



The Australian Finance Podcast Episode Transcript

Episode: Take control of your financial future in 2022 🎉

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Speakers: Kate Campbell & Owen Rask

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Episode transcript:

Owen Raszkievicz:

Hey there. Here's a quick note. This podcast contains general financial advice only. That means it's not specific to you, your needs, goals or objectives, so don't act on the information until you've spoken with your financial advisor. You'll find our full disclosure, disclaimer and link to our financial services guide in the show notes. Kate Campbell, welcome to this episode of the Australian Finance Podcast.

Kate Campbell:

It's New Year's Eve, bro.

Owen Raszkievicz:

It's New Year's Eve 2022, so-

Kate Campbell:

Of 2021. We're just about to enter-

Owen Raszkievicz:

Of 2021. We're going into 2022.

Kate Campbell:
Yes.

Owen Raszkievicz:
And obviously, we're recording this in advance because by the time you hear this, Kate is...

Kate Campbell:
Going to be so far down Chapel street. I have no idea where I'm going to be for New Year's Eve, but-

Owen Raszkievicz:
Are you going to be in Tasmania?

Kate Campbell:
No, that's next year.

Owen Raszkievicz:
Oh, that's next year. Yeah.

Kate Campbell:
No, I'm planning to be in Melbourne for New Year's Eve.

Owen Raszkievicz:
For New Year's Eve, right.

Kate Campbell:
Yep. We'll see how crazy that gets.

Owen Raszkievicz:
Yeah. And I'm planning to be hopefully on the beach.

Kate Campbell:
Well, that'd be nice.

Owen Raszkievicz:
Yeah. Hopefully on the beach. Hopefully there's some fireworks.

Kate Campbell:
Mm.

Owen Raszkievicz:
Fireworks, Kate. That's what we want.

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. Owen, don't cause any. But anyway, we're bringing this episode to you today, just a short and sweet one to make sure you're going into 2022 with the right energy. And you are going to be the main character of your financial journey next year.

Owen Raszkievicz:

Oh, boy. Okay. Here we go.

Kate Campbell:

Yes.

Owen Raszkievicz:

So, this is going to be a rapid fire kind of episode where we're talking about everything that we've talked about in December, and we're bringing this together into the new year and to help you kind of consolidate some of those steps that you should take and get in control. So Kate, when people are thinking about, what are my financial goals? What steps should they be taking?

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. So, go back and listen to our financial goals episode if you haven't. But if you've got some time today and you're just sitting around waiting for the night to happen, take some time to think about your financial goals for 2022. What do you want to achieve in the short, medium and long-term? Maybe it's saving up for a new phone, going on a holiday. Maybe you're adding some money, extra money to your super for retirement. Thinking a little bit about your financial goals for the year and writing them down and putting some steps to action them. We've got a whole episode dedicated to financial goals, but I think this takes the right energy into 2022; thinking about, how are you going to actually realise some of the things you want to achieve with your finances?

Owen Raszkievicz:

Yep. If you're trying to find ways to pay for your childcare and also save money, that might be one of your goals. How do I figure this out? Because you can. You can do it. The thing is, a lot of people don't reach their goals because they kind of let it simmer off and they set these things at New Year's or even at Christmas time and they're thinking, "Oh, I'm going to do this in the new year because I haven't done it well enough this year," but they don't do it. So, I think people need to put in place some steps to keep themselves accountable. Are there any ways that you would suggest doing that?

Kate Campbell:

Yep, absolutely. Automating everything. If it's going to help you reach your goals, automate it if possible. This is something you can do today. If you're just sitting around waiting for time to pass, figure out what your financial goals are. Maybe you've thought about them already and actually go, "Hey, I'm going to automate that transfer each month from my savings account. Maybe I'm going to put some money at a regular contribution plan to one of our investment accounts." Maybe you put something in your calendar each month. That is something you can

do right now. It takes 30 seconds; a regular monthly meeting with yourself. Maybe you go and have a coffee and just review your goals for the month. How are you going to change that next month? Just putting something in place now, and that'll keep you going all year long.

Owen Raszkievicz:

Yep. So you can, as a very simple first step, pause this discussion in just a second, after you've determined which day of the month is the best day of the month for you to just do a financial check-in. That might be the first of every month, it might be payday. Put a recurring calendar invite to yourself in Google Calendar, Apple, Microsoft, whatever you use. Feel free to pause this podcast right now and do that. Done it? Okay. Let's move on, Kate. What about investing? How should people think about investing if they haven't really been deliberate with it?

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. So, I think putting some sort of investment plan or strategy, however fancy you want to call it, in place, even if it's just one page, writing down, "I want to invest \$500 each month. Where am I going to invest it? Do I want to just invest in a simple ETF that gives me exposure to Australian companies and maybe some US companies? Is this the year I want to explore a thematic ETF, or look at investing in a couple of individual companies?" Write these intentions down, and then on a monthly basis you can come back to this plan and actually check in with it and see, am I going in line with this? Maybe you want to invest in a few different places each month. Actually, coming up with a strategy that works, that ties all of your sort of short, medium and long-term goals together, because... I'm investing for a few different goals at once, so just coming back to that plan each year and then you can reflect on it, the end of each year.

Kate Campbell:

So, definitely recommend if you've got some time today, pause the episode, write down a few of the things that you want to achieve if you're investing during the year. And it's much better to say maybe \$300 a month, or "I want to invest in one new company" than saying, "I want my net worth to go up by 10 or \$20,000," because when you're investing, you are quite dependent on the returns of the market. So, it's hard to have a specific goal like that.

Owen Raszkievicz:

Yeah. And I think that's what some people that do the net worth calculations on social media come up against. It's they say, "Oh, this is my target for net worth," and then all of their followers are like, "Oh no, it went down this month." And then you've got to think, "Yeah but that happens, right?" Some months in investing, if you are investing, it's going to be a bad time. You got to prepare for that.

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. And the bigger your portfolio get, in more intense the swings are when you're investing more than a few thousand dollars, you do feel it if the market does go down 20%.

Owen Raszkievicz:

That's it. If it's \$20,000, yes it might be a lot of money but imagine if it's \$200,000. I don't know. Imagine if it's \$2 million. Imagine if you're managing other people's money. Then it becomes a whole different thing.

Kate Campbell:

We'll let you know how that feels when we get to that point.

Owen Raszkiewicz:

Yeah. We'll let you know. We're not there yet, but when we do, we'll be sure to let you know. But that's it. So, and your investment strategy could be as simple as, "I want to invest in index funds. I want to invest \$1,000 a month in dividend paying stocks. I want..." This is that simple. Just have a plan, and you're on your way. How about, so we've got automating your financial plan. Some simple steps there are automate the day that you invest in an ETF. Go with one of the robot advisors. Automate the day that you transfer money into Stake and set a calendar reminder saying, "Hey, go and buy this investment." If you're using SelfWealth, you might be like, "I'm going to check in on my portfolio on this day." If you're with Pearler, you can automate it again. These are just some examples just to automate the investing, but then we can automate the personal finance side of things too, right?

Kate Campbell:

Yeah.

Owen Raszkiewicz:

And that's simply done through a bank account. It's done through knowing which day your pay comes in. If you're a contractor, recognising which day that comes in and what you're going to do with it. Having a plan. How about this one, Kate: if people need help maximising their kind of financial future, their goals, how do they do that?

Kate Campbell:

So, if you've been putting something off because you know you need some assistance, maybe with your taxes, you need to see an accountant, maybe your finances are in a certain way that you do actually want to talk to a financial advisor, maybe you need to see a lawyer or you want to talk to a broker in person or you need some sort of life coach, this is the time. You can send off a couple of emails today. They're not going to answer till they get back from holidays, probably in a week's time, but the email's there, they'll get back to you. So you can future yourself... once you've finished all the New Year's, 10 days of partying or whatever people do, you'll have a response to come back to. So, send a email off to a couple of financial advisors or an accountants to say, "Can I have an initial meeting?" Often they're free for the first one, just to see if you're the right fit to have a ongoing relationship. But just shoot off a few emails today. If you've been putting this off, this is the time you can take some action.

Owen Raszkiewicz:

Yeah. One of the things that people do when they see a financial planner is they try and spruce up their finances before they see a financial planner. This is called cleaning for the cleaner. We

see that when we have a cleaner at, it comes to a house, you tend to clean the house a little bit so they're like, "Oh, it's not that bad but we'll get them to clean, anyway." Be honest with your mortgage broker. Be honest with your financial advisor, your financial counsellor, if that's where you need to go. Go and-

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. If your goal is to buy a house in 2022, send a couple of emails to mortgage brokers right now.

Owen Raszkievicz:

That's it. Yeah. We've got the property course, go and check that out. But we've also had a financial counsellor on the show if you need to pay down debt. This is one thing; you might be ready to gearing up for a good night and a good few days not thinking about things, and you might come back to a lot of responsibility in the form of wanting to pay down debt. It's a pretty big Everest to climb, we know. So, get the right people on your side no matter what your financial situation.

Kate Campbell:

And I think that's a really good way to go into 2022, with a strong energy that you're going to take charge of your finances this year. Whatever they look like right now, you can take some positive steps in the right direction, whether that's through learning more, which is the next thing I wanted to talk about. But just putting some steps in right now that you can forget about for the next few days while you're having an amazing time, and then come back to and go, "Hey, I'll sort some of this stuff out before I head back to work."

Owen Raszkievicz:

Yeah. We've had people write in to say they've got \$50,000 of credit card debt, they've got maybe more; \$100,000 of debt that they need to pay down ASAP. People with hundreds of thousands of dollars of financial pressure on their shoulders. You need good people in your corner, so get them beside you. And there are plenty of ways to do that. The final thing is basically, how are you going to increase your financial knowledge? How are you going to stay relevant with the investing news that matters? How are you going to do all of these things? This is a total skillset in itself, Kate. One thing you can do is you can subscribe to the Australian Finance Podcast. We're typically releasing episodes every Monday.

Kate Campbell:

And Friday.

Owen Raszkievicz:

And Friday morning.

Kate Campbell:

Yep.

Owen Raszkievicz:

So, you can go and you can listen to those at your leisure. You might build this into your weekly... your drive each week, your commute. That's what I do with my favourite podcast, and it helps me. It's low effort for high reward, and those are the types of bets I like to take. How else could you just make sure that you're doing those things, Kate?

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. I even like to put personal development into my calendar each month with, if there's something particular I want to learn, like at the moment I'm trying to learn some of the basics of financial accounting. Putting that in your calendar each month. Otherwise, it just gets completely lost amidst life and the time just disappears, anyway. So, you need to prioritise yourself and your learning and your development. And even, I think Owen said before, maybe half an hour a day learning about finance when you're just getting started, because you kind of want to immerse yourself into the world and learn from different podcasts, YouTube channels, blogs, books, listen to experts talk. There are so many free resources out there that you can get a really good cross section of information. Maybe it's not all 100% right, or there might be a biased view or a lens on it, but if you listen to a wide variety of information, you can pick up the good stuff over time.

Owen Raszkievicz:

Mm. You can. And that's it. We have the podcast here but there are plenty of fantastic podcasts out there that might tickle your fancy, whether that's a totally different topic; it might be property, which is something we don't always talk about. It might be, who knows? You're into crypto or you're into fashion and the fashion industry. There's one for everything. And so, we are obviously going to talk about finances and investing, but there are other things out there that can help you learn and develop, too. I would just say finances are a massively important part of your life, whether we like it or not, so put in some time, even if it's 15 minutes, half an hour, whatever it is. Put that time in. When we're professionals, we have to keep a CPD register, which is that continuing professional development. You have to do typically 30 or 40 hours a year to learn. Imagine if we applied that to our own lives, 30, 40, 50 hours a year, what could we achieve? I think it's pretty fantastic.

Kate Campbell:

Yeah. So, definitely prioritise yourself and your development. Go and put some time in your calendar now. Or maybe you can put a... even on Google Calendars you can put recurring tasks in your calendar. So, it'll pop up every Monday. Maybe you move it to a different day, but you could... just reminds you to tick that off each week. And that's really helped me with personal development and writing and other thing, and even exercise, I put that in. So, even if I don't do it every day, it's just there as a constant, this is something I want to do on a regular basis.

Owen Raszkievicz:

Hey, you know what? I have something cool. This is a little life hack on the end of this episode. In Google Calendar, you can do this thing where you put in your exercise and it will automatically choose the times and the days based on your preferences-

Kate Campbell:
Oh, wow. That's cool.

Owen Raszkievicz:
... when you should exercise. And then if you cancel one, it automatically readjusts and it learns from that and it goes, "Okay, you didn't exercise at this time. Did you do it that time?" And then it keeps a record.

Kate Campbell:
Oh, cool.

Owen Raszkievicz:
So, that's really neat, too. So, there's so much to do. Well, it seems like there's so much to do but it's actually quite easy when you break it down. You can get started today. You can pause this podcast, set those calendar reminders. You can start thinking about your financial goals, write them down in your phone, piece of paper, on your computer. Wherever you are right now you can do it. Even if you're on the toilet, at the beach, listening to this podcast for whatever reason, you can start scribbling some things down there. So, give it a crack.

Kate Campbell:
Yeah. And then when you check back online in a week's time, you've already put some steps in place to actually make sure you are achieving your financial goals and really working towards a strong financial future in 2022, which is what Owen and I really want for you.

Owen Raszkievicz:
Yep. Absolutely. So, if you're hearing this on New Year's Eve, have a wonderful new year.

Kate Campbell:
Yes.

Owen Raszkievicz:
Kate's not quite yet in Tasmania but she will be soon, so we expect photos, hashtag proof, from that. But-

Kate Campbell:
You don't think I'll get there?

Owen Raszkievicz:
Oh, I think you'll get there. Yeah, I think you'll be fine. I think-

Kate Campbell:
Across the border, maybe?

Owen Raszkievicz:

Yeah, they'll let you in. And we just hope you have a wonderful 2022. We're all here to support you. And that's our mission at Rask, is just to bring you education and insights that help you invest your money and take back control of your life. So, we hope we've done that for you in 2021. So, onwards and upwards into 2022, Kate.

Kate Campbell:
Absolutely.

Owen Raszkievicz:
As always, thanks for joining me.

Kate Campbell:
Happy New Year's, everyone.

Kate Campbell:
Thanks for tuning in to this episode of the Australian Finance Podcast, where our mission is to improve the financial futures of all Australians. If you'd like to learn more, create a free account at rask.com.au/account to download free episode workbooks, bonus resources, and take our amazing free personal finance courses.

Owen Raszkievicz:
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