

**B SHARE CLASS GBP** 

# TM STONEHAGE FLEMING **OPPORTUNITIES FUND**



STOCK PICKING

LONG-TERM INVESTMENT HORIZONS



### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The fund aims to achieve long-term capital growth.

#### INVESTMENT POLICY

The Fund aims to invest in equities falling mainly under the following categories: smaller companies which offer long-term growth; companies which offer recovery prospects; and companies in sectors which are perceived to be unduly depressed. There is no geographical restriction but in practice the fund will be mainly invested in the UK.

#### PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE



18.81% TM SF Opp Fund B Inc 32.56% Numis Smaller Companies Ex Inv Comps Index

# PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

One of the main points of interest in the month was the Labour Party Conference 2024 and whether Rachael Reeve, the new incoming Chancellor of the Exchequer, would leave any hints as to how the apparent £21.9 billion overspend by the previous Conservative Government would be clawed back in taxation. In the event she confirmed that there would be no change in income tax, corporation tax, national insurance and VAT but there was little else new to report. The reduction in the winter fuel allowance, new charge of VAT on public school fees and changes in "non-dom" tax status are measures that have already been disclosed. Rumours and thoughts on changes to pensions, capital gains and inheritance tax have circulated in news journals and it remains to be seen what the outcome will be when disclosed at the Autumn Budget on 30 October. Up until then investors remain cautious or perhaps nervous about the outcome and subsequently the Stock Market has drifted lower in the month. Worst affected have been smaller companies and particularly those listed on AIM as this approach is taken. However, the Prime Minister stated that "the priority was to grow the economy with wealth creation the aim" and it is hoped that the Labour Government is more business friendly than many feared. The economic background is favourable with Sterling strong and inflation pegged at 2.0% This leaves room for the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to follow the American lead to cut interest rates. We were able to take advantage of market changes by reducing several holdings which had outperformed. One of these was Synectics (surveillance systems) where the shares had a good outperformance on the back of upgraded results. There were no new holdings and additions were made to Inspecs (spectacle frames and lenses), Zoo Digital (dubbing services) and IQE (semiconductors) where prices are depressed and offer good recovery potential. The Stock Market can manage good news and bad news but not uncertainty and we would not expect to see a significant uptick until after the Autumn Budget measures are known. In the mean time we will continue to seek investment opportunities in order to position the portfolio to offer investors above average returns. Removal of political uncertainties and falling interest rates are likely to be positive factors.

# FUND INFORMATION

#### **KEY FACTS**

Launch Date	15 February 1988
IA Sector	UK All Companies
Fund Size	£86.7m
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.

# CUMULATIVE FUND PERFORMANCE (%)

Performance	3m	6m	YTD	lyr	3yrs	5yrs
TM Stonehage Fleming Opportunities Fund B Inc	-4.1	8.9	4.5	11.3	-17.1	18.8
Numis Smaller Companies Ex Inv Comps Index	5.1	10.6	10.8	20.0	0.5	32.6

# CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

Performance	YTD	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
TM Stonehage Fleming Opportunities Fund B Inc	4.5	-15.2	-2.6	27.5	-0.6	24.7
Numis Smaller Companies Ex Inv Comps Index	10.8	10.1	-17.9	21.9	-4.3	25.2

Source: Morningstar as at 30/09/2024, % 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 30 September 2024. Total return (with dividends reinvested) is net of fees



ENQUIRIES AND DEALING

(press 1 for Enquiries, press 2 for Dealing)

Thesis Unit Trust Management Limited, PO Box 3733, Royal Wootton Bassett, Swindon, SN4 4BG

**ENQUIRIES** 

0333 300 0375

DEALING:

SEDOL CODES: Class B Share

ISIN CODES: Class B Share

LIPPER IDS:

Class B Share

# TM STONEHAGE FLEMING OPPORTUNITIES FUND

# SECTOR ALLOCATION (%)

Industrials	26.2
Energy	15.1
Information Technology	13.2
Consumer Discretionary	10.0
Financials	9.7
Communication Services	6.4
Materials	5.6
Health Care	5.5
Consumer Staples	3.3
Real Estate	2.5
Cash	2.2

# TOP TEN HOLDINGS (%)

MS International Plc	7.6
Costain Group	4.3
Elementis Plc	3.3
Serica Energy Plc	3.0
STV Group	2.7
Avon Technologies Plc	2.6
Hunting Ord	2.6
Barclays Plc	2.6
Senior Plc	2.6
Bango Plc	2.6

Source: Morningstar as at 30 September 2024, % growth, total return, GBP, single price, UK net income reinvested with no initial charges.

# OUTCOME OF FAIR VALUE ASSESSMENTS (2023)

3221110

60009019

GB0032211103

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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