Company Number SC111955

Unaudited Interim Accounts for the period 1 October 2016 to 31 August 2017

> Prepared under Section 838 Companies Act 2006

> > WEDNESDAY



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## Statement of Directors' Responsibilities in respect of the interim accounts

Company Law requires the Directors to prepare interim accounts prior to making any distribution where the distribution would be found to contravene the relevant section of the Companies Act if reference were made only to the Company's last annual accounts. These accounts are required to be properly prepared under s838 Companies Act 2006 and must consist of:

A balance sheet which gives a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at the balance sheet date; and

A profit and loss account which gives a true and fair view of the Company's profit or loss for the period. This requirement is met by the presentation of the total column in the Income Statement.

In preparing these accounts the Directors are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the interim accounts; and

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the Company will not continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are maintained, which enable them to ensure that the interim accounts comply with the Companies Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and, therefore, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

## **Income Statement**

		Pe	riod 1.10.16				-
	•	to 31.08.17		Year	Year ended 30.09.16		
	Notes	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit on investments							
held at fair value	6	-	5,105	5,105	-	20,740	20,740
Currency gain /(losses) REVENUE		-	45	45	-	(13)	(13)
Income	2	9,116	•	9,116	7,890	-	7,890
Other income	2	-	-	-	118	<u>:</u>	118
		9,116	5,150	14,266	8,008	20,727	28,735
EXPENSES							
Investment management fee	3	(519)	(965)	(1,484)	(508)	(943)	(1,451)
Other administrative expenses	4	(426)	•	(426)	(437)	` <u>-</u>	(437)
Finance costs of borrowing		(20)	(36)	(56)	-	-	
		(965)	(1,001)	(1,966)	(945)	(943)	(1,888)
PROFIT BEFORE TAX		8,151	4,149	12,300	7,063	19,784	26,847
Taxation	5	(112)	-	(112)	(101)	-	(101)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD		8,039	4,149	12,188	6,962	19,784	26,746

The total column of this statement represents the Company's Statement of Comprehensive Income, prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS').

The revenue and capital columns are supplementary to this and are prepared under guidance published by the Association of Investment Companies.

The 'profit for the period' is also the 'total comprehensive income for the period' as defined in International Accounting Standard 1 (revised).

No operations were acquired or discontinued in the period.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

## **Balance Sheet**

		As at 3	As at 31.08.17		As at 30.09.16	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS						
Listed investments	6		214,220	_	206,641	
CURRENT ASSETS						
Accrued income & prepayments		2,027		517		
Cash and cash equivalents		11,353		9,507		
•			13,380		10,024	
TOTAL ASSETS			227,600	_	216,665	
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Trade and other payables		(408)		(1,069)		
Fair value of forward currency contract		(23)		(133)		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	,		(431)		(1,202)	
NET ASSETS			227,169	_	215,463	
ISSUED CAPITAL AND RESERVES						
Called-up share capital	7		72,699		70,492	
Share premium account	8		23,151		18,600	
Special reserves	9		63,504		63,504	
Capital reserve	10		62,432		58,283	
Revenue reserve	12		5,383	_	4,584	
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			227,169	_	215,463	

Approved by the Board on 20 August 2017 and signed on behalf of the Board by:

David Warnock, Chairman

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

# Notes to the Financial Statements Period from 1 October 2016 to 31 August 2017

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting and the accounting policies set out in the statutory accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2016. The financial statements do not include all the information required for full annual financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2016, which were prepared under full IFRS requirements, to the extent that they have been adopted by the European Union. The disclosures within these financial statements have been limited to those required to meet the statutory requirements of section 838 Companies Act 2006, requisite in respect of interim accounts prepared for a proposed distribution by a public company.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling which is regarded as the functional currency and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand pounds (£'000) except where otherwise indicated.

The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below. These policies have been applied consistently throughout the current and prior periods. Where the presentational guidance set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice ("the SORP") for investment trusts issued by the Association of Investment Companies ("the AIC") in November 2014 is consistent with the requirements of IFRS, the Directors have sought to prepare the financial statements on a basis compliant with the recommendation of the SORP.

In order better to reflect the activities of an investment trust company, and in accordance with guidance issued by the AIC, supplementary information which analyses the Income Statement between items of a revenue and capital nature has been presented alongside the Income Statement. Additionally, the net profit is the measure the Directors believe is appropriate in assessing the Company's compliance with certain requirements set out in section 1159 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

#### (a) Investments - Securities held at Fair Value

Investments are recognised or derecognised on the trade date where a purchase or sale is under a contract whose terms require delivery within the timeframe established by the market concerned, and are initially measured at fair value.

As the Company's business is investing in financial assets with a view to profiting from their total return in the form of interest, dividends or increases in fair value, listed equities and fixed interest securities are designated as fair value through profit or loss on initial recognition.

All investments designated upon initial recognition as held at fair value through profit or loss are measured at subsequent reporting dates at their fair value, which is the bid price as at close of business on the balance sheet date.

Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are included in net profit or loss for the period as a capital item. Expenses which are incidental to the acquisition and disposal of investments are treated as capital costs.

### (b) Income

Dividend income from equity investments including preference shares which have a discretionary dividend is recognised when the shareholders' right to receive payment has been established, normally the ex-dividend date. Premiums received on traded option contracts are recognised as income evenly over the period from the date when they are written to the date when they expire, are exercised or assigned. Underwriting commission is taken to revenue on a receipts basis.

### (c) Expenses

All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. In respect of the analysis between revenue and capital items presented within the Income Statement, all expenses have been presented as revenue items except where a connection with the maintenance or enhancement of the value of the investments held can be demonstrated. Accordingly the investment management fee and finance costs have been allocated 35% to revenue and 65% to capital.

		01.10.16 to	01.10.15 to
		31.08.17	30.09.16
2	REVENUE	£'000	£'000
	Income from investments		
	UK dividend income	8,366	7,227
	Overseas dividend income	750	663
		9,116	7,890
	Other income		
	Underwriting income	0	5
	Traded option premiums	0	113
	Total income	9,116	8,008

# Notes to the Financial Statements Period from 1 October 2016 to 31 August 2017

# 3 INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEE

Troy Asset Management Limited act as investment manager to the Company and their fee is at an annual rate of 0.75% of the amount of net assets up to £175 million and at a rate of 0.65% of the net assets above £175 million. The fee is calculated monthly and paid quarterly and has been allocated 35% to revenue and 65% to capital.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES  Directors' remuneration - fees as directors Fees payable to auditors and associates: - as auditors Other administrative expenses	£'000 83 22 321 426 01.10.16 to	£'000 84 23 330 437
Fees payable to auditors and associates: - as auditors Other administrative expenses	22 321 426	23 330
Other administrative expenses	321 426	330
	426	
		437
	01.10.16 to	
	01.10.10 to	01 10 15 4
	31.08.17	01.10.15 to 30.09.16
5 TAXATION	£'000	£'000
·	£ 000	£ 000
Irrecoverable overseas tax	112	101
		,
	01.10.16 to	01.10.15 to
	31.08.17	30.09.16
6 LISTED INVESTMENTS	£'000	£'000
Opening value	206,641	171,474
Purchases for cash	19,877	34,596
Sales - proceeds	(17,565)	(20,817)
Sales - net gains on sales	4,944	4,402
Movement in investment holdings gains	323	16,986
Closing value	214,220	206,641
Closing book cost	159,180	151,924
Closing fair value gains on investments held	55,040	54,717
Closing fair value	214,220	206,641
GAIN ON INVESTMENTS		
Net gains on sales of investments	4,944	4,402
Movement in investment holdings gains	323	16,986
Realised loss on Forward Currency Contracts	(271)	(515)
Movement in unrealised gain/(loss) on Forward Currency Contracts	109	(133)
	5,105	20,740

# Notes to the Financial Statements Period from 1 October 2016 to 31 August 2017

7	CALLED-UP SHARE CAPITAL	4.21.00	~	4.20	00.16
	Allotted called up and fully paid	At 31.08.1 Number	£'000	At 30.0	£'000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid			Number	
	At period end Held in treasury	290,794,045	72,699	281,969,045	70,492
	Ordinary shares of 25 pence each	290,794,045	72,699	281,969,045	70,492
	Ordinary snares of 23 pence each	290,794,043	72,099	201,909,043	70,492
				31.08.17	At 30.09.16
8	SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT			£'000	£'000
	Opening balance			18,600	7,525
	Premium on issue of new shares			4,606	11,120
	Premium on shares issued from treasury			1	-
	Costs incurred on issue of new shares			(26)	(12)
	Discount control costs			(30)	(33)
	Closing balance		_	23,151	18,600
		Distributable	Special	Total	Total
	•	Capital Reserve	Reserve	Special Reserves	Special Reserves
		31.08.17	31.08.17	31.08.17	At 30.09.16
9	SPECIAL RESERVES	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	of bolith idden ved		2 000	2 000	2 000
	Opening balance	5,343	58,161	63,504	63,504
	Shares bought into treasury		(94)	(94)	•
	Shares issued from treasury	-	94	94	<u>-</u>
	Closing balance	5,343	58,161	63,504	63,504
					_
				31.08.17	At 30.09.16
10	CAPITAL RESERVES			£'000	£'000
	Opening balance			58,283	38,499
	Net gains on sales of investments during the pe	eriod (note 6)	•	4,944	4,402
	Gains on holdings of listed investments (note 6	5)		323	16,986
	Loss on forward currency contracts			(162)	(648)
	Currency gains/ (losses)			45	(13)
	Management fee			(965)	(943)
	Finance costs of borrowing			(36)	-
	Closing balance		_	62,432	58,283
			_		
				01.10.16 to	01.10.15 to
				31.08.17	30.09.16
11	DIVIDENDS ON EQUITY SHARES			£'000	£'000
	Fourth interim dividend of 2014/15 of 0.6p per	r share paid on 30 Octo	ber 2015	-	1,555
	Fourth interim dividend of 2015/16 of 0.625p per share paid on 28 Octo			1,769	-
	Three interim dividends for 2015/16 totalling	1.8p per share		•	4,836
	First interim dividend of 2016/17 of 0.625p sh			. 1,791	-
	Second interim dividend of 2016/17 of 0.625p			1,797	-
	Third interim dividend of 2016/17 of 0.65p sh	are paid on 27 July 201	17	1,883	
			_	7,240	6,391

# Notes to the Financial Statements Period from 1 October 2016 to 31 August 2017

12	REVENUE RESERVE	At 31.08.17	At 30.09.16
		£'000	£'000
	Opening balance	4,584	4,013
	Profit for the period	8,039	6,962
	Dividends paid (note 11)	(7,240)	(6,391)
	Closing balance	5,383	4,584
	REVENUE RESERVE POST PAYMENT OF FIRST, S	ECOND AND THIRD INTERIM DIVIDEND	
	B/f revenue reserve at 30 September 2016 per Annual Rep		4,584
	Less: Fourth interim dividend of 2015/16 of 0.625p per sh		(1,769)
	Adjusted revenue reserves at 1 October 2016 (Companies	Act basis)	2,815
	Current period (see Revenue Account)		£'000
	Revenue on ordinary activities after taxation		8,039
	First interim dividend paid for 2016/17 of 0.625p per share	e paid on 27 January 2017	(1,791)
	Second interim dividend paid for 2016/17 of 0.625p per s	hare paid on 28 April 2017	. (1,797)
	Third interim dividend of 2016/17 of 0.65p share paid on	27 July 2017	(1,883)
	Current year revenue reserves after dividends paid	=	2,568
	Adjusted revenue reserves at 1 October 2016		2,815
	Current year revenue reserves after dividends paid		2,568
	Revenue reserve post payment of 1st, 2nd and 3rd interim	dividends for 2017	5,383
			•
13	NET ASSET VALUE	31.08.17	30.09.16
	Net assets attributable	227,169,000	215,463,000
	Number of ordinary shares	290,794,045	281,969,045
	Net asset value per share (pence)	78.12	76.41