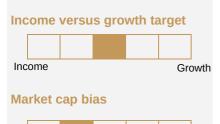
# Ralton Concentrated Australian Equity

Monthly Portfolio Report | December 2023

## **Key facts**





#### **Investment strategy**

A portfolio of ASX-listed equities designed to provide capital growth with some tax-effective income

## **Investment objective**

Outperform index by over 3% p.a.

## **Benchmark index**

S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index

#### **Portfolio Manager**

Will Riggall

## Inception date

February 2008

#### **Management fee**

0.75% p.a. (may vary across platforms)

Number of stocks 25-35

#### **External ratings**

Zenith "Approved"

## **Key platforms**

HUB24, NetWealth, Praemium, OneVue, Powerwrap, Linear, Xplore, Wealth02

## **Performance** (%, returns greater than one year are p.a.)<sup>1</sup>

At month end	1 mth	3 mth	1 yr	2 yr	3 yr	5 yr	10 yr	Inception
Ralton	5.62%	5.98%	4.42%	5.37%	8.70%	7.73%	7.69%	7.07%
Income	0.13%	0.79%	3.64%	3.45%	3.66%	3.61%	3.75%	4.10%
Growth	5.49%	5.19%	0.77%	1.92%	5.04%	4.11%	3.94%	2.98%
Index <sup>2</sup>	7.22%	8.36%	12.13%	4.95%	8.99%	10.27%	7.91%	6.25%
Outperformance	-1.59%	-2.38%	-7.72%	0.42%	-0.29%	-2.54%	-0.22%	0.82%

<sup>1</sup> Performance is based on a model portfolio and is gross of investment management and administration fees, but net of transaction costs. Total returns assume the reinvestment of all portfolio income.

<sup>2</sup> Index means the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index.

## **Portfolio Performance**

The Ralton Concentrated Portfolio underperformed the ASX300 Accumulated Index in December, returning 5.62%, versus the index return of 7.22%. A focus on investing in companies with strong competitive advantages and valuation support has held the portfolio in good stead during an extended period of volatility.

Contributors	Comment				
<b>Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)</b> 6.8%	CBA performed well in December as investor sentiment improved during the quarter, with the global market rallying into the Christmas period. CBA maintained margins across its loan books more effectively than its peers, and is well positioned to take advantage of consumer and business activities returning to growth in 2024.				
BHP Group Ltd (BHP) 8.9	BHP has continued to perform strongly, driven by sustained strength in the iron ore price above USD130 per tonne. An improving view of China's economic conditions in 2024, tight iron ore inventory and higher than expected steel mill production rates have aided the price of iron ore. We see value in BHP as a diversified and high quality miner with attractive future facing growth projects.				
Northern Star Resources Ltd (NST) 7.2%	Continued strength in the price of gold above USD 2000 per ounce during December moved the NST share price higher. We took advantage of the favourable price momentum to exit NST with proceeds going to Newmont Corporation (NEM.ASX) to take advantage of a superior franked quarterly dividend yield and provide exposure to NEM's high quality, global tier-1 jurisdiction operations.				



# **Portfolio Performance**

#### Detractors

SELL

#### Light & Wonder, Following a strong few months of performance, LNW took a breather in December. We continue Inc. Shs Chess to remain attracted to the long-term opportunity on offer by LNW supported by its highly capable Depository management team, refreshed balance sheet, robust consumer and content led portfolio with Interests Repr 1 Sh enviable margins. (LNW) -7.4% **Portfolio Activity** BUY **Newmont Corporation** NEM, a globally diversified gold miner, recently dual-listed after acquiring Newcrest Mining. With **Registered Shs Chess** robust gold and copper production growth, strategic divestitures of non-core assets, and a leading **Depositary Interests Repr** quarterly dividend yield, NEM is an attractive replacement for NST in the portfolio. 1 Sh (NEM) JIN is the leading reseller of OzLotto and Powerball lottery tickets in Australia, through its web and app-based platforms. The company has been founder led and listed on the ASX in the early 1990s, seeing steady market share growth since then. JIN also provides white label lottery **Jumbo Interactive Limited** systems and software infrastructure and support to charities who hold large, national lotteries. It (JIN) also has charity lotteries operations in the UK and Canada. The company is currently seeing some share price weakness off the back of a weak run of jackpots, which statistically will revert to the mean over the medium term. This provided us with an opportunity to initiate a position.

NST has been a strong performer for the portfolio with gold remaining a key commodity overweight position. However, due to NST's unfavourable tax position leading to unfranked distributions in **Northern Star Resources** 2024, it will be replaced by NEM. NEM not only provides a more robust quarterly dividend yield but Ltd (NST) is also our preferred gold exposure, driven by our positive outlook on its production growth profile and intensified focus on tier-1 jurisdiction opportunities. Australian real estate investment trusts (AREITs) rallied during November as investor sentiment shifted to expect rate cuts in 2024. Following a strong rally in the GPT share price, we decided to **GPT Group (GPT)** trim the top off the GPT position to manage the position size and redeploy the cash into other investments.

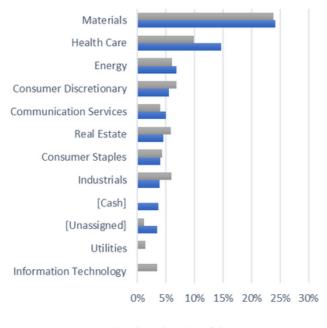
We reduced our weighting in ALL post initiating a position in LNW. While we classify both ALL and Aristocrat Leisure Limited LNW as clear market leaders and can operate as a duopoly, we see greater potential upside on (ALL) offer via LNW underpinned by its new management team, transformed balance sheet and content led portfolio translating to enviable margins.

## Comment

# Top 10 holdings (alphabetical)

ANZ Group Holdings Limited BHP Group Ltd Coles Group Ltd. CSL Limited Incitec Pivot Limited Macquarie Group, Ltd. National Australia Bank Limited Resmed Inc CHESS Depositary Interests on a ratio of 10 CDIs per ord.sh Telstra Group Limited Woodside Energy Group Ltd

# **Sector Positioning**



Benchmark Portfolio

# **Portfolio metrics\***

	Ralton	XKOAI^
# of Securities	28	298
Market Capitalisation	81,384.4	80,415.1
Active Share	55.4	
Tracking Error	2.81	
Beta	0.93	1.00
Est 3-5 Yr EPS Growth	5.6	4.5
ROE	16.9	15.8
Dividend %	4.01	3.94
P/E using FY2 Est	16.2	15.9
Price/Cash Flow	9.7	9.8

\* Source: FactSet

^ XKOAI means the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index (Index). The Index is shown for comparative purposes only. Index returns do not allow for transaction, management, operational or tax costs. An index is not managed and investors cannot invest directly an in index.

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