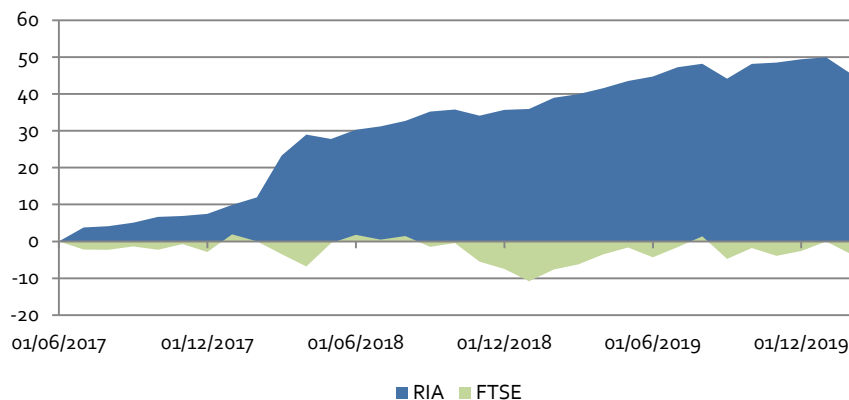




RIO REGULAR INVESTMENT ACCOUNT GBP

The account experienced a pullback as the UK stock market entered 'risk off' and a run to safety assets such as gold. This exodus was caused by both the coronavirus and the timing of Brexit, which was the main event. The withdrawal of the UK at the end of the month on Friday 31st was importantly at 11pm, after the market had closed. The market dropped 3.4% as it priced in what may become known as the Brexit Effect. That said, the UK has no doubt entered a new era in its history and based on our findings looks set to see a resurgence in the coming months.

The returns to date continue to be impressive with the account producing a net gain of 10.31% last year. Despite the challenging market conditions the two year numbers are even stronger with a gain of 29.98% over the period. The continuity doesn't stop there; since launch in June of 2017 the account has delivered a whopping 45.50%.



Recent notable trades

The month was a little lacklustre; I bought Barrett developments on the 6th January at £747.80. This stock was held until the 17th when I sold 100% of the position at £799.40, the original capital and profit moved back to cash. On Monday the 27th January I acquired stock in Lloyd's Banking Group plc at £57.64, to date this trade remains open. The account plans to retain some of its position in British American Tobacco, ticker symbol BATS, the position originally acquired on November 5th 2019. That said, BATS stock had rallied and breached our target price of £3400 on the 7th January, as such I sold just over 50% of the position, taking both capital and profit back to cash. The remaining position in BATS stock has a sell order set at a £3500.

Looking forward, the UK stock market today offers a massive investment opportunity for those prepared to trade, given that we are now at what is likely to become seen as the beginning, or at worst the start of some political stability in the UK. This is the key to providing the certainty which the market needs and has desired, it could easily provide the catalyst which could produce a upswing in the UK FTSE 250.

Undoubtedly the political uncertainty and upheaval which has plagued the UK market for the past three years with Brexit has begun to wane with the UK's exit finally underway.