

Sandhurst Professional IML Australian Share Fund

Sharemarket commentary[#]

The Australian sharemarket rose 3.1% in a volatile quarter for world markets. Strength in overseas sharemarkets on optimism of world growth helped many sharemarkets rally strongly during January and February although the tsunami in Japan as well as unrest in many parts of the Middle East and North Africa led markets to fall sharply in early March. Sharemarkets however regained their poise in late March to close the quarter higher.

Despite rising geopolitical tensions and a higher oil price, US sharemarkets closed near two year highs with the S&P500 up 5.4%. Many emerging markets returns were subdued over the quarter on inflation concerns exacerbated by rising oil and food prices. The Australian economy grew by 0.7% in the December quarter although growth is expected to slow in the current quarter due to the impact of the Queensland floods. With Australian CPI inflation at 2.2%, the market is now assigning only a marginal probability to further rate rises during 2011, despite the RBA's ongoing concerns over capacity pressures. The Australian dollar finished at a record high of 103 US cents, despite trading as low as 97 US cents during the Japanese disaster.

The best performing sectors for the quarter were Energy (+5.3%), Financials (+3.8%) and REITs (+2.5%). Despite starting the quarter strongly, the Materials sector underperformed the market. Financials recovered from a weak December quarter as fears over regulatory risk eased. The Energy sector benefited from a strong oil price which rallied over 20% due to Middle East concerns. The worst performing sectors were Information Technology (-8.8%), Utilities (-3.7%) and Health Care (-0.5%). Utilities were led lower by AGL which was affected by severe weather in January and disappointment as it missed out on purchasing any NSW energy assets in the recent sell down by the NSW State Government.

In corporate news, we saw many companies such as Wesfarmers, Asciano and Coca Cola Amatil adjust their earnings downwards to account for the impact of the floods in Queensland, northern New South Wales and Victoria. Insurer IAG downgraded margin guidance on the back of the Christchurch earthquake and poor UK conditions, while QBE announced an estimate of \$125m of net claims from the Japanese disaster. The reporting season saw many of the consumer related companies miss market expectations with soft trading conditions to blame. Origin Energy launched a \$2.3b equity raising to fund its acquisition of Integral Energy, Country Energy and the Earing GenTrader arrangement while two key NBN bills passed through Parliament, paving the way for Telstra to hold a shareholder meeting in the second half of the year to approve the deal.

Fund information

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Application	\$0.8912
Redemption	\$0.8868
ICR (% p.a.) as at 31 March 2011	1.30%
Fund start date	1 June 2006
Fund size as at 31 March 2011	\$8.56 Million

Fund Performance

Performance period	Fund Return*	Benchmark**
1 month	+1.2%	+0.7%
3 months	+3.4%	+3.1%
1 year	+4.3%	+3.8%
3 years [^]	+1.8%	+1.1%

[^] % Performance per annum.

* Performance figures are calculated before tax and after fees and costs; using redemption prices and assumes distributions are reinvested. Past performance is not an indication of future performance.

** The benchmark for this Fund is the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index (excluding S&P/ASX 50, excluding property trusts).

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Portfolio performance & summary[#]

The Fund's unit price rose by 3.4% during the quarter, which was better than the benchmark's return of +3.1%. This was due to some strong performances from key positions such as Westpac, Amcor and Ansell. Amalgamated Holdings was disappointing over the quarter.

Westpac rose almost 10% over the quarter, having lagged the recent rally. The rise in the share price was due to volatility in overseas markets as investors warmed to Westpac's domestic focus. The share price was also helped by the expectation that margins should show some improvement in its next result. Westpac also received a positive tax ruling relating to the St George Bank merger, which will result in tax payable being reduced by \$1.1bn for the 2011 to 2014 tax years. During the quarter Westpac also revealed its plan to relaunch the Bank of Melbourne brand in Victoria, providing an avenue to grow in Victoria.

Amcor performed strongly over the quarter in response to its half year result which included the earnings from its well timed Alcan Packaging acquisition from Rio Tinto. Earnings per share rose strongly for the December half and the company also confirmed its guidance of substantial Australian dollar synergies from the Alcan acquisition of between \$200 and \$250 million. Investors took the confirmation of this favourably and given the appreciation of the Australian dollar, this represents an implicit local currency synergy upgrade of 25% given that the operations are primarily in the US and Europe. While the share price has risen strongly, we continue to hold Amcor as a core holding in the Fund.

Amalgamated Holdings fell 8% over the quarter after the company announced a disappointing interim result as poor content and extreme weather negatively impacted the company's cinema operations. The company's other businesses, Rydges Hotels and Thredbo, achieved solid growth. IML remains comfortable with its position in Amalgamated with its strong management, a net cash balance sheet and durable businesses. The stock trades on 12x FY11 EPS and on a dividend yield of 6% fully franked.

Ansell rallied 8% over the quarter, after another strong result from the company in February. Despite significantly higher input costs, Ansell's earnings per share grew by 14% on the back of a record result of its Occupational glove division, where sales volumes were up as much as 30%. Ansell has been a long-term holding for IML. We continue to see strong growth prospects for the company as it continues to be a market leader and innovator in gloves and as safety standards continue to improve around the world, particularly in emerging markets.

The global outlook continues to look mixed. While the US economy continues to slowly recover from its recession, uncertainty remains as to how the US economy will perform after June when the Fed's current quantitative programme ceases. The strong rises in all commodities in the last twelve months are also causing inflationary concerns in many parts of the world and as a consequence of this we recently saw the central banks raise interest rate in China and Europe. The high Australian dollar is also causing issues for many Australian exporters as well as companies that compete with imports. We continue to position the portfolio towards companies that we believe have the capacity to continue to do well in the existing mixed economic conditions.

For further information contact our Customer Service Centre on 1800 634 969 or visit our website:
www.sandhursttrustees.com.au/investments

The Sandhurst Professional IML Australian Share Fund (Fund) is issued by Sandhurst Trustees Limited (Sandhurst) ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL 237879. Each of these companies receive remuneration on the issue of the Fund or the service they provide, full details of which are contained in the Product Disclosure Statement (PDS). This update is provided by Sandhurst and contains general advice only. Please consider your personal circumstances and read the PDS, available at Bendigo Bank branches or by phoning 1800 634 969, before making an investment decision.

[#]Sharemarket commentary and Portfolio performance & strategy are provided by Investors Mutual Limited.

Portfolio holdings	
Portfolio	% of Fund
Westpac Banking Corporation	9.48%
BHP Billiton	9.37%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	7.36%
Telstra Corporation Limited	6.62%
Origin Energy Limited	4.54%
CSL Limited	4.46%
National Australia Bank	3.96%
Woolworths	3.56%
Amcor Limited	3.55%
Metcash Limited	3.14%
Top 10 Stocks	56.04%
Other Stocks	35.54%
Cash	8.42%
Total	100.00%

Please note the portfolio information supplied above is based on the underlying managed investment scheme, in addition, the Fund may directly hold small amounts of cash.