

Australasian Dividend Growth Fund

Monthly Update as at 31 May 2024

PORTFOLIO MANAGER(S)



MIKE ROSS Lead Portfolio Manager



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FUND COMMENTARY

The Dividend Growth Fund returned -0.3% during the month, bringing it to a 12-month return of 23.8%.

May was a mixed month for equity markets. We saw the unemployment rate rise from 3.9% to 4.1%, an easing in consumer confidence and inflation continuing to run ahead of the target range. This presents some headwinds for the consumer which has led to several downgrades across the small cap discretionary names, none of which we owned. The Small Ordinaries Index was down 0.1% in May, boosted by Small Resources which were +1.9%, with Industrials lagging.

GQG Partners gained by 16% in May after posting another solid month of inflows in April. Inflows have accelerated in 2024, driving FUM growth, capitalising on strong performance and an improving market backdrop. May appears to have been another good month for the business.

Insurance Broker PSC Insurance gained 13% after reaching an agreement to be acquired by The Ardonagh Group for \$6.19 per share. We have been invested in the stock since its IPO in 2015, and the takeover will bring forward future returns to what has been a successful investment. Letting go of the stock is bittersweet because companies like PSC are rare. The company has an aligned board & management team with plenty of skin in the game and a long track record of success in the industry. The industry is defensive, and the business model is attractive, clipping the ticket on insurance premiums with retention rates north of 90%. This organic growth profile, in addition to a prudent acquisition strategy, has resulted in earnings-per-share compounding by 18% p.a. since 2016, also paying dividends along the way.

If you had invested \$100,000 at inception, the graph below shows what it would be worth today.

CUMULATIVE FUND PERFORMANCE



FUND DETAILS

Recommended minimum investment period	5 years			
Objective	Generate income and capital growth over a period exceeding 5 years.			
Description	Invests predominantly in listed Australasian smaller and medium growth companies paying dividends or that will produce cash-flow for future distributions.			
Inception date	September 2011			
Standard withdrawal period	10 working days			
Risk indicator	Potentially Lower Returns Potentially Higher Returns 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Lower Risk Higher Risk			



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PERFORMANCE

	l month	l yr	3 yrs (p.a.)	5 yrs (p.a.)	7 yrs (p.a.)	10 yrs (p.a.)	Annualised since inception
Australasian Dividend Growth Fund	-0.3%	23.8%	7.1%	13.4%	13.8%	13.2%	15.9%
MARKET INDEX ¹	-0.3%	11.2%	0.5%	4.6%	7.1%	6.3%	3.6%

Returns after fees but before individual PIR tax applied

1. S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Total Return Index (75% hedged to NZD).

INVESTMENT MIX	
 Cash (including Derivatives) 	6.4%
• Australian equities	92.3%
Listed Property	1.3%

Asset allocation is rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent; therefore, the aggregate may not equal 100%.



TOP FIVE EQUITY HOLDINGS

AUB Group Limited

Aussie Broadband Pty Ltd

GQG Partners Inc

Johns Lyng Group LTD

Mermaid Marine Australia Ltd

Holdings are listed in alphabetical order.

UNIT PRICE



ANNUALISED RETURN SINCE INCEPTION

15.9% p.a.

FUND STATUS

CLOSED OPEN



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