





February 2021

Monthly roundup | Investment companies

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Winners and losers in January

January's median total share price return from investment companies was (0.2%) (the average was 0.6%), which compares with 4.4% in December 2020. The continued allure of the private companies accessible via the growth capital sector was evident as the year began for that sector where it had left it off, on the front foot. The UK's speedy rollout of vaccines, to-date, and a final decision on Brexit, brought flows into several UK-focused sectors.

Please refer to the 'appendix' section for a comprehensive list of sector-specific performance. Readers interested in the most recent briefings from the industry can click here to access our economic and political roundup.

Best performing sectors in January by total price return

	Median share price total return (%)	Median NAV total return (%)	Median discount 31/01/21 (%)	Median sector market cap 31/12/20 (£m)	Number of companies in the sector
Growth Capital	12.4	0.0	0.2	471.3	4
Infrastructure Securities	7.1	2.7	(0.1)	108.7	2
Leasing	3.5	1.5	(50.8)	95.7	7
Environmental	3.4	(1.1)	4.9	68.6	4
Property - UK Healthcare	3.3	0.0	6.6	437.0	2

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. Note: inclusive of sectors with at least two companies. Note: many alternative asset sector funds release NAV performance on a quarterly basis

Worst performing sectors in January by total price return

	Median share price total return (%)	Median NAV total return (%)	Median discount 31/01/21 (%)	Median sector market cap 31/12/20 (£m)	Number of companies in the sector
Latin America	(8.5)	(5.4)	(9.4)	97.3	2
Japanese Smaller Companies	(4.3)	(2.3)	(3.9)	130.7	5
UK Equity & Bond Income	(4.1)	(2.1)	(12.1)	120.0	2
European Smaller Companies	(3.6)	(0.7)	(10.8)	538.4	4
UK All Companies	(2.5)	(1.7)	(4.6)	217.2	12

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. Note: inclusive of sectors with at least two companies. Note: many alternative asset sector funds release NAV performance on a quarterly basis



Winners and losers continued...

Best performing funds in NAV terms in Jan **Schiehallion** 13.8 JPMorgan China G&I 10.2 Gabelli Value Plus+ 9.7 9.6 **Baillie Gifford China Growth Miton UK Microcap** 9.1 **Baillie Gifford US Growth** 8.6 Scottish Mortgage 8.3 **Fidelity China Special** 8.3 Invesco Asia 6.4 **Pacific Horizon** 6.1 Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. Note: excludes trusts with market caps below £15m at 31/01/21

Schiehallion	27.5
RTW Venture	18.6
Value and Indexed Property Income*	16.8
Miton UK Microcap	16.7
BMO Real Estate	16.4
CIP Merchant Capital	14.9
Premier Miton Global Renewables	13.7
Jade Road Investments**	13.6
Marble Point Loan Financing	12.8
Schroder UK Public Private	11.1

The year started where it left off, with growth in the ascendency, and China-focused strategies continuing their ascent. Baillie Gifford's private company-focused Schiehallion fund, which is listed on the Specialist Funds Segment, topped performance. China is coming out of the pandemic in a stronger position and its domestic equity market has been flourishing. The three country-specialist funds (Baillie Gifford China Growth, Fidelity China Special Situations, JPMorgan China Growth and Income) all benefitted while Pacific Horizon made its now customary appearance in the 'winners' section. UK small caps started the year well, with investors riding-off the sentiment-

Golden Prospect Prec. Metals	(9.5)
Aurora	(7.3)
Artemis Alpha	(6.5)
VinaCapital Vietnam Opp	(6.5)
BlackRock Latin American	(5.9)
Aberdeen Latin Amer. Income	(4.9)
BMO UK High Income	(4.7)
JPMorgan Japanese	(4.6)
Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon	(4.2)
Aberdeen Japan	(4.0)

JPMorgan Smaller Companies	(10.3
Aberdeen Latin American Income	(9.9
Baillie Gifford Japan	(9.9
JPMorgan Japan Small Cap G&I	(9.4
Schroder UK Mid Cap	(9.3
JPMorgan Global Core Real Assets	(8.9
Symphony International	(8.7
Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon	(8.6
Manchester & London	(8.4
Life Settlement Assets A	(8.3

shaping Brexit resolution and impressive vaccine rollout themes to find value in Miton UK Microcap and Schroder UK Public Private. Sectors that were heavily discounted in 2020, like debt and commercial property, participated too, with price rises helping to narrow discounts. BMO Real Estate rose after an uplift in NAV calmed nerves. RTW Venture had a busy month, participating in a funding round held by Biomea Fusion, a US-based privately held precision oncology company. It also increased its investment in Immunocore, which was good news given that company's recent IPO announcement.



Golden Prospect Precious Metals led NAV declines, as the wider gold price declined by 2.7%, though this had little impact on the fund's price and this squeezed its discount. Precious metals-linked investments remain popular vehicles for those concerned over the threat of inflation and

those looking to hedge against a downward turn in markets. Vietnam-focused funds gave up some of their gains from the previous year. Likewise, Japanese strategies sold off (Japanese smaller company-focused trusts had a particularly good 2020).

Moves in discounts and premiums

	31 Jan (%)	31 Dec (%)
RTW Venture	14.3	(4.1)
Schiehallion	24.5	11.1
Value and Indexed Property Income	(8.8)	(21.2)
Golden Prospect Precious Metal	(6.9)	(18.6)
Fair Oaks Income 2017	8.9	(2.1)

RTW Venture, Schiehallion, and Golden Prospect Precious Metals were discussed in the 'winners and losers' section. Value and Indexed Property Income is a new property-focused incarnation of what was previously Value and Income.

Profit-taking appears to have weighed on Manchester & London's shares despite a significant injection of capital

	31 Jan (%)	31 Dec (%)
Manchester & London	(12.3)	0.7
JPMorgan Global Core Real Assets	(1.5)	8.1
Baillie Gifford Japan	0.9	10.3
Schroder UK Mid Cap	(10.1)	(1.8)
Acorn Income	(18.0)	(10.5)

from the manager. While JPMorgan Global Core Real Assets moved to a discount over January, the shares were up sharply in early February after it called a further \$35.5m of its committed capital, earmarked for investment into industrial/logistics assets. It also announced that its C share will be progressed before the summer.

Money raised and returned

	£r
Smithson	70.
Pacific Horizon	40.
Edinburgh Worldwide	38.
Worldwide Healthcare	37.
Monks	27.

Fundraising was predictably quiet (VH Global Sustainable Energy Opportunities didn't start trading until February). More funds are trying to launch, but amongst the existing cohort, Smithson led the way.

	£m
Scottish Mortgage	(121.0)
Gulf Investment	(43.7)
Witan	(14.3)
Scottish Investment	(7.7)
Alliance Trust	(5.2)

Scottish Mortgage 's buyback activity contributed to a narrowing of its premium from 5.3% to 0.5% over January. Gulf Investments shrank as 44% of shareholders opted for the exit in a tender held in December.



Major news stories and QuotedData views over January

Portfolio developments

- Foresight Solar wants a mandate expansion to invest in battery storage
- KKV Secured Loan cautioned that the most challenging period may still be ahead for its borrowers
- Standard Life Private Equity delivered impressive results
- Schroder UK Public Private gets uplift from Kymab deal
- BB Biotech raised its dividend after a strong year
- Hipgnosis had another busy month of acquisitions and fundraising
- Ruffer discussed its decision to invest in bitcoin
- There was a pipeline update and personnel change for Triple Point Energy Efficiency Infrastructure
- Bluefield Solar took its installed capacity to 612 MWp with a 70 MWp UK solar plant buy
- There was a deal update from Riverstone Credit
- Riverstone Energy invested \$10m in FreeWire Technologies

Property news

- CLS acquired a trio of German offices for €89.7m
- Residential Secure Income lived up to name with 99% rent collection
- Tritax Big Box collected 99% of its rent in 2020
- Impact Healthcare REIT increased its dividend target

Corporate news

- Cordiant Digital Infrastructure published its IPO prospectus
- Octopus Renewables Infrastructure announced a new €125.7m fully amortising debt facility
- ICG Longbow's wind-down was approved

Managers and fees

- Martin Currie Global Portfolio cut its fee
- Charlie Thomas, manager of Jupiter Green, is leaving Jupiter

QuotedData views

- The next big thing 29 January
- Timing just right for Big Box 29 January
- Reasons to be cheerful 22 January
- Can Upton regenerate U and I Group's future? 22 January
- Don't discount the property generalists 15 January
- The dangers of political risk 15 January
- Watch property go in 2021 8 January
- Nothin' but blue skies from now on... 8 January

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Upcoming events

Here is a selection of what is coming up. Please refer to the Events section of our website for updates between now and when they are scheduled:

- Foresight Solar EGM 2021, 15 February
- BMO Capital and Income AGM 2021, 16 February
- QuotedData's Round the World Webinar series Asia, 17 February
- JPMorgan Asia Growth & Income AGM 2021, 21 February
- Aberdeen Diversified Income & Growth AGM 2021, 23 February
- PRS REIT EGM 2021, 23 February
- Bankers AGM 2021, 24 February
- Ecofin Global Utilities and Infrastructure AGM 2021, 9 March
- Standard Life Private Equity AGM 2021, 23 March

- The London Investor Show, 23 April
- Sustainable & Social Investing Conference, 21 May

QuotedData's Round the World Webinar series - Asia - 17 February 2021



Interviews

Have you been listening to our weekly news round-up shows? Every Friday at 11 am, we run through the more interesting bits of the week's news and we usually have a special guest or two answering questions about a particular investment company.

Friday	The news show	Special Guest	Topic
6 November	RSE, LBOW, SONG, VIN	Michael Bonte-Friedheim	NextEnergy Solar
13 November	RHM, VGEO, SHED, RDI	Roger Clarke	IPSX Group
20 November	THRG, MTE, UKML	Fran Radano	North American Income Trust
27 November	SBO, NAVF, CCJI	Nicholas Weindling	JPMorgan Japanese
4 December	PCFT, IVI, GPM	Denis Jackson & James Henderson	Law Debenture
11 December	KIT, JUS, RTW	Steve Cook	Sequoia Economic Infrastructure
8 January	Review of 2020	Andrew McHattie	Review of 2020



15 January	GVP, SUPP, SBO	James Robson	RM Secured Lending
22 January	SONG, JGC, RMMC	Ken Wotton	Strategic Equity Capital
29 January	SLPE, FSFL, RSE	Philip Kent	GCP Infrastructure
5 February	RHM, IPOs	Dean Orrico	Middlefield Canadian Income

And here is what is coming up:

Friday	Special Guest	Topic
12 February	Alan Gauld	Standard Life Private Equity Trust
19 February	Matthew Tillett	The Brunner Investment Trust



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Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust, managed by Baillie Gifford.

Our portfolio consists of around 80 of what we believe are the most exciting companies in the world today. Our vision is long term and we invest with no limits on geographical or sector exposure.

Baillie Gifford's track record as long-term, supportive shareholders makes us attractive to a new bread of epital-light businesses. And our committed approach means we can enjoy a better quality of dialogue with management teams at transformational organisations such as Albaba, Dropbox and Airbhb. So it is a case of who you know as well as what you know. Over the last five years the Scottlah Mortgage Investment Trust has delivered a total return of 136.5% compared to 74.9% for the sector*.

Standardised past performance to 31 December*

	2014	2010	2010	2017	2010
Scottish Mortgage	21.4%	13.3%	16.5%	41.196	4.6%
AIC Global Sector Average	8.8%	10.9%	22.6%	24.1%	-4.9%

Past performance is not a guide to future returns. Please remember that changing stock market conditions and currency exchange rates will affect the value of the investment in the fund and any income from it. Investors may not get back the amount invested. The Trust's risk could be increased by its investment in unlisted investments. These assets may be more difficult to buy or sell, so changes in their prices may be greater.

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*Opping charges as at 31 00.18. "Source. Morningstar, where price, total return as at 31.12.8. Your call may be recorded for training or monitoring purposes, traused and approved by Ballia Gofford 6.0. Limited, whose registered address as at Callon Square, I Generale Roy. I Generale Roy. I Generale Roy. I General Roy. I

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Research notes published recently





2020 showed off Shires Income's (SHRS's) ability to deliver on its objective. By sourcing income from a wider pool than most of its peers, SHRS's revenue account held up well relative to the wider UK market, and it managed to produce returns ahead of the average of its peers and the UK market. SHRS aims to provide its shareholders with a high level of income, together with the potential for growth of both income and capital from a portfolio substantially invested in large-cap UK equities. The portfolio may be further diversified with exposure to smaller UK companies and overseas equities.



Since May 2020, Strategic Equity Capital (SEC) has been managed by the public equity team at Gresham House Asset Management. The head of that team, Ken Wotton, became lead-manager of the trust in September, working alongside Adam Khanbhai. Over the last three months of 2020, three full exits were achieved and two new investments made. Five of the stocks in the portfolio are ones where funds managed or advised by the manager have a significant stake. The manager believes that there is now a clear path towards improved performance for SEC and a narrowing of its discount.







Pacific Horizon (PHI) generated a very impressive uplift in its NAV over the course of 2020. This reflects its focus on growth, and technology and biotechnology stocks in particular. These performed well as we attempted to adjust to life under the pandemic, thereby accelerating a number of structural trends. PHI provided an NAV total return of 86.1%, which eclipsed the return on the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan index of 21.2%, the broader MSCI AC World of 12.7% and the average of its Asia Pacific sector peer group (see page 23) of 25.3%. PHI is the top-performing trust in this sector by a significant margin.

Despite this stellar growth, PHI's manager is not resting on his laurels. Emerging Asia still remains a high-growth and under-researched region, and he continues to focus on those themes he expects to do well over the next five years. For example, companies exposed to the growth in electric vehicles (EV) continue to be a significant theme.



Guide

Our independent guide to quoted investment companies is an invaluable tool for anyone who wants to brush up on their knowledge of the investment companies' sector. Please register on www.quoteddata.com if you would like it emailed to you directly.





Appendix 1 – median performance by sector

	Share price	NAV total	Discount	Discount	Change in	Market cap	Number of
	total return January	return January	31/01/21	31/12/20	discount	31/01/21	companies in the sector
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(£m)	in the scotor
Growth Capital	12.4	0.0	0.2	(9.1)	9.3	471.3	4
Infrastructure Securities	7.1	2.7	(0.1)	(4.3)	4.3	108.7	2
Leasing	3.5	1.5	(50.8)	(51.0)	0.1	95.7	7
Environmental	3.4	(1.1)	4.9	1.1	3.8	68.6	4
Property - UK Healthcare	3.3	0.0	6.6	2.4	4.2	437.0	2
Debt - Structured Finance	3.2	0.0	(15.6)	(19.2)	3.5	157.3	7
Debt - Direct Lending	2.9	0.0	(8.7)	(12.8)	4.1	175.3	10
Asia Pacific	2.1	3.5	(6.1)	(5.9)	(0.2)	506.8	7
Property - UK Commercial	2.0	0.0	(19.0)	(19.6)	0.6	294.3	16
Property - Debt	1.7	0.0	(6.1)	(11.7)	5.6	327.9	3
Property - Europe	1.4	0.0	(14.5)	(16.5)	2.1	204.4	8
Asia Pacific Income	1.4	1.8	(1.6)	(0.9)	(0.7)	468.9	4
Private Equity	0.8	0.0	(19.9)	(19.0)	(0.9)	225.5	21
Global Emerging Markets	0.8	2.4	(7.1)	(8.4)	1.3	306.7	14
Asia Pacific Smaller Companies	0.6	0.4	(10.8)	(10.0)	(0.9)	305.9	3
Renewable Energy Infrastructure	0.5	0.0	13.1	12.4	0.7	549.4	15
Biotechnology & Healthcare	0.4	0.2	2.1	1.7	0.4	776.3	6
Hedge Funds	0.3	0.7	(17.3)	(19.0)	1.7	56.1	11
North American Smaller Companies	0.2	0.2	(3.6)	(3.6)	0.0	196.1	2
MEDIAN	0.0	0.0	(5.6)	(5.9)	0.3	247.8	7
Commodities & Natural Resources	0.0	(0.1)	(6.9)	(8.5)	1.5	79.6	9
Financials	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	184.5	3
Country Specialist: Asia Pacific ex Japan	0.0	0.0	(5.0)	(7.8)	2.9	295.4	13
Insurance & Reinsurance Strategies	0.0	(0.5)	(12.3)	(4.8)	(7.5)	5.6	5
Property - UK Residential	0.0	0.0	0.0	(3.1)	3.1	257.4	9
Debt - Loans & Bonds	(0.0)	0.7	(5.6)	(5.4)	(0.2)	122.3	15
Japan	(0.1)	(2.0)	(5.5)	(7.5)	2.0	266.0	6
Royalties	(0.1)	0.3	2.2	2.1	0.1	731.7	2



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	Share price total return YTD* (%)	NAV total return YTD* (%)	Discount 31/01/21 (%)	Discount 31/12/20 (%)	Change in discount (%)	Market cap 31/01/21 (£m)	Number of companies in the sector
Property - Rest of World	(0.2)	0.0	(49.2)	(45.9)	(3.3)	43.9	4
Flexible Investment	(0.4)	0.0	(5.0)	(6.4)	1.4	82.4	22
Infrastructure	(0.6)	0.0	15.0	14.5	0.5	1793.1	7
North America	(0.9)	0.9	(5.1)	(5.4)	0.3	238.1	6
Global	(1.3)	(0.8)	(4.2)	(1.2)	(3.0)	448.8	16
Global Smaller Companies	(1.3)	0.0	(7.3)	(1.8)	(5.5)	1441.3	5
Global Equity Income	(1.5)	(0.8)	(0.1)	(0.4)	0.3	298.9	7
Technology & Media	(1.5)	0.2	(0.6)	2.0	(2.6)	1232.1	3
Europe	(1.9)	(1.7)	(7.9)	(5.8)	(2.2)	373.5	8
Country Specialist: Europe ex UK	(1.9)	(2.2)	(10.6)	(10.9)	0.3	270.8	1
UK Smaller Companies	(2.3)	0.4	(10.3)	(8.5)	(1.8)	114.4	25
UK Equity Income	(2.4)	(1.3)	(3.7)	(2.8)	(0.9)	185.7	27
UK All Companies	(2.5)	(1.7)	(4.6)	(3.0)	(1.7)	203.0	12
European Smaller Companies	(3.6)	(0.7)	(10.8)	(9.3)	(1.5)	523.8	4
UK Equity & Bond Income	(4.1)	(2.1)	(12.1)	(8.5)	(3.6)	117.4	2
Japanese Smaller Companies	(4.3)	(2.3)	(3.9)	1.9	(5.8)	125.1	5
Latin America	(8.5)	(5.4)	(9.4)	(7.4)	(2.1)	88.7	2

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co





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