

# Perennial Value Wealth Defender Australian Shares Trust

MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 2019

	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 (Net)	2.4	3.9	3.7	18.5	8.5	6.1	5.3
S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index	3.2	4.8	5.4	26.0	12.7	10.0	8.8
Value Added (Detracted)	-0.8	-0.9	-1.7	-7.6	-4.2	-3.8	-3.5

Since inception: May 2014. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

#### Overview

- The ASX300 Accumulation Index delivered a strong return of +3.2% in November, driven by a number of expensive sectors such as IT, Healthcare and Consumer Staples.
- Holdings which contributed positively included, Virgin Money UK, (+29.3%), James Hardie (+17.0%) and Aristocrat Leisure (+8.3%), which all delivered better than expected full-year results. Graincorp (+12.4%), rose after the ACCC approved the sale of its terminals business. This paves the way for it to realise value by demerging into separate grains and malt businesses.
- The major banks declined (down an average of -4.5%), after delivering generally soft results and being impacted by the Westpac AUSTRAC issues.

## 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 \$42 million

Distribution Frequency Minimum Initial Investment

Half yearly \$25,000

Trust Inception Date Fees

May 2014 0.98% + Perf fee

APIR Code Trust Redemption Price

IOF0228AU \$1.0966

Portfolio Characteristics – FY20	Trust	Index
Price to Earnings (x)	16.1	17.3
Price to Free Cash Flow (x)	15.5	16.6
Gross Yield (%)	5.5	5.2
Price to NTA (x)	2.3	2.5

#### Source: Perennial Value Management. As at 30 November 2019

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.

#### Down Market Outcomes

	Index Return (%)	Portfolio Return (%)	Proportion of Market Fall Saved (%)
August 2015 China Market Turbulence	-7.7	-4.7	39.0
October 2018 Trade war sell off	-6.2	-3.8	39.0

- $\bullet$  The overlay spend for the rolling 1 year is 3.0% with the market +26%.
- The Trust currently carries a moderate level of protection.

## Top 5 Over / Underweight Positions vs Index



### **Sector Active Exposure vs Index**



#### **Trust Review**

The Trust delivered a return of 2.4% in November. This was a reasonable result, given the particularly strong returns from a number of sectors which the Trust is underweight on account of valuation, including IT (+10.6%), Healthcare (+8.8%) and Consumer Staples (+8.1%).

Trust holdings which contributed positively included, Virgin Money UK, (+29.3%), James Hardie (+17.0%) and Aristocrat Leisure (+8.3%). Each of these stocks rallied strongly after delivering better than expected full-year results. Both James Hardie and Aristocrat Leisure are expected to continue to deliver strong growth going forward, while Virgin Money UK (formerly known as Clydesdale Bank) is trading on an extremely cheap valuation and is strongly leveraged to any Brexit resolution.

Graincorp (+12.4%), rose after the ACCC approved the sale of its terminals business. This paves the way for it to realise value by demerging into separate grains and malt businesses. Origin Energy (+10.4%) rose after a positive investor day, highlighting the strong performance of their APLNG plant.

The major banks declined (down an average of -4.5%), after delivering generally soft full-year results and being impacted by the Westpac AUSTRAC issues. There is absolutely no disputing that the performance of the banks, in relation to conduct and compliance, has been totally unacceptable. However, new management and increased regulatory oversight will ensure that these issues will be remedied. In the mean time, the underlying businesses remain strong and valuations are attractive. Further, this year may well be a turning point in the performance of the sector, as its focus moves from rectifying the errors of the past, towards optimising for the future. As a result, the Trust continues to hold a modest overweight position in the major banks.

### Market Review – Australia (%)

+3.2
+7.3
+4.4
+4.0
+4.2
+8.8
-2.0
+2.3
+10.6
+7.2
-0.5

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### Contact Us



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### **Trust Activity**

During the month, we exited our position in Woolworths and Star Entertainment Group. Woolworths has been a strong contributor to performance since its inclusion in the portfolio and has reached our price target. We added Monadelphous Group for its exposure to the engineering and construction services sector.

At month end, stock numbers were 22 and cash was 6.4%.

#### Outlook

The market is currently trading slightly above its long-term average, with a FY21 P/E of 17.3x and offering an attractive gross dividend yield of 5.2%.

While the market has favoured expensive growth and defensive stocks in recent times, the valuation dispersion between these types of stocks and the "value" end of the market is at historically high levels. As a result, the risk-return equation for investors in continuing to hold these stocks is increasingly skewed to the downside. While there is a high level of political uncertainty at present, any sustained improvement in the macro outlook, for example from a cooling of the trade tensions, could well see an aggressive rotation back to value.

We carry a moderate level of protection.

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.

## Global, Currency & Commodities (%)

S&P500	+3.4
Nikkei225	+1.6
FTSE100	+1.4
Shanghai Composite	-1.9
RBA Cash Rate	0.75%
AUD / USD	67.6c
Iron Ore	+4.7
Oil	+3.7
Gold	-3.2
Copper	+0.5