biannual conference, becomes annual wef 2016).

Industry Event Date TBC Financial Planning Week.

25<sup>th</sup> Government Autumn Statement.

Industry Event Date TBC AKG 5 Star Service Awards announced.

#### **DECEMBER:**

1<sup>st</sup> World Aids Day [www.hivaware.org.uk](http://www.hivaware.org.uk).

3<sup>rd</sup> Small Business Saturday. LBG Corporate is increasingly supportive of this event [www.smallbusinesssaturdayuk.com](http://www.smallbusinesssaturdayuk.com).

TBC End of Help to Buy 2, the Government's Help to Buy: Mortgage Guarantee Scheme. It has helped many first-time buyers with only a small deposit onto the property ladder and unlike the Help to Buy: Equity Loan, which only covers new-build properties, Help to Buy 2 can be used for both new build and existing homes. The scheme is being withdrawn as lenders bridge the gap, with many now offering mortgages on deposits of 5% without the assistance of Government schemes.

#### **Looking ahead to 2017:**

April: Will see significant reform of Working Age Welfare Bereavement, with opportunity to promote need for family protection advice and solutions.

April: Will also see the IHT Main Residence Nil Rate Band start to be introduced.

December: Will be the 50th Anniversary of the world's first human to human heart transplant which was the inspiration for CI. A TV documentary is currently in production and will be edited by Marius Barnard's daughter. This anniversary offers us the opportunity to reference our relationship with Marius.

*Note: Some dates are not yet fixed, others could change. Please always check before making any important decisions!*