saltydog INVESTOR

Successful trend investing

April 2023

Markets rebound after the latest banking crisis

This time last month we thought we might be on the brink of a major market sell-off triggered by the collapse of a few banks in America. Silvergate Capital was the first to go, followed a couple of days later by Silicon Valley Bank and then the New York Signature Bank.

The concerns then moved to Europe and the Credit Suisse Bank which ended up being taken over by its rival UBS.

The fear was that it could be the beginning of a structural collapse in the banking sector like we saw in 2008. However, there were some significant differences. In 2008 the banks were holding assets that they didn't understand, high risk subprime mortgage-backed securities which often ended up being worthless. This time it was different. The assets which the banks owned were not subprime and they didn't carry a high credit risk, they were government backed securities … in theory as safe as houses.

The problem is that they had long-maturity dates which didn't tie in with the needs of the banks' customers. The banks needed to sell them in a hurry and ended up getting rid of them at a significant loss. Rising interest rates over the last year had dramatically reduced their resale value.

Politicians and central bankers have all reassured us that the banking sector is robust, but I'm still not totally convinced. However, in the last couple of weeks there haven't been any more bank failures and confidence is beginning to return. Stock markets have started to recover.

I think the real issue is that for most of the last fifteen years interest rates have been at all-time lows, and central banks have been injecting enormous amounts of money into the global economy. Initially it was to stimulate growth and then it was to fight the covid pandemic.

Now the central banks have a different problem, inflation.

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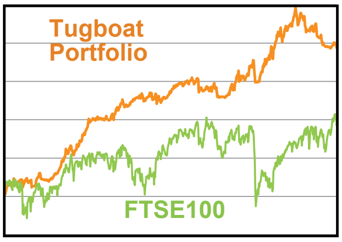
"IMF forecast a Rocky Recovery"

Our Tugboat portfolio has gone up by 0.4% over the last four weeks.



Average Annual Return 4.8%

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This portfolio has risen by 0.6% in the last four weeks.

Sector Performance 2023

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Markets rebound after the latest banking crisis

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It has been running at 40-year highs and to bring it down they are having to put up interest rates. They are also trying to reverse the money printing that has seen national debts grow to record levels. This will inevitably put a strain on global finances. The first sign of this was when gilt yields shot up after the Liz Truss mini-budget and the Bank of England had to step in to support the pension funds. Now we've seen vulnerabilities in the banking system. I wonder, what will be next?

The good news is that inflation is expected to come down. In the US it has now dropped for nine consecutive months from 9.1% in June to 5.0% in March. In the UK we've got a bit more work to do. In February the Consumer Price Index was 10.4%. That was slightly higher than in January, but down from the October peak of 11.1%. Last month the Office for Budget Responsibility said that it expected inflation to drop below 3% by the end of the year. That feels a bit ambitious but let's hope that they are right.

Until we see inflation getting closer to the governments 2% target, the Bank of England will have to keep interest rates where they are at the moment, and they may even need to rise further. That will make growing the economy a challenge. The latest IMF forecast, titled 'A Rocky Recovery', acknowledges that "Global economic activity is experiencing a broad-based and sharper-than-expected slowdown, with inflation higher than seen in several decades. The cost-of-living crisis, tightening financial conditions in most regions, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and the lingering COVID-19 pandemic all weigh heavily on the outlook". They go on to say "Global growth is forecast to slow from 6.0 percent in 2021 to 3.2 percent in 2022 and 2.7 percent in 2023. This is the weakest growth profile since 2001 except for the global financial crisis and the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic."

It looks as though the markets have survived the latest banking crisis, but there may still be trouble ahead.

Stock Market Update.

After a bumpy start, most of the indices that we track made gains in March. Unfortunately, the UK markets struggled more than most and the FTSE 100 ended the month down 3.1% while the FTSE 250 lost 4.9%. The only other significant loss was for the Brazilian Ibovespa which fell by 2.9%. The star of the show was the Nasdaq, which made 6.7%.

Most stock markets ended the first quarter ahead of where they were at the beginning of the year, but most of the gains were made in January. The French CAC 40 has seen the biggest rise so far this year, up 16.2%, followed by the Nasdaq, which has made 15.8%, and the DAX, which has gone up by 13.5%.

Nearly all of the major stock markets have made gains after the first two weeks in April, we hope that trend continues.

Stock Market Indices 2022/2023

Index	2022 Full Year	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	1st April to 14th April	1st Jan to 14th April
FTSE 100	0.9%	4.3%	1.3%	-3.1%	3.1%	5.6%
FTSE 250	-19.7%	5.3%	0.3%	-4.9%	1.7%	2.1%
Dow Jones Ind Ave	-8.8%	2.8%	-4.2%	1.9%	1.8%	2.2%
S&P 500	-19.4%	6.2%	-2.6%	3.5%	0.7%	7.8%
NASDAQ	-33.1%	10.7%	-1.1%	6.7%	-0.8%	15.8%
DAX	-12.3%	8.7%	1.6%	1.7%	1.1%	13.5%
CAC40	-9.5%	9.4%	2.6%	0.7%	2.7%	16.2%
Nikkei 225	-9.4%	4.7%	0.4%	2.2%	1.6%	9.2%
Hang Seng	-15.5%	10.4%	-9.4%	3.1%	0.2%	3.3%
Shanghai Composite	-15.1%	5.4%	0.7%	-0.2%	2.0%	8.1%
Sensex	4.4%	-2.1%	-1.0%	0.0%	2.4%	-0.7%
Ibovespa	4.7%	3.4%	-7.5%	-2.9%	4.3%	-3.1%

Data source: Morningstar

Portfolio Update

Each month I look at how the recent changes in sector performance affect our hypothetical portfolios.

In previous newsletters, I have discussed the rationale behind our example portfolios. If you haven't seen these, subscribers have access to our previous newsletters on our website - saltydoginvestor.com.

There is also an explanation in our members guide.

Last year was a difficult year for investors.

Nearly all of the Investment Association sectors went down in the first quarter of the year. The only ones that went up were Short Term Money Markets, which is basically cash, UK Direct Property, and a couple of the thematic sectors that we include in our Specialist sector analysis.

It was a similar story in the second quarter. None of the sectors in the 'Slow Ahead' Group went up, and UK Direct Property was the only sector in the 'Steady as She Goes' Group to make a gain.

All of the sectors in the 'Full Steam Ahead - Developed' Group also went down. The only other sector that went up was China / Greater China.

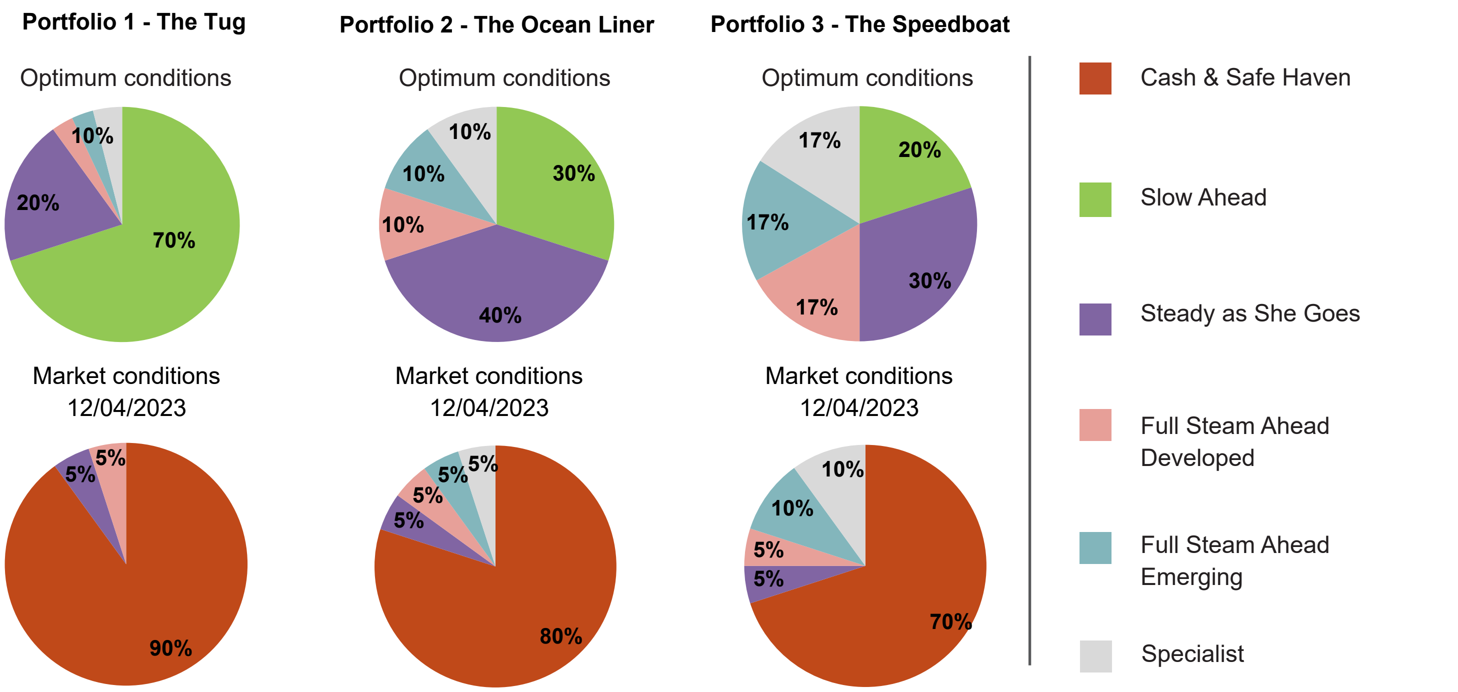
In the third quarter most sectors made further losses, but in quarter four, there was a significant improvement with most sectors making gains. Unfortunately, they were made in October and November and most sectors went down in December.

This year started well and in the February newsletter most sectors were up over four and twelve weeks. Unfortunately over the last couple of months fund performance has taken a turn for the worse. We have been reducing our exposure to the markets and increasing the cash levels in all portfolios.

Our example portfolios

Here are the three hypothetical portfolios that we look at each month. They are shown at their most aggressive (under optimum market conditions), and how they are now - based on this month's data.

This month we have increased the amount of cash in the portfolios - most sectors are now showing losses over four weeks.



On the next few pages we give the details of the Saltydog Demonstration Portfolios that we use to show how the Saltydog information can be used - details of each trade are reported every week on the website.

Tugboat Portfolio

Objective

In November 2010 we put just over £40,000 into a fund supermarket to demonstrate how the data that we produce can be used to run a simple portfolio.

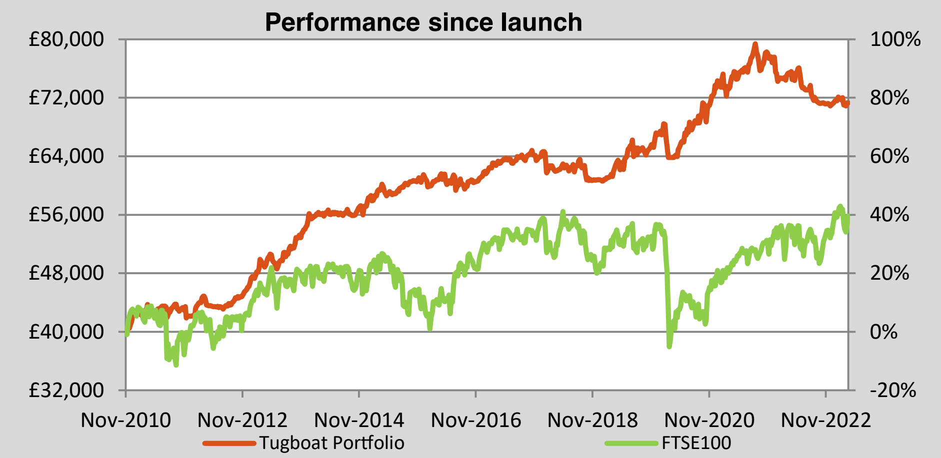
The aim is to run it in such a way that it avoids any major market falls, but also makes gains when they rise.

Because it's designed to weather the storms and make slow, but steady, progress we called it the 'Tugboat'.

The rules that we use to operate it are simple.

- Keep the majority of the portfolio in the 'Slow Ahead' Group, or the 'Safe Haven' and cash if necessary; never invest too much in the riskier 'Full Steam Ahead' Groups, a maximum of 10%.
- Only invest in the more volatile groups when their recent performance justifies it.
- Having determined which groups to invest in, choose the leading sectors from each group.
- Finally, pick funds from these sectors based on their recent performance.

Portfolio Performance



This portfolio was launched in November 2010, and demonstrates how the Saltydog data can be used to manage a cautious portfolio.

The majority of the investments are usually in funds from the sectors in the lowest volatility Groups. Our initial investment of £40,000 has now grown to over £71,000.

Since its launch in 2010 it has produced an average annual return of 4.8%.

Returns

Portfolio Launch Date	23/11/2010	Return in the last 4 weeks	0.4%
Initial Investment	£40,042	Return in the last 3 months	0.0%
Current Value	£71,291	Return in the last 6 months	0.0%
Return since launch	78.0%	Average Annual Return since launch	4.8%

Current Holdings

Initial Trade Date	Fund Name	Group	Current Price (p)	Current Value (£)	Original Cost (£)	Gain (£)	Gain (%)	Portfolio %
13/10/2022	Royal London Short Term MMF	Safe	105	£12,698	£12,456	£242	1.9%	17.8%
23/03/2023	L&G Cash Trust fund	Safe	101	£10,021	£10,000	£21	0.2%	14.1%
09/02/2023	Schroder UK Alpha Plus	Steady	100	£2,454	£2,500	-£46	-1.9%	3.4%
05/01/2023	M&G European Sust Paris Aligned	Developed	2,761	£2,584	£2,500	£84	3.4%	3.6%
Cash				£43,534				61.1%
Total Portfolio Value				£71,291				

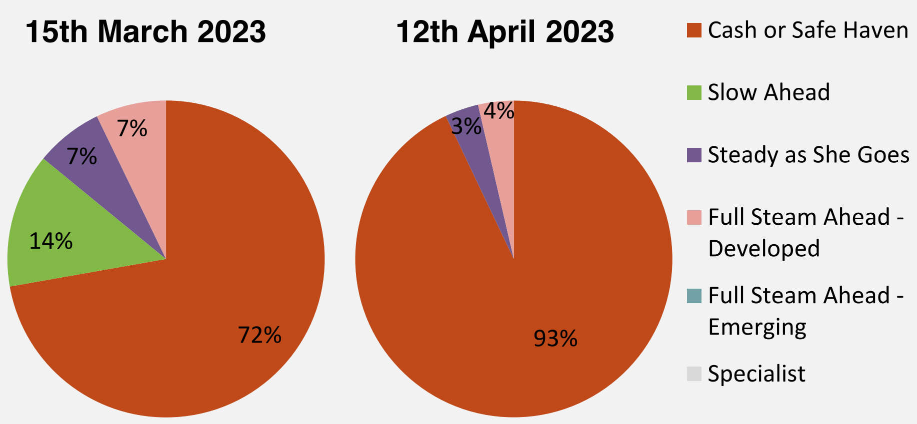
Pending Transactions (these are orders that have been placed, but not yet reflected in the figures above)

Tugboat Portfolio

Other transactions this month

Fund	Group	Value (£)	Transaction	Date
Liontrust SF Managed	Slow	£2,418	Sell	16/03/2023
L&G Cash Trust fund	Safe	£10,000	Buy	23/03/2023
EdenTree Responsible Managed	Slow	£4,887	Sell	30/03/2023
Invesco Managed Income	Slow	£2,504	Sell	30/03/2023
BNY Mellon UK Income	Steady	£2,509	Sell	30/03/2023
LF Brook Continental European	Developed	£2,593	Sell	30/03/2023

Group Allocation



Global financial markets had a difficult 2022 and most of the Investment Association sectors ended the year lower than they started. Many suffered significant losses.

There was an improvement during October and November and, although December was disappointing, most sectors made gains in the final quarter of last year.

We started to reinvest towards the end of last year, but over the last couple of months that process has gone into reverse. Fund performance has deteriorated and so we have reduced our exposure to the markets.

Why we've done what we've done

'Cash & Safe Haven' - Up from 72% to 93% of the portfolio.

Last month several US banks failed which spooked investors. Were we on the brink of another financial crisis like we saw in 2008? The concerns spread to Europe where Credit Suisse was also struggling and ended up being bought by its rival UBS. Stock markets fell and so did many of the funds that we were holding. They have subsequently picked up a bit, but are still down from the highs that we saw earlier in the year. Quite a few funds ended up breaking our three weeks in decile six or worse rule and have been sold.

'Slow Ahead' - Down from 14% to 0% of the portfolio.

In last month's newsletter we reported that our exposure to this Group was dropping to 10%. The two funds that we were still holding then fell foul of our decile rule and were sold.

'Steady as She Goes' - Down from 7% to 3% of the portfolio.

We have sold the BNY Mellon UK Income fund, but are still holding the Schroder UK Alpha Plus fund. It's still showing a loss, but has gone up by 1.7% since the last newsletter.

'Full Steam Ahead' & Specialist - Down from 7% to 4% of the portfolio.

We still hold the M&G European Sust Paris Aligned fund, which is currently up 3.4%, but have sold the LF Brook Continental European fund.

Ocean Liner Portfolio

Objective

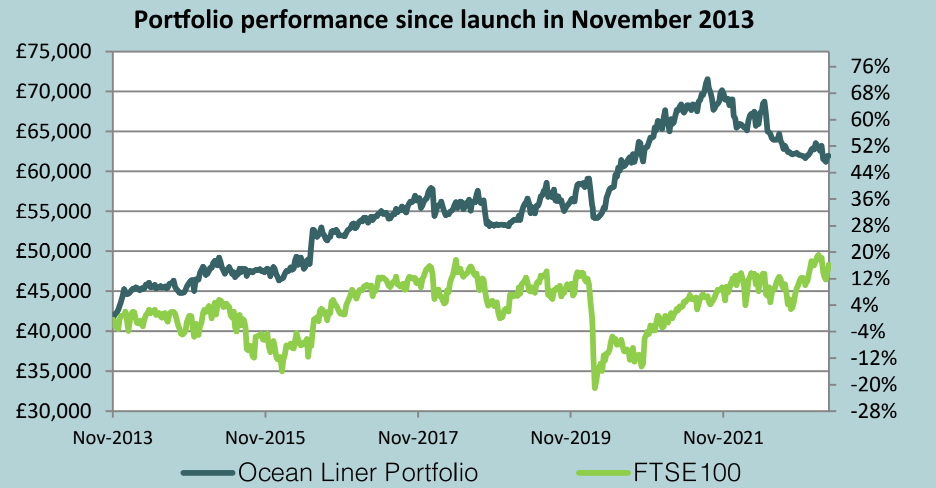
In November 2013 we launched our 'Ocean Liner' Portfolio.

We had been running our cautious 'Tugboat' for three years and wanted to demonstrate how our fund performance data could be used to run a more adventurous portfolio.

Protecting our capital during down-turns is still important, but we accept that if markets drop quickly this portfolio is more likely to suffer losses than the Tugboat. When markets are doing well, we hope to be able to take advantage by having increased exposure to the 'Full Steam Ahead' Groups.

- The overall volatility is limited by keeping at least 30% of the portfolio invested in the 'Slow Ahead' group (or Safe Haven / cash if market conditions are unfavourable).
- We only invest in the more volatile groups when their recent performance justifies it.
- When conditions are favourable, up to 30% of the portfolio can be invested in the most volatile 'Full Steam Ahead' Groups and the 'specialist' sector.

Portfolio Performance



The Ocean Liner portfolio was launched in November 2013 and aims to be slightly more adventurous than the Tugboat portfolio, which was started three years earlier. Since then it has gone up by 48.5%.

Our initial investment of just under £41,500 is now worth nearly £62,000.

Since its launch in 2013 it has produced an average annual return of 4.4%.

Returns

Portfolio Launch Date	23/11/2013	Return in the last 4 weeks	0.6%
Initial Investment	£41,452	Return in the last 3 months	-0.6%
Current Value	£61,919	Return in the last 6 months	-0.5%
Return since launch	49.4%	Average Annual Return since launch	4.4%

Current Holdings

Initial Trade Date	Fund Name	Group	Current Price (p)	Current Value (£)	Original Cost (£)	Gain (£)	Gain (%)	Portfolio %
13/10/2022	Royal London Short Term MMF	Safe	105	£12,709	£12,467	£242	1.9%	20.5%
30/03/2023	L&G Cash Trust fund	Safe	101	£12,517	£12,500	£17	0.1%	20.2%
02/03/2023	Ninety One UK Special Situations	Steady	240	£4,854	£5,000	-£146	-2.9%	7.8%
17/11/2022	Man GLG Continental European	Developed	769	£2,720	£2,495	£225	9.0%	4.4%
05/01/2023	M&G European Sust Paris Aligned	Developed	2761	£2,584	£2,500	£84	3.4%	4.2%
Cash				£26,536				42.9%
Total Portfolio Value				£61,919				

Pending Transactions (these are orders that have been placed, but not yet reflected in the figures above)

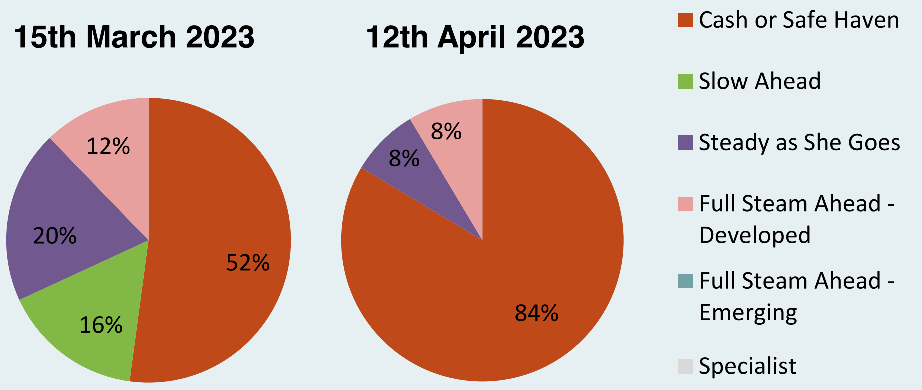
We are reducing our holding in the Ninety One UK Special Situations fund by £2,000 (3.2% of the portfolio), and investing £2,000 (3.2% of the portfolio) in the BlackRock Gold and General fund.

Ocean Liner Portfolio

Other transactions this month

Fund	Group	Value (£)	Transaction	Date
Baillie Gifford Managed	Slow	£4,969	Sell	30/03/2023
EdenTree Responsible Managed	Slow	£4,997	Sell	30/03/2023
MI Chelverton UK Equity Income	Steady	£4,922	Sell	30/03/2023
Artemis UK Select	Steady	£2,360	Sell	30/03/2023
LF Brook Continental European	Developed	£2,390	Sell	30/03/2023
L&G Cash Trust fund	Safe	£12,500	Buy	30/03/2023

Group Allocation



Nearly all of the Investment Association sectors went down in 2022, but most started to recover in the final quarter.

The rally started in mid-October, and in November we started investing. We added more funds at the beginning of December, but then waited as overall sector performance deteriorated during the month.

This year started well so we added to some of our existing holdings and bought a few more. Unfortunately, the recovery from the beginning of the year has faltered and so we are now increasing our cash position again.

Why we've done what we've done

'Cash & Safe Haven' - Up from 52% to 84% of the portfolio.

We started the year by responding to the general improvement in fund performance by increasing the amount invested. Unfortunately, that trend has reversed and so we have been reducing our holdings again.

'Slow Ahead' - Down from 16% to 0% of the portfolio.

The two funds that we were holding, Baillie Gifford Managed and EdenTree Responsible Managed, both broke our 'three weeks in decile six or worse rule' and were sold at the end of March.

'Steady as She Goes' - Down from 20% to 8% of the portfolio.

We've sold the MI Chelverton UK Equity Income and Artemis UK Select funds, but still hold the Ninety One UK Special Situations fund. Overall it has still made a loss, but it has gone up by 1.8% in the last four weeks.

'Full Steam Ahead' & Specialist - Down from 12% to 8% of the portfolio.

We sold the LF Brook Continental European fund at the end of March, but have kept the Man GLG Continental European Growth and M&G European Sust Paris Aligned funds which have both made reasonable gains.

Sector Analysis 2023

Every month we publish the Investment Association's average sector performance for the previous month, along with some previous history.

Most sectors made losses in 2022 and some of them were pretty hefty. European Smaller Companies went down by 22%, UK Smaller Companies fell by 26%, Technology lost 27%, and the worst, UK Index-Linked Gilts, ended the year down 35%.

Although December was disappointing, the final quarter of last year was better than the previous three, and 2023 started well. Most sectors went up in January. The best, Tech & Tech Innovations made 9.3%.

Unfortunately, in February a significant number of sectors went down, and that trend continued through March.

Most sectors are showing gains over the first quarter of 2023, but the bulk of those gains were made in January.

Investment Association Sector	Annual Returns (%)				2023			1st Jan to 31 Mar
	2019	2020	2021	2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Safe Haven								
Standard Money Market	0.7	0.5	-0.1	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.9
Short Term Money Market	0.6	0.1	-0.1	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.8
Slow Ahead								
£ Corporate Bond	9.5	7.9	-2.0	-16.3	3.7	-2.1	0.8	2.2
£ Strategic Bond	9.2	6.1	0.9	-11.7	3.0	-1.6	0.3	1.7
Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares	8.8	4.0	2.6	-10.2	2.6	-1.2	0.3	1.7
£ High Yield	11.4	3.5	4.2	-9.8	3.1	-0.5	-0.5	2.1
Mixed Investment 20-60% Shares	12.1	3.5	6.3	-9.7	3.0	-0.8	-0.6	1.6
Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares	15.9	5.5	11.2	-10.2	3.4	-0.3	-0.8	2.3
Steady as She Goes								
UK Index Linked Gilts	5.9	11.9	3.9	-35.3	3.9	-5.8	7.5	5.1
UK Gilts	7.2	9.0	-5.3	-24.3	2.7	-3.6	3.1	2.1
Global & GEM Bonds*	5.8	5.8	-2.3	-6.6	1.7	-1.4	0.8	1.1
UK Direct Property	-0.8	-3.8	7.4	-7.8	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4
Flexible Investment	15.6	7.0	11.4	-9.1	3.5	-0.7	-0.9	1.8
UK All Companies	22.4	-6.2	17.1	-9.2	4.5	1.6	-3.4	2.6
UK Equity Income	20.1	-10.9	18.3	-2.2	4.2	1.9	-4.1	1.9
UK Smaller Companies	25.4	7.0	20.6	-25.6	3.2	-0.2	-5.7	-3.0
Full Steam Ahead - Developed								
Japan	17.1	13.9	1.6	-8.4	3.7	-2.1	1.7	3.2
Japanese Smaller Companies	18.3	13.2	0.3	-7.0	1.9	-3.1	0.6	-0.7
Europe Including UK	20.9	7.0	17.5	-8.2	6.0	1.2	0.2	7.5
Europe Excluding UK	20.4	10.5	15.6	-8.9	6.0	2.1	-0.1	8.1
Global	22.0	14.8	17.6	-11.3	4.5	-0.2	-0.1	4.1
North America	24.6	16.5	25.2	-10.1	3.7	-0.3	-0.2	3.2
Global Equity Income	19.0	3.4	18.9	-1.1	2.5	0.5	-0.6	2.4
European Smaller Companies	20.6	18.0	19.4	-21.9	5.3	2.4	-2.3	5.4
North American Smaller Companies	26.0	23.5	14.5	-13.9	6.6	0.9	-5.9	1.2
Full Steam Ahead - Emerging								
Tech & Tech Innovations	31.1	44.8	16.3	-27.2	9.3	1.0	5.0	16.0
Asia Pacific Including Japan	16.9	26.8	0.2	-12.7	5.3	-4.1	0.5	1.6
Global Emerging Markets	15.7	13.6	-0.3	-12.3	5.8	-4.1	0.4	1.8
Asia Pacific Excluding Japan	15.8	19.9	1.5	-6.8	6.2	-4.7	0.1	1.4
China/Greater China	22.3	32.8	-10.5	-15.9	8.4	-7.4	-0.3	0.0
Specialist / Thematic								
Healthcare	18.4	15.7	13.9	-3.1	-0.7	-2.0	-0.9	-3.6
Infrastructure	23.1	-1.5	13.0	1.2	0.9	-1.7	-0.9	-1.8
Latin America	15.4	-15.6	-11.5	17.0	6.3	-3.4	-1.5	1.1
India/Indian Subcontinent	0.3	9.7	29.0	-1.5	-3.3	-1.0	-1.7	-5.8
Financials and Financial Innovation	26.8	11.2	14.4	-18.4	6.4	0.4	-7.2	-0.9

data source: Morningstar

saltyblog
A PERSONAL VIEW

The Shapella Upgrade

There's just been a significant update to the second largest cryptocurrency, Ethereum.

Bitcoin remains the largest cryptocurrency, with a market cap of around £500 billion, then it's Ethereum at £200 billion.

One of the issues with cryptocurrencies is the vast amount of energy used to maintain the networks. I've recently read that the Bitcoin network uses the same amount of energy as Norway. With energy in short supply this is hard to justify and there are obvious environmental concerns. The majority of the energy is used to validate the blockchain. Powerful computers compete to solve complex problems and in return they get the chance to earn cryptocurrency. This consensus mechanism is called 'Proof of Work'.

When Ethereum was developed it used a 'Proof of Work' mechanism like Bitcoin, but over the last couple of years it has been changing to a new way of doing things called 'Proof of Stake'. Instead of using the energy hungry super computers to validate the network it is now done by stakeholders… the people who own the currency.

Many people think that in time Ethereum will overtake Bitcoin as the largest cryptocurrency. The latest upgrade allowing people to stake and unstake their Ethereum is an important step in that journey.

Understanding the Saltydog System

Our Objective

We aim to provide you with up-to-date information about readily available investment funds, so that you can see which are currently performing well. In other words, to provide you with the data that will make DIY Investing a worthwhile hobby.

The Data

We cover Unit Trusts, OEICs, Investment Trusts, and ETFs.

At the beginning of each week we download the latest data, and select the funds that are easy to access in the UK. We then sort the data and highlight the best performing funds.
This sorted data is available to our subscribers on our website (saltydoginvestor.com) each week, and a summary of the data is included in our Newsletter.

To give an example of how our information can be used, we run our own real money portfolios based on the data, and publish details of what we buy and sell, and the overall performance.

We are always ready to help with any queries, but have to emphasise that we are not able to offer any financial advice.

Sectors

All funds are allocated a Sector by the relevant Financial 'body' such as the IA - the Investment Association. That means that all funds within a Sector will be investing within the constraints of that Sector, and so worthwhile comparisons of performance can be made.

Groups

We analysed the Sectors, and decided that it would be helpful to group sectors together according to their historical volatility, so we created Saltydog Groups.

These are:

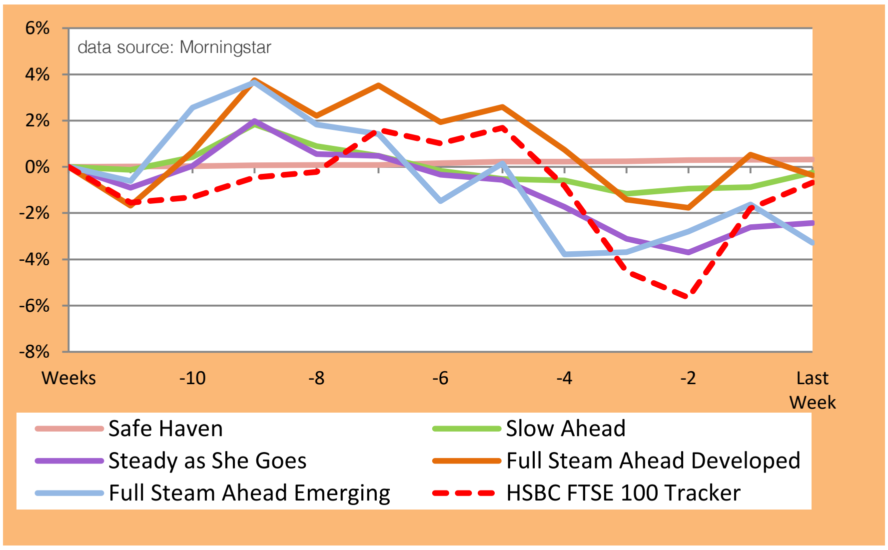
- **Safe Haven:** Very low risk, but also very low returns.
- **Slow Ahead:** Normally a low risk level and often with adequate returns.
- **Steady as She Goes:** Generally low to medium risk, with potentially higher returns.
- **Full Steam Ahead Developed:** Higher risk, but potentially higher returns.
- **Full Steam Ahead Emerging:** Higher risk, but potentially higher returns.

Need more information? Check out the 'How To' guides on our website - saltydoginvestor.com

Let's Get Underway!

The chart below shows how the 5 Saltydog Groups have performed over the last 12 weeks, based on the average of the leading funds in each Sector within the Group, on a week-by-week basis.
In the following pages you can see how the Sectors have performed within the Groups, and the funds that have performed best in each of the Sectors.

Saltydog Group Comparison



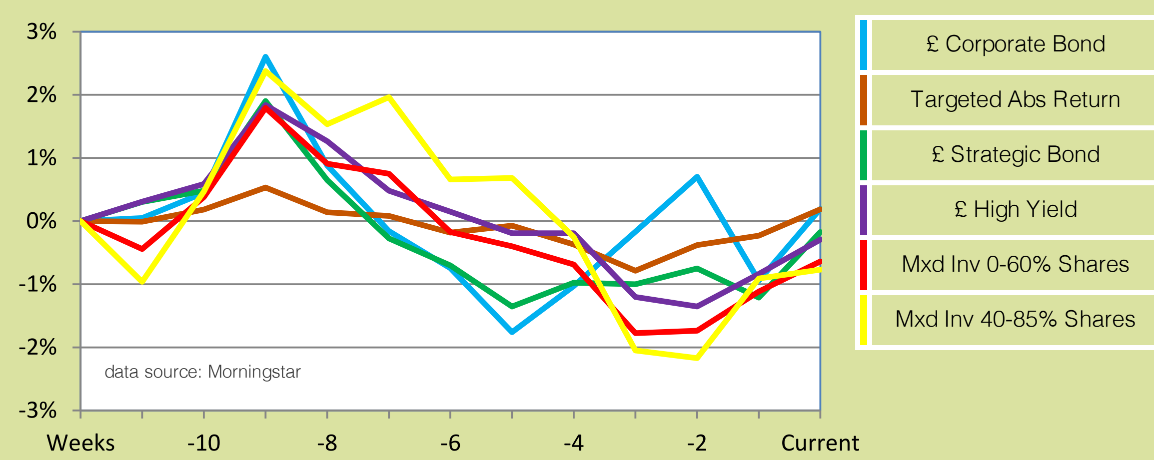
Group Performance for Last Week

Safe Haven	0.01%
Slow Ahead	0.6%
Steady as She Goes	0.2%
Full Steam Ahead Developed	-0.9%
Full Steam Ahead Emerging	-1.7%
HSBC FTSE 100 Tracker	1.1%

The HSBC FTSE 100 Tracker made 1.1% last week, so that's a gain for the last two weeks.

Unfortunately the Emerging and the Developed Groups went in the opposite direction.

Performance by Saltydog Group - Slow Ahead



This chart shows the relative performance of the sectors in this Group, calculated by looking at the average % return of the leading funds in each sector every week. In the table below the sectors are ranked by their four-week % return. All the return data is shaded to highlight the higher figures in each column.

Sector	Percentage Return Data										
	4wks	12wks	26wks	Wk -1	Wk -2	Wk -3	Wk -4	Wk -5	Wk -6	Wk -7	Wk -8
£ Corporate Bond	**1.2%**	0.2%	11.0%	1.1%	-1.6%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	-1.0%	-0.6%	-1.0%
£ Strategic Bond	**0.8%**	-0.2%	6.9%	1.0%	-0.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	-0.7%	-0.4%	-0.9%
Targeted Abs Return	**0.5%**	0.2%	2.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.4%	-0.3%	0.1%	-0.3%	-0.1%
Mxd Inv 0-60% Shares	**0.0%**	-0.7%	5.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.0%	-1.1%	-0.3%	-0.2%	-0.9%	-0.2%
£ High Yield	**-0.1%**	-0.4%	6.4%	0.5%	0.5%	-0.1%	-1.0%	0.0%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.8%
Mxd Inv 40-85% Shares	**-0.5%**	-0.9%	4.7%	0.1%	1.3%	-0.1%	-1.8%	-0.9%	0.0%	-1.3%	0.4%
Average:	*0.3%*	*-0.3%*	*6.0%*	*0.6%*	*0.1%*	*0.2%*	*-0.6%*	*-0.1%*	*-0.3%*	*-0.6%*	*-0.4%*

The Sterling Corporate Bond Sector

This is one of the UK fixed income sectors designed for funds principally targeting income.

The Investment Association definition states that this sector is for ...

Funds which invest at least 80% of their assets in Sterling denominated (or hedged back to Sterling), Triple BBB minus or above corporate bond securities (as measured by Standard & Poors or an equivalent external rating agency). This excludes convertibles, preference shares and permanent interest bearing shares (PIBs).

Overall Group Performance

The average four-week return for this Group was 0.9% in the February issue. Last month it was down 1.5%, but this month it's up 0.3%.

All of the sectors in this Group went down in 2022.

In the first quarter they all made losses. The mixed investment sectors did better than the bond sectors, but they were still down by more than 3%. The worst performing sector was £ Corporate Bond which lost 5.6%.

The second quarter ended up being even worse. At the end of June all sectors were showing six-month losses of 9% or more. The worst performing sector was still £ Corporate Bonds, which had fallen by 12.8%.

It didn't get any better in quarter three, when all sectors made further losses, but in quarter four there was a distinct improvement. All sectors made gains and the best, £ Corporate Bonds, went up by 5.7%.

In January's newsletter only the Mixed Investment and Targeted Absolute Return sectors were showing gains, By February's edition all sectors were all up over four and twelve weeks, but last month they were all showing four-week losses. In the last four weeks three out of the six sectors have gone up.

About the 'Slow Ahead' Group ...

Unit Trust and OEICs are already allocated IA sectors which determine what they can invest in. To bring together sectors of similar historic volatility, so that they can be analysed, we have created the Saltydog Groups.

The least volatile is the 'Safe Haven'. These are basically deposit accounts - performance data is only available on the website.

Next is the 'Slow Ahead' Group. Funds in this Group are normally relatively low risk, but can often deliver adequate returns.

Within the 'Slow Ahead' Group you will find sectors investing in bonds and gilts. Bond prices go up and down like share prices, but are usually less extreme.

There are also some of the mixed investment sectors which invest in a combination of bonds and shares.

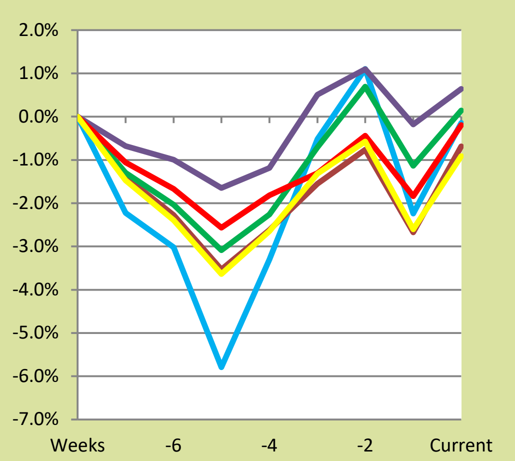
The 'Targeted Absolute Returns' funds are also in this Group and they aim to deliver positive returns in any market conditions. Typically funds in this sector would normally expect to generate absolute returns on a 12 month basis.

Performance by Saltydog Group - Slow Ahead

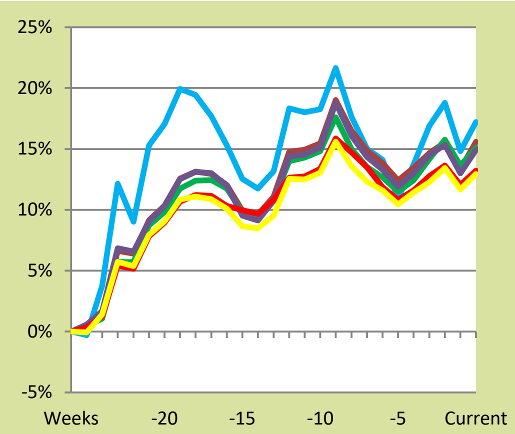
From last to first

Last month the £ Corporate Bond sector was at the bottom of the table, having gone down by 1.9% in the previous four weeks. This month it has jumped to the top of the table with a four-week return of 1.2%. It is also up over twelve and twenty-six weeks.

Similar listings are available for all sectors in the members area of the website.



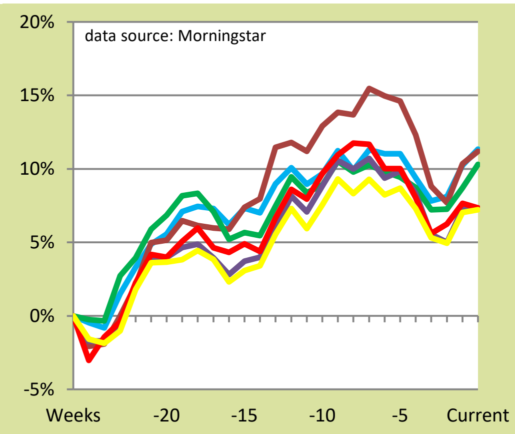
£ Corporate Bond	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	**Ret**	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Janus H'son Instl Lg Dated Credit	**1**	**3.1%**	8	-1.0%	1	17.2%	1	10	1	1	1	10	7	10
Liontrust SF Corporate Bd 2	**1**	**1.9%**	2	0.7%	1	15.6%	1	10	2	1	1	10	7	10
BlackRock Corporate Bond	**1**	**2.4%**	1	1.0%	1	15.1%	2	10	1	1	1	10	6	10
abrdn AAA Bond P1	**1**	**1.8%**	2	0.8%	5	6.5%	4	9	3	1	3	8	2	7
Invesco Corp Bond,	**2**	**1.6%**	1	0.9%	1	12.8%	1	9	2	3	2	9	5	9
Liontrust SF Monthly Inc Bd	**2**	**1.7%**	2	0.5%	1	14.9%	1	10	2	1	1	10	7	10



£ Corporate Bond	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	**Dec**	**Ret**	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Janus H'son Instl Lg Dated Credit	1	3.1%	8	-1.0%	**1**	**17.2%**	1	10	1	1	1	10	7	10
Liontrust SF Corporate Bd 2	1	1.9%	2	0.7%	**1**	**15.6%**	1	10	2	1	1	10	7	10
BlackRock Corporate Bond	1	2.4%	1	1.0%	**1**	**15.1%**	2	10	1	1	1	10	6	10
Liontrust SF Monthly Inc Bd	2	1.7%	2	0.5%	**1**	**14.9%**	1	10	2	1	1	10	7	10
M&G Strategic Corp Bond	2	1.5%	2	0.5%	**1**	**13.2%**	3	9	2	2	2	9	9	9
BNY Mellon Corporate Bond	3	1.4%	3	0.4%	**1**	**12.9%**	2	9	1	2	1	9	6	9

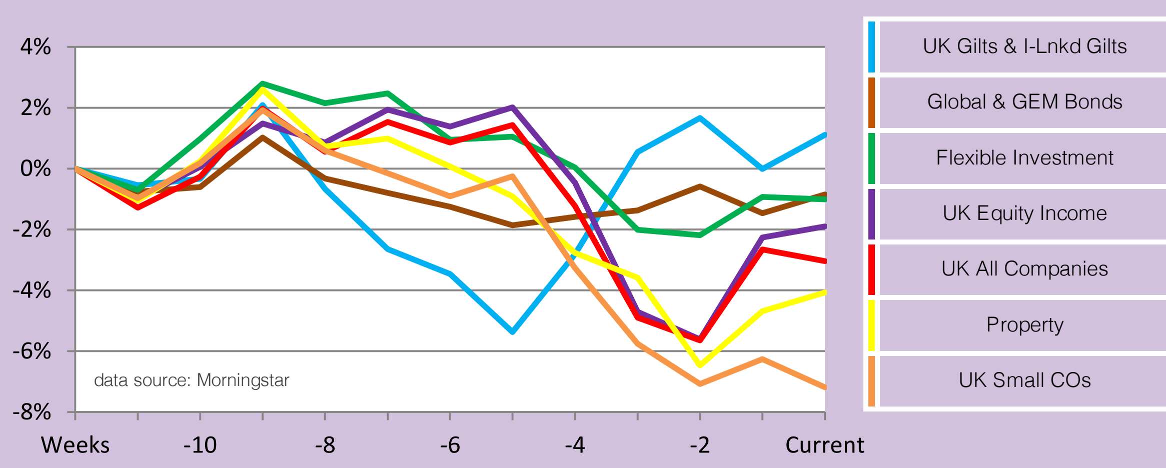
From first to last

In the January newsletter the Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares sector was at the top of the table after gaining 1.0% in four weeks. It was still in the top spot a month later with a four-week return of 1.5%. Last month it dropped down to fifth place, with a four-week loss of 1.8%, and since then it has lost a further 0.5%. It's now at the bottom of the table.



Mxd Inv 40-85% Shares	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	**Dec**	**Ret**	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Marlborough Extra Income	2	1.8%	1	1.2%	**1**	**11.3%**	3	1	6	8	10	3	1	1
EdenTree Resp & Sust Mgd Inc	9	-1.0%	7	-0.5%	**2**	**11.2%**	4	1	10	10	10	5	3	1
Fidelity MnyBuilder Balanced	2	1.4%	1	0.8%	**2**	**10.3%**	1	2	7	7	8	6	3	2
Invesco Managed Income	9	-0.9%	7	-0.8%	**4**	**7.3%**	9	1	9	9	10	1	9	1
Margetts Select Strategy	8	-0.7%	8	-1.2%	**4**	**7.3%**	10	2	3	9	10	2	10	4
M&G Episode Growth	7	-0.1%	5	-0.1%	**4**	**7.2%**	8	1	9	9	9	1	7	1

Performance by Saltydog Group - Steady as She Goes



This chart shows the relative performance of the sectors in this Group, calculated by looking at the average % return of the leading funds in each sector every week. In the table below the sectors are ranked by their four-week % return. All the return data is shaded to highlight the higher figures in each column.

Sector	Percentage Return Data										
	4wks	12wks	26wks	Wk -1	Wk -2	Wk -3	Wk -4	Wk -5	Wk -6	Wk -7	Wk -8
UK Gilts & I-Lnkd Gilts	**3.9%**	0.9%	11.3%	1.1%	-1.7%	1.1%	3.4%	2.5%	-1.9%	-0.8%	-2.0%
Global & GEM Bonds	**0.7%**	-0.9%	2.0%	0.6%	-0.9%	0.8%	0.2%	0.3%	-0.6%	-0.4%	-0.5%
Flexible Investment	**-1.1%**	-1.1%	4.0%	-0.1%	1.3%	-0.2%	-2.0%	-1.0%	0.1%	-1.5%	0.3%
Property	**-1.4%**	-4.2%	-7.3%	0.6%	1.8%	-2.9%	-0.8%	-1.9%	-1.0%	-0.9%	0.3%
UK Equity Income	**-1.6%**	-2.1%	10.8%	0.4%	3.4%	-0.9%	-4.2%	-2.5%	0.6%	-0.5%	1.1%
UK All Companies	**-1.9%**	-3.1%	9.3%	-0.4%	3.0%	-0.7%	-3.7%	-2.7%	0.6%	-0.7%	1.0%
UK Small COs	**-3.9%**	-7.0%	1.4%	-0.9%	0.8%	-1.3%	-2.5%	-3.0%	0.7%	-0.8%	-0.8%
Average:	*-0.8%*	*-2.5%*	*4.5%*	*0.2%*	*1.1%*	*-0.6%*	*-1.4%*	*-1.2%*	*-0.2%*	*-0.8%*	*-0.1%*

UK Gilts & Index-Linked Gilts

There are two Investment Association sectors for funds investing in UK Government Securities (Gilts).

Funds in the UK Gilts sector must invest at least 95% of their assets in Sterling denominated (or hedged back to Sterling) government backed securities, with a rating the same or higher than that of the UK, with at least 80% invested in conventional UK Gilts. The definition of the Index-Linked Gilts sector is similar, except that the core 80% must be invested in UK Index-Linked Gilts.

We combine these sectors for our analysis.

Overall Group Performance

The four-week average for the sectors in this Group was a 0.5% gain in the February newsletter but a 2.3% loss last month. This month it's down 0.8%.

2022 was not a good year for the sectors in this Group. They all went down; two fell by around 25% and the worst lost 35%.

In the first quarter of last year, only one sector went up and that was Property. The worst performing sector was UK Smaller Companies which fell by more than 13%.

The second quarter wasn't any better. The Property sector went up but everything else went down. The losses ranged from 3.8% for Global & Global Emerging Market Bonds to 20.0% for UK Index-Linked Gilts.

Nearly all sectors went down in quarter three as well, but in the final quarter, most sectors made gains. The best, UK Equity Income, went up by 10.6%. The only ones that went down were UK Direct Property and Index-Linked Gilts.

In the January and February newsletters only two of the sectors in this Group were showing four-week losses, but last month they all were.

This month is slightly better with two sectors, UK Gilts & Index-Linked Gilts and Global & GEM Bonds, reporting four-week gains.

A bit about the 'Steady as She Goes' Group ...

The sectors in this Group have historically been more volatile than those in the 'Slow Ahead' Group, but when conditions are favourable they can give better returns.

In this Group there are some bond sectors as well as the Flexible Investment sector which invests in a combination of bonds and equities. It is one of the mixed asset sectors which were renamed at the end of 2011 and were previously known as the Cautious, Balanced, and Active Managed Sectors. These are often the 'default' funds for many financial products.

There's also the UK Equity Income sector. The income funds invest in shares that pay good dividends, and are less focused on capital growth. These tend to be the large, well known businesses like the banks, supermarkets, oil, utilities, and pharmaceutical companies.

The UK All Companies and UK Smaller Companies sectors are in this Group. Although they invest in UK Companies it's worth remembering that those companies are often international.

A full list of the sector definitions is available on the Investment Association website.

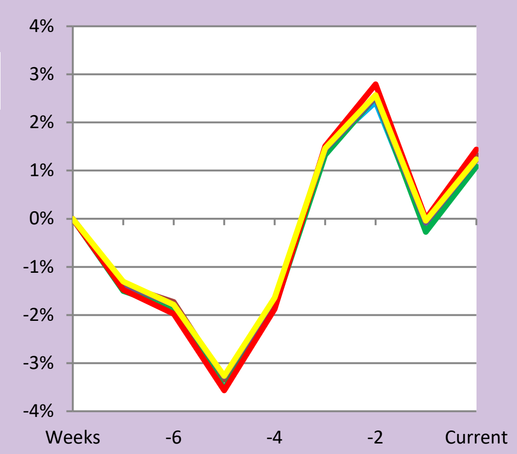
www.theinvestmentassociation.org

Performance by Saltydog Group - Steady as She Goes

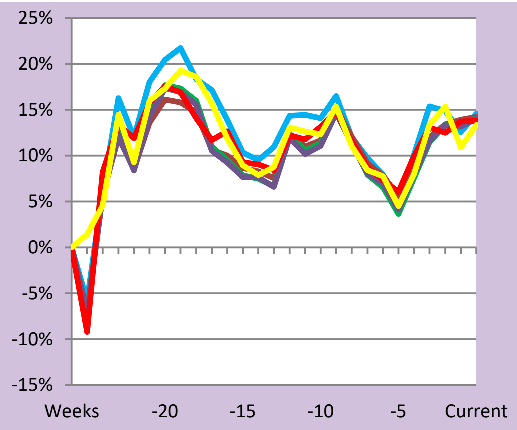
A new leader of the pack

The UK Gilts & Index-Linked Gilts sector was at the bottom of the table in the January and February newsletters. Last month it was in fifth place, having gone down by 2.2% in the previous four weeks. Since then it has gone up by 3.9% and is now at the top of the table.

Similar listings are available for all sectors in the members area of the website.



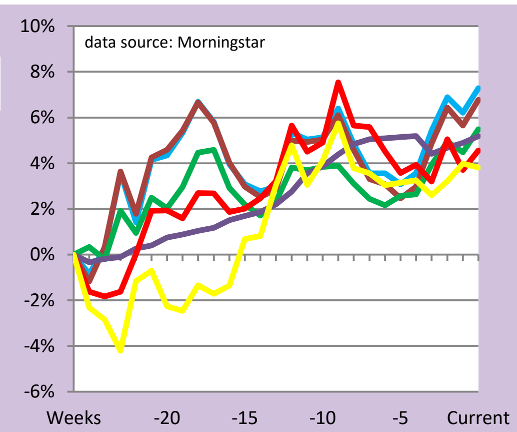
UK Gilts & I-Lnkd Gilts	4 Week Dec	4 Week Ret	12 Week Dec	12 Week Ret	26 Week Dec	26 Week Ret	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
M&G Gilt & Fixed Interest Inc	1	3.0%	2	0.4%	4	9.8%	1	10	1	1	1	10	3	10
abrdn UK Government Bond	1	3.0%	1	0.6%	4	9.4%	1	10	1	1	1	10	3	10
CT £ Bond	1	2.9%	2	0.3%	5	8.9%	1	10	1	1	1	10	3	10
L&G All Stocks Gilt Index I	1	2.9%	2	0.4%	5	8.8%	1	10	1	1	1	10	3	10
Janus H'son Instl UK Gilt	1	3.3%	2	0.4%	5	9.0%	1	10	1	1	1	10	4	10
iShares UK Gilts All Stocks Idx	1	2.8%	2	0.4%	5	8.9%	1	10	1	1	1	10	4	10



UK Gilts & I-Lnkd Gilts	4 Week Dec	4 Week Ret	12 Week Dec	12 Week Ret	26 Week Dec	26 Week Ret	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Vanguard U.K. Long Dur Gilt Idx	1	4.1%	2	0.2%	1	14.6%	1	10	4	1	1	10	9	10
M&G Index-Linked Bond	1	5.0%	1	1.7%	1	14.2%	4	8	1	1	1	10	8	10
Janus H'son Index Lnkd Bond	1	6.1%	1	1.5%	1	14.1%	3	9	1	1	1	10	8	10
iShares Index Linked Gilt Idx	1	5.6%	1	1.8%	1	14.0%	3	9	1	1	1	10	8	10
Vanguard U.K. Infl-Lnkd Gilt Idx	1	3.5%	1	1.4%	1	13.8%	5	7	4	1	1	10	8	10
BNY Mellon Long Gilt	1	5.0%	2	0.2%	1	13.4%	1	10	1	1	1	10	5	10

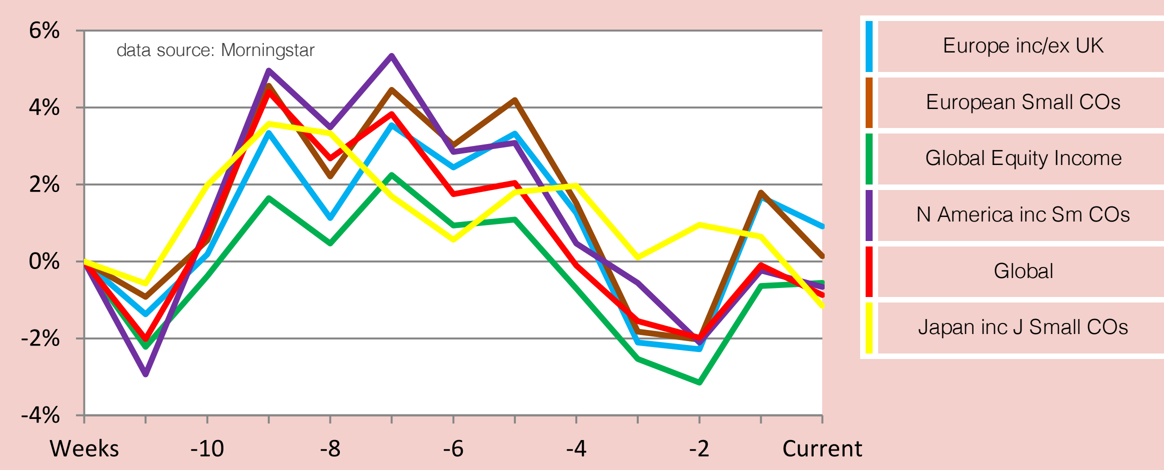
Last month's top dog

Our combined Global & Global Emerging Market Bond sector was at the top of the table in the September and October newsletters, but then dropped out of the limelight. In the February issue it was in sixth place with a four-week loss of 0.4%, but last month it was back at the top even though it had gone down by 1.3% in the previous four weeks. This month it's dropped to second place with a four-week return of 0.7%.



Global & GEM Bonds	4 Week Dec	4 Week Ret	12 Week Dec	12 Week Ret	26 Week Dec	26 Week Ret	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Royal London Gbl Index Linked	1	3.6%	1	1.9%	6	7.3%	2	9	1	1	1	9	1	9
abrdn Global Inflation-Link Bnd	1	3.7%	1	1.7%	6	6.8%	2	10	1	1	1	9	2	9
L&G Global Inflation Linked Bd Idx	1	2.8%	1	1.6%	6	5.5%	2	9	1	1	2	6	2	8
MI Twentyfour Monument Bond	3	0.0%	1	2.4%	7	5.2%	4	9	2	2	2	7	1	6
M&G Europ Corp Bond	2	0.6%	4	-1.0%	7	4.6%	2	10	1	2	2	10	7	7
CT EM Local Retl	2	0.5%	4	-0.9%	7	3.8%	6	8	2	2	2	7	4	8

Performance for the Full Steam Ahead Developed Group



This chart shows the relative performance of the sectors in this Group, calculated by looking at the average % return of the leading funds in each sector every week. In the table below, the sectors are ranked by their four-week % return. All the return data is shaded to highlight the higher figures in each column.

Sector	Percentage Return Data										
	4wks	12wks	26wks	Wk -1	Wk -2	Wk -3	Wk -4	Wk -5	Wk -6	Wk -7	Wk -8
Global Equity Income	**0.1%**	-0.7%	7.0%	0.1%	2.5%	-0.6%	-1.8%	-1.8%	0.1%	-1.3%	1.8%
Europe inc/ex UK	**-0.5%**	0.6%	16.3%	-0.8%	4.0%	-0.2%	-3.4%	-2.1%	0.9%	-1.1%	2.4%
Global	**-0.8%**	-1.1%	2.0%	-0.8%	1.9%	-0.4%	-1.4%	-2.1%	0.3%	-2.1%	1.2%
N America inc Sm COs	**-1.1%**	-1.0%	-2.3%	-0.4%	1.9%	-1.6%	-1.0%	-2.6%	0.2%	-2.5%	1.9%
European Small COs	**-1.5%**	-0.2%	16.0%	-1.7%	3.8%	-0.2%	-3.3%	-2.7%	1.2%	-1.4%	2.2%
Japan inc J Small COs	**-3.1%**	-1.3%	1.4%	-1.8%	-0.3%	0.8%	-1.9%	0.2%	1.2%	-1.1%	-1.6%
Average:	*-1.2%*	*-0.6%*	*6.7%*	*-0.9%*	*2.3%*	*-0.4%*	*-2.1%*	*-1.9%*	*0.7%*	*-1.6%*	*1.3%*

The Global Equity Income Sector

This is one of the equity sectors classified by the Investment Association. Their definition is:

"Funds which invest at least 80% of their assets globally in equities. Funds must be diversified by geographic region and intend to achieve a historic yield on the distributable income in excess of 110% of the MSCI World Index yield at the fund's year end."

Funds are tested over three year rolling periods by taking a simple average of the yield achieved for each fund at its year end. Funds which failed the test are then reclassified.

Overall Group Performance

In the February newsletter, the overall Group four-week average was a gain of 2.1% , but last month it was a 1.5% loss. This month it's a slightly smaller loss of 1.2%.

Last year, all of the sectors in this Group went down and the worst, European Smaller Companies, fell by nearly 22%.

At the end of the first quarter of 2022, all sectors in this Group were already showing losses. By the end of the second quarter the situation was even worse.

Even the best performing sector, Global Equity Income, had gone down by 6.2% in the previous six months, and the worst sector, European Smaller Companies, had lost 25.9%.

In quarter three the American, Japanese, and Global sectors did make gains, but the others went down again.

Quarter four was better, with most sectors making gains. Only the American sector went down

In January's issue only two sectors weren't showing four-week gains, and by February's newsletter they were all up. Unfortunately, last month only our combined Europe inc/ex UK sector went up, and this month it's just Global Equity Income.

The sectors in the 'Full Steam Ahead Developed' Group ...

The sectors in the 'Full Steam Ahead' Groups have historically been the most volatile.

They can give the best returns when conditions are favourable, but are also likely to suffer the most if market conditions take a turn for the worse.

There are a lot of sectors which we consider 'Full Steam Ahead' and so we have split them into two groups to make analysis easier.

The 'Developed' Group focuses on sectors which are usually considered 'Developed' Markets. These are the UK, Europe, North America, and Japan.

The European funds are split into Europe including the UK, and Europe excluding UK, but we have joined them and called it Europe inc / ex UK - an oxymoron, but hopefully now it makes sense.

The North America and North American Smaller Companies sectors have also been combined, as have the Japan and the Japanese Smaller Companies.

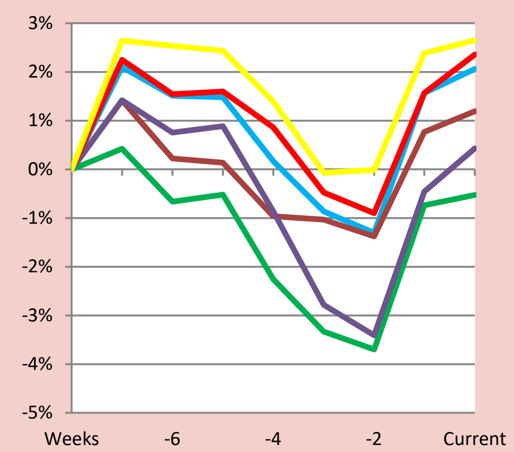
We also include the 'Property' sector in this Group.

Performance of the Full Steam Ahead Developed Group

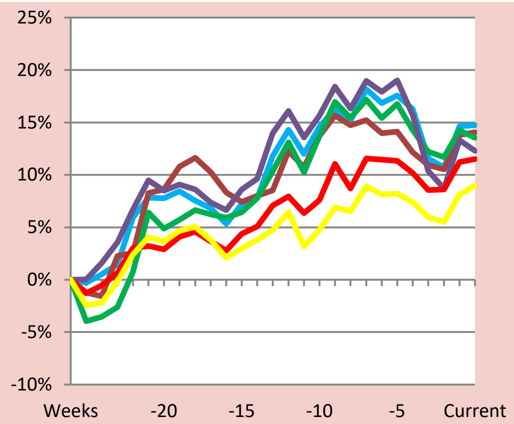
A new leader

The Global Equity Income sector was at the bottom of the table in the February newsletter with a four-week return of 0.4%. Last month it moved up to third place, but had gone down by 1.2% in the previous four weeks. This month it is at the top of the table having gained 0.1% in the last four weeks.

Similar listings are available for all sectors in the members area of the website.



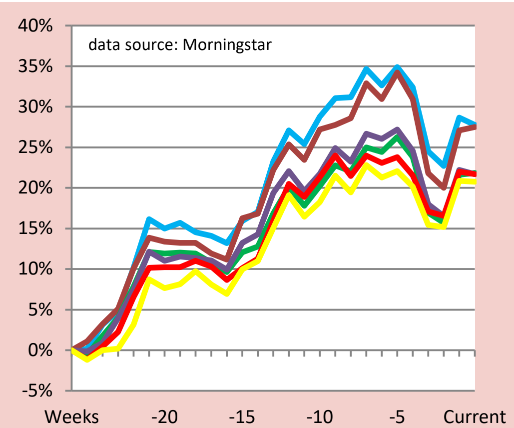
Global Equity Income	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	**Ret**	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Fidelity Global Dividend	**1**	**1.9%**	3	1.2%	4	8.7%	1	4	5	3	3	8	1	4
Morgan Stanley Glb Brands Eq Inc	**1**	**2.2%**	4	0.5%	6	2.5%	1	6	5	2	2	8	3	6
JPM Global Equity Income	**1**	**1.7%**	3	1.6%	3	14.0%	2	4	5	4	5	7	3	9
Janus H'son Gbl Equity Inc	**2**	**1.2%**	6	-0.3%	4	8.3%	1	4	6	6	5	7	1	6
Aviva Inv Global Equity Inc	**2**	**1.5%**	2	2.4%	3	9.0%	1	5	5	4	2	7	2	3
Veritas Global Eq Income	**2**	**1.2%**	1	3.3%	3	11.5%	2	5	4	5	2	8	1	2



Global Equity Income	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	**Dec**	**Ret**	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Schroder Global Equity Inc	6	-1.3%	4	0.4%	**3**	**14.7%**	3	3	7	9	2	5	3	2
JPM Global Equity Income	1	1.7%	3	1.6%	**3**	**14.0%**	2	4	5	4	5	7	3	9
Invesco Global Equity Income.	5	-0.6%	4	0.4%	**3**	**13.5%**	5	5	6	5	7	3	5	6
TB Saracen Global Inc & Gth	9	-2.9%	9	-3.3%	**3**	**12.3%**	6	2	9	10	8	4	2	3
Veritas Global Eq Income	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	**3**	**11.5%**	2	5	4	5	2	8	1	2
Aviva Inv Global Equity Inc	2	1.5%	2	2.4%	**3**	**9.0%**	1	5	5	4	2	7	2	3

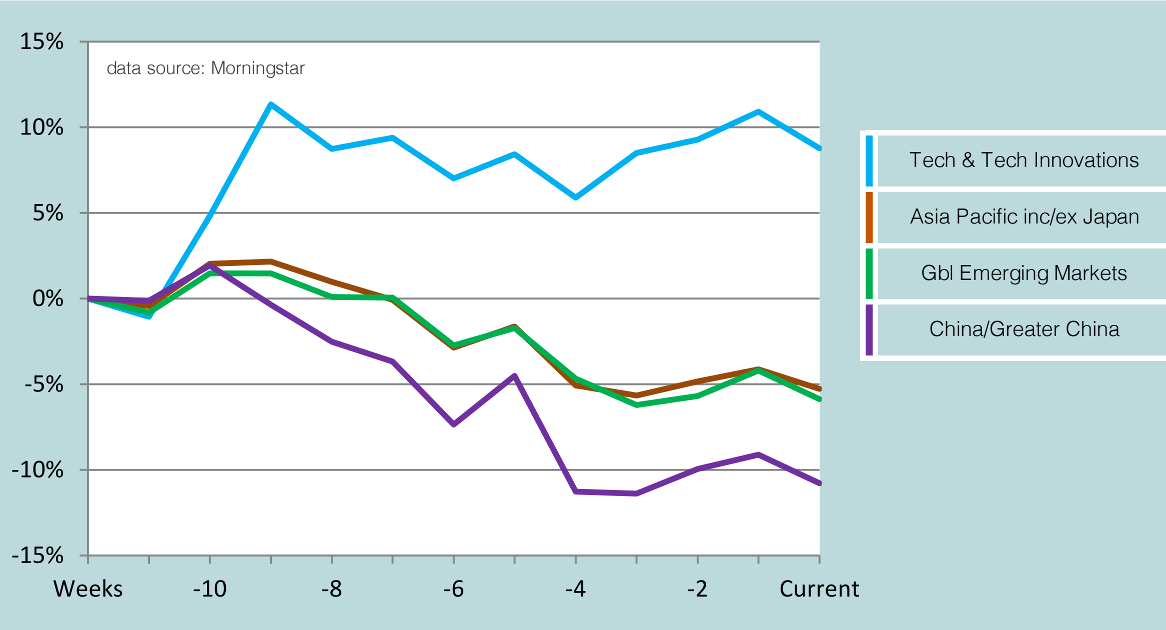
This month's runner up

The combined Europe including UK and Europe excluding UK sector was at the top of the table last November. It then dropped to second place in December, and was still there in January with a four-week return of 3.7%. In February it dropped to fourth, but had still gone up by 1.0% in the previous four weeks. Last month it was back at the top of the table, although it had only gone up by 0.1% in four weeks. Since then it has lost 0.5% and dropped down to second place.



Europe inc/ex UK	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	**Dec**	**Ret**	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Schroder European Opportunities	9	-3.5%	4	0.5%	**1**	**27.8%**	6	1	9	10	5	1	5	1
LF Brook Continental European	8	-2.6%	2	1.7%	**1**	**27.5%**	2	1	9	10	8	1	4	1
Invesco Europ Equity.	7	-1.6%	3	1.4%	**1**	**21.8%**	2	1	8	10	6	2	1	2
EdenTree Amity European	8	-2.3%	6	-0.3%	**1**	**21.7%**	5	1	9	10	6	4	1	1
CT European	4	0.1%	3	1.0%	**1**	**21.7%**	4	1	6	9	5	5	2	4
Schroder Europ Alpha Plus	3	0.5%	3	1.4%	**1**	**20.8%**	3	1	5	9	4	5	3	1

Performance for the Full Steam Ahead Emerging Group



This chart shows the relative performance of the sectors in this Group, calculated by looking at the average % return of the leading funds in each sector every week. In the table below the sectors are ranked by their 4 week % return. All the return data is shaded to highlight the higher figures in each column.

Sector	Percentage Return Data										
	4wks	12wks	26wks	Wk -1	Wk -2	Wk -3	Wk -4	Wk -5	Wk -6	Wk -7	Wk -8
Tech & Tech Innovations	**2.9%**	8.6%	4.0%	-2.1%	1.6%	0.8%	2.6%	-2.5%	1.4%	-2.4%	0.6%
China/Greater China	**0.5%**	-11.1%	-0.3%	-1.7%	0.8%	1.4%	-0.1%	-6.8%	2.8%	-3.7%	-1.2%
Asia Pacific inc/ex Japan	**-0.2%**	-5.4%	2.0%	-1.1%	0.7%	0.8%	-0.6%	-3.4%	1.2%	-2.8%	-1.1%
Gbl Emerging Markets	**-1.2%**	-5.9%	-0.5%	-1.7%	1.5%	0.5%	-1.5%	-3.0%	1.0%	-2.8%	0.0%
Average:	*0.5%*	*-3.5%*	*1.3%*	*-1.7%*	*1.2%*	*0.9%*	*0.1%*	*-3.9%*	*1.6%*	*-2.9%*	*-0.4%*

Tech & Tech Innovations

This is one of the more specialist sectors, defined by the Investment Association as:

"Funds that invest at least 80% of their assets in equities of technology and related sectors, including industries such as telecommunications, robotics and online retailers"

We include it in our 'Full Steam Ahead - Emerging' Group because of its historic volatility, and for the practical reason that there aren't many other sectors in this Group.

In terms of investment, these funds will probably be predominantly invested in the United States.

Overall Group Performance

In the January newsletter, the overall four-week Group average was a gain of 1.8%, but last month it was a loss of 5.6%. This month it's up 0.5%.

The sectors in this Group tend to be the most volatile.

Unfortunately, last year was a year of losses. All sectors ended the year down and the worst, Technology & Technology Innovations, fell by just over 27%.

In the first quarter of 2022, all sectors in this Group went down. The China/Greater China sector had a strong second quarter, but everything else made losses.

Only the Technology sector went up in quarter three, and by just 0.8%. The China/Greater China sector went down by more than 14%. In the final quarter of last year, the Technology sector lost 3.9%, but all of the other sectors went up.

The Technology sector was also the only sector in the Group showing a four-week loss in the January issue. A month later and there had been complete reversal. The Technology sector jumped to the top of the table with a four-week return of 8.7%. In the last four weeks the Technology sector has gained a further 2.9% and remains at the top of the table.

The sectors in the 'Full Steam Ahead Emerging' Group ...

The sectors in the 'Full Steam Ahead' Groups have historically been the most volatile.

They can give the best returns when conditions are favourable, but are also likely to suffer the most if market conditions take a turn for the worse.

There are a lot of sectors which we consider to be 'Full Steam Ahead' and so we have split them into two groups to make analysis easier.

The 'Emerging' Group focuses on sectors which are usually considered 'Emerging' Markets. These are Asia Pacific, China & Greater China, and Global Emerging Markets.

The Asia Pacific funds are split into those including Japan and those not including Japan - we have joined the two sectors and called it Asia Pacific inc / ex Japan.

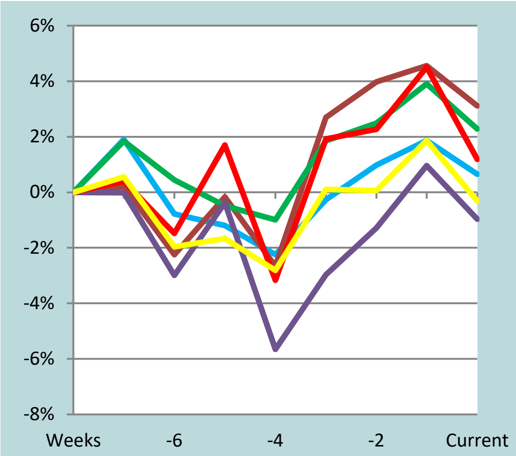
The 'Technology & Technology Innovations' sector is also in this Group. It may not fit exactly with our 'Emerging Markets' theme, but the funds have a similar level of volatility, and so we put it into the 'Full Steam Ahead' Group with the fewest other sectors.

Performance of the Full Steam Ahead Emerging Group

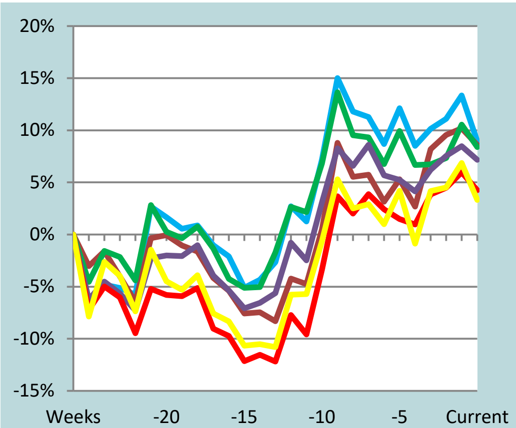
Still on top

The Technology & Technology Innovations sector was at the bottom of the table in the January issue, down 2.4% over four weeks, but moved into pole position a month later with a four-week gain of 8.7%. Last month it was still in first place, although it had gone down by 2.9%, and this month it remains at the top of the table having gone up by 2.9% in the last four weeks.

Similar listings are available for all sectors in the members area of the website.



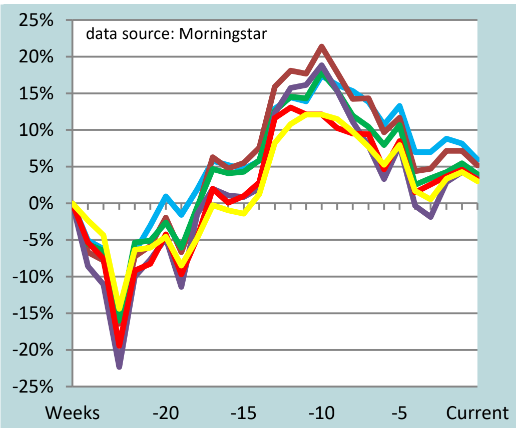
Tech & Tech Innovations	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	**Ret**	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Janus H'son Gbl Technology	**1**	**2.9%**	1	8.0%	1	7.2%	4	6	4	1	1	10	5	1
L&G Global Tech Index	**1**	**5.8%**	1	13.4%	1	8.6%	5	8	4	1	2	3	3	2
Liontrust Global Technology	**1**	**3.3%**	1	13.0%	3	4.2%	7	4	6	1	1	10	1	1
Pictet-Digital	**1**	**4.7%**	1	4.0%	5	2.1%	9	1	2	1	8	3	6	3
Polar Capital Global Technology	**1**	**4.5%**	1	10.0%	3	3.5%	10	1	8	1	8	1	2	1
T. Rowe Price Global Tech	**1**	**2.4%**	1	11.4%	9	-3.3%	10	3	9	1	1	9	4	1



Tech & Tech Innovations	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	**Dec**	**Ret**	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
Pictet - Robotics	4	0.4%	1	6.1%	**1**	**8.9%**	10	2	5	1	5	2	3	5
L&G Global Tech Index	1	5.8%	1	13.4%	**1**	**8.6%**	5	8	4	1	2	3	3	2
Fidelity Global Technology	2	1.6%	1	5.6%	**1**	**8.4%**	9	1	7	3	4	2	3	4
Janus H'son Gbl Technology	1	2.9%	1	8.0%	**1**	**7.2%**	4	6	4	1	1	10	5	1
Liontrust Global Technology	1	3.3%	1	13.0%	**3**	**4.2%**	7	4	6	1	1	10	1	1
Polar Capital Global Technology	1	4.5%	1	10.0%	**3**	**3.5%**	10	1	8	1	8	1	2	1

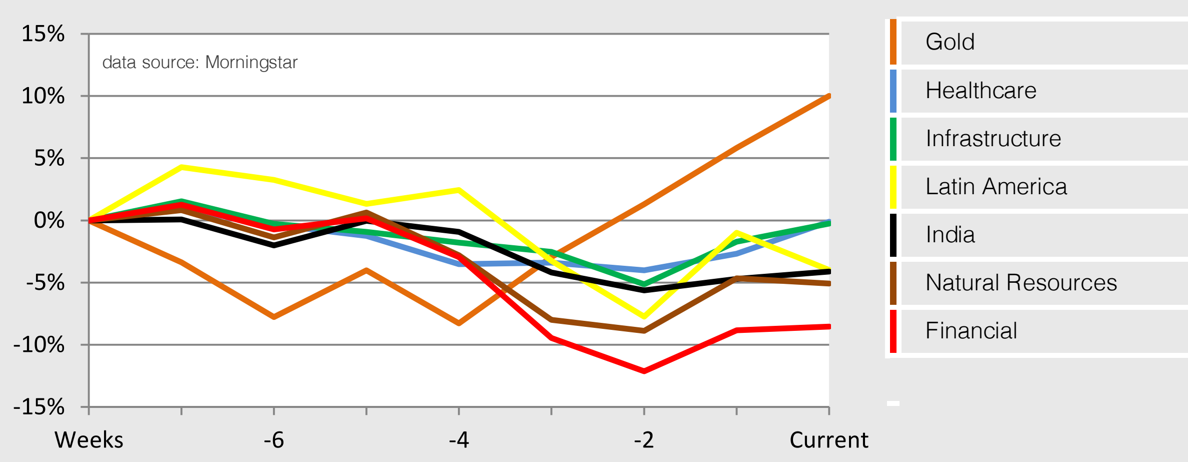
In second place

The China/Greater China sector was at the bottom of the table in the October and November newsletters. In the October issue it was showing a four-week loss of 5.8% and in the November edition it was down 7.7%. It then rebounded strongly. In the December edition it was at the top of the table with a four-week return of 9.5% and in January it was still in first place having gained a further 7.4%. In February's newsletter, it was back down at the bottom of the table again after losing 2.6% in four weeks and last month it was still at the bottom of the table, but showing a four-week loss of 8.8%. In the last four weeks it has gained 0.5% and moved up to second place.



China/Greater China	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
	Dec	Ret	Dec	Ret	**Dec**	**Ret**	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
FSSA Greater China Growth	8	-1.0%	8	-7.4%	**1**	**6.0%**	9	10	2	3	8	3	5	8
Invesco China Equity	3	0.8%	9	-11.0%	**2**	**5.2%**	8	10	1	2	9	4	9	2
Matthews China Dividend	2	1.4%	9	-9.2%	**3**	**4.0%**	5	5	6	2	10	3	3	8
Templeton China	1	3.8%	9	-10.6%	**4**	**3.4%**	1	4	1	9	10	1	9	10
Jupiter China	2	1.7%	9	-8.7%	**4**	**3.2%**	4	7	4	1	9	1	10	4
Ninety One GSF All China Equity IX Inc	2	1.3%	7	-7.0%	**4**	**3.1%**	3	6	1	8	9	3	3	10

Performance of the Saltydog SubZones



This chart shows the relative performance of the different SubZones that we have created to help make sense of this sector. In the table below the SubZones are ranked by their 4 week % return. All the return data is shaded to highlight the higher figures in each column.

SubZone	Percentage Return Data										
	4wks	12wks	26wks	Wk -1	Wk -2	Wk -3	Wk -4	Wk -5	Wk -6	Wk -7	Wk -8
Gold	19.4%	3.7%	20.6%	4.2%	4.5%	4.2%	5.3%	-4.3%	3.8%	-4.4%	-3.4%
Healthcare	3.4%	-1.3%	0.2%	2.6%	1.3%	-0.6%	0.1%	-2.3%	-0.9%	-1.3%	0.9%
Infrastructure	1.4%	-2.6%	2.8%	1.5%	3.4%	-2.6%	-0.7%	-0.9%	-0.6%	-1.8%	1.5%
Natural Resources	-2.5%	-5.2%	-1.4%	-0.4%	4.2%	-0.9%	-5.2%	-3.4%	2.0%	-2.2%	0.8%
India	-3.2%	-5.9%	-10.3%	0.6%	0.9%	-1.4%	-3.3%	-0.9%	2.0%	-2.1%	0.1%
Financial	-5.8%	-5.2%	0.7%	0.3%	3.3%	-2.7%	-6.5%	-3.1%	0.9%	-2.0%	1.3%
Latin America	-6.7%	-8.0%	-12.1%	-3.0%	6.7%	-4.5%	-5.7%	1.1%	-1.9%	-1.0%	4.3%
Average:	*0.9%*	*-3.5%*	*0.1%*	*0.8%*	*3.5%*	*-1.2%*	*-2.3%*	*-2.0%*	*0.7%*	*-2.1%*	*0.8%*

Overall Performance

Last month the SubZone four-week average return was a 2.7% loss and most of the SubZones had made four-week losses. This month it's a 0.9% gain.

Some of the best performing funds last year were from the specialist SubZones.

In the first quarter of 2022, the best performing funds were investing in Latin America. They went up by 26% when just about everything else was going down.

By the end of the second quarter, China/Greater China, from our 'Full Steam Ahead - Emerging' Group was leading the way, but then the Financial, Healthcare, Latin America, and India/Indian Subcontinent funds took over in quarter three.

The European sectors, from our 'Full Steam Ahead - Developed' Group, generated the greatest returns in quarter four with double-digit gains. Our specialist SubZones didn't perform well.

By the January newsletter, the situation had improved and only the India SubZone was showing a four-week loss. It didn't last long. In the February issue only the Financial SubZone made a four-week gain and last month it was just the Latin America SubZone. This month the Gold SubZone is at the top of the table, with a four week return of 19.4%.

The Gold funds

This month the best performing funds are from the Gold SubZone.

The BlackRock Gold & General, SVS Sanlam Global Gold & Resorces, and Ninety One Global Gold funds have all gone up by over 20% in the last four weeks. The LF Ruffer Gold fund has gone up by 15.8%.

Although we call them the Gold funds they don't just invest in physical gold. They typically invest in companies involved in exploring, mining, processing, or dealing and investing in gold and other precious metals. The BlackRock Gold and General fund is the largest with a portfolio value of around one billion pounds.

What is special about the 'Specialist' sector?

The specialist sector is a bit of an odd ball!

This is where all the funds which don't naturally fit into another sector end up and so, not surprisingly, is something of a mixed bag.

We consider it 'high risk', because most of the funds have the same level of volatility that you would associate with the 'Full Steam Ahead' Groups, but this is not always the case.

We don't calculate a sector average because it wouldn't be a fair comparison with the other Groups. There are nearly always funds doing well in this sector, but they might not be the ones that were doing well last month.

To help with our analysis we have created a number of SubZones where we analyse the relative performance of various funds investing in similar things. These are Financial, Infrastructure Healthcare, India, Latin America, Russia & Eastern Europe, and Gold.

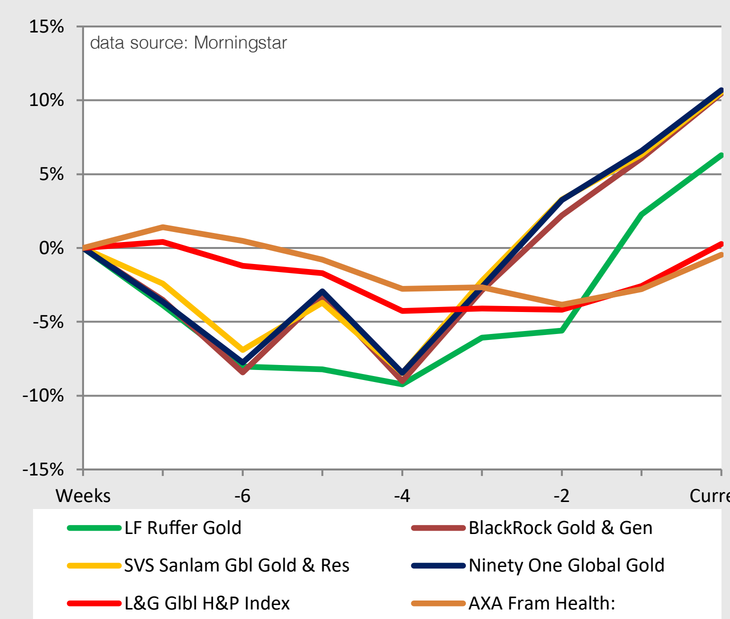
In total we analyse around 65 funds in this sector, most of which do not fall within one of the SubZones.

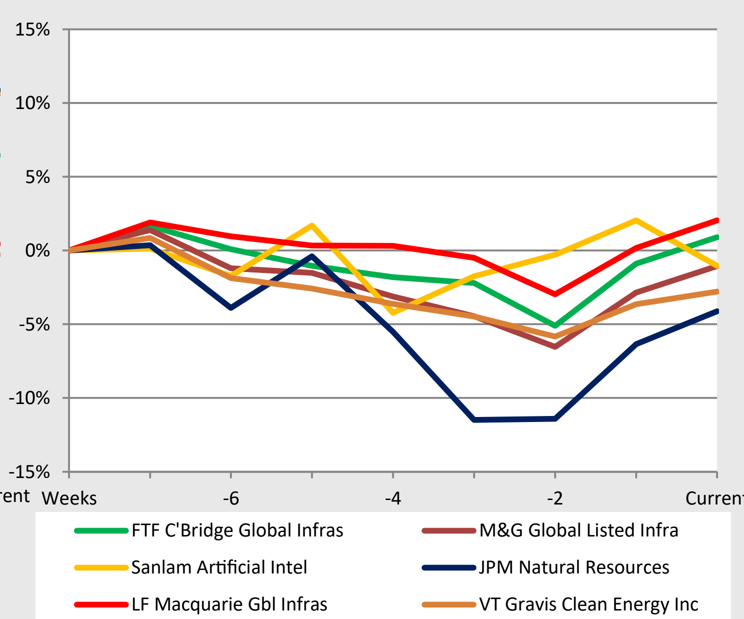
Specialist Sector - 4 Week Data

The Specialist Sector contains funds that do not fit into the constraints of the mainstream sectors, so they are something of a mixed bag.
We have created our own SubZones for the funds that have a broadly similar focus - Healthcare, Financial, Gold, India, Latin America, Natural Resources, Infrastructure, Russia & Eastern Europe. All the funds are measured by their 4 Week Decile Ranking and then their Recent Weekly Deciles.

Fund	SubZone (If Applicable)	4 Week		12 Week		26 Week		Recent Weekly Deciles							
		Decile	**Return**	Decile	Return	Decile	Return	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8
LF Ruffer Gold	Gold	1	**15.8%**	1	5.0%	1	22.8%	1	1	2	1	3	8	10	10
BlackRock Gold & General	Gold	1	**20.9%**	1	3.5%	1	20.7%	1	3	1	1	10	1	10	10
SVS Sanlam Global Gold & Res	Gold	1	**20.4%**	2	3.0%	2	15.4%	1	5	1	1	9	2	10	10
Ninety One Global Gold	Gold	1	**20.5%**	2	3.1%	1	23.7%	1	5	1	1	10	1	10	10
L&G Glbl Health&Pharma Index	Healthcare	2	**4.6%**	4	-1.0%	5	0.8%	2	8	3	2	6	9	5	6
AXA Fram Health:	Healthcare	2	**2.3%**	4	-1.6%	6	-0.3%	2	9	6	3	5	10	3	4
FTF ClearBridge Global Infras	Infrastructure	2	**2.6%**	5	-2.2%	5	1.5%	3	3	9	3	2	10	5	3
M&G Global Listed Infrastructure	Infrastructure	2	**2.0%**	6	-3.2%	4	5.1%	3	4	8	5	4	9	8	4
Sanlam Artificial Intelligence		2	**3.3%**	1	5.3%	3	8.7%	9	7	1	2	10	2	6	7
JPM Natural Resources.	Nat Res	3	**1.1%**	10	-8.1%	6	-0.7%	2	2	3	9	10	2	10	7
LF Macquarie Global Infras,	Infrastructure	3	**1.6%**	3	-0.5%	3	8.9%	3	5	9	4	1	9	3	2
VT Gravis Clean Energy Income	Infrastructure	3	**0.8%**	6	-3.4%	8	-4.1%	5	7	7	4	3	9	9	6
BlackRock Dynamic Diversified		3	**1.1%**	2	0.4%	4	4.8%	7	10	2	2	2	8	2	8
AXAWF Fram Robotech		3	**0.9%**	1	3.5%	3	7.3%	10	6	2	2	9	2	7	8
First Sentier Glb Lstd Infra	Infrastructure	4	**0.1%**	6	-3.6%	4	2.5%	4	4	10	3	3	9	4	2
AXA Fram Biotech:		4	**0.4%**	7	-4.6%	9	-6.8%	4	8	8	2	8	8	6	4
CT Monthly Extra Inc		4	**0.4%**	3	-0.9%	3	10.3%	5	8	3	6	5	8	1	5
CT Diversified Monthly Income 2		4	**0.3%**	2	0.8%	4	2.8%	6	10	4	4	2	7	1	7
Pictet-Biotech		4	**0.3%**	10	-7.7%	10	-11.0%	7	7	7	3	10	4	6	6
BGF World Energy D4 GBP	Nat Res	5	**-1.1%**	5	-2.8%	8	-5.5%	2	2	5	10	7	3	5	10
HSBC Monthly Inc		5	**-0.2%**	3	-0.5%	2	11.6%	4	8	4	6	4	6	2	6
CG Absolute Return		5	**-0.4%**	4	-1.2%	5	0.9%	6	10	4	4	3	5	3	8
Baring German Growth.		5	**-0.9%**	2	2.1%	1	21.7%	8	3	4	7	3	3	3	2
Pictet-Water	Nat Res	5	**-0.8%**	6	-3.5%	6	0.0%	8	4	5	5	7	6	7	3
Royal London UK Income + Grth		6	**-1.4%**	5	-2.0%	2	11.0%	4	7	5	7	4	7	3	5
LF Canlife UK Equity and Bond Inc		6	**-1.2%**	4	-1.6%	3	10.2%	5	5	6	8	5	6	2	6
Stewart Inv Asia Pac Ldrs		6	**-1.3%**	5	-2.9%	7	-2.6%	7	10	4	5	5	6	8	8
BGF Sustainable Energy		6	**-1.3%**	3	-0.9%	2	10.5%	9	4	2	6	6	3	6	4
Baring Korea:		6	**-1.6%**	8	-6.1%	5	1.0%	10	7	3	3	7	7	7	9

The charts below show the 8 week performance of the leading funds in the Specialist sector table above.





Leading funds in Q1

The table below shows the top 20 funds, based on their performance in the first quarter of the year.

In the final quarter of 2022, the best performing funds were from the Europe excluding UK sector. At the top of the table were the LF Brook Continental European and Schroder European Recovery funds which had both gone up by over 20% during October, November and December.

There were also funds from the Europe including UK, European Smaller Companies, UK All Companies and Specialist sectors in our top 20.

There are a couple of European funds that also made it into the top 20 for the first quarter of 2023, BlackRock Continental Europe and Alliaz Continental European. However the leading funds are all from the Technology and Technology Innovations sector.

At the top of the table is the T. Rowe Price Global Technology Equity fund with a three-month return of 21%.

Fund Name	Jan % Return	Feb % Return	March % Return	3 month return
T. Rowe Price Global Tech Equity	11.6	3.3	5.0	21.0
Liontrust Global Technology	7.8	4.9	5.9	19.8
Polar Capital Global Tech	10.2	1.8	6.5	19.4
L&G Global Technology Index	7.7	2.5	7.8	19.1
Pictet - Robotics	11.1	1.7	4.9	18.5
New Capital US Growth	10.7	-1.2	7.1	17.2
Fidelity Global Technology	11.9	0.1	3.9	16.4
Janus Henderson Glb Tech Leaders	9.0	1.7	4.7	16.1
Invesco Global Focus	9.2	-0.1	5.8	15.4
Pictet Digital	11.8	-1.5	4.7	15.3
AXA WF Robotech	10.1	0.5	3.5	14.5
Sanlam Global Artificial Intelligence	8.0	1.2	4.1	13.8
Baillie Gifford L/T Global Growth	10.9	-1.5	3.9	13.5
BlackRock Continental Europe	6.8	3.4	2.3	13.0
Guinness Global Innovators	8.2	-1.0	5.3	12.9
Ninety One UK Special Situations	9.4	6.4	-3.0	12.8
Allianz Continental European	5.5	3.0	3.8	12.8
FTF Martin Currie US Unconstrained	6.4	2.0	3.7	12.6
AXA Framlington Global Technology	7.5	1.6	2.8	12.3
FTF Martin Currie Global Unconstrained	6.3	1.9	3.4	12.0

Data source: Morningstar

If you are managing your own investments, but need fixed tariff financial planning, then Saltydog have negotiated special rates for subscribers with IFA firm JPM Asset Management Ltd. For more information give them a call on 01184 181818, or visit their website www.jpmasset.co.uk

WHAT'S HOT AND WHAT'S NOT

GOING UP

Sterling climbs to 10-month high

Gold hits $2000 / oz

Bitcoin goes back above $30,000

UK annual inflation rose to 10.4% in February

Finland joins NATO taking membership to 31.

GOING DOWN

Protests in Paris over pension reforms

IMF lowers growth forecasts

OPEC cuts oil production

Donald Trump indicted on fraud charges

Nigel Lawson RIP