

# TYNDALL AUSTRALIAN SMALL COMPANIES FUND.

## FUND UPDATE

AS AT  
31 OCTOBER 2024

### Fund Performance (%)

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years p.a.	Since Inception p.a.
<b>Fund growth return</b>	0.90%	5.20%	0.12%	18.72%	--	9.25%
<b>Fund distribution return</b>	-0.00%	-0.00%	9.34%	11.36%	--	6.86%
<b>Total Fund (net)</b>	<b>0.90%</b>	<b>5.20%</b>	<b>9.46%</b>	<b>30.08%</b>	--	<b>16.11%</b>
<b>Benchmark return</b>	0.80%	3.77%	5.84%	26.65%	--	12.21%
<b>Excess Return</b>	0.10%	1.44%	3.62%	3.43%	--	3.90%

Source: Citi. Fund growth return is the change in redemption prices over the period. Fund distribution return equals Total Fund minus fund growth return. Fund net returns are post fees, pre tax using redemption prices and assume reinvestment of distributions. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance. Benchmark: S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index. Inception date: March 2023.

The Tyndall Australian Small Companies Fund outperformed the benchmark over the month. The Fund returned 0.90% (net of fees) for the month, compared to the benchmark return of 0.80%. Since its inception in March 2023 the fund has returned 16.11% compared to the benchmark return of 12.21%.

Key contributors to relative performance:

- **Regis Resources** outperformed on the back of the continued strength in the price of gold. We continue to be attracted to Regis's high quality assets located in WA and NSW. The unfortunate detention of peer Resolute Mining's executives in Mali on the back of a tax dispute with the Malian government highlights the inherent sovereign risk when investing in this space, a risk we look to avoid.
- **MA Financial** outperformed after providing a solid 3Q24 trading update and announcing the launch of a new partnership with Warburg Pincus, who have committed \$490m to MA Financial's new Australian Real Estate Credit Vehicle. Continued growth in MA Financial's asset base provides a strong platform to drive future earnings growth.

Key detractors from relative performance:

- Our underweight in **Arcadium Lithium** detracted value after the company received a takeover offer

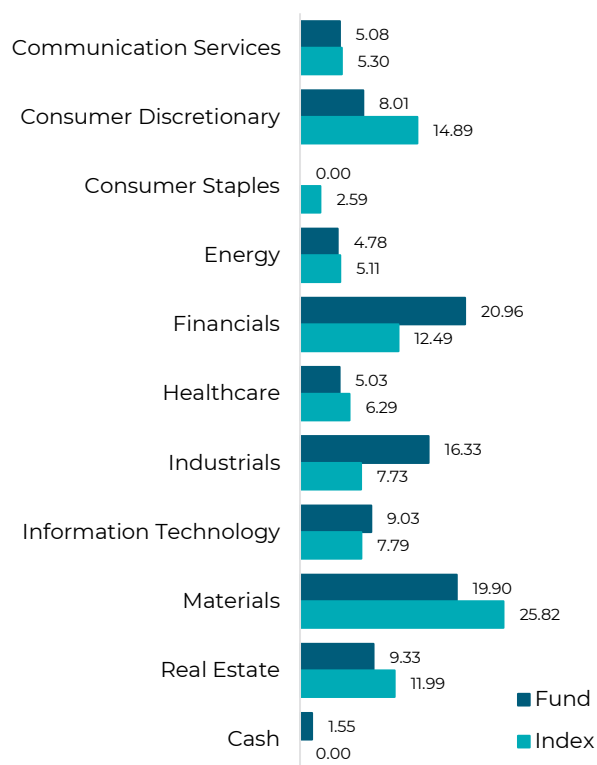
from Rio Tinto at a near 100% premium to its share price. While the Rio Tinto bid may be a boon for LTM shareholders, we remain wary of the lithium market given issues with oversupply coupled with the underwhelming demand backdrop.

- In the face of rising bond yields (and particularly so in the USA where the 10 year treasuries increased from 3.8% to 4.3%), the REIT sector underperformed the market, with **Centuria Capital** being no exception. While valuation multiples for REITs will be driven by bond yields, we are attracted to Centuria through the cycle given the execution of inflows provides a platform for the company to outperform once yields stabilise or compress.

### Top 5 Holdings

Security Name	% of Fund
AUB Group	4.56
Centuria Capital Group	3.78
Gold Road Resources	3.53
Jumbo Interactive	3.53
Zip Co	3.37

## Sector Exposure (%)



## Fund Metrics

	Fund	Benchmark
FCF Yield	7.4%	6.7%
Price/Earnings	15.3x	16.2x
2 Year EPS Growth	29.5%	28.2%
ROE	12.0%	9.0%
Beta	0.9	
Tracking Error	6.7%	

Source: Quant Answer, Tyndall

## Portfolio Changes

During the month we initiated a position in Beach Energy and Judo Bank, funded from partial selling of Dexus Industrial and Smart group.

Beach Energy owns a diverse portfolio of gas, oil and natural gas liquids from five basins across Australia and New Zealand. The company's share price has been weak on the back of a weaker oil price and capital expenditure blow outs. For long term investors, this provides an opportunity to buy a stake in a company that will play a crucial role in Australia's East Coast gas market for decades to come.

Judo Bank continues to scale and hit the milestones as outlined in its IPO prospectus. The company is reaching an inflection point to now begin to deliver material earnings growth. Given Judo has less than 2% market

share of its target SME market, we believe the company can continue to deliver double digit loan growth into the medium term, making Judo an attractive long term investment opportunity.

## Insights from the Portfolio Managers

I recently returned from the USA, taking the opportunity to delve deeper into the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) opportunities there. PFAS are the group of over 4,000 man-made chemicals that do not degrade, and have been found to be hazardous to human health. As a result, in the USA, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed strict limits on two types of common PFAS. Similar regulations are being considered or implemented worldwide, including in Australia.

As part of this trip, I was fortunate to spend time with the CFO of Montrose, a leading US environmental engineering group at the forefront of solving PFAS problems. Discussions with Montrose confirmed our view that the PFAS opportunity is immense, with Montrose believing it is a US\$200bn-\$250bn total addressable market (TAM) over the next 10 years in the US alone. The TAM can be broken into 3 segments, namely (i) consulting, (ii) testing, and (iii) remediation. Montrose currently generates around \$100m of revenue from PFAS, of which 5% is from consulting, 15% is from testing, and 80% is from remediation. Unsurprisingly, Montrose believes the largest TAM and greatest growth opportunity is in the remediation segment.

Why is this important? We believe a portfolio holding, SciDev, has an incredible opportunity to play a meaningful role in addressing the PFAS issues. SciDev provides water treatment solutions for the mining and mineral processing industries, as well as friction reduction capabilities for the oil and gas industry to help reduce the environmental footprint of these heavy industries.

In addition to its core business, through its 2021 acquisition of Haldon Industries, SciDev gained the knowledge and expertise to treat PFAS in contaminated water. Essentially, Haldon/SciDev has developed an ion-exchange process to remove PFAS from contaminated water, a process that is significantly more effective than the current industry standard of granular activated carbon.

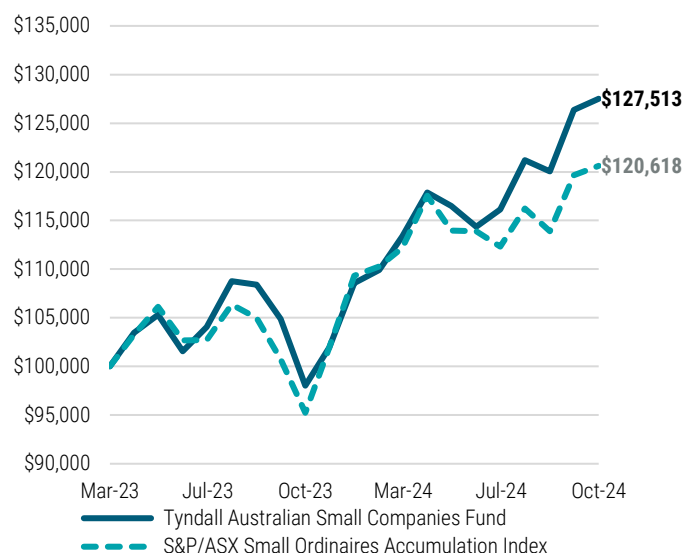
To date in Australia, through this ion-exchange method, SciDev has treated more than 7 billion litres of water contaminated by PFAS. To our knowledge the only other company that has treated more PFAS contaminated water than SciDev is Montrose which has used a regenerable ion-exchange process. SciDev has only just started the process of building out its US PFAS business, with the hire of a US-based executive to lead the strategy. Even if we adjust for a population 9 times the size of Australia, the opportunities in the US are magnified further as drinking water in the US is mainly generated from underground sources (and thus at higher risk of contamination), in contrast to Australia

where the primary source of drinking water is rainwater. While our initial investment in SciDev was at much lower prices, we believe the current share price only reflects fair value for the current core business. In our view, SciDev's much smaller Water Technologies business has the potential to be multiple times larger than SciDev's current business. We continue to be excited by the growth runway for SciDev and expect them to execute on the immense opportunities ahead.



## Investment performance comparison of \$100,000

After fees, since inception of the Tyndall Australian Small Companies Fund, March 2023 to October 2024.



For illustrative purposes only. Past performance does not guarantee future results, which may vary. The total net fund returns shown are post fees, pre tax using redemption prices and assume reinvestment of distributions. They do not take personal taxation into account. The comparison with the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index is for comparative purposes only. Note that the minimum initial investment amount for the Tyndall Australian Small Companies Fund is \$10,000.

## Fund Objective

The Fund aims to outperform the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index over the long term, before fees, expenses, and tax.

## Key Facts

### Responsible Entity

Yarra Funds Management Limited

### APIR Code

TYN8782AU

### Portfolio Manager

Tim Johnston  
James Nguyen

### Asset Allocation

Australian Shares 90% - 100%  
International Shares 0% - 10% (unhedged)  
Cash 0% - 10%

### Management Cost

90bps + 20% of outperformance of the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index (after fees), subject to all prior benchmark underperformance being recouped.

### Minimum Investment

AUD 10,000 or platform nominated minimums

### Buy/Sell Spread

0.30%/0.30%

### Distribution Frequency

Half yearly

### Fund Size

AUD 2.41 million

## Contact us



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