

# Apostle Dundas Global Equity Fund – Class D Active ETF

ASX: ADEF ARSN 093 116 771

Monthly Report – April 2025



## Investment Objective

- The target is to exceed the MSCI All Country World ex Australia Index by 2.5% p.a. after all fees and expenses on a rolling 5-year basis.
- Long term dividend growth and capital appreciation.
- To achieve lower volatility than the benchmark.

## Investment Firm

Established in 2010, Dundas Global Investors (“Dundas”) is an independent Investment Management firm based in Edinburgh that manages a single investment strategy, global equities.

Dundas can best be categorised as Quality Growth, with a focus on companies with strong and sustainable returns on equity and a growing dividend stream.

## Key Advantages

- Pro-active management of both components of total return (capital and dividends)
- Fee minimisation and alignment of incentives
- Lower cost base
- Enhanced research that capitalises on technology

## Investment Style

Dundas invests for capital and income growth. The team uses fundamental, bottom-up research to find companies capable of real long-term wealth generation that will lead to sustainable capital and dividend growth. While dividends are an important part of the investment proposition, Dundas places greater emphasis on future income streams as opposed to current payout ratios. The resulting portfolio is globally diversified, has an average holding period of more than five years, with satisfactory upside and good downside capture statistics.

## Characteristics

Unit Price (NAV)	AUD\$5.9305
Fund Size (AUD)	AUD\$2,617.35M
Class D Size	AUD\$19.04M
Tax Losses Available (As at last distribution period)	AUD\$215.36M
Portfolio Inception Date	September 2012
Inception Date – Class D	February 2021
Companies in Portfolio	Targeting 50-65 holdings
Investment Manager	Dundas Global Investors
Management Fee	0.90% p.a. (incl. GST & RITC)
Portfolio Management Team	Alan McFarlane – Chair David Keir – Managing Partner James Curry – Partner Gavin Harvie – Partner Andrew Brown – Partner
Responsible Entity	K2 Asset Management Ltd
Custodian	State Street Australia Limited
Unit Registry	Boardroom Limited

Source: Dundas Global Investors as at 30/04/25.

## Performance

Return (%)	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	1 yr	2 yr (p.a.)	3 yr (p.a.)	Incep. (p.a.)	^Portfolio Incep. p.a.
Total (gross)	-1.24	-6.24	3.32	9.78	12.56	12.51	11.51	11.53
Total (net)	-1.31	-6.45	2.87	8.80	11.55	11.51	10.52	10.53
Relative (gross)*	0.45	-0.28	-0.04	-3.72	-4.10	-1.86	-1.05	0.68
Relative (net)**	0.38	-0.49	-0.50	-4.70	-5.11	-2.86	-2.05	-0.31

Source: State Street Performance & Analytics Australia. Fund performance calculated using exit prices for Class D and shown on a total return basis (net dividends reinvested). Class D commenced on 24 February 2021. \*Relative (gross) calculated as the difference between the Fund's gross (of fees) return and that of the Solactive GBS Global Markets ex Australia Large & Mid Cap AUD Index.\*\*Relative (Net) calculated as the difference between the Fund's net (of fees) return and that of the Solactive GBS Global Markets ex Australia Large & Mid Cap AUD Index. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. ^ Portfolio Inception pa returns refers to Class C of the Apostle Dundas Global Equity Fund from its inception date of 4th June 2015. Class C has the same management fee, hence the information would be comparable for Class D. Different future expenses and other factors between the classes may impact the returns of each class.

## Portfolio Characteristics

No of Holdings	57
Dividend Yield	1.33%
Turnover* (last 12 months)	12.29%
Price/Earnings	29.51
Price/Cash Flow	22.14x
Price/Book Value	5.38x
Beta (ex-ante)	0.89
Average market capitalisation	\$268.7bn
Median market capitalisation	\$92.34bn
Tracking error (1 year)	5.05

\*Turnover calculated as ((Purchases + Sales)/2) / average assets during the period. Source: Dundas Global Investors and Apostle Funds Management as at 30/04/25.

## Market Cap Exposure (% weight by capital)

Range	11.88
>US\$ 500bn	34.71
US\$ 100 - 500bn	15.63
US\$ 50 - 100bn	36.89
US\$ 10 - 50bn	11.88
US\$ 2 - 10bn	0.00

Source: Dundas Global Investors as at 30/04/25.

## Top Ten Holdings by Capital (% weight)

Stock	Fund	Active Weight*
WR Berkley	3.75	3.72
WW Grainger	3.60	3.54
Microsoft	3.46	-0.45
Essilorluxottica	2.95	2.84
Visa	2.83	2.03
Sage Group	2.63	2.61
Brown & Brown	2.59	2.59
Atlas Copco	2.44	2.39
Alphabet	2.27	1.15
Amphenol	2.24	2.12
TOTAL	28.76	22.54

\*Active Weight relative to the Index. Source: Dundas Global Investors and Apostle Funds Management as at 30/04/25.

## Regional Allocation (%)

Country	Fund	Active Weight*
United States	57.65	-4.05
France	11.52	9.16
Switzerland	6.45	4.01
Sweden	5.48	4.54
Denmark	4.17	3.65
United Kingdom	2.63	-0.93
Japan	2.31	-3.64
Taiwan	2.09	0.17
Hong Kong	1.66	1.05
Netherlands	1.56	0.54
Singapore	1.43	0.96
India	1.16	-1.13
Germany	1.02	-1.24
Other Countries	0.00	0.00

\*Active Weight relative to the Index. Source: Dundas Global Investors and Apostle Funds Management as at 30/04/25.

## Sector Exposure (%)

Sector	Fund	Active Weight*
Information Technology	24.42	0.47
Financials	24.01	6.49
Health Care	21.61	11.63
Industrials	13.00	2.05
Consumer Discretionary	6.27	-4.48
Consumer Staples	4.45	-2.07
Materials	3.08	-0.29
Communication Services	2.27	-6.19
Energy	0.00	-3.73
Real Estate	0.00	-1.97
Utilities	0.00	-2.78
Cash	0.89	0.89

\*Active Weight relative to the Index. Source: Dundas Global Investors and Apostle Funds Management as at 30/04/25.

## Performance and Portfolio Comment

### Market overview

The uncertainty surrounding the evolution of US trade policy remains high and is likely to continue to feed market volatility ahead. Markets were volatile in April, as the implications of US trade policy impacted stocks, bonds, and currencies.

On April 2, President Trump announced his long-promised "reciprocal" tariffs, including a 10% baseline tax on imports from all countries, a 34% tariff on Chinese goods, a 25% tariff on all car imports, and a 20% tariff on EU goods. The S&P 500 experienced its worst two-day performance since March 2020 in response, as strategists flagged growth concerns. In retaliation, China imposed 34% tariffs on U.S. goods, and the EU announced its own countermeasures. On April 9, the president announced a 90-day pause on higher-level reciprocal tariffs to allow for negotiations, leading to the S&P posting its best day since October 2008. However, China was excluded from the pause, with President Trump instead raising tariffs on China to 145%, prompting China on April 11 to raise its tariffs on US goods to 125%. US-China trade tensions remained high throughout the month, although some positive signs emerged after Treasury Secretary Bessent anticipated de-escalation with China. President Trump also indicated that China tariffs would be substantially reduced but not eliminated. Relief on auto tariffs was provided in response to industry calls. Additionally, the White House suggested that trade agreements with Japan and India were near, while talks with the EU were more challenging.

Stocks recovered much of their losses following some select tariff de-escalation. US equities ended the month lower, but well off the worst levels seen in the days following the "Liberation Day" tariff announcement. Despite the rapid escalation in US / China tensions, emerging markets were resilient compared to developed markets. Growth stocks outperformed their value counterparts, with the poor performance of the energy sector a particular drag on the value index.

Gold was the big beneficiary of April's uncertainty, marking a new all-time high at \$3,500 on 22 April. Commodities shed some of their year-to-date gains as metals weakened and oil prices fell by 16% amid rising recession fears and a decision from OPEC members to boost supply. There was no breakthrough yet in Ukraine ceasefire talks despite US upping the pressure.

### Performance overview

Over the past 12 months, the Fund has posted a total return net of fees of 8.80%, while the market returned 13.50%\*. In April, the Fund returned -1.31% net of fees outperforming the market by 0.38%.

Having no exposure to the Energy sector added value. The Fund's holdings in the Health Care, Consumer Staples and Materials were the most significant relative contributors.

The Industrials and Financials sectors detracted from performance.

Regionally, North America and Europe added value, while Asia Pacific was weaker.

The top five contributors were L'Oréal, Amphenol, Lonza Group, Novonesis and Apple.

The bottom five detractors were Brown & Brown, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Marsh & McLennan, Hexagon and LVMH.

### Dividends

The monthly dividend average increase was 13.9% and the announcements consisted of: Equifax 28.2%, Keyence 16.8%, HDFC Bank 12.8%, Nasdaq 12.5%, Costco 12.1%, WW Grainger 10.2% and Alphabet 5.0%.

### Portfolio changes

During the month, Deutsche Boerse, the German multi-tiered exchange, technology, clearing and custody and index company was purchased. There were no complete sales.

\*Solactive GBS Global Markets ex Australia Large & Mid Cap AUD Index.

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