# The Brunner Investment Trust PLC



31 March 2011

## Aim

The Trust's objective is to increase its total return above the benchmark index of 50% FTSE All-Share and 50% FTSE All-World Index (ex UK sterling adjusted) over the long term, by investing in UK and international securities. The strategy of the Trust is designed to meet the requirements of those seeking a single investment in a diversified and professionally managed portfolio.

#### **Risks & Features**

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

The Trust seeks to enhance returns for its shareholders through gearing, in the form of long-term, fixed rate debentures. Gearing can boost the Trust's returns when investments perform well, though losses can be magnified when investments lose value. You should be aware that this Trust may be subject to sudden and large falls in value and you could suffer substantial capital loss.

## **History**

The Trust was formed from the Brunner family's interest in the sale of Brunner, Mond & Co, the largest of the four companies which came to form ICI in 1926. The Trust has been managed by RCM (a subsidiary of Allianz Global Investors formerly Kleinwort Benson) since inception.

# **Fund Managers' Review**





Lucy MacDonald Jeremy Thomas

Brunner NAV fell by -0.55% (capital only) versus the benchmark which was down -0.11%. March was characterised by increased volatility in the markets due to the tragic events in Japan and increasing tensions in the Middle East and North Africa. A number of Japanese holdings were sold in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami, such as Mitsui Fudosan and East Japan Railway as the company suffered extensive

damage to its rail network. Technology companies F5 Networks and Marvell Technology also detracted from performance as investors re-evaluated the companies' prospects in the fast growing areas of network management and smart phones. In the UK, performance was impacted by the underweight in the mining and tobacco sectors (which somewhat unusually both outperformed during the month) and by stock selection in the banking sector where Barclays in particular was weak in advance of the Independent Commission on Banking report due in early April. The weakness in the sector provided an opportunity to add to holdings in both RBS and Lloyds.

On the positive side, holdings in the oil and gas sector, in particular CNOOC, the Chinese offshore oil and gas producer and Technip, the French oil services company performed well. We continue to like both as the production growth profile for CNOOC is strong and Technip will continue to benefit from ongoing demand for offshore drilling and production platforms. However, we are becoming overall less constructive on energy as there are growing indications that the global economy is losing some momentum.

The most significant purchase outside the UK was UnitedHealth Group, a US healthcare services company which had been weak on concerns about healthcare reform, pushing valuations to low levels. Key operating fundamentals such as cost trends, pricing and medical loss ratios are improving faster than the industry as a whole and yet management earnings guidance is conservative. We believe the combination of low expectations, more industry visibility and improving fundamentals make UnitedHealth a compelling investment. The most significant new purchase in the UK during the month was of Carillion the construction and services businesses. Since then the focus of the Company has shifted towards support services, profitability and cash flow. This strategy was executed through two significant acquisitions (John Mowlem in 2006 and Alfred McAlpine in 2008). The market's perception of Carillion as a UK construction company is now outdated and in time the valuation will adjust accordingly. We are attracted to the exposure to overseas infrastructure growth, domestic outsourcing growth and margin expansion.

# **Key Information**

**Total Assets:** £279.0m

Gearing (net): 6.7%

**No. of Shares (Ordinary 1p):** 45,320,805 **Share Price':** 411.0p

Net Asset Value<sup>3</sup>: 499.6p (473.8p – debt at market value)

**Premium/-Discount to NAV**<sup>3</sup>: -17.7% (-13.3% – debt at market value)

Dividend Yield<sup>2</sup>: 1.80%
No. of Holdings: 107

All data source RCM (UK) Limited as at 31.03.11 unless otherwise stated.

Launch Date: January 1927

AIC Sector: Global Growth

**Benchmark:** 50% FTSE All-Share Index

50% FTSE All-World ex UK Index

**Year end:** 30 November

**Annual Financial Report:** Final posted in February,

Half-yearly posted in July

AGM: March

**Dividends:** March, August

**Price Information:** Financial Times, The Daily Telegraph,

www.rcm.com/investmenttrusts

**Board of Directors:** Keith Percy (Chairman),

lan Barlow (Chairman of the Audit Committee), William Worsley (Senior Independent Director), Vivian Bazalgette,

Peter Maynard

**Investment Manager:** Lucy MacDonald, CIO, Global Equity

Jeremy Thomas, CIO, UK Equity

RCM

A company of Allianz Global Investors

**Investor Services:** 0800 839 4696

<sup>1</sup>Source: Lipper as at 31.03.11, market close mid price.

<sup>2</sup>Source: Datastream as at 31.03.11. Calculated using the latest full year dividend divided by the current share price.

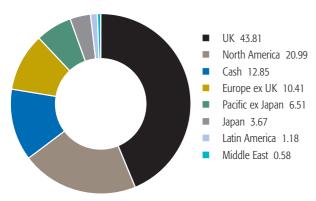
<sup>3</sup>A trust's net asset value (NAV) is calculated as available shareholders' funds divided by the number of shares in issue, with shareholders' funds taken to be the net value of all the company's assets after deducting liabilities. In line with current industry best practice NAVs are now shown 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. It is the capital NAV that is shown, which excludes any income.

RCM (UK) Limited, 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3AD

#### Top Ten Holdings (%)

Name	
UK Government 5% 2012	3.7
2.5% UK Government Index-Linked 2020	3.0
Royal Dutch Shell 'B'	2.9
GlaxoSmithKline	2.9
4% UK Government 2022	2.7
BP	2.6
Vodafone Group	2.5
HSBC	2.4
BG Group	2.0
Rio Tinto	1.8
Total	26.5

#### Geographic Breakdown (%)



Changes in rates of exchange may cause the value of investments and the income from them to go down or up.

#### **How to Invest?**

The Trust is a UK public limited company traded openly on the stock market. You can purchase shares through a stock broker.

RIC: BUT SEDOL: 0149000 ISIN: GB0001490001

Shares in the Trust can be held within an ISA and/or savings scheme and a number of providers offer this facility. A list of suppliers is available on our website www.rcm.com/investmenttrusts or from the AIC at www.theaic.co.uk

Please note: Our Investment Trust Savings Plan was closed and transferred to Alliance Trust Savings on 29 February 2008. Alliance Trust can be contacted on 01382 573 737 or contact@alliancetrust.co.uk

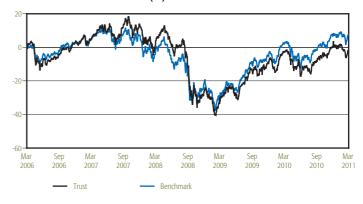
## **RCM Advantage**

RCM and its predecessors have been managing investment trusts since 1889, providing investors with access to investment markets around the world through professionally managed portfolios. Each trust benefits from the expertise of the RCM fund managers yet, as a company listed on the London Stock Exchange, it is independent and is overseen by its own Board of Directors.

RCM is the global equity specialist within Allianz Global Investors. With offices strategically located in the US, Europe and Asia, RCM uses its global research platform to search out investment opportunities.

### **Performance**

#### Five Year Trust Performance (%)



#### **Cumulative Performance (%)**

	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
Share Price	-1.67	6.48	1.11	-2.38	-1.56
Benchmark	0.95	9.18	5.57	11.79	7.37

#### **Standardised Past Performance (%)**

From	31.03.06	30.03.07	31.03.08	31.03.09	31.03.10
То	30.03.07	31.03.08	31.03.09	31.03.10	31.03.11
Share Price	4.79	-3.77	-30.52	38.97	1.11

Source: Lipper, percentage growth, mid to mid, capital return, to 31.03.11 Benchmark: 50% FTSE All-Share Index/50% FTSE All-World ex UK Index. Note the benchmark was 60% FTSE All-Share and 40% FT/S&P World Index (ex UK sterling adjusted) up to 26th March 2008.

Standardised past performance figures comply with the Financial Services Authority's regulations to enable investors to compare different products from different providers.

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 70% of its annual management fee to the capital account and 30% 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.

All data source RCM (UK) Limited as as 31.03.11 unless otherwise stated.

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