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Monthly roundup | Investment companies

February 2019

Winners and losers in January

Best performing funds in price terms in January

	(%)
Premier Global Infrastructure	21.6
MedicX	19.3
Independent	16.5
Schroder UK Mid Cap	15.5
Edinburgh Worldwide	14.6
Pershing Square	14.2
Majedie Investments	13.8
Aberdeen Smaller Companies Income	13.5
Chelverton UK Dividend	12.4
Baring Emerging Europe	12.3

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Best performing funds in NAV terms in January

	(%)
Premier Global Infrastructure	21.7
Pershing Square	14.5
BlackRock Latin American	12.4
BB Healthcare	11.8
Independent	11.6
JPMorgan Brazil	11.4
Biotech Growth	11.1
Baring Emerging Europe	9.8
Middlefield Canadian Income	9.8
Schroder UK Mid Cap	9.7

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

December's sharp sell-off in technology and growth stocks reversed somewhat in January. This was good for funds such as Independent, Edinburgh Worldwide, BB Healthcare and Biotech Growth. Bargain hunting in UK equities helped Schroder UK Mid Cap, Aberdeen Smaller Companies Income and Chelverton UK Dividend. The Brazilian government made positive comments about infrastructure spending. This was good news for Premier Global Infrastructure (which also benefited from a wider recovery in emerging markets) but other Latin American funds also did well. MedicX looks set to merge with Primary Healthcare Properties. Pershing Square announced a modest dividend. Majedie's discount narrowed after it reminded shareholders that it had buyback powers (but didn't use them). Baring Emerging Europe rose after Eastern European currencies strengthened.

Worst performing funds in price terms in January

	(%)
Marble Point Loan Financing	(14.4)
Macau Property Opportunities	(13.1)
Aberdeen New India	(8.1)
LMS Capital	(7.8)
VietNam Holding	(7.7)
CatCo Reinsurance Opportunities	(7.5)
JPMorgan Indian	(6.9)
NB Distressed Debt Extended Life	(6.4)
Ediston Property	(5.2)
Electra Private Equity	(5.1)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Worst performing funds in NAV in January

	(%)
Ashmore Global Opportunities (USD)	(9.8)
JPMorgan Indian	(9.1)
Aberdeen New India	(8.7)
India Capital Growth	(8.5)
Carador Income Fund	(7.0)
Ashoka India Equity	(6.4)
Reconstruction Capital II	(6.1)
Marwyn Value Investors	(4.9)
Kubera Cross Border	(4.8)
VietNam Holding	(4.5)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Marble Point Loan Financing was hit by December's sell-off in the CLO market; Carador Income Fund suffered too. Macau Property Opportunities' discount widened as it commented on a slowing VIP gaming market. The Indian market was particularly weak on fears of slowing economic growth, knocking Aberdeen New India, JPMorgan Indian, India Capital Growth, Ashoka India Equity and Kubera Cross Border. LMS Capital announced a fall in its NAV. VietNam Holding has been underperforming competing funds, it is blaming its preference for mid cap companies. Investors continued to desert CatCo Reinsurance Opportunities as it emerged that the CEO and CEO of its Bermudan operations had been dismissed. The price of BCA Marketplace, Marwyn's largest investment, drifted off in January.



Significant moves in discounts and premiums

More expensive relative to NAV (notable changes)

% discount (-v	e) or premi	um (+ve)
	31 Jan (%)	31 Dec (%)
MedicX	11.3	(6.6)
Lindsell Train	56.7	44.8
Standard Life Inv Property Income	0.0	(10.7)
Fair Oaks Income	(0.2)	(9.3)
Regional REIT	(6.8)	(15.8)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

MedicX's share price rose sharply after it announced a tie-up with Primary Healthcare Properties. For much of the past three years, Standard Life Investments Property Income has traded at a premium. Investors took advantage of a temporary weakness in its share price to pick up stock. Likewise, Fair Oaks Income rebounded after December's sell-off. Regional REIT refinanced its zero dividend preference shares and announced a number of new lettings.

Cheaper relative to NAV (notable changes)

% discount (-ve) or premi	um (+ve)
	31 Jan	31 Dec
	(%)	(%)
Marble Point Loan Financing	2.9	16.3
CC Japan Income & Growth	(0.1)	7.2
Geiger Counter	4.8	12.0
Macau Property Opportunities	(42.7)	(35.7)
Qannas Investments	6.7	13.0

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Marble Point Loan Financing experienced a delayed reaction to December's weak CLO market but remains on a small premium. Similarly, CC Japan Income & Growth experienced a delayed reaction to the pronounced sell-off in Japanese equites at the end of 2018. Geiger Counter's premium moderated a little as did Qannas, whose shares rarely trade. Macau Property Opportunities released a downbeat trading statement.

Money raised and returned in January

Money raised in January

	(£m)
Scottish Mortgage	57.6*
Smithson Investment Trust	27.9*
City of London	22.2*
Finsbury Growth & Income	21.3*
Capital Gearing	12.1*

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co* approximate value of shares at 31/01/19

There were no new issues in January but very little buyback activity too, as investors appear to be sitting on their hands. Scottish Mortgage tops a list of trusts issuing stock to meet day-to-day demand from investors. In addition to the trusts listed in the table, Personal Assets, BB Healthcare, Worldwide Healthcare, Fidelity Special Values, F&C Investment Trust, Primary Healthcare Properties and Alpha Real Trust all issued at least £5m worth of shares.

Money returned in January

	(£m)
Edinburgh Dragon	216.5
NB Floating Rate Income	19.5
JPEL Private Equity	\$25.0
Chenavari Capital Solutions	9.0
JZ Capital	4.8

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co, * approximate value of shares at 31/01/19

Edinburgh Dragon held a tender offer for 30% of its issued shares. 60.5% of its shares were tendered and so the tender was taken up in full. JPEL Private Equity made its fifth mandatory share redemption, returning \$25m to investors. Chenavari Capital Solutions also made a compulsory redemption, returning £9m. NB Global Floating Rate Income and JZ Capital continue to shrink.

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January's major news stories - from our website

Portfolio developments

Corporate news

- NB Private Equity sold a portfolio of funds
- Riverstone Energy sold Meritage Midstream
- JZ Capital sold Petrocorner
- BioPharma Credit was boosted by a windfall profit on its TESARO loan
- Augmentum Fintech invested in iwoca and Farewill
- Hg Capital bought Transporeon
- Hipgnosis bought two music catalogues

- Some shareholders in Carador Income Fund rolled over their investment into BlackRock/GSO Loan Finance
- · Athelney Trust's board was shaken up

Property news

LondonMetric Property sold three warehouses

- Thalassa bid for Local Shopping REIT
- Stenprop sold Euston House
- Summit Germany is considering spinning out its German property business
- AEW UK Long Lease bought a Bristol care home
- Residential Secure Income is partnering with Morgan Sindall
- Primary Healthcare Properties and MedicX will merge
- Tritax Big Box announced a dilutive share issue
- LXi REIT made a number of deals
- CEIBA Investments has invested all its cash
- Civitas Social Housing annualised rent roll exceeded £40m, it also drew attention to a grading under review notice for Bespoke Supportive Tenancies
- PRS REIT bought a number of development sites

Managers and fees

- Baillie Gifford US Growth got a new co-manager
- CatCo Reinsurance Opportunities' manager ousted its CEO
- Troy Income & Growth cut its management fee

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SCOTTISH MORTGAGE INVESTMENT TRUST

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A company's ability to exhibit exponential growth lies at the heart of the **Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust**, managed by Baillie Gifford.

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Baillie Gifford's track record as long-term, supportive shareholders makes us attractive to a new breed of capital-light businesses. And our committed approach means we can enjoy a better quality of dialogue with management teams at transformational organisations such as Alibaba, Dropbox and Airbnb. So it is a case of who you know as well as what you know. Over the last five years the **Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust** has delivered a total return of 237.6% compared to 118.3% for the sector**.

Standardised past performance to 30 June**:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Scottish Mortgage	28.9%	25.8%	4.9%	48.8%	33.4%
AIC Global Sector Average	15.8%	15.4%	3.5%	32.4%	17.8%

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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*Ongoing charges as at 31.03.18. **Source: Morningstar, share price, total return as at 30.06.18. Your call may be recorded for training or monitoring purposes. Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust PLC is available through the Baillie Gifford Investment Trust Share Plan and the Investment Trust ISA, which are managed by Baillie Gifford Savings Management Limited (BGSM). BGSM is an affiliate of Baillie Gifford & Co Limited, which is the manager and secretary of Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust PLC.

Income

Investment companies announcing their full year dividends in January

Fund	Year ended	Dividend (pence)*	Change over year (%)	Revenue / earnings (pence)*	Cover
Primary Healthcare Properties	31/12/18	5.4	+2.9	5.2	0.96x
Drum Income Plus REIT	30/09/18	6.0	+9.1	6.8	1.13x
BlackRock Commodities Income	30/11/18	4.0	unchanged	4.37	1.09x
Henderson Opportunities	31/10/18	21.0	+5.0	20.2	0.96x
Chenavari Capital Solutions	30/09/18	4.0	(40.7)	1.3ª	0.32x
CC Japan Income & Growth	31/10/18	3.75	+8.7	4.55	1.21x
JPMorgan Russian	31/10/18	26.0	+23.8	29.58	1.14x
Independent	30/11/18	$7.0 + 3.0^{b}$	+16.7	10.53	1.50x ^b
Bankers	31/10/18	19.72	+6.0	20.78	1.05x
Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Income	30/09/18	6.2 ^d	n/a	6.54	1.05x
TwentyFour Select Monthly Income	30/09/18	6.55	(0.2)	2.9 ^c	0.44x
Aberdeen Diversified Income & Growth	30/09/18	5.24	(11.0)	6.15	1.17x
Safestore	31/10/18	16.25	+16.1	26.8	1.65x

^{*} unless otherwise specified

- a) The company does not separate revenue and capital items in its accounts. It is in the process of realising its portfolio.
- b) 7p dividend plus a 3p special dividend, cover and change are based solely on the base dividend
- c) The company does not separate revenue and capital items in its accounts
- d) Exceeding forecast of 6p in its prospectus.



Publications

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Update | Investment companies

BlackRock Throgmorton Trust

Throg's shorts shine

With a decision on Brexit looming and US rates climbing, many investors appear to have adopted a more defensive stance. Dan Whitestone, manager of BlackRock Throgmonton Trust (FHRG), has reduced the portfolio's net exposure to markets to well below 100%, taking portfis on some positions. Otherwise, Dan's bocus remains on the long-term drivers of growth. His ability to short (taking a negative exposure to) companies with unsound business models gives him another way of making money even when markets are failing. Over the year to 30 November 2018, short positions added 1.4% to returns.

Both long and short positions in UK small-and-mid-

ended	price total return (%)	total return (%)	group average NAV TR ¹ (%)	Smaller Co.s plus AIM, ex IC ² (%)	UK total return (%)
31/12/14	(10.9)	(2.3)	(0.6)	(1.9)	0.5
31/12/15	34.7	22.0	17.9	10.6	(2.2)
31/12/16	(2.7)	10.0	9.2	11.1	19.2
31/12/17	39.4	34.0	27.1	19.5	11.7
31/12/18	(6.6)	(11.5)	(12.6)	(18.7)	(8.8)

Time period 31/12/2018 to 14/01/2019 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	Sector	UK smaller
Base currency Price 471.0 NAV 611.8 NAV 611.8 Nav 615.8 Nate price and discount may period 31/12/2018 to 14/01/2019 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	T-1	
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91.8 (9.7%) (9.7		
Premium/discount (0.0%) (0.0%) (2.2%)		
Yalid 22% Share price and discount Image perice 31/12/2018 to 14/01/2019 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		
Share price and discount Time perice 31/12/2018 to 14/01/2019		
Time period 3/11/2/018 to 14/01/2019 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	Tield	2.2%
	200	ANNON JANA
	— Price (LHS) -	Discount (RHS)
120	Price (LHS) ource: Morningstar, Marten & C Performance OV- ime period 31/12/2013 340	Discount (RHS)
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Our update note on BlackRock Throgmorton Trust highlights the added value that its manager has been able to extract by exploiting its ability to sell companies short. This a key point of difference between this trust and competing funds.

Aberdeen Emerging Markets has been affected by the negative sentiment towards emerging markets but its managers believe there is a potential for a reversal of fortune

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Aberdeen Emerging Markets

A reversal of fortune

In 2018, Aberdeen Emerging Markets (AEMC) gave up the gains it made in 2017; this left its shares trading on a 3.0% dividend yield (one of the highest in its peer group) and a wider discount to its net asset value, currently 15.0%. The shift was largely one of sentiment, investors were worried about the potential effects of rising US interest rates and a US trade war with China on emerging markets. Emerging markets currencies weakened and funds focused on the sector experienced significant outflows. The underlying companies now trade on much lower valuations and AEMCs managers believe that emerging markets have overshot on the downside. The potential is there for a reversal of fortune in 2019.

Year ended	Share price total return (%)	NAV total return (%)	M 8CI Emerging Markets TR. (%)	M 8CI World total return (%)
31/12/14	0.8	1.8	3.9	11.5
31/12/15	(5.5)	(5.0)	(10.0)	4.9
31/12/16	28.0	29.3	32.6	28.2
31/12/17	22.9	22.7	25.4	11.8
31/12/18	(13.4)	(12.5)	(9.3)	(3.0)



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Bluefield Solar Income Fund

Walking on sunshine

= Faced with rising prices for secondary solar projects, Bluefield Solar Income Fund (BSIF) has a strategic decision not to focus on growing its p during the last couple of years. Instead, a for increasing operational efficiency, coupled with a 32.5% increase in the power price, has helped deliver a 16.2% year-on-year uplift in BSIF's underlying earnings for the year ended 30 June 2018 (from 8.32p per share to

Year ended	Share price total return	total return	Earnings per share	Dividend per chare	Target dividend per chare
	(56)	(%)	(pence)	(pence)	(pence)
30/06/14*	1.6	5.1	6.99	4.0	4.0
30/06/15	13.5	7.0	7.71	7.25	7.0
30/06/16	(2.6)	3.0	7.55	7.25	7.07
30/06/17	23.5	19.2	7.55	7.25	7.18
30/06/18	11.4	8.8	9.67	7.43	7.43



Our initiation note on Bluefield Solar Fund explains workings of the fund and the steps the manager has been taking to boost earnings

This update on JPMorgan Russian notes the positive effect that a higher oil price had on the Russian economy but, despite this, valuations Russian stocks remain attractive.

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JPMorgan Russian Securities

Expert access to attractively valued market

Russia's economy benefitted for much of 2018 from a recovery in the oil price and rising prices for a range of other commodities. A weaker rouble has offset the recent oil price fall. Oleg Biryulyov, longstanding manager of JPMorgan Russian Securities (JRS), has

Year ended	price total return	total return	bench- mark TR*	total return	Russia 10/40 TR
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
31/12/14	(46.6)	(45.9)	(39.4)	(38.4)	(39.4)
31/12/15	12.4	16.9	13.4	6.2	13.4
31/12/16	87.4	81.5	83.7	90.2	83.2
31/12/17	2.2	(0.2)	(3.3)	(3.3)	(8.0)
31/12/18	1.9	4.7	4.3	4.3	5.2
ides until 31 Os stablished in De	dober 2016 and	the RTS Inde	blended benchn is thereafter (see hide for The Fle	page 131, **)	lole: JRS w

Beofor	European - sing
	country
Tloker	JRS LN
Base ourrency	GRP
Price	530.0p
NAV	633.90p
Premium/(discount)	(16.3%)
Yield	4.9%
500 500 450 450 500 500 2013 2014 2015	May 1017 201
Price (LHS)	— Discount (RHS)
Cource: Morningster, Marten &	60
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Price (TR) NA/ fource: Morningster, Meten & Domitolle Inception date Manager	UK 20 December 2002** Oleg Biryulyov 258.3m





Herald Investment Trust is 25 years old and going strong but, in the short-term, its performance has been affected by shifting sentiment toward the technology sector.

Civitas Social Housing has seen some slight weakness in its share price in recent weeks which could be related to actions being taken by the regulator to strengthen the social housing sector. Civitas welcomes higher standards, however.



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