

The Merchants Trust PLC

Key Information	
Total Assets [†]	£584.0m
No. of Shares [†] (Ordinary 1p)	102,813,464
Net asset value [†]	457.6p
Net asset value (debt at Market Value) [†]	438.8p
Premium/-discount to NAV [†]	-9.5%
Premium/-discount to NAV (debt at Market Value) [†]	-5.7%
Share price *	414p
AIC Sector	UK Income Growth
RIC	MRCH
Year end	31st January
Reports and Accounts	Final posted in April, Interim posted in September
AGM	May
Dividends	February, May, August and November
Price Information	Financial Times, The Daily Telegraph, www.allianzgi.co.uk
Board of Directors	Hugh Stevenson (Chairman), Dick Barfield, Sir Bob Reid, Joe Scott Plummer, Sir James Sassoon
Investor services	020 7065 1407
Brochure request	0800 317 537

† Source: Allianz Global Investors as at 31.03.08

Investment trusts are quoted companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. Their share price is determined by factors including demand, or lack of, which means that the shares may trade below (at a discount to) or above (at a premium to) the underlying net asset value.

A trust's net asset value (NAV) is calculated as available shareholders' funds divided by the number of shares in issue, with shareholders' funds taken to be the net value of all the company's assets after deducting liabilities. In line with current industry best practice NAVs are shown that take into account the 'fair value' of debt. This means NAVs are calculated after allowing for the valuation of debt at fair value or current market price, rather than at final repayment value. NAVs with debt at market value provide a more realistic impact of the cost of debt, and thus a more realistic discount.

†† Source: Allianz Global Investors as at 31.03.08.

Please also refer to Trust aim & characteristics, above right.

* Source: Lipper as at 31.03.08

Trust aim & characteristics

The Trust's objective is to provide an above average level of income and income growth together with long term growth of capital through a policy of investing mainly in higher yielding UK FTSE 100 companies.

†† Merchants seeks to enhance returns for its shareholders through gearing, in the form of bank borrowings. Gearing can boost the Trust's returns when investments perform well, though losses can be magnified when investments do badly. You should be aware that this Trust may be subject to sudden and large falls in value and you could suffer substantial capital loss.

Fund Manager's review

During the month the collapse of Bear Stearns and its rescue by JP Morgan Chase and the Federal Reserve highlighted the depth of the credit crunch. The market took some comfort from the willingness of authorities to intervene, and recovered from heavy falls to end March down around 2%. The Trust's performance was in line with the benchmark index over the period. Positives drivers were recoveries in GKN and Aviva as well as not owning Xstrata which fell back after takeover talks ended. Negative contributors included Bradford & Bingley, which was weak, and not owning Unilever and Prudential which outperformed. Looking ahead the market is likely to remain volatile with the effects of the credit crunch progressively affecting consumers and businesses. However, valuations of the most exposed sectors are already depressed and reflect much of the anticipated bad news flow. The Trust's portfolio is diversified and biased to robust, large companies but we are selectively adding attractive companies on depressed ratings.

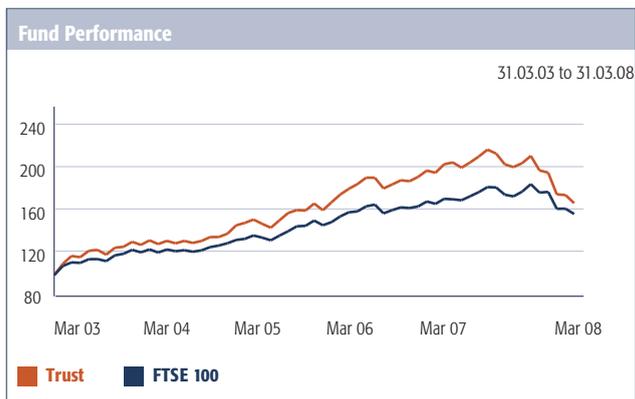


Simon Gergel

Top 10 holdings

Name	%
HSBC	7.9
BP	7.6
Royal Dutch Shell	7.4
GlaxoSmithKline	7.4
Vodafone Group	6.9
HBOS	3.7
Aviva	3.2
Rio Tinto	3.1
Anglo American	2.9
Reed Elsevier	2.8
Total	52.9

Source: Allianz Global Investors as at 31.03.08.



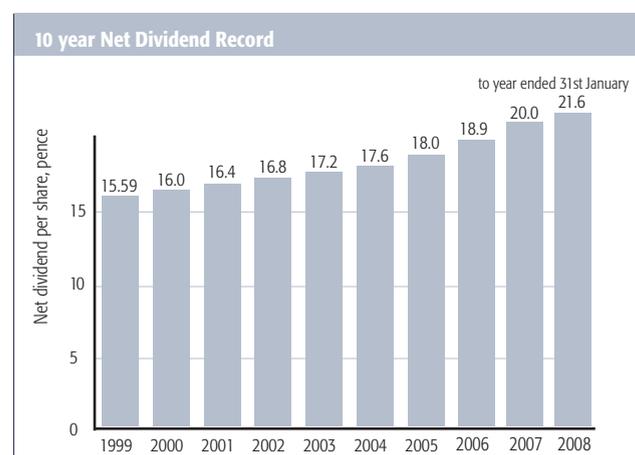
Source: Allianz Global Investors/ Mellon. 31st October 2002 to 31st October 2007. Capital only, calculation indexed. UK Sterling.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. You should not make any assumptions on the future on the basis of performance information. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market fluctuations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. This investment trust charges 65% of its annual management fee to the capital account and 35% to revenue. This could lead to a higher level of income but capital growth will be constrained as a result. Your capital could also decrease if income paid out of capital exceeds the growth rate of the trust.

Standardised Past Performance

From to	31/03/2003 to 31/03/2004	31/03/2004 to 31/03/2005	31/03/2005 to 31/03/2006	31/03/2006 to 30/03/2007	30/03/2007 to 31/03/2008
Share Price	41.8%	18.5%	36.3%	15.1%	-18.7%

Source: Allianz Global Investors/Lipper Hindsight. Discrete years, mid to mid, basic rate tax, based in UK sterling. Standardised past performance figures comply with the Financial Services Authority's regulations to enable investors to compare different products from different providers.



Source: Allianz Global Investors

History

The Trust was incorporated in February 1889, making it the oldest of the investment trusts in the Allianz Global Investors stable. Initially it principally invested in the fixed interest securities of railway companies in the USA, Canada and South America, with the remainder held in Government securities and companies such as Castlemain Brewery in New South Wales. The Trust now concentrates primarily upon major UK companies with an above average rate of dividend yield.

On 30th June 2006 a further 1,655,941 Ordinary shares were issued following the reconstruction and planned winding up of Allianz Dresdner Income Growth Investment Trust plc. The increase in assets was achieved at no cost to existing shareholders.

Launch Date: 1889 **Wind-up Date:** None

Share buybacks

1,171,413 shares have been repurchased for cancellation to date.