

Monthly roundup | Investment companies

May 2019

Winners and losers in April

Best performing funds in price terms in April

	(%)
Infrastructure India	207.7
Lindsell Train Investment Trust	16.3
Better Capital PCC 2012	15.2
Green REIT	12.0
Schroder European Real Estate Inv Trust	11.4
Montanaro UK Smaller Companies	10.8
Livermore Investments	10.7
Herald Investment Trust	10.4
Standard Life UK Smaller	9.8
JZ Capital Partners	9.8

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Best performing funds in NAV terms in April

	(%)
EJF Investments	11.3
Globalworth Real Estate Investments	10.6
JPMorgan Smaller Companies	8.8
Standard Life UK Smaller	8.4
Mercantile Investment Trust	8.3
Montanaro UK Smaller Companies	8.2
Henderson Opportunities	8.2
TR European Growth	8.0
JPMorgan Mid Cap	7.5
Henderson Smaller Companies	7.4

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Infrastructure India's share price surged after it reached a loan agreement worth \$105m, though it still traded at a discount of more than 85% at month-end. April was a good month for growth-oriented trusts as risk-appetite picked up. Lindsell Train had another excellent month while a number of small-cap UK funds, including Standard Life UK Smaller and Montanaro UK Smaller Companies, performed well in both price and NAV terms, as a degree of confidence was restored following the extension of the Brexit deadline and the ongoing resoluteness of the UK economy. EJF Investments, which invests in opportunities created by regulatory changes in financial services, led the way in NAV terms following a very strong 2018.

Worst performing funds in price terms in April

	(%)
RDL Realisation	(15.0)
Civitas Social Housing	(8.9)
Symphony International Holding	(7.0)
Triple Point Social Housing REIT	(6.6)
AEW UK Long Lease REIT	(6.4)
Biotech Growth	(5.7)
Alpha Real Trust	(5.2)
Dolphin Capital Investors	(5.1)
Worldwide Healthcare	(4.9)
Ceiba Investments	(4.7)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Worst performing funds in NAV in April

	(%)
Geiger Counter	(9.1)
Ceiba Investments	(6.3)
International Biotechnology	(5.7)
Biotech Growth	(5.6)
Worldwide Healthcare	(5.0)
Polar Capital Global Healthcare	(4.8)
Baker Steel Resources	(4.1)
BlackRock World Mining Trust	(3.9)
Gore Street Energy Storage Fund	(3.3)
Aberdeen Frontier Markets Investment	(3.0)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

RDL Realisation had another difficult month, ending with its shares being temporarily suspended from trading after it failed to meet an annual accounts publishing deadline. The sell-offs in Civitas Social Housing and Triple Point Social Housing REIT came following a report issued by the Regulator for Social Housing. Symphony International saw its shares sell-off in April, to move into negative territory for the year, having started strongly. Baker Steel Resources and BlackRock World Mining Trust saw NAV declines in April, though both have performed well over the first third of the year. The NAV and price declines for Ceiba Investments, the Cuban real estate investor, came following a challenging 2018 where economic growth was below expectations.



Significant moves in discounts and premiums

More expensive relative to NAV (notable changes)

% discount (-ve) or premium (+ve)			
	30 Apr (%)	29 Mar (%)	
Lindsell Train Investment Trust	86.2	64.6	
Amedeo Air Four Plus	15.9	3.6	
Doric Nimrod Air Three	38.5	28.2	
Schroder European Real Estate	(1.1)	(11.4)	
Green REIT	(7.1)	(17.2)	

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Such is Lindsell Train Investment Trust's popularity, it closed the month trading at a premium of 86.2%. For perspective, the premium is more than double the level of any of the other trusts covered (market caps above £15m). Elsewhere, Amedeo Air Four Plus and Doric Nimrod Air Three recovered ground as investors' fears over the impact of Airbus discontinuing the production of A380's allayed somewhat. Schroder European Real Estate's discount moved very close to its level before last year's fourth quarter sell-off while Green REIT's shares were up sharply on the news that it had decided to either sell the company or its assets.

Cheaper relative to NAV (notable changes)

% discount (-ve) or premium (+v			
	30 Apr	29 Mar	
	(%)	(%)	
EJF Investments	(8.2)	2.2	
RDL Realisation	(45.2)	(35.6)	
Triple Point Social Housing REIT	(7.4)	1.1	
Civitas Social Housing	(16.9)	(8.8)	
Globalworth Real Estate Investments	(6.9)	0.9	

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

EJF Investments' NAV was up strongly following a strong 2018, pushing it to its cheapest valuation relative to NAV since inception. Civitas Social Housing and Triple Point Social Housing REIT have moved from premiums to discounts over recent weeks, mainly reflecting regulatory concerns. We discussed RDL Realisation in the 'winners and losers' section while Globalworth Real Estate Investments' move was driven by NAV growth in April.

Money raised and returned in April

Money raised in April

	(£m)
Renewables Infrastructure Group	329.7*
Globalworth Real Estate Investments	€347.6
US Solar Fund	153.0
Hipgnosis Songs	141.0
Merian Chrysalis Investment Company	100.0

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co* approximate value of shares at 30/04/19

US Solar Fund launched in April, raising £153m. The IPO was a big contributor to net inflows into the sector of more than £350m over the month. Elsewhere, Renewables Infrastructure Group led the way in raising money, reflecting ongoing interest in the renewable energy space. Globalworth Real Estate Investments' near £300m raise will be used to fund the company's pipeline in Poland and Romania, where it is a leading player. In addition, it issued €153m worth of shares to a major shareholder (Growthpoint) to fund the acquisition of the remaining shares in GPRE (a Polish real estate company) that it didn't already own. Hipgnosis Songs has had no issues raising capital since its launch in 2018 while Merian Chrysalis Investment's £100m raise will be directed towards investments into the increasingly popular unquoted space. SDCL Energy Efficiency raised £72m in its first issue since its IPO. Smithson heads up a long list of funds that are issuing additional shares to meet demand, including: Finsbury Growth & Income,

Money returned in April

	(£m)
NB Global Floating Rate Income GBP	(17.7)
Alliance Trust	(15.0)
Biotech Growth	(13.5)
NB Distressed Debt Inv Extended Life	(13.5)
JPMorgan American	(10.1)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co, * approximate value of shares at 30/04/19

Scottish Mortgage, City of London, TwentyFour Income, Supermarket Income REIT, BB Healthcare, Edinburgh Worldwide, Capital Gearing, Residential Secure Income, Impax Environmental, Worldwide Healthcare and Allianz Technology.

NB Global Floating Rate Income was the biggest returner of cash once again after repurchasing shares worth £17.7m on their sterling line. Alliance Trust, Biotech Growth, NB Distressed Debt Extended Life and JPMorgan American were the other main capital returners in April. The other companies to return more than £5m were Templeton Emerging Markets, VPC Specialty Lending Investments, NB Distressed Debt Global, Funding Circle SME Income Fund and Witan.



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Portfolio developments

Hipgnosis added a catalogue by Starrah, having earlier acquired six Shawn Mendes songs

- HgCapital to make further investments in B2B firm Visma
- Syncona announced the merger of two of its companies, Gyroscope Therapeutics and Orbit Biomedical
- Sareum made note of strong preclinical SCLC data on SRA737 at the American Association of Cancer Research
- Tufton Oceanic bought two cargo ships for \$13.5m
- Dolphin Capital asset disposals gathered pace in 2018
- International Public Partnerships Limited bought a further 51% in BeNEX GmbH – an investor in train operators
- Renewables Infrastructure Group bought a Burgundy wind farm for €30 million
- Schroder European bought two French warehouses for €17.3m

Corporate news

Managers and fees

- RIT Capital Partners announced that Lord Rothschild would take up the role of president
- Tony Roper to take over as chairman of Aberdeen Standard European Logistics Income
- New issue SDCL Energy Efficiency raised a further £72m through a share placing
- Merian Chrysalis raised £100m; it is targeting unquoteds
- Establishment Investment set for wind-up
- Funding Circle to wind-up in surprise move
- Infrastructure India announced a \$105m loan agreement
- EP Global Opportunities appointed Tom Walker to its board
- Carador Income Fund discussed its wind-down timeline
- AVI Japan Opportunity announced a share placing as it looked to expand
- Physical uranium investor Yellow Cake moved closer to critical mass following a share placing

Property news

Globalworth is to make another two investments in Poland, worth a combined EUR113.2m

- RDI REIT's proposed acquisition by Cromwell Property fell through
- Yew Grove REIT growing quickly as Irish economics thrives
- Standard Life Investments Property Income hit 94.1% occupancy rate
- Intu cut its debt with Intu Derby sale
- UK Mortgages completed a £209m securitisation
- Residential Secure Income announced a £60m investment in a London shared ownership project
- Green REIT initiated a process for the sale of the company or its assets
- AEW UK Long Lease announced a strategic review
- AXA Property considers name and style change

Henderson Alternative Strategies Trust appointed Alex Barr

- as senior manager
- Polar Capital Technology amended its fee structure
- Ground Rents Income is moving its management contract to Schroders
- Value and Income announced Louise Cleary and Patrick Harrington as their new lead managers
- Jupiter's Alexander Darwall is shifting his focus from openended funds to Jupiter European Opportunities
- Civitas Social Housing amended the way its investment advisor's fees are calculated





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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Standardised past performance to 31 December**:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Scottish Mortgage	21.4%	13.3%	16.5%	41.1%	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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Long-term investment partners

*Ongoing charges as at 31.03.18. **Source: Morningstar, share price, total return as at 31.12.18. Your call may be recorded for training or monitoring purposes. Issued and approved by Baillie Gifford & Co Limited, whose registered address is at Calton Square, 1 Greenside Row, Edinburgh, EH1 3AN, United Kingdom. Baillie Gifford & Co Limited is the authorised Alternative Investment Fund Manager and Company Secretary of the Company. Baillie Gifford & Co Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The investment trusts managed by Baillie Gifford & Co Limited are listed UK companies and are not authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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Income

Investment companies announcing their full year dividends in April

Fund	Year ended	Dividend (pence)*	Change over year (%)	Revenue / earnings (pence)*	Cover
Aberdeen Asian Income Fund	31/12/18	9.15	+1.67	9.25	1.01x
Aberdeen New Thai Investment Trust	28/02/19	18.00	+62.16	18.50	1.03x
Aberdeen Standard European Logistics Income	31/12/18	€3.00	N/A ^d	€0.02	0x
Acorn Income Fund	31/12/18	19.80	+10.00	21.62	1.09x
Africa Opportunity Fund	31/12/18	N/A ^g	N/Ag	(\$0.25)	N/Ag
Aseana Properties	31/12/18	N/A ⁹	N/Ag	(2.46) ^a	N/Ag
Aurora Investment Trust	31/12/18	4.00	+45.50	4.99	1.25x
Axiom European Financial Debt Fund	31/12/18	6.00	Unchanged	(8.48) ^a	-1.41x
Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon	31/01/19	N/A ^f	N/A ^f	0.04	N/A ^f
Baker Steel Resources	31/12/18	N/A ^g	N/A ⁹	16.90	N/A ^g
BMO Private Equity Trust	31/12/18	14.37	+2.35	0.63	0.04x
CATCo Reinsurance Opportunities Fund	31/12/18	\$2.65	(51.60)	N/A ^e	N/Ae
City Merchants High Yield	31/12/18	10.00	Unchanged	10.30	1.03x
Dolphin Capital Investors	31/12/18	N/A ^g	N/A ⁹	(€0.05)	N/A ^g
EJF Investments	31/12/18	10.00	+3.10	29.40 ^a	2.94x



Fund	Year ended	Dividend (pence)*	Change over year (%)	Revenue / earnings (pence)*	Cover
EPE Special Opportunities	31/01/19	N/A ^g	N/Ag	(9.87)	N/Ag
Fair Oaks Income Fund	31/12/18	\$13.45	Unchanged	0.52 ^a	0.04x
GCP Asset Backed Income	31/12/18	6.35	+5.00	6.54	1.03x
Highbridge Multi-Strategy Fund	31/12/18	N/A ^f	N/A ^f	(5.05)	N/A ^f
Honeycomb Investment	31/12/18	80.00	(5.30)	79.60	1.00x
ICG-Longbow Senior Secured UK Property Debt Investments	31/01/19	6.00	(27.3) ^b	6.30°	1.05x
Impax Environmental Markets	31/12/18	3.00	+20.00	3.20	1.07x
Invesco Perpetual UK Smaller Companies	31/01/19	7.65	(24.63)	10.72	1.40x
Martin Currie Global Portfolio	31/01/19	4.20	Unchanged	3.47	0.83x
Marwyn Value Investors	31/12/18	8.55	+26.70	4.13	0.48x
Mercantile Investment	31/01/19	6.30	+18.90	7.47	1.19x
NB Global	31/12/18	4.02	+20.00	3.85	0.96x
North American Income	31/01/19	42.50	+8.97	50.19	1.18x
Pacific Assets Trust	31/01/19	3.00	+15.40	3.50	1.17x
Phoenix Spree Deutschland	31/12/18	€7.50	+2.70	€46.00a	6.13x
Symphony International Holdings	31/12/18	\$10.00	(23.08)	(\$13.99) ^a	-1.40x
Trian Investors 1	31/12/18	N/A ^g	N/A ⁹	0.09	N/A ⁹
UK Commercial Property REIT	31/12/18	3.68	Unchanged	5.53	1.50x
Vietnam Enterprise Investments	31/12/18	N/A ^g	N/A ⁹	(\$0.50)	N/A ^g
Weiss Korea Opportunity Fund	31/12/18	4.12	+20.50	(0.38)	0.09x
Witan Pacific Investment	31/01/19	7.00	+27.30	7.88	1.13x
Woodford Patient Capital	31/12/18	N/A ^g	N/Ag	(0.47)	N/A ^g

^{*} unless otherwise specified

- a) The company does not separate revenue and capital in their earnings per share calculations.
- b) The previous year's calculation included a special dividend of 2.25p
- c) The company declared total income per share of 6.30p and earnings per share of 4.36p
- d) No comparative figures available as the company was launched on December 15 2017
- No per share earnings data provided
- f) The company does not pay dividends
- g) No dividends were paid or declared over the year
- h) Targeting a dividend of 10.7p per ordinary share for the year-ending December 31 2019

Upcoming events

Have you checked out the new Events section of the website? Here is a selection of what's coming up.

- Schroder Asian Total Return AGM, 10th May 2019
- Impact Healthcare REIT AGM 2019, 14th May 2019
- European Assets shareholder meeting, 15th May 2019
- Starwood European AGM 2019, 15th May 2019
- Tritax Big Box REIT AGM 2019, 15th May 2019
- Aberdeen Asian Income AGM 2019, 15th May 2019
- Merchant's Trust AGM 2019, 16th May 2019
- Princess Private Equity AGM 2019, 16th May 2019
- Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon AGM 2019, 17th May 2019
- Impax Environmental AGM 2019, 21st May 2019
- Fidelity Japan AGM 2019, 21st May 2019
- Riverstone Energy AGM 2019, 21st May 2019
- Golden Prospect AGM 2019, 22nd May 2019

- BMO Private Equity AGM 2019, 23rd May 2019
- Mercantile AGM 2019, 23rd May 2019
- GCP Asset Backed Income AGM 2019, 23rd May 2019
- Secure Income REIT AGM 2019, 23rd May 2019
- Dunedin Income Growth AGM 2019, 23rd May 2019
- Yew Grove REIT AGM 2019, 23rd May 2019
- Menhaden AGM 2019, 29th May 2019
- F&C Commercial Property AGM/EGM 2019, 30th May 2019
- Sherborne Investors B AGM, 4th June 2019
- BlackRock Smaller Companies AGM 2019, 4th June 2019
- North American Income Trust AGM 2019, 4th June



Publications



Our update note on Henderson Diversified Income discusses why a prolonged period of low-no growth and low-to-no inflation might suit the group's long-duration portfolio.

Our update note on Ecofin Global Utilities and Infrastructure discusses how the fund has been able to outperform the MSCI World Utilities and S&P Global Infrastructure Indices.





Our annual overview note on Jupiter Emerging and Frontier Income discusses how recent developments in China and the US look set to boost emerging market assets.

Our update note on Seneca Global Income & Growth note details how it is preparing itself for what is sees as a potential global recession in late 2020/2021.







Our initiation research note on Polar Capital Global Financials Trust discusses why concerns that banks might get heavily caught up in a potential global recession appear misplaced. Regulations are much tighter than pre-2008 and most of the current capital lent to businesses and individuals is coming from non-bank lenders.

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