



## ***ILIM - The week that was – WEEK 10*** (ending 06/03/2015)

**“ Make no small plans for they have no power to stir the soul. ” – Niccolò Machiavelli**

**Prime office rents in Dublin forecasted to rise by up to 31% in 2015** – Prime office rents in Dublin are forecast to rise in the 12% to 31% range in 2015 after a 29% surge in 2014 according to the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland.

**ECB increases its economic forecast** - Economists at the European Central Bank raised their forecast for euro zone growth this year to 1.5%, compared with a forecast in December of 1%. They also increased their growth estimate for 2016 to 1.9%, up from a previous prediction of 1.5%.

**Euro falls to an 11-1/2-year low against the dollar** - The euro fell to an 11-1/2-year low against the dollar on Thursday as U.S. and euro zone bond prices rose, after the European Central Bank spelled out its €1 trillion QE stimulus plan that begins today.

**Apple to join the Dow Jones** - Apple Inc, the largest U.S. company by market value, will join the famous Dow Jones industrial average index which includes 30 companies and was first published in 1896. Apple will replace AT&T Inc, which was in the index for the best part of a century.

**US unemployment rate fall** - The outlook for the US economy became sunnier after the Labor Department reported that employers added 295,000 workers in February, far exceeding expectations, and the unemployment rate fell to 5.5%, its lowest since mid-2008. This had led to speculation of an earlier than expected interest rise by the Federal Reserve, possibly in June.

**China rate cut surprise** - The People's Bank of China cut its benchmark interest rate by 0.25% for the second time in three months, to 5.35% to boost its sagging economy.

**The Story of the week:** The old staple animal attraction of the Circus – the Elephant – is being phased out. Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey announced that its three touring circuses, performing 1,000 shows a year, would phase out elephant acts by 2018, some say due to concerns voiced about animal cruelty.

### **DISCLOSURE:-**

Irish Life Investment Managers Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. While Irish Life Investment Managers uses reasonable efforts to ensure that the information contained in this document is current, accurate and complete at the date of publication, no representations or warranties are made (express or implied) as to the reliability, accuracy or completeness of such information. Irish Life Investment Managers therefore cannot be held liable for any loss arising directly or indirectly from the use of, or any action taken in reliance on, any information contained in this document. This material is for information only and does not constitute an offer or recommendation to buy or sell any investment, or subscribe to any investment management or advisory service. The performance shown represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Past performance is not indicative of future results.



## Index Performances and Market Data

<b>Equity Markets (%)</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015 YTD</b>
ISEQ	-3.0	0.6	14.7	35.8	16.8	16.5
FTSE 100	9.0	-5.6	6.0	18.7	0.7	5.5
Euro Stoxx 50	-0.1	-17.7	13.4	21.5	4.0	15.2
S&P 500	12.8	0.0	12.4	32.4	13.7	1.0
Nasdaq	16.9	-1.8	14.1	36.9	14.8	4.4
Nikkei	-3.0	-17.3	16.24	59.4	7.1	8.8
MSCI Emerging Markets	16.4	-20.4	13.8	-2.3	5.6	3.7
MSCI World	17.2	-7.62	12.1	26.3	10.4	4.2
<b>Sovereign 10yr Bond Yields (%)</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015 YTD</b>
US	3.3	1.9	1.7	3.0	2.2	2.2
German	3.0	1.8	1.4	1.9	0.5	0.4
UK	3.4	2.0	1.9	3.0	1.9	1.9
Japan	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.4
Ireland	9.1	8.4	4.5	3.4	1.3	0.9
Italy	4.8	7.1	4.6	4.1	2.1	1.3
Greece	12.5	31.7	12.7	8.2	9.6	9.1
Portugal	6.6	13.4	6.9	6.1	2.7	1.7
Spain	5.5	5.1	5.4	4.1	1.6	1.3
<b>Central Bank Rates (%)</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015 YTD</b>
ECB	1	1	0.75	0.25	0.05	0.05
Bank of England	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.25	0.50	0.50
US Federal Reserve	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
<b>Foreign Exchange Rates</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015 YTD</b>
Euro/Dollar (€/\$)	1.34	1.30	1.31	1.37	1.21	1.08
Euro/Sterling (€/£)	0.86	0.83	0.81	0.83	0.78	0.72
Sterling/Dollar (£/\$)	1.56	1.55	1.61	1.65	1.56	1.50
<b>IPD All Property Return (%)</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015 YTD</b>
Ireland	-2.4	-2.4	3.1	12.7	40.1	TBC
UK	14.5	8.1	2.7	10.7	19.3	TBC
US	14.8	14.5	5.3	11.4	11.2	TBC

\*Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance