

# B SHARE CLASS GBP

# TM STONEHAGE FLEMING

# **AIM FUND**











# INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

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



# 8.74% TM SF AIM Fund B -16.43% Numis Alt Markets Index

# PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

The feature of the month was the surprise announcement of the Prime Minister to call a snap General Election for 4th July. Opinion polls have shown the Labour Party to have a substantial lead which look to have been endorsed by Local Authority election results. In the next few weeks the policies of both major parties will become clearer but it seems that at the forefront will the management of the UK Economy. The Conservative Party want to cut taxes and the Labour Party have promised not to increase National Insurance, VAT and Income Tax. This would appeal to the electorate and encouragingly both parties have recognised the importance of business when growing the economy. In fact, the previous Labour Government under Tony Blair and the current Conservative Government have supported smaller companies. Consequently, the UK Stock Market has been firmer and sentiment has improved at the smaller end of the market. A further encouraging factor has been the fall in inflation to 2.3% in April against 3.2% in the previous month. It is therefore nearing the Bank of England 's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) 2% inflation target. If the trend is maintained the MPC might see fit to reduce the Bank Rate from its current level of 5.5%. It also seems likely that US and European interest rates might follow the same trend and reduce later in the year.

The better tone in the stock market has created the opportunity to add to several holdings including Beximco (pharmaceutical products), CT Automotive (automotive parts), Gateley (legal services), Inspecs and Pulsar (marketing software). We did not acquire any new holding but disposed of our investment in Essensys (office software) and RGB (legal services) where original expectations were not achieved. AIM has under-performed the rest of the stock market for some while with small company funds being forced to sell their more liquid holdings to satisfy redemptions. It now seems, that in the new financial year, investor confidence has improved and we would expect to see a strong recovery. Reduced interest rates and increased take-over activity would be a positive factor to increase investor interest in AIM listed companies. The General Election and unrest in the Middle East plus the Ukraine/Russia conflict creates some short-term uncertainty but we feel that, moving forward, the portfolio is well placed to take advantage of a market recovery.

# **FUND INFORMATION**

### **KEY FACTS**

Launch Date	5 October 2005
IA Sector	UK Smaller Companies
Fund Size	£77.8m
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%

 $<sup>^{*}</sup>$  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.

# CUMULATIVE FUND PERFORMANCE (%)

Performance	3m	6m	YTD	lyr	3yrs	5yrs
TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund B	9.6	11.7	6.0	1.0	-20.8	13.7
Numis Alternative Markets Index	9.3	12.4	5.5	3.4	-33.6	-11.8

# CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

Performance	YTD	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
TM Stonehage Fleming AIM Fund B	6.0	-12.8	-15.9	27.1	11.2	36.7
Numis Alternative Markets Index	5.5	-7.2	-31.1	7.6	19.3	14.7

Source: Morningstar as at 31/05/2024, % 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  $31\,\mathrm{May}\,2024$ . Total return (with dividends reinvested) is net of fees.



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# **ENQUIRIES**

Class B Share

# 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:

# **SECTOR ALLOCATION (%)**

Industrials	27.7
Information Technology	25.1
Health Care	15.2
Consumer Discretionary	10.0
Energy	7.5
Communication Services	5.5
Consumer Staples	3.5
Materials	2.5
Real Estate	0.0
Cash	3.0

# TOP TEN HOLDINGS (%)

MS International Plc	9.6
Hargreaves Services	3.0
Netcall Plc	2.8
Kooth Plc	2.7
Venture Life Group Plc	2.5
CT Automotive Group Plc	2.5
Altitude Group Plc	2.3
Supreme Plc	2.3
Microlise	2.3
Velocity Composites Plc	2.2

Source: Thesis Unit Trust Management Limited and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited as at 31 May 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 (2023)**

65009655

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

### **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**









# 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.

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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