

**B SHARE CLASS GBP** 

STOCK PICKING

APPROACH

# TM STONEHAGE FLEMING **AIM FUND**



INVESTMENT HORIZONS



WITH CLEAR STRATEGIES



# INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

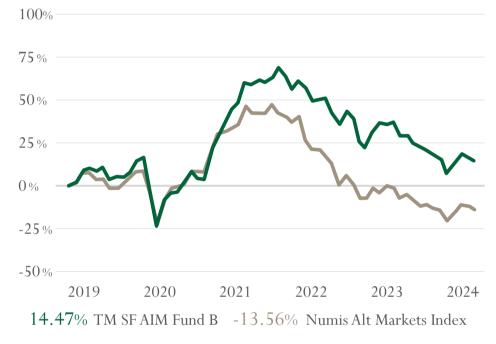
MANAGEE

The fund aims to achieve long-term capital growth.

#### INVESTMENT POLICY

The Fund aims to invest mainly in equities on the UK Alternative Investment Market ('AIM'). This will be achieved by an actively managed diversified portfolio of shares spread across any sector of AIM. In addition, the Fund may on occasion invest in fully listed shares of companies with smaller market capitalisations.

# PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE



### PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

The UK stock market was relatively stable in February but smaller company shares drifted lower with investors showing little appetite in that area of the market. The economic background saw January inflation pegged at 4.0% and Bank Rate remaining at 5.25%. However, the Bank of England Monetary Policy committee forecast that inflation is likely to fall closer to the 2% target in the coming months. In the United States inflation fell back to 3.1% against the previous level of 3.4% and interest rates were unchanged at 5.25% to 5.5%. The US inflation target was also 2.0% and Jerome Powell indicated that it was too early for the Fed to start cutting interest rates. Both countries have elections scheduled for later in the year and if inflation declines towards those monetary targets it seems likely that interest rates will also move lower during the year. In fact, Powell has already made this prediction for US rates and the UK is in a similar position. From an economic prospective this would be a positive stimulus which should prove favourable for stock market sentiment. The situation in the Ukraine and Middle East remains unsettled and the General Election outcome could be disruptive factors but much of this is discounted in current share price levels.

In the last few weeks oil prices have remained stable at slightly higher levels with reductions by OPEC and Russia offsetting higher production in the United States. Winter weather has been relatively mild and it therefore seems as though there will not be a surge in energy prices as demand increases. Upwards pressure might still be seen on energy costs through merchant shipping being forced to avoid the Suez Canal. Shares in the oil and gas sector have been shunned by investors but represent outstanding value and we are comfortable keeping a reasonable high interest in the sector. In other market sectors, shares in smaller, and particularly those listed on AIM have remained relatively friendless and technical factors have created many anomalies for which we, as stock pickers have been able to take advantage. Consequently, we feel that the portfolio is well positioned for when confidence returns, hopefully to reflect a downwards movement in interest rates but also with some corporate activity. From a political viewpoint both major parties wish to stimulate the economy and to encourage smaller companies to grow and we look forward to seeing the election manifestos when they are rolled out. Turning to the portfolio, in the month we have reduced a number of holdings including, purely for technical reasons MS International which is by far our largest portfolio holding. Additional purchases have been made to Avingtrans (industrial), Beximco (pharmaceuticals), Made Tech (IT services) and Kistos (oil and gas) where all have produced positive news flow.

# FUND INFORMATION

#### **KEY FACTS**

Launch Date	5 October 2005
IA Sector	UK Smaller Companies
Fund Size	£75.1m
Dealing Frequency	Daily
MINIMUM INVESTMENT	
Lump Sum	£50,000
Additional	£5,000
Regular Savings	N/A
FEES	
Initial Charge	Up to 5.00%
Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF)*	0.67%
Annual Management Charge	0.60%

\* The OCF is the management fee plus additional fund expenses (excluding transaction costs) as a percentage of the assets of the fund. This gives an indication of annual expenses which may vary over time.

# STANDARDISED FUND PERFORMANCE (%)

Performance	3m	6m	YTD	lyr	3yrs	5yrs
TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund B	2.0	-2.8	-3.3	-16.1	-20.7	14.5
Numis Alternative Markets Index	2.9	-0.6	-3.4	-13.3	-35.2	-13.6

# DISCRETE 12 MONTH PERFORMANCE (%)

12 months to 29 February	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund B	-16.1	-8.6	3.3	46.5	-1.5
Numis Alternative Markets Index	-13.3	-17.3	-9.7	36.0	-1.9

### CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

Performance	YTD	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund B	-3.3	-12.8	-15.9	27.1	11.2	36.7
Numis Alternative Markets Index	-3.4	-7.2	-31.1	7.6	19.3	14.7

Source: Morningstar as at 29/02/2024, % growth, total return, GBP, single price, UK net income reinvested with no initial charges.

### PERFORMANCE DISCLOSURE

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. All investments risk the loss of capital. Investors may not get back the original amount invested. Income from investments may vary and is not guaranteed. Performance figures are net of fees and charges. For a full list of risks applicable to this fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

The fund holds a broad range of AIM listed companies and some of these carry a higher risk of failure and may be less liquid than shares listed on other exchanges. These shares may be also harder to sell quickly because of this lower liquidity. AIM listed companies may also experience greater price volatility which could also affect the value of the fund.

Source for all performance is Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited as at 29 February 2024. Total return (with dividends reinvested) is net of fees.



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# TM STONEHAGE FLEMING **AIM FUND**

#### **ENQUIRIES**

ENQUIRIES AND DEALING				
0333 300 0375				
(press 1 for Enquiries, press 2 for Dealing)				
DEALING:				
Thesis UnitTrust Management Limited, PO Box 3733,				
Royal Wootton Bassett, Swindon, SN4 4BG				
SEDOL CODES:				
Class B Share	B0JX3Z5			
ISIN CODES:				
Class B Share	GB00B0JX3Z52			
LIPPER IDS:				
Class B Share	65009655			

#### **SECTOR ALLOCATION (%)**

Industrials	26.7
Information Technology	23.0
Health Care	15.5
Consumer Discretionary	9.0
Energy	8.8
Communication Services	5.1
Consumer Staples	3.6
Materials	3.3
Real Estate	3.0
Cash	2.1

# Source: Thesis Unit Trust Management Limited and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited as at 29 February 2024. Third parties whose data may be included in this document do not accept any liability for errors or omissions.

# OUTCOME OF FAIR VALUE ASSESSMENTS (2024)

Our assessment confirms:

- The fund meets the needs of the target market.
- The intended distribution strategy remains appropriate.
- The fund provides fair value to customers.

### **INVESTOR PROFILE**

The fund is appropriate for all investor types, including those with only a basic knowledge of funds. It is compatible with investors who do not need a capital guarantee (investors must be prepared to accept fluctuations in the value of capital, including the ability to bear 100% capital loss) and are seeking capital growth. Due to the volatility of markets, investors should be willing to accept price fluctuations in exchange for the opportunity of potentially higher returns. This is a long term investment and investors should have an investment time horizon of at least **5** years. The recommended holding period does not provide any guarantee that the objective will be achieved. This product is eligible for all distribution channels (e.g. investment advice, portfolio management, non-advised sales and pure execution services).

The fund is unlikely to be appropriate for those who:

- Are looking for full capital protection or full repayment of the amount invested, and those who want a guaranteed return
- Have no risk tolerance
- Who are unwilling to accept price fluctuations (volatility) in the value of the fund
- Do not intend to invest for the long term

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This is a marketing communication issued by Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited (SFIM). SFIM is the investment manager of the Fund. All investments risk the loss of capital. No guarantee or representation is made that the funds will achieve their investment objective. The value of investments may go down as well as up. For products designed to return income, the distributions can also go down or up and you may not receive back the full value of your initial investment. Derivatives have not been used but are allowed if appropriate for efficient asset management. The Fund only invests in UK assets but is allowed to hold shares on overseas exchanges. This would occur in the event of a company delisting from the London stock market and would not expected to be material. Hence, there would be limited foreign exchange risk. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. If the information is not displayed in your base currency, then the return may increase or decrease due to currency fluctuations. The distribution or possession of this document in jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom may be restricted by law or other regulatory requirements. For details of the Funds investment policy, please see the Investment Objective and Policy section of the Fund Prospectus Document.



# FUND MANAGERS

### PAUL MUMFORD

Paul Mumford began his career in 1963 working initially as an Analyst for Norris Oakley Brothers and later as a smaller companies expert at R Nivison. Paul moved to fund management in 1988 when he joined Glenfriars. Paul then joined Cavendish Asset Management at the group's formation in 1994 and funds were launched. The group was subsequently acquired by Stonehage Fleming in July 2020. Paul is the comanager of the TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund and the TM Stonehage Fleming Opportunities Fund.

### NICK BURCHETT

Nick Burchett began his career in 1983 at Strauss Turnbull and subsequently joined W.I. Carr in 1990 which later became Investec Wealth & Investment after a number of mergers and acquisitions. Nick dealt extensively with portfolios of UK equities, markets and execution strategies. After 27 years at Investec he joined Cavendish Asset Management in November 2017 to jointly manage this fund. The acquisition of Cavendish Asset Management was subsequently made by Stonehage Fleming in July 2020. Nick is the co-manager of the TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund and the TM Stonehage Fleming Opportunities Fund.

#### AWARDS



Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the information provided to clients is accurate and up to date, some of the information may be rendered inaccurate by changes in applicable laws and regulations may be subject to change in the future. The information in this document does not constitute legal, tax, or a personal recommendation. The Fund is authorised in the United Kingdom and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. The Authorised Fund Manager is Thesis Unit Trust Management Limited, Exchange Building, St John's Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UP. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Before you invest you should read the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) and the Prospectus which contain detailed information. These documents are available in English, free of charge, upon request by writing to Thesis Unit Trust Management Limited at Exchange Building, St John's Street, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1UP; or by phoning 01483 783 900 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday; or on the website at www.tutman.co.uk/literature/

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# STONEHAGE FLEMING INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

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### TOP TEN HOLDINGS (%)

MS International Plc	9.5
Netcall Plc	3.7
Lok nStore Group Pln	3.0
Hargreaves Services	2.9
Kooth Plc	2.5
Venture Life Group Plc	2.5
CT Automotive Group Plc	2.4
Serica Energy Plc	2.3
Eckoh Plc	2.3
Advanced Medical Solutions	2.1

