

Don't Wait for Your Ship to Come In

Throw it a line
and drag it to
shore!

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Heather Bradley

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Don't Wait for Your Ship to Come In –
Throw it a line and Drag it to Shore!

Money management for the financially challenged.
A practical guide to living within your means while saving for your future.

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Weaver's knot

To Karen

a constant source of inspiration

Acknowledgements

Thank you Mum, for supplying my first piggy bank (a rinsed out Bosco chocolate syrup jar) and thank you Laurie for proofreading the original text.

Note

All rates, offers, telephone numbers, website addresses, incentives and prices were true at the time of publication and may change without notice. Rates and prices were used to illustrate points for demonstration purposes only.

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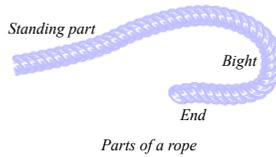
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Take Control

1

*We are still masters of our fate.
We are still captains of our souls.
Winston Churchill*

Some people are born with a silver spoon in their mouths. Power, position, and privilege are seen as a birthright. I was born with a wooden spoon in mine. Occasionally, a splinter still rears its ugly head, a gentle reminder of my humble beginnings. I learned to do the best with what I had. I celebrated the fact that my blue collar matched and perhaps even highlighted my eyes and realized that

a wooden spoon can still stir the pot without ruining the finish, whereas, a silver spoon will tarnish when exposed.

Even though I may have gotten off to a slow financial start, I retired at age 50, debt-free, mortgage-free and living comfortably. By taking control of your finances now and learning to live within your means, you can too.

Money. The formula for managing money is really quite simple: spend some, save some, and give some away. It is the save some that most people find difficult. The secret is to pay yourself first. Make your retirement planning goal number one. How, you ask? Maybe you are just getting by, living paycheque to paycheque or perhaps you feel like you are on an exercise bike – pedaling as fast as you can, yet getting nowhere and with nothing to show for your efforts but exhaustion.

Bills keep stacking up. Overdue notices have become your mailbox's main diet. You are caught in the debt cycle, a maze of unpaid bills and debt collectors. You can't see a way out and feel yourself drowning in debt.

The truth is, if you keep doing what you've always done, you will keep getting what you've always got – either just getting by, or digging the hole deeper. It is time to break the cycle. Take control of your own finances. Don't wait for your ship to come in – throw it a line and drag it to shore!

Removing the Barnacles



Ordinary knot

Understanding the Need to Save

2

*The only real mistake is the one
from which we learn nothing.*

John Powell

It is not the wealthy who need financial planning. It is the less affluent who need to make the most of what they have. More money is in itself not the answer. More won't matter if you are not controlling the money you have. It would be like feeding buns to bears.

In the business world, to increase your bottom line, you either have to decrease your

expenses or increase your revenue. To expedite your retirement, I suggest that you do both.

You can't spend money that you don't have. It isn't rocket science, yet many people do just that. Debt accumulation is the single most destructive force that prevents people from getting ahead and saving for retirement. Therefore, debt reduction is the first step to financial health. Keep more of what you earn.

Money management for the financially challenged.



“It is not the wealthy who need financial planning, it is the less affluent who need to make the most of what they have. More money is in itself not the answer. More won't matter if you are not controlling the money you have. It would be like feeding buns to bears.”

Don't Wait for Your Ship to Come In is a practical guide to living within your means while saving for your future, written in everyday, easy to understand language with a twist of humour.

Learn how savings of \$1.79 a day can have a big impact on your life. This is a must read for anyone starting his or her first job, yet has valuable tips for all readers.

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About the Author

Heather Bradley has achieved her goal of retiring at age 50.

She currently lives off the avails of her investment income and can be seen traveling through the countryside on one of her motorcycles.

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Money management for the financially challenged. Learn how savings of \$1.79 a day can have a big impact on your life.

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"An easy read, with a twist of humour that addresses financial fundamentals, which we should possibly incorporate into our lives in order to enhance our financial health".

Christine Challenger
Account Manager
Small Business and Agriculture CIBC

"Recommended read for all ages to become aware of savings options, the pitfalls of bad decisions that may result in long term financial strain, and reducing debt. It will be time well spent".

Cathy Barrowclough
Royal LePage Kawartha Lakes Realty

