

Murray International Trust PLC

A globally diversified investment trust, investing for growth and income since 1907



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The Company

Murray International Trust PLC (the "Company" or the "Trust") is an investment trust whose shares are traded on the London Stock Exchange and is a constituent of the FTSE Actuaries All-Share Index. Its Ordinary shares are listed on the premium segment of the London Stock Exchange. Some 25,000 of its shareholders are private investors. The Company offers the advantage of exposure to world markets by being invested in a diversified portfolio of international equities and fixed income securities.

Objective

The aim of the Company is to achieve a total return greater than its benchmark (40% of the FTSE World UK and 60% of the FTSE World ex UK Indices) by investing predominantly in equities worldwide. Within this objective, the Manager seeks to increase the Company's revenues in order to maintain an above average dividend yield.

Company Benchmark

The Company's benchmark is a composite index comprising 40% of the FTSE World UK Index and 60% of the FTSE World ex-UK Index.

Investment Manager

The Company's Manager is Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited ("ASFML", the "AIFM" or the "Manager") which has delegated the investment management of the Company to Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited ("AAML" or the "Investment Manager"). Both companies are wholly owned subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen plc, which was formed by the merger of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC and Standard Life plc on 14 August 2017. Aberdeen Standard Investments is a brand of the investment businesses of the merged entity.

Highlights and Financial Calendar

	30 June 2019	31 December 2018	% change
Total assets less current liabilities (before deducting prior charges)	£1,739.5m	£1,604.3m	+8.4
Equity shareholders' funds (Net Assets)	£1,539.9m	£1,419.6m	+8.5
Share price – Ordinary share (mid market)	1,152.0p	1,132.0p	+1.8 ^A
Net Asset Value per Ordinary share	1,195.1p	1,107.8p	+7.9 ^A
(Discount)/premium to Net Asset Value per Ordinary share ^B	(3.6%)	2.2%	
Net gearing ^B	11.5%	12.5%	
Ongoing charges ratio ^B	0.61%	0.69%	

^A The movement relates to capital only and does not take account of the reinvestment of dividends.

Performance (Total Return^A)

	Six months ended	Year ended
	30 June 2019	31 December 2018
Share price ^{AB}	+4.3%	-6.8%
Net asset value per Ordinary share ^A	+10.6%	-7.5%
Benchmark	+15.5%	-5.2%

^A Considered to be an Alternative Performance Measure. Further details can be found on page 16.

Source: Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited, Morningstar & Lipper.

Financial Calendar

14 August 2019	Announcement of half yearly results
16 August 2019	Payment of first interim dividend
19 November 2019	Payment of second interim dividend
19 February 2020	Payment of third interim dividend
March 2020	Announcement of Annual Financial Results for year ending 31 December 2019
24 April 2020	Expected date for Annual General Meeting to be held in London at 12.30 p.m.
18 May 2020	Payment of final dividend

 $^{^{\}rm B}$ Considered to be an Alternative Performance Measure. Further details can be found on pages 16 and 17.

B Mid to mid

Interim Board Report

Background

The period under review proved positive for the Company in terms of absolute returns. Relative stability returned to financial markets following last year's fourth quarter collapse, with global central banks being credited for restoring investor confidence. Beneath this veneer of apparent tranquility, reasons for concern continued to weigh on the global economic backdrop. The unresolved US trade war with much of the rest of the world intensified as sanctions, taxes and tariffs increasingly inhibited trade flows. These concerns, and signs of geopolitical instability, further affected domestic economic policy agendas, causing global growth forecasts repeatedly to be revised downwards. The consequential divergence between buoyant financial markets and deteriorating fundamentals posed a serious dilemma for investors. The Company's very diversified investment exposure was unable to match the returns recorded in narrower, regional benchmark indices, but nevertheless solid capital and income growth was achieved in line with desired long term investment objectives.

Performance and Dividends

The net asset value (NAV) total return, with net income reinvested, for the six months to 30 June 2019 increased by 10.6% compared with a total return of +15.5% for the Company's benchmark (40% FTSE World UK and 60% FTSE World ex UK). Over the six month period, the share price total return increased by 4.3%, reflecting a move from trading at a premium to trading at a discount.

Two interim dividends of 12.0p (2018: 11.5p) have been declared in respect of the period to 30 June 2019. The first interim dividend is payable on 16 August 2019 to shareholders on the register on 5 July 2019 and the second interim dividend will be paid on 19 November 2019 to shareholders on the register on 4 October 2019. As I have stated previously, the Board intends to maintain a progressive dividend policy given the Company's investment objective. This means that in some years revenue will be added to reserves while, in others, revenue may be taken from reserves to supplement earned revenue for that year to pay the annual dividend. Shareholders should not be surprised or concerned by either outcome as, over time, the Company will aim to pay out what the underlying portfolio earns.

Following widespread financial market weakness and negative portfolio returns in calendar year 2018, the Company benefitted from improving investor sentiment over the six month period. The US Federal Reserve's surprising decision to suddenly reverse policy direction in favour of more accommodative interest rates unsurprisingly proved rather popular with global equity markets. The Company's large exposure to Asia prospered

from a combination of solid stock selection and a more favourable environment for financial and other interestrate sensitive businesses. Local currency strength against Sterling in Thailand, Indonesia and Singapore further bolstered performance of both capital and income returns. The one exception to highlight in Asia was Japan, where stock selection was challenging and where there was an overall reduction in the position during the period.

The portfolio's defensive exposure to North America also delivered respectable double digit total returns in Sterling terms, much in line with expectations. However, with the technology-heavy regional North American benchmark rebounding strongly from depressed year-end levels, relative performance noticeably lagged, accounting for close to forty percent of overall portfolio relative underperformance. Historically very low exposure augmented by strong stock selection in UK equities positively impacted both absolute and relative performance, whilst concentration of assets into only a select few high-quality European holdings proved very supportive against a difficult, deflationary environment evolving in Europe. Despite improving economic fundamentals and attractive underlying earnings and dividend growth, Latin American portfolio holdings struggled to make much progress in an environment of hostile protectionism (against Mexico) and threatened supply chain disruption (against Brazil). Low single digit returns during the period from aggregate Latin American exposure were disappointing under the circumstances.

Yet even while Latin American equities languished, Latin American bonds flourished. As developed market bond yields collapsed worldwide, the spotlight fell on the relative attractiveness of higher yielding fixed income securities in the Emerging world. Portfolio Sovereign bond holdings in Uruguay, Ecuador, Mexico, Brazil and the Dominican Republic all delivered above average capital and income returns as prices rose and yields declined across the asset class. Improving structural dynamics, based on superior savings and long term investment horizons in the emerging world, make this exposure attractive for portfolio diversification.

Management of Premium and Discount

The Board continues to believe that it is appropriate to seek to address temporary imbalances of supply and demand for the Company's shares which might otherwise result in a recurring material discount or premium. Subject to existing shareholder permissions (given at the last AGM) and prevailing market conditions over time, the Board intends to continue to buy back shares and issue new shares (or sell shares from Treasury) if shares trade at a persistent significant discount to NAV (excluding income) or premium to NAV (including income). The Board believes

that this process is in all shareholders' interests as it seeks to reduce volatility in the premium or discount to underlying NAV whilst also making a small positive contribution to the NAV. During the period under review the Company has sold 406,531 Ordinary shares from Treasury and issued 297,500 new Ordinary shares under the Company's blocklisting, all at a premium to the underlying inclusive of income NAV. At the latest practicable date, the NAV (excluding income) per share was 1173.4p and the share price was 1152.0p equating to a discount of 1.8% per Ordinary share.

Gearing

In May 2019 the Company agreed a new £30 million loan facility with The Royal Bank of Scotland International Limited ("RBSI") to replace an expiring facility of £15m. The new facility was drawn in full on 16 May 2019 and fixed for five years at an all-in rate of 2.25%. At the period end the Company had net gearing of 11.5%.

Ongoing Charges Ratio

I am pleased to report that the Company's Ongoing Charges Ratio has reduced from 0.69% (as at 31 December 2018) to 0.61% (as at 30 June 2019). This is principally due to the impact of the new management fee arrangements which I outlined in my Chairman's Statement in the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (the "2018 Annual Report").

Electronic Communications

The Board is proposing to move to more electronic based forms of communication with shareholders. Increased use of electronic communications should be a more cost effective, as well as faster and more environmentally friendly way of providing information to shareholders. You will therefore find enclosed with this Half Yearly Report, a letter containing our electronic communications proposals and an opportunity to supply an email address to the Registrars. Shareholders who wish to continue to receive hard copies of documents and communications by post are encouraged to send back their replies as soon as possible but in any event by 30 September 2019.

Outlook

The pivot undertaken by global policy makers since December last year has clearly provided real support to global equity markets. For many investors, the default path of least resistance is usually viewed as being up, so the prospects of continuing monetary stimulus, notwithstanding clear signs of economic challenges ahead, will likely promote continued confidence. However, the path ahead is likely to become increasingly difficult for the global monetary authorities as they navigate the late cycle nature of this economic expansion. Re-establishing some

form of economic orthodoxy in an environment of rising political and market pressure will not be straightforward. The extraordinary monetary policies over the past decade have created an enormous legacy of indebtedness that remains the Achilles heel for whatever comes next.

The sharp decline in global bond yields suggests that weaker global growth is likely to be on the horizon. At this stage of the cycle, not only will interest rate policy become increasingly ineffectual, but also the importance of faltering earnings growth will become progressively more influential. Valuation support, through solid earnings, strong balance sheets and well-covered dividends has been noticeably absent from investor considerations of late, but remains the fundamental prerequisite for capital preservation and growth over the long term. Your Manager and Company will remain focused and unwavering in the implementation of such principles in negotiating what may prove to be a testing time for financial markets.

Kevin Carter Chairman 14 August 2019

Directors' Disclosures

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Board has adopted a matrix of the key risks that affect the business. The major financial risks associated with the Company are detailed in note 17 of the 2018 Annual Report and the other principal risks are summarised below. These risks represent the principal risks for the remaining six months of the year.

Details of the management of the risks and the Company's internal controls are disclosed on pages 16 and 17 of the 2018 Annual Report. They can be summarised as follows:

- · Investment strategy and objectives;
- · Investment portfolio, investment management;
- · Financial obligations;
- · Financial and Regulatory; and
- · Operational.

In addition to these risks, the outcome and potential impact of the UK Government's Brexit discussions with the European Union are still unclear at the time of writing. Therefore economic risks remain, relating to the potential for significant resultant currency volatility and/or uncertainty relating to the Company's ability to reclaim withholding taxes paid in overseas jurisdictions.

Related Party Transactions

ASFML acts as Alternative Investment Fund Manager, AAM acts as Investment Manager and Aberdeen Asset Management PLC acts as Company Secretary to the Company; details of the service and fee arrangements can be found in the 2018 Annual Report, a copy of which is available on the Company's website. Details of the transactions with the Manager including the fees payable to Aberdeen group companies are disclosed in note 11 of this Half Yearly Report.

Going Concern

In accordance with the Financial Reporting Council's Guidance on Risk Management, Internal Control and Related Financial and Business Reporting, the Directors have undertaken a rigorous review and consider both that there are no material uncertainties and that the adoption of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. The Company's assets consist of a diverse portfolio of listed equities and bonds which in most

circumstances are realisable within a very short timescale. The Directors believe that the Company has adequate financial resources to continue its operational existence for the foreseeable future and at least 12 months from the date of this Half Yearly Report. Accordingly, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Directors' Responsibility Statement

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Half Yearly Financial Report in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The Directors confirm that to the best of their knowledge:

- the condensed set of Financial Statements has been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 104 (Interim Financial Reporting);
- the Half Yearly Board Report includes a fair review of the information required by rule 4.2.7R of the Disclosure and Transparency Rules (being an indication of important events that have occurred during the first six months of the financial year and their impact on the condensed set of Financial Statements and a description of the principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the financial year); and
- the Half Yearly Board Report includes a fair review of the information required by 4.2.8R (being related party transactions that have taken place during the first six months of the financial year and that have materially affected the financial position of the Company during that period; and any changes in the related party transactions described in the last Annual Report that could do so).

The Half Yearly Financial Report for the six months ended 30 June 2019 comprises the Half Yearly Board Report, the Directors' Responsibility Statement and a condensed set of Financial Statements.

For and on behalf of the Board of Murray International Trust PLC

Kevin Carter

Chairman 14 August 2019

Investment Portfolio

As at 30 June 2019

		Valuation	Total assets
Security	Country	£′000	%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	Taiwan	72,402	4.2
Aeroporto del Sureste ADS	Mexico	69,881	4.0
Taiwan Mobile	Taiwan	61,726	3.6
CME Group	USA	51,851	3.0
Vale do Rio Doce ^A	Brazil & USA	48,881	2.8
Verizon Communications	USA	44,881	2.6
Roche Holdings	Switzerland	44,250	2.5
Total	France	44,090	2.5
Unilever Indonesia	Indonesia	43,798	2.5
British American Tobacco ^B	UK & Malaysia	43,381	2.5
Top ten investments	•	525,141	30.2
Philip Morris International	USA	43,181	2.5
Sociedad Quimica Y Minera De Chile	Chile	42,750	2.5
Banco Bradesco	Brazil	41,716	2.4
Oversea-Chinese Bank	Singapore	39,723	2.3
Singapore Telecommunications	Singapore	36,483	2.1
Royal Dutch Shell	UK	35,102	2.0
Siam Commercial Bank	Thailand	32,167	1.8
Auckland International Airport	New Zealand	30,872	1.8
Public Bank	Malaysia	30,559	1.7
Kimberly Clark de Mexico	Mexico	29,161	1.7
Top twenty investments		886,855	51.0
Tesco Lotus Retail Growth	Thailand	29,080	1.7
Telus	Canada	29,024	1.7
BHP Group	Australia	28,210	1.6
Intel Corporation	USA	26,329	1.5
Samsung Electronic	Korea	25,992	1.5
Pepsico	USA	25,740	1.5
Schlumberger	USA	24,974	1.4
Standard Chartered	UK	23,875	1.4
Epiroc	Sweden	23,287	1.3
Telefonica Brasil	Brazil	23,223	1.3
Top thirty investments		1,146,589	65.9
Atlas Copco	Sweden	22,492	1.3
Indocement Tunggal Prakarsa	Indonesia	22,247	1.3
Johnson & Johnson	USA	21,854	1.3
Castrol India	India	21,115	1.2
Swire Pacific 'B'	Hong Kong	20,783	1.2
Nutrien	Canada	19,149	1.1
Republic of South Africa 7% 28/02/31	South Africa	19,082	1.1
Novartis	Switzerland	17,967	1.0
Bank Pekao	Poland	16,460	1.0
HSBC	UK	16,422	0.9
Top forty investments		1,344,160	77.3

Investment Portfolio continued

		Valuation	Total assets
Security	Country	£′000	%
Inmarsat	UK	16,338	0.9
Japan Tobacco	Japan	16,135	0.9
Coca-Cola Amatil	Australia	15,792	0.9
Wilson & Sons	Brazil	15,754	0.9
TC Energy	Canada	15,585	0.9
Republic of Indonesia 6.125% 15/05/28	Indonesia	15,364	0.9
United Mexican States 5.75% 05/03/26	Mexico	14,907	0.9
Republic of Indonesia 7.0% 15/05/22	Indonesia	14,519	0.8
Petroleos Mexicanos 6.75% 21/09/47	Mexico	13,994	0.8
Federal Republic of Brazil 10% 01/01/23	Brazil	13,532	0.8
Top fifty investments		1,496,080	86.0
Other investments		206,996	11.9
Total investments		1,703,076	97.9
Other net current assets ^c		36,462	2.1
Total assets		1,739,538	100.0

A Holding comprises equity and fixed income securities, split £28,116,000 and £20,765,000 respectively.

B Holding comprises equity holdings in both UK and Malaysia, split £30,239,000 and £13,142,000 respectively.

C Excluding bank loans.

Summary of Investment Changes

	Valuation		Appreciation/		Valuation		
	30 June 2019		(depreciation) ^A	Transactions ^B	31 December 2018		
	£′000	%	£′000	£′000	£′000	%	
Equities							
United Kingdom	161,825	9.3	11,748	(11,604)	161,681	10.1	
North America	302,570	17.4	22,538	24,432	255,600	15.9	
Europe ex UK	178,956	10.3	17,135	(2,672)	164,493	10.3	
Japan	16,135	0.9	(31,078)	(13,154)	60,367	3.8	
Asia Pacific ex Japan	495,881	28.5	34,130	40,889	420,862	26.2	
Latin America	258,834	14.9	4,458	5,406	248,970	15.5	
Africa	11,896	0.7	2,184	-	9,712	0.6	
	1,426,097	82.0	61,115	43,297	1,321,685	82.4	
Preference shares							
United Kingdom	7,155	0.4	434	-	6,721	0.4	
	7,155	0.4	434	-	6,721	0.4	
Fixed income							
Europe ex UK	14,819	0.9	(1,434)	84	16,169	1.0	
Asia Pacific ex Japan	89,349	5.1	3,569	185	85,595	5.3	
Latin America	146,574	8.4	11,457	(1,940)	137,057	8.6	
Africa	19,082	1.1	1,072	71	17,939	1.1	
	269,824	15.5	14,664	(1,600)	256,760	16.0	
Other net current assets	36,462	2.1	17,364	_	19,098	1.2	
Total assets ^c	1,739,538	100.0	93,577	41,697	1,604,264	100.0	

^A Movement in unrealised gains/(losses on investments.

Summary of Net Assets

	Valua	Valuation 30 June 2019		Valuation		
	30 June			er 2018		
	£′000	%	£′000	%		
Equities	1,426,097	92.6	1,321,685	93.1		
Preference shares	7,155	0.5	6,721	0.5		
Fixed income	269,824	17.5	256,760	18.1		
Other net assets ^A	36,462	2.4	19,098	1.3		
Bank loans	(199,654)	(13.0)	(184,676)	(13.0)		
	1,539,884	100.0	1,419,588	100.0		

^A Excluding bank loans.

^B At book cost

 $^{^{\}rm C}$ Figure for 30 June 2019 excludes bank loan of £50,000,000 (31 December 2018 – £15,000,000) which is shown as a current liability in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position.

Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income (unaudited)

		Civ.	months ende	مما	Civ	months end	مما
				eu	_		
			0 June 2019			30 June 2018	
		Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total
	Note	£'000	£′000	£′000	£′000	£′000	£′000
Gains/(losses) on investments		-	117,407	117,407	-	(148,913)	(148,913)
Income	2	41,235	-	41,235	39,485	-	39,485
Investment management fees	11	(1,064)	(2,484)	(3,548)	(1,254)	(2,927)	(4,181)
Other expenses		(1,098)	-	(1,098)	(956)	(18)	(974)
Currency (losses)/gains		-	(3)	(3)	-	305	305
Net return before finance costs		39,073	114,920	153,993	37,275	(151,553)	(114,278)
and taxation							
Finance costs		(610)	(1,424)	(2,034)	(608)	(1,417)	(2,025)
Return before taxation		38,463	113,496	151,959	36,667	(152,970)	(116,303)
Taxation	3	(4,076)	742	(3,334)	(3,824)	800	(3,024)
Return attributable to equity shareholders		34,387	114,238	148,625	32,843	(152,170)	(119,327)
Return per Ordinary share (pence)	5	26.72	88.75	115.47	25.67	(118.94)	(93.27)

The total column of the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income is the profit and loss account of the Company. All revenue and capital items in the above statement derive from continuing operations.

Condensed Statement of Financial Position (unaudited)

		As at	As at
		30 June 2019	31 December 2018
	Notes	£′000	£′000
Non-current assets			
Investments at fair value through profit or loss		1,703,076	1,585,166
Current assets			
Debtors		17,015	14,519
Cash and short-term deposits		22,673	7,627
·		39,688	22,146
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Bank loans		(50,000)	(15,000)
Other creditors		(3,226)	(3,048)
		(53,226)	(18,048)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		(13,538)	4,098
Total assets less current liabilities		1,689,538	1,589,264
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year			
Bank loans		(149,654)	(169,676)
Net assets		1,539,884	1,419,588
Capital and reserves			
Called-up share capital		32,212	32,137
Share premium account		356,188	351,666
Capital redemption reserve		8,230	8,230
Capital reserve	6	1,071,945	953,992
Revenue reserve		71,309	73,563
Equity shareholders' funds		1,539,884	1,419,588
Net asset value per Ordinary share (pence)	7	1,195.12	1,107.81

Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity (unaudited)

Six months ended 30 June 2019

		Share	Capital			
	Share	premium	redemption	Capital	Revenue	
	capital	account	reserve	reserve	reserve	Total
	£′000	£′000	£′000	£′000	£′000	£′000
Balance at 31 December 2018	32,137	351,666	8,230	953,992	73,563	1,419,588
Return after taxation	-	-	-	114,238	34,387	148,625
Dividends paid (see note 4)	-	-	-	-	(36,641)	(36,641)
Issue of shares from Treasury	-	1,046	-	3,715	-	4,761
Issue of new shares	75	3,476	-	-	-	3,551
Balance at 30 June 2019	32,212	356,188	8,230	1,071,945	71,309	1,539,884

Six months ended 30 June 2018

		Share	Capital			
	Share	premium	redemption	Capital	Revenue	
	capital	account	reserve	reserve	reserve	Total
	£′000	£′000	£'000	£′000	£′000	£′000
Balance at 31 December 2017	32,137	350,681	8,230	1,132,829	75,252	1,599,129
Return after taxation	-	_	-	(152,170)	32,843	(119,327)
Dividends paid (see note 4)	-	_	-	-	(35,785)	(35,785)
Issue of shares from Treasury	-	985	-	3,268	_	4,253
Balance at 30 June 2018	32,137	351,666	8,230	983,927	72,310	1,448,270

Condensed Statement of Cash Flows (unaudited)

	Six months ended	Six months ended
	30 June 2019 £'000	30 June 2018 £'000
Net return before finance costs and taxation	153,993	(114,278)
Decrease in accrued expenses	(298)	(38)
·	(3,001)	(2,774)
Overseas withholding tax Interest income		
Dividend income	(21)	(3)
	(30,398)	(29,043)
Fixed interest income	(10,816)	(10,439)
Fixed interest income received	9,500	11,648
Dividends received	28,612	27,047
Interest received	(2.007)	(2.151)
Interest paid	(2,007)	(2,151)
(Gains)/losses on investments	(117,407)	148,913
Increase in other debtors	(21)	(21)
Corporation tax paid	(4)	(323)
Net cash from operating activities	28,134	28,541
Investing activities		
Purchases of investments	(87,217)	(51,759)
Sales of investments	87,458	71,729
Net cash from investing activities	241	19,970
Financing activities		
Equity dividends paid	(36,641)	(35,785)
Issue of Ordinary shares	3,551	=
Issue of Ordinary shares from Treasury	4,761	4,253
Loan repayment	(15,000)	(60,000)
Loan drawdown	30,000	60,000
Net cash used in financing activities	(13,329)	(31,532)
Increase in cash	15,046	16,979
Analysis of changes in cash during the period		
	7,627	4,296
Opening balance Increase in cash as above		
	15,046	16,979
Closing balance	22,673	21,275

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies - Basis of preparation

The condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 104 (Interim Financial Reporting) and with the Statement of Recommended Practice for 'Financial Statements of Investment Trust Companies and Venture Capital Trusts'. They have also been prepared on a going concern basis and on the assumption that approval as an investment trust will continue to be granted. Annual financial statements are prepared under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

The condensed interim financial statements have been prepared using the same accounting policies as the preceding annual financial statements.

	Six months ended	Six months ended
	30 June 2019	30 June 2018
. Income	£′000	£′000
Income from investments		
UK dividends	4,955	5,191
Overseas dividends	25,443	23,852
Overseas interest	10,816	10,439
	41,214	39,482
Other income		
Deposit interest	21	3
Total income	41,235	39,485

3. Taxation

The taxation expense reflected in the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income is based on the estimated annual tax rate expected for the full financial year. The estimated annual corporation tax rate used for the year to 31 December 2019 is 19%. This is in line with the current corporation tax rate.

The tax expense represents the sum of tax currently payable and deferred tax. Any tax payable is based on the taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible.

		Six months ended	Six months ended
		30 June 2019	30 June 2018
4.	Ordinary dividends on equity shares	£′000	£′000
	Third interim dividend 2018 of 11.5p (2017 – 11.0p)	14,737	14,056
	Final dividend 2018 of 17.0p (2017 – 17.0p)	21,904	21,729
		36,641	35,785

A first interim dividend for 2019 of 12.0p (2018 – 11.5p) will be paid on 16 August 2019 to shareholders on the register on 5 July 2019. The ex-dividend date was 4 July 2019.

A second interim dividend for 2019 of 12.0p (2018 – 11.5p) will be paid on 19 November 2019 to shareholders on the register on 4 October 2019. The ex-dividend date is 3 October 2019.

Return per Ordinary share	Six months ended 30 June 2019 £'000	Six months ended 30 June 2018 £'000
Based on the following figures:		
Revenue return	34,387	32,843
Capital return	114,238	(152,170)
Total return	148,625	(119,327)
Weighted average number of Ordinary shares	128,709,440	127,933,000

6. Capital reserves

The capital reserve reflected in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2019 includes gains of £438,253,000 (31 December 2018 – gains of £359,436,000) which relate to the revaluation of investments held at the reporting date.

7. Net asset value

The net asset value per share and the net asset value attributable to the Ordinary shares at the period end calculated in accordance with the Articles of Association were as follows:

	As at	As at
	30 June 2019	31 December 2018
Attributable net assets (£'000)	1,539,884	1,419,588
Number of Ordinary shares in issue	128,847,576	128,143,545
Net asset value per share (pence)	1,195.12	1,107.81

8. Transaction costs

During the period expenses were incurred in acquiring or disposing of investments classified as fair value through profit or loss. These have been expensed through capital and are included within gains/(losses) on investments in the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income. The total costs were as follows:

	Six months ended	Six months ended
	30 June 2019	30 June 2018
	£′000	£′000
Purchases	94	63
Sales	61	72
	155	135

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

9. Fair value hierarchy

FRS 102 requires an entity to classify fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following classifications:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (ie developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (ie for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.

The financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position are grouped into the fair value hierarchy at the reporting date as follows:

		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
As at 30 June 2019	Note	£′000	£′000	£′000	£′000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss					
Quoted equities	a)	1,426,097	-	-	1,426,097
Quoted preference shares	b)	-	7,155	-	7,155
Quoted bonds	b)	-	269,824	-	269,824
Total		1,426,097	276,979	-	1,703,076
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
As at 31 December 2018	Note	£′000	£′000	£′000	£'000
Financial assets at fair value through					
profit or loss					
Quoted equities	a)	1,321,685	-	_	1,321,685
•	a) b)	1,321,685 -	- 6,721	-	1,321,685 6,721
Quoted equities	•	1,321,685 - -	- 6,721 256,760		

a) Quoted equities

The fair value of the Company's investments in quoted equities has been determined by reference to their quoted bid prices at the reporting date. Quoted equities included in Fair Value Level 1 are actively traded on recognised stock exchanges.

b) Quoted preference shares and bonds

The fair value of the Company's investments in quoted preference shares and bonds has been determined by reference to their quoted bid prices at the reporting date. Investments categorised as Level 2 are not considered to trade in active markets.

10. Share capital

As at 30 June 2019 there were 128,847,576 (31 December 2018 – 128,143,545) Ordinary shares of 25p each in issue excluding those held in treasury.

11. Transactions with the Manager

The Company has agreements with Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited ('ASFML' or the 'Manager') for the provision of investment management, secretarial, accounting and administration and promotional activity services.

The management fee is charged on net assets (i.e. excluding borrowings for investment purposes) averaged over the six previous quarters ('Net Assets'), on a tiered basis. With effect from 1 January 2019 the annual management fee is charged at 0.5% of Net Assets up to £1,200 million, and 0.425% of Net Assets above £1,200 million. A fee of 1.5% per annum remains chargeable on the value of any unlisted investments. The investment management fee is chargeable 30% against revenue and 70% against realised capital reserves. During the period £3,548,000 (30 June 2018 – £4,181,000) of investment management fees was payable to the Manager, with a balance of £1,769,000 (30 June 2018 – £2,091,000) being payable to ASFML at the period end.

Included within the management fee arrangements is a secretarial fee of £100,000 per annum which is chargeable 100% to revenue. During the period £50,000 (30 June 2018 – £50,000) of secretarial fees was payable to the Manager, with a balance of £25,000 (30 June 2018 – £25,000) being payable to ASFML at the period end.

No fees are charged in the case of investments managed or advised by the Standard Life Aberdeen Group. The management agreement may be terminated by either party on the expiry of six months' written notice. On termination the Manager is entitled to receive fees which would otherwise have been due up to that date.

The promotional activities fee is based on a current annual amount of £400,000 (30 June 2018 – £425,000), payable quarterly in arrears. During the period £194,000 (30 June 2018 – £213,000) of fees was payable, with a balance of £100,000 (30 June 2018 – £106,000) being payable to ASFML at the period end.

12. Segmental information

The Company is engaged in a single segment of business, which is to invest in equity securities and debt instruments. All of the Company's activities are interrelated, and each activity is dependent on the others. Accordingly, all significant operating decisions are based on the Company as one segment.

13. Half-Yearly Report

The financial information in this Report does not comprise statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 434 – 436 of the Companies Act 2006. The financial information for the year ended 31 December 2018 has been extracted from published accounts that have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and on which the report of the Company's auditor was unqualified and contained no statement under Section 498 (2), (3) or (4) of the Companies Act 2006. The condensed interim financial statements have been prepared using the same accounting policies as contained within the preceding annual financial statements.

The financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2019 and 30 June 2018 has not been audited or reviewed by the Company's auditor.

14. This Half-Yearly Financial Report was approved by the Board on 14 August 2019.

Alternative Performance Measures

Alternative performance measures are numerical measures of the Company's current, historical or future performance, financial position or cash flows, other than financial measures defined or specified in the applicable financial framework. The Company's applicable financial framework includes FRS 102 and the AIC SORP. The Directors assess the Company's performance against a range of criteria which are viewed as particularly relevant for closed-end investment companies.

Total return

Total return is considered to be an alternative performance measure. NAV and share price total returns show how the NAV and share price has performed over a period of time in percentage terms, taking into account both capital returns and dividends paid to shareholders. NAV total return involves investing the net dividend in the NAV of the Company with debt at fair value on the date on which that dividend goes ex-dividend. Share price total return involves reinvesting the net dividend in the share price of the Company on the date on which that dividend goes ex-dividend.

The tables below provide information relating to the NAV and share price of the Company on the dividend reinvestment dates during the six months ended 30 June 2019 and the year ended 31 December 2018.

	Dividend		Share
Six months ended 30 June 2019	rate	NAV	price
31 December 2018	N/A	1,107.81p	1,132.00p
3 January 2019	11.50p	1,104.62p	1,120.00p
4 April 2019	17.00p	1,151.42p	1,172.00p
30 June 2019	N/A	1,195.12p	1,152.00p
Total return		+10.6%	+4.3%

	Dividend		Share
Year ended 31 December 2018	rate	NAV	price
31 December 2017	N/A	1,251.41p	1,268.00p
4 January 2018	11.00p	1,260.30p	1,284.00p
5 April 2018	17.00p	1,142.88p	1,190.00p
5 July 2018	11.50p	1,122.32p	1,134.00p
4 October 2018	11.50p	1,140.61p	1,110.00p
31 December 2018	N/A	1,107.81p	1,132.00p
Total return		-7.5%	-6.8%

Net gearing

Net gearing measures the total borrowings of £199,654,000 (31 December 2018 – £184,676,000) less cash and cash equivalents of £22,673,000 (31 December 2018 – £7,627,000) divided by shareholders' funds of £1,539,884,000 (31 December 2018 – £1,419,588,000), expressed as a percentage. Under AIC reporting guidance cash and cash equivalents includes amounts due to and from brokers at the year end as well as cash and cash equivalents.

Premium to net asset value per Ordinary share

The difference between the share price of 1,152.00p (31 December 2018 – 1,132.00p) and the net asset value per Ordinary share of 1,195.12p (31 December 2018 – 1,107.81p) expressed as a percentage of the net asset value per Ordinary share.

Ongoing charges

Ongoing charges is considered to be an alternative performance measure. The ongoing charges ratio has been calculated in accordance with guidance issued by the AIC as the total of investment management fees and administrative expenses and expressed as a percentage of the average net asset values with debt at fair value throughout the year. The ratio for 30 June 2019 is based on forecast ongoing charges for the year ending 31 December 2019.

	30 June 2019	31 December 2018
Investment management fees (£'000)	7,127	8,315
Administrative expenses (£'000)	2,070	1,981
Less: non-recurring charges (£'000)	(41)	(65)
Ongoing charges (£'000)	9,156	10,231
Average net assets (£'000)	1,504,757	1,475,433
Ongoing charges ratio	0.61%	0.69%

The ongoing charges ratio provided in the Company's Key Information Document is calculated in line with the PRIIPs regulations, which is different to the AIC methodology above.

How to Invest in Murray International Trust PLC

Direct

Investors can buy and sell shares in Murray International Trust PLC directly through a stockbroker or indirectly through a lawyer, accountant or other professional adviser. Alternatively shares can be bought directly through the Aberdeen Standard Investment Plan for Children, Aberdeen Standard's Investment Trust Share Plan and Investment Trust ISA.

Suitable for Retail/NMPI Status

The Company's securities are intended for investors primarily in the UK (including retail investors), professional-advised private clients and institutional investors who are wanting to benefit from the growth prospects of global companies by investment in an investment trust company and who understand and are willing to accept the risks of exposure to equities. Investors should consider consulting a financial adviser who specialises in advising on the acquisition of shares and other securities before acquiring shares. Investors should be capable of evaluating the risks and merits of such an investment and should have sufficient resources to bear any loss that may result.

The Company currently conducts its affairs so that its shares can be recommended by a financial adviser to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's rules in relation to non-mainstream pooled investments (NMPIs) and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

The Company's shares are excluded from the Financial Conduct Authority's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in an investment trust.

Aberdeen Standard Investment Plan for Children

Aberdeen Standard Investments (ASI) runs an Investment Plan for Children (the "Children's Plan") which covers a number of investment companies under its management including Murray International Trust PLC. Anyone can invest in the Children's Plan, including parents, grandparents and family friends (subject to the eligibility criteria as stated within the terms and conditions). All investments are free of dealing charges on the initial purchase of shares, although investors will suffer the bidoffer spread, which can, on some occasions, be a significant amount. Lump sum investments start at £150 per trust, while regular savers may invest from £30 per month. Investors simply pay Government Stamp Duty (currently 0.5%) on entry where applicable. Selling costs are £10 + VAT. There is no restriction on how long an investor need invest in the Children's Plan, and regular savers can stop or suspend participation by instructing

AAM in writing at any time. In common with other schemes of this type, all investments are held in nominee accounts.

Aberdeen Standard Investment Trust Share Plan

ASI runs a Share Plan (the "Plan") through which shares in Murray International Trust PLC can be purchased. There are no dealing charges on the initial purchase of shares, although investors will suffer the bid-offer spread, which can, on some occasions, be a significant amount. Lump sum investments start at £250, while regular savers may invest from £100 per month. Investors simply pay Government Stamp Duty (currently 0.5%) on entry, where applicable. Selling costs are £10 + VAT. There is no restriction on how long an investor need invest in a Plan, and regular savers can stop or suspend participation by instructing ASI in writing at any time. In common with other schemes of this type, all investments are held in nominee accounts. Investors have full voting and other rights of share ownership.

Aberdeen Standard Stocks and Shares ISA

An investment of up to £20,000 can be made in the tax year 2019/2020.

The annual ISA administration charge is £24 + VAT, calculated annually and applied on 31 March (or the last business day in March) and collected soon thereafter either by direct debit or, if there is no valid direct debit mandate in place, from the available cash in the Plan prior to the distribution or reinvestment of any income, or, where there is insufficient cash in the Plan, from the sale of investments held in the Plan. Under current legislation, investments in ISAs can grow free of capital gains tax.

ISA Transfer

You can choose to transfer previous tax year investments to the Aberdeen Standard Stocks and Shares ISA which can be invested in Murray International Trust PLC while retaining your ISA wrapper. The minimum lump sum for an ISA transfer is £1,000 and is subject to a minimum per trust of £250.

Note

Please remember that past performance is not a guide to the future. Stock market and currency movements may cause the value of shares and the income from them to fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount they originally invested. As with all equity investments, the value of investment trusts purchased will immediately be reduced by the difference between the buying and selling prices of the shares, the market maker's spread.

Investors should further bear in mind that the value of any tax relief will depend on the individual circumstances of the investor and that tax rates and reliefs, as well as the tax treatment of ISAs may be changed by future legislation.

Shareholder Enquiries

For internet users, detailed data on the Company, including price, performance information and a monthly fact sheet is available from the Company's website (murray-intl.co.uk) and the TrustNet website (trustnet.co.uk).

In the event of queries regarding their holdings of shares, lost certificates, dividend payments, registered details, etc, shareholders holding their shares in the Company directly should contact the registrars, Link Asset Services (formerly Capita) at The Registry, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4TU or Tel: 0371 664 0300 Lines are open 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (London Time) Monday to Friday. Calls may be recorded and monitored randomly for security and training purposes. Changes of address must be notified to the registrars in writing.

Any general enquiries about the Company should be directed to the Company Secretary, Murray International Trust PLC, 1 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2LL or by email company.secretary@aberdeenstandard.com.

If you have any questions about an investment held through the Aberdeen Standard Investment Trust Share Plan, Stocks and shares ISA or Investment Plan for Children, please telephone the Manager's Customer Services Department on 0808 500 0040. Alternatively, internet users may email inv.trusts@aberdeen-asset.com or write to Aberdeen Standard Investment Trusts, PO Box 11020, Chelmsford, Essex CM99 2DB.

Literature Request Service

For literature and application forms for the Company and the Aberdeen Standard range of investment trust products, please contact:

Telephone: 0808 500 4000

For information on the Aberdeen Standard Investment Plan for Children, Share Plan, ISA or ISA Transfer please contact:

Aberdeen Standard Investment Trust Administration PO Box 11020 Chelmsford Essex, CM99 2DB Telephone: 0808 500 00 40 (free from a UK landline)

Terms and conditions for the Aberdeen Standard managed savings products can be found under the literature section of invtrusts.co.uk.

The information above is issued and has been approved for the purposes of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 by Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited, Bow Bells House, 1 Bread Street, London EC4M 9HH which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Corporate Information

Directors

K | Carter (Chairman)

P W Dunscombe (Senior Independent Director)

C Binyon

M Campbell

D Hardie

A J Mackesy

Secretaries and Registered Office

Aberdeen Asset Management PLC

1 George Street Edinburgh EH2 2LL

Registered in Scotland as an investment company

Company Number SC006705

Website

murray-intl.co.uk

Points of Contact

The Chairman, the Senior Independent Director and the Company Secretary at the registered office of the Company

 $e\hbox{-mail: company.} secretary @ aberdeen standard.com$

Investment Manager

Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited Customer Services Department: 0500 00 00 40 (free when dialling from a UK landline)

AIFM

Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited

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Depositary

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Auditor

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United States Internal Revenue Service FATCA Registration Number (GIIN)

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Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)

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