

# Perennial Value Wealth Defender Australian Shares Trust

MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

	Month (%)	Quarter (%)	FYTD (%)	1 Year (% p.a.)	3 Years (% p.a.)	5 Years (% p.a.)	Since Inception (%p.a.)
Perennial Value Wealth Defender Australian Shares Trust*	0.7	1.6	1.6	10.6	7.6	-	5.3
S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index	-1.2	1.5	1.5	14.0	12.2	-	7.6
Value Added (Detracted)	1.9	0.1	0.1	-3.4	-4.5	-	-2.3
Net Performance	0.6	1.4	1.4	9.7	6.8	-	4.5

<sup>\*</sup>Gross Performance. ^Since inception: May 2014. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

#### Overview

- The Trust performed well in September, outperforming by +1.9% as the market became more favourable towards value stocks after a long period of being dominated by expensive growth and momentum stocks.
- Resources moved higher, up +5.2%, on robust commodity prices, while the industrials declined, down -2.7%, with many expensive stocks pulling back from recent highs and banks weaker on continuing Royal Commission concerns.
- Offshore markets were also positive, with the S&P500 +0.4%, FTSE100 +1.0%, Nikkei 225 +5.5% and Shanghai Composite +3.5%.

# Perennial Value Wealth Defender Australian Shares Trust

The Trust aims to outperform the S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index by investing in a diversified portfolio of Australian shares and using protection strategies to dynamically protect the Trust through market cycles, thereby reducing the magnitude of significant negative returns in sharply falling equity markets.

Portfolio Manager	Trust FUM
Dan Bosscher	AUD \$56 million
Distribution Frequency Half yearly	Minimum Initial Investment \$25,000
Trust Inception Date	Fees
May 2014	0.98% + Perf fee
APIR Code	Trust Redemption Price
IOF0228AU	\$1.0419

Portfolio Characteristics – FY19	Trust	Index
Price to Earnings (x)	13.9	15.6
Price to Free Cash Flow (x)	11.1	15.2
Gross Yield (%)	6.0	5.8
Price to NTA (x)	2.0	2.4

Source: Perennial Value Management. As at 30 September 2018.

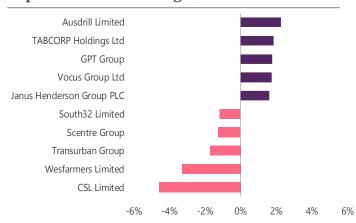
The above figures are forecasts only. While due care has been used in the preparation of forecast information, actual outcomes may vary in a materially positive or negative manner.

## **Protection Portfolio Outcomes**

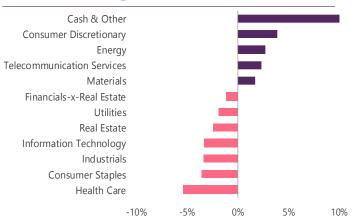
	Index Return (%)	Protection Return (%)	Proportion of Market Fall Saved
August 2015 China Market Turbulence	-7.7	2.7	35.0
January 2016 Continued China Fears	-5.5	1.6	30.0

- Protection overlay continues to perform well. The one year rolling cost of protection currently 1.2%, implying 91.4% upside participation.
- The Trust currently carries an average level of protection.

### Top 5 Over / Underweight Positions vs Index



# **Sector Active Exposure vs Index**



#### **Trust Review**

The resources sector was the standout over the month, with Rio Tinto (+8.3%) after announcing a \$3.2bn buy-back program. In addition to continued healthy commodity prices, ongoing capital returns are a key part of our investment thesis supporting our positive view on the sector. BHP (+7.2%) is also cum-capital return following the sale of its shale assets while Woodside Petroleum (+4.6%) and Origin Energy (+3.9%) both rallied on the positive oil price outlook and tightening LNG market.

Mining services companies performed strongly with Ausdrill (+9.6%) rallying as investors digested the benefits of its recent takeover of competitor Barminco.

Other holdings which outperformed over the month included Vocus Communications (+15.1%) as the market's confidence in the turnaround under the new CEO increased.

The Trust benefited from being underweight on valuation grounds in a number of expensive growth stocks including CSL (-11.0%), A2 Milk (-11.0%), Treasury Wines (-9.4%) and Transurban (-5.5%) all underperforming over the month. We have long argued that many of these stocks are trading on excessive valuations and at risk of being de-rated at some point.

The major banks underperformed marginally, delivering an average return of -2.1%. Sentiment towards the sector is still negative due to the combination of the Royal Commission and concerns around the outlook for the housing market. However, while the growth outlook for the banks is definitely very muted, they are trading on attractive valuations and offering compelling dividend yields.

The main detractors from performance were Suncorp (-6.6%), Star Entertainment (-3.7%), Lendlease (-4.1%) and Janus Henderson (-2.7%).

### **Trust Activity**

During the month, we took profits and trimmed our holding in a number of stocks which had performed strongly over recent times including Woolworths, Vocus and Graincorp. Proceeds were used to increase our holdings in a number of good value opportunities including Ausdril and Star Entertainment Group. At month end, stock numbers we 49 and cash was 7.6%.

#### Outlook

Despite the ongoing negative political atmosphere, the economic backdrop continues to be positive, both domestically and offshore, with healthy growth and low unemployment in most major regions. This is supportive of ongoing moderate corporate earnings growth, healthy resources demand and financial system stability. The Trust is exposed to this dynamic through its positions in the large-cap, lowcost resource stocks, the major banks and a range of quality industrials. We continue to avoid those sectors of the market where valuations are high and those which are exposed to the risk of rising interest rates such as Healthcare, REITs and Infrastructure.

The Trust continues to exhibit Perennial Value's true to label value characteristics, with the Trust offering better value than the overall market on each of our four valuation characteristics: price to earnings, price to free cash flow, gross dividend yield and price to net tangible

As always, our focus will continue to be on investing in quality companies which are offering attractive valuations, while carrying a level of protection sufficient to reduce the magnitude of significant negative returns during sharp equity markets falls.

### Market Review - Australia (%)

S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index	-1.2
Energy	+4.3
Materials	+4.1
Industrials	-2.1
Consumer Discretionary	-3.8
Health Care	-7.3
Financials-x-Real Estate	-2.2
Real Estate	-1.5
Information Technology	-0.6
Telecommunication Services	+2.7
Utilities	-3.1

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## Global, Currency & Commodities (%)

S&P500	+0.4
Nikkei225	+5.5
FTSE100	+1.0
Shanghai Composite	+3.5
RBA Cash Rate	1.50
AUD / USD	+0.0
Iron Ore	+5.6
Oil	+6.8
Gold	-0.9
Copper	+5.0

#### **Contact Us**



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