



IRONBARK CAPITAL

ABN 89 008 108 227

IRONBARK CAPITAL LIMITED

APPENDIX 4D

FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2023

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The documents comprise the information required under Listing Rule 4.2A and should be read in conjunction with the Annual Report as at 30 June 2023.

IRONBARK CAPITAL LIMITED

Results for Announcement to the Market

Half Year Ended 31 December 2023

The previous corresponding period is the half-year ended 31 December 2022. The Half-Year Financial Report has been subject to review by the Company's auditors.

- Net profit after tax for the half-year was \$2.3 million, down 47.0% from the \$4.4 million profit in the previous corresponding period.
- Investment revenue from ordinary activities, which includes net realised and unrealised gains was \$3.0 million, 50.1% down from the \$6.1 million in the previous corresponding period. The main contributor to this result was the unrealised gains for this half year period of \$0.4 million compared to the record \$4.0 million from the half year for the prior year. Dividends, distributions and interest for the half year was up 11.0% on the previous corresponding period.
- NTA per share before provision for tax on unrealised gains was \$0.577, up 0.9% compared to \$0.572 from the previous period. The NTA is after payment of fully franked dividends of 2.35 cents per share since the previous corresponding period.
- NTA per share after provision for tax on unrealised gains was \$0.568, up 1.4% compared to \$0.560 from the previous period. The NTA is after payment of fully franked dividends of 2.35 cents per share since the previous corresponding period.
- The final fully franked dividend for the 2023 financial year was 1.25 cents per share which was paid on 27 September 2023.
- The interim dividend payable in this financial year is 1.1 cents per share, fully franked. This has been declared since the period end for ordinary shareholders on the register as at 5 March 2024. This is payable on 27 March 2024.
- The interim dividend for the corresponding period was 1.1 cents per share fully franked and was paid in March 2023.
- The Dividend Reinvestment Plan remains suspended.

Chairman's Commentary

The December half year saw the market end at near an all-time high, showing resilience in light of inflationary and cost of living pressures, and with an unemployment rate still at low levels.

Investment Performance

For the half year to 31 December 2023, the portfolio returned 5.7% inclusive of franking credits, outperforming the Benchmark by 0.5%. The Benchmark on an annual basis is the 1-year swap rate + 6%p.a. This was a satisfactory result with performance achieved with a portfolio that has a lower volatility than the market. The performance over 3 years of 10.2% p.a. and over 5 years of 9.1% p.a. inclusive of franking credits, exceeds their benchmark returns by 1.9% and 1.5% respectively, and has been achieved in times of continuing economic uncertainty.

The Investment Manager's report by Kaplan Funds Management (KFM) which follows the Chairman's Report, sets out in detail the investment experience in this FY24 half year.

Results for the Half Year & Interim Dividend

The profit after tax of \$2.3 million was down 47.0% from the \$4.4 million achieved in the previous corresponding year. The unrealised gains of \$0.4 million in the current period could not match the \$4.0 million unrealised gain achieved in the prior year and contributed greatly to the change in this half year's result. Whilst dividend income fell 7% in part due to some lower payout ratios, interest income increased 121.4% thanks to the higher interest rates achieved through our Hybrid and Corporate Note holdings.

The Banks and Property sectors delivered the best performance whilst Materials and Energy delivered a mixed performance subject to the underlying energy and resource prices.

NTA per share before provision for tax on unrealised gains was \$0.577, up 0.9% compared to \$0.572 from the previous period.

Since the end of the half-year, the Directors have declared a fully franked dividend of 1.1 cents per share to be paid on 27 March 2024.

Capital Management

In accordance with the Company's capital management program, the program was extended for a further 12 months in July 2023 until 19 July 2024. This provides the mechanism for the Company to buy back its shares during prolonged periods of share price volatility when there is a significant discount to underlying NTA. 358,603 shares were bought in the half year to 31 December 2023. Since half-year end, 344,997 shares have been bought in the on-market share buy-back. Since this buy-back commenced in July 2022, 1.2 million shares have been repurchased at an average discount of 21%, with a resultant positive impact on NTA.

Investment Management Agreement

As indicated to the Market in early December, following a review of the Investment Management Agreement, which was last undertaken almost 10 years ago, the management fees will change effective 1 January 2024 from 0.4% p.a. to 0.6% p.a. with the removal of the performance fee. We believe this is a competitive investment management fee by way of comparison with our peers. Historically, Ironbark's management fee has been higher at 0.65% p.a. with a performance fee.

The Outlook

The recent fall in inflation from its high, and the prospect of interest rate cuts expected to commence sometime in the 2024 calendar year, led to a rally in the share market in the closing months of the half year. However, whilst inflation still remains higher than the RBA target and with the associated cost of living pressures, uncertain and challenging times will continue. The Ironbark portfolio remains well positioned to deliver fully franked dividends and satisfactory returns within an acceptable risk profile in this environment. The Hybrid & Corporate Bond portfolio will continue to benefit from the high interest rates in the near term.

Michael J Cole AM
Chairman

Investment Manager Report –half year to 31 December 2023

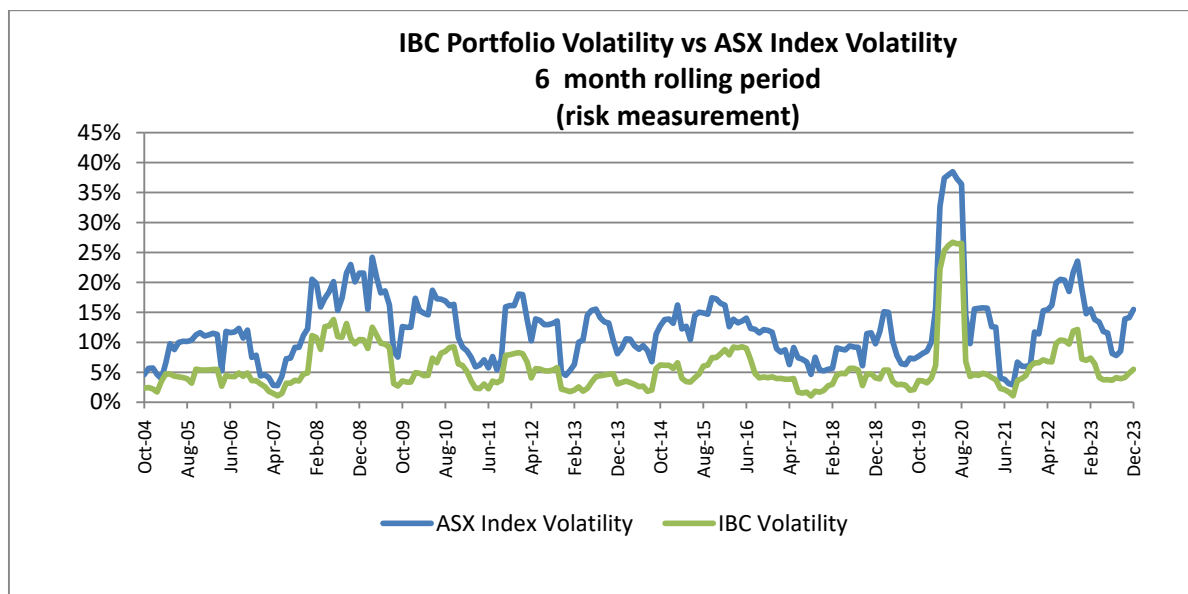
The manager’s focus is to deliver consistent returns and a high fully franked dividend yield from the portfolio. IBC’s performance benchmark is the 1-year swap rate plus 6% per annum.

Performance measurement includes franking credits and option premium income. Franking credits are a significant source of return from IBC’s hybrid investments and for shareholders. Option premium income is generated from buy & write activity and varies with market conditions. Over the half year, realised option premium income was around \$0.58m (0.95% of the portfolio). The calculation of the portfolio’s current running yield of 6.7% excludes option income because realised option premiums are highly variable from year to year.

The IBC portfolio recorded a good return of 5.66% over the half year, outperforming its benchmark return of 5.22% (1 year swap rate +6%pa). The ASX 300 Accumulation Index gained 7.45% over the six-month period with volatility/risk almost 3 times higher than IBC’s portfolio. Since inception, covering 21 years including several crisis periods, the portfolio achieved a return of 9.1%pa with 52% of equity market risk measured in terms of volatility.

<i>PERFORMANCE TO 31/12/23</i>	Inception	10 Yr	5 Yr	3 Yr	2 Yr	1 Yr	6 Mths
<i>FUM \$62.2m</i>	20yrs % pa	% pa	% pa	% pa	% pa	% pa	%
IBC pre fees plus franking	9.09	7.56	9.14	10.20	8.78	7.77	5.66
1 yr swap +6%	<u>9.53</u>	<u>7.87</u>	<u>7.66</u>	<u>8.32</u>	<u>9.43</u>	<u>10.17</u>	<u>5.22</u>
Relative performance	-0.44	-0.31	1.48	1.88	-0.65	-2.40	0.45
volatility IBC	7.2	7.6	9.6	6.2	7.0	4.6	5.5
volatility ASX300	13.7	14.1	16.7	13.6	16.3	13.0	15.5
ASX 300 Accum	9.02	7.91	10.27	8.99	4.95	12.13	7.45
Vol relative to ASX	52%	54%	57%	45%	43%	35%	36%

IBC’s focus on income generation and capital preservation from a balanced portfolio structure has delivered relatively lower volatility and very good risk adjusted returns compared to the equities market.



Portfolio

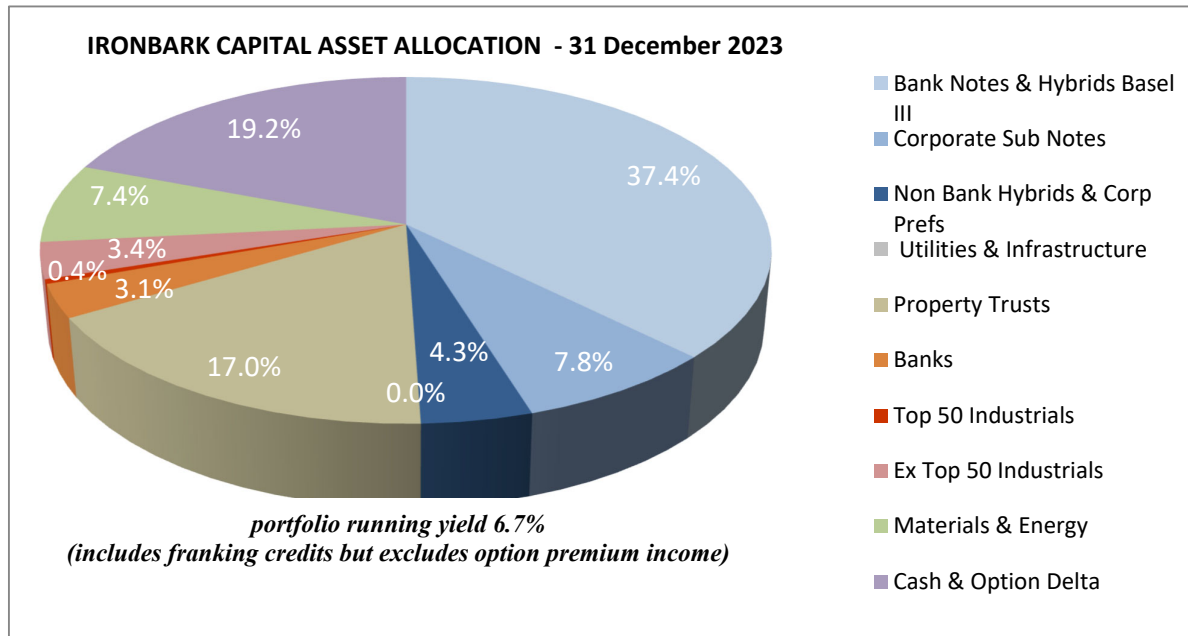
The portfolio is structured with an emphasis on income through yield orientated securities (hybrids and corporate bonds, utilities, property trusts) and buy & write positions in leading companies. The portfolio’s running yield was 6.7% inclusive of franking credits but excluding option premium income.

The buy & write strategy involves buying selective shares and selling, subject to appropriate timing, call options over those shares. This strategy gives away some of the upside potential from a shareholding but generates option premium income consistent with the income emphasis of the portfolio.

The portfolio is diversified across 21 different entities. Higher risk exposures in banks, industrials and resources are largely held through buy & write option positions for income enhancement or added protection. The portfolio’s hybrid and corporate bond holdings are mostly floating rate securities with little duration risk.

Approximately 49.5% of the portfolio was held in hybrids and corporate bonds, and 26% in buy & writes in Banks, Telstra, BHP and Woodside that reduces to 8.7% exposure after option delta. The balance was represented by 17% in property trusts, 3.4% in mid-cap and small industrial companies, 2.2% in small resources and 19.2% held in cash & option delta.

Asset allocation reflects a cautious stance.

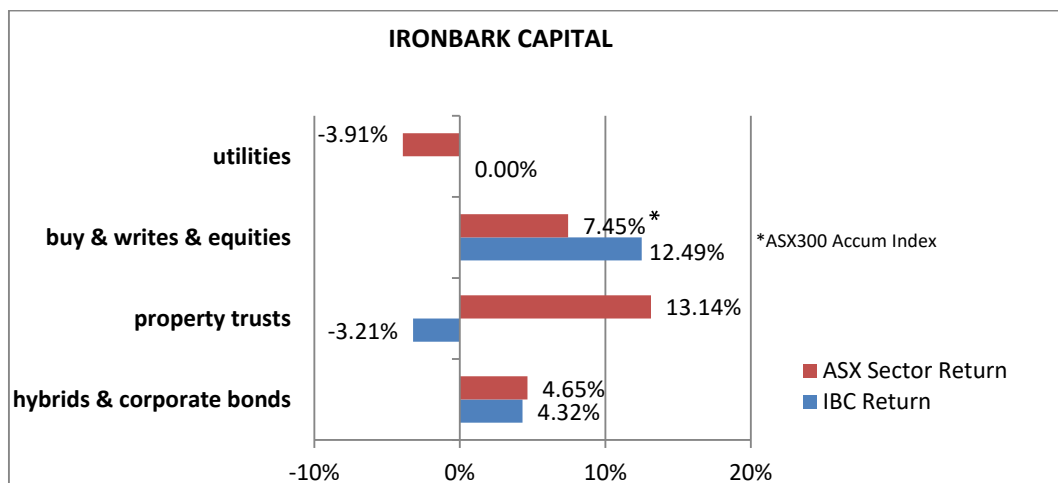
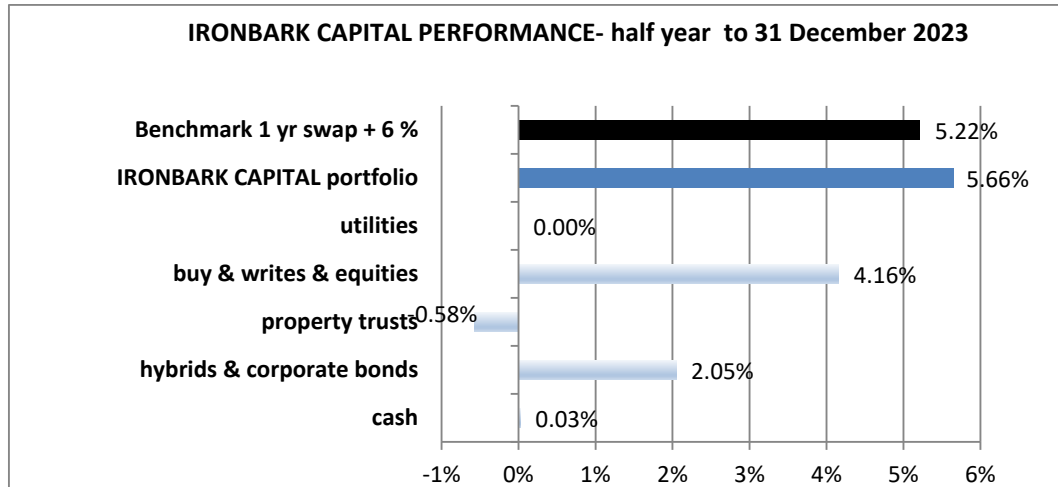


Portfolio Performance-half year to 31 December 2023

The portfolio recorded a return of 5.66% over the six-month period. Buy & writes in resources and banks delivered strong gains of 12.5%. Hybrids and corporate bonds representing around 50% of the portfolio returned 4.3%, benefiting from high floating rate distributions. Property trusts detracted from returns with the portfolio holdings more weighted towards long-leased properties underperforming.

The portfolio increased its exposure to hybrids and corporate bonds by 4% to 49.5%. Investments were made in wholesale floating rate subordinate notes through new issuance by NAB, CBA, Suncorp on margins of 280bps, 205bps and 235bps respectively above the 90-day bill rate. The portfolio participated in the new Westpac hybrid (WBCPM) issued on a margin of 310bps. The holding in Qube subordinated notes matured.

Over the past 12 months the manager has tilted the portfolio towards higher ranking subordinated debt rather than hybrids to improve the risk return and liquidity profile of the fixed interest component of the portfolio. The overall running yield on hybrids and corporate bonds in portfolio was an attractive 7.1%.



Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227
Portfolio Shareholdings as at 31 December 2023

Portfolio Shareholdings at 31 December 2023

ASX Code	Security	Market Value* \$'000	% of portfolio	% exposure**
Banks				
ANZ	ANZ Banking Group Limited	2,923	4.7	1.6
CBA	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Limited	1,440	2.3	0.1
WBC	Westpac Banking Corporation Limited	2,003	3.2	0.7
		6,366	10.2	2.4
Hybrids & Corporate Bonds				
ALD26/27	Ampol Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	2,311	3.7	3.7
AN3PI/PJ/PK	ANZ Banking Group Limited - Capital Notes	874	1.4	1.4
ANZ29	ANZ Banking Group Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	1,065	1.7	1.7
AUS25	AusNet Services Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	1,021	1.6	1.6
AYUPA	Australian Unity Limited - Fixed Mutual Capital Instrument	1,025	1.7	1.7
BOQPF	Bank of Queensland Limited - Capital Notes	579	0.9	0.9
CBA27/28	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	9,320	15.0	15.0
CBAP/PM	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Limited - Capital Notes	1,021	1.6	1.6
IAGPE	Insurance Australia Group Limited - Capital Notes	830	1.3	1.3
MAC25/27	Macquarie Bank Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	1,030	1.8	1.8
MBLPC	Macquarie Bank Limited - Capital Notes	631	1.1	1.1
MQGPD/PF	Macquarie Group Limited - Capital Notes	1,321	2.2	2.2
NABPF/PH/PI/PJ	National Australia Bank Limited - Capital Notes	2,183	3.5	3.5
NAB25	National Australia Bank Limited - Capital Notes (Unlisted)	513	0.8	0.8
NAB29	National Australia Bank Limited - Fixed Capital Notes (Unlisted)	430	0.7	0.7
NAB27	National Australia Bank Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	524	0.8	0.8
QBE29	QBE Insurance Group Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	521	0.8	0.8
RHCPA	Ramsay Healthcare Limited - Perpetual Preference Securities	805	1.3	1.3
SUNPG	Suncorp Group Limited - Capital Notes	1,574	2.5	2.5
SUN27/29	Suncorp Group Limited - Subordinated Notes (Unlisted)	1,525	2.5	2.5
WBCPK/PM	Westpac Banking Corporation Limited - Capital Notes	1,670	2.7	2.7
		30,773	49.6	49.6
Materials & Energy				
BHP	BHP Billiton Limited	7,023	11.4	2.2
SMR	Stanmore Resources Limited	1,384	2.2	2.2
WDS	Woodside Energy Group Limited	1,265	2.0	1.8
		9,672	15.6	6.2
Property				
AUHW	Australian Unity Healthcare Wholesale Fund (Unlisted)	3,270	5.3	5.3
CIP	Centuria Industrial REIT	92	0.1	0.1
CLW	Charter Hall Long WALE REIT	3,348	5.4	5.4
WPR	Waypoint REIT	3,875	6.2	6.2
		10,585	17.0	17.0
Financial Services				
SDF	Steadfast Group Limited	2,095	3.4	3.4
		2,095	3.4	3.4
Communication Services				
TLS	Telstra Group Limited	292	0.5	0.4
		292	0.5	0.4
Cash				
		2,328	3.7	21.0
		62,111	100.0	100.0

*Includes market value of options written against holdings

**Includes option delta written against holdings

Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227

Financial Report
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

Directors	Michael Cole AM, Chairman Neal Hornsby Sam Kaplan
Company Secretary	Jill Brewster
Principal Registered Office	Suite 607 180 Ocean Street Edgecliff NSW 2027 Telephone: (02) 8917 0399
Share Registrar	Boardroom Pty Limited GPO Box 3993 Sydney NSW 2001 Shareholder enquiries telephone: (02) 9290 9600
Investment Manager	Kaplan Funds Management Pty Limited Suite 607 180 Ocean Street Edgecliff NSW 2027 Telephone: (02) 8917 0300
Accounting & Administration	Kaplan Funds Management Pty Limited Suite 607 180 Ocean Street Edgecliff NSW 2027 Telephone: (02) 8917 0399 Fax: (02) 8917 0355
Auditors	MNSA Pty Ltd Level 1 283 George Street Sydney NSW 2000
Website	www.ironbarkcapital.com
Company Secretarial & all other enquiries	Telephone: (02) 8917 0399 Email: enquiries@ironbarkcapital.com
Stock Exchange	Australian Securities Exchange ASX code: IBC

Directors' Report

The Directors present their report on the Company for the half-year ended 31 December 2023.

Directors

The following persons were Directors of Ironbark Capital Limited during the period and up to the date of this report:

Michael Cole AM, Chairman
Neal Hornsby (appointed 1 August 2023)
Ian Hunter (retired 3 November 2023)
Sam Kaplan

Review of Operations

The profit from ordinary activities after tax for the half-year to 31 December 2023 was \$2.3 million, down 47% from the \$4.4 million in the corresponding period last year. Gains of \$0.9 million were realised predominantly from the trading of call options and sales in the materials & energy sector. The late rally in the stock market at the end of the half year resulted in unrealised gains of \$0.4 million, well down on the record unrealised gains of the comparative half year. The increase in interest of 121% reflects the higher interest rates from the portfolio of listed hybrids and unlisted subordinated notes. The decrease in dividend income of 7% is in part due to some lower payout ratios.

The net tangible asset backing after tax for each ordinary share as at 31 December 2023 amounted to \$0.568 per share (2022: \$0.560 per share).

A fully franked dividend of 1.1 cents per share has been declared since the end of the half-year and is payable on 27 March 2024.

In accordance with the Company's announcement of an extension to the on-market share buy-back earlier in the year for up to 10% of the Company's shares over 12 months, 358,603 shares were bought in the period to 31 December 2023. Since half-year end, 344,997 shares have been bought in the on-market share buy-back. The program is on-going until 19 July 2024.

Rounding of amounts

The Company is of a kind referred to in Instrument 2016/191 issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the Directors' Report and Financial Report. Amounts in the Directors' Report and Financial Report have been rounded off in accordance with that instrument to the nearest thousand dollars, or in certain cases, to the nearest dollar.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 12.

This report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



Michael J Cole AM
Chairman
Sydney
16 February 2024



IRONBARK CAPITAL LIMITED
ABN 89 008 108 227

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE *CORPORATIONS ACT 2001*
TO THE DIRECTORS OF IRONBARK CAPITAL LIMITED

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the half-year ended 31 December 2023 there have been no contraventions of:

- i. the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and
- ii. any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

MNSA Pty Ltd

MNSA Pty Ltd

Mark Schiliro
Director

Sydney
16th February 2024

Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other
Comprehensive Income
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Half-year ended	
		31 December	31 December
		2023	2022
		\$'000	\$'000
Investment income from trading portfolio			
Revenue	3	1,757	1,583
Net gain on trading portfolio	3	1,290	4,528
Total investment income from trading portfolio		3,047	6,111
Expenses			
Management fees		(126)	(124)
Performance fees		-	(300)
Brokerage expense		(11)	(9)
Accounting fees		(35)	(28)
Share registry fees		(18)	(16)
Custody fees		(15)	(13)
Tax fees		(8)	(8)
Directors' liability insurance		(17)	(18)
Legal fees		-	(5)
Directors' fees		(30)	(25)
ASX fees		(23)	(22)
Audit fees		(17)	(16)
Option fees		(7)	(6)
Other expenses		(29)	(26)
Total expenses		(336)	(616)
Profit before income tax		2,711	5,495
Income tax expense		(371)	(1,082)
Net profit for the period		2,340	4,413
Other comprehensive income for the period net of tax		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the period		2,340	4,413
		Cents	Cents
Basic and diluted earnings per share	6	2.14	4.01

The above Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	31 December 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		2,328	647
Trade and other receivables		132	285
Trading portfolio		59,783	60,170
Other assets		43	6
Total current assets		62,286	61,108
Non-current assets			
Deferred tax assets		1,241	1,563
Total non-current assets		1,241	1,563
Total assets		63,527	62,671
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables		66	65
Current tax liabilities		264	317
Total current liabilities		330	382
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred tax liabilities		977	875
Total non-current liabilities		977	875
Total liabilities		1,307	1,257
Net assets		62,220	61,414
Equity			
Issued capital	7	60,086	60,250
Profit reserve		10,721	9,751
Accumulated losses		(8,587)	(8,587)
Total equity		62,220	61,414

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Issued capital \$'000	Profit reserve \$'000	Accumulated losses \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2023		60,250	9,751	(8,587)	61,414
Profit for the period		-	-	2,340	2,340
Transfer to profit reserve		-	2,340	(2,340)	-
Total comprehensive income for the period		60,250	12,091	(8,587)	63,754
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends paid	5	-	(1,370)	-	(1,370)
Buy-back of shares	7(b)	(164)	-	-	(164)
Balance at 31 December 2023		60,086	10,721	(8,587)	62,220
Balance at 1 July 2022		60,475	6,869	(8,587)	58,757
Profit for the period		-	-	4,413	4,413
Transfer to profit reserve		-	4,413	(4,413)	-
Total comprehensive income for the period		60,475	11,282	(8,587)	63,170
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends paid	5	-	(1,377)	-	(1,377)
Buy-back of shares	7(b)	(8)	-	-	(8)
Balance at 31 December 2022		60,467	9,905	(8,587)	61,785

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227
Statement of Cash Flows
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Half-year ended	
		31 December	31 December
		2023	2022
		\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Interest received		518	200
Net proceeds of trading portfolio		1,677	1,051
Dividends & trust distributions received		1,394	1,469
Other income received		-	1
Management fees paid		(125)	(121)
Other expenses paid		(249)	(223)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		3,215	2,377
Cash flows from financing activities			
Dividends paid to shareholders	5	(1,370)	(1,377)
Payment for shares bought back	7(b)	(164)	(8)
Net cash outflow from financing activities		(1,534)	(1,385)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,681	992
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		647	1,299
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period		2,328	2,291

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

1. Basis of preparation of half-year report

This general purpose interim financial report for the half-year ended 31 December 2023 has been prepared in accordance with requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting*. The Company is a for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

This interim financial report is intended to provide users with an update on the latest annual financial statements of Ironbark Capital Limited. It is therefore recommended that this financial report be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2023, together with any public announcements made during the following half-year. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year end and corresponding interim reporting period.

This interim financial report was authorised for issue on 16 February 2024.

2. Segment information

The Company has only one reportable segment. The Company operates predominantly in Australia and in one industry being the securities industry, deriving revenue from dividend income, interest income and from the sale of its trading portfolio.

3. Revenue

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023 \$'000	31 December 2022 \$'000
Dividends	968	1,042
Interest	476	215
Distributions	313	325
Other income	-	1
	1,757	1,583
<i>Net gains on trading portfolio</i>		
Net realised gains on trading portfolio	922	522
Net unrealised gains on trading portfolio	368	4,006
	1,290	4,528
	3,047	6,111

4. Fair value measurements

The Company measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy (consistent with the hierarchy applied to financial assets and financial liabilities):

- (a) quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1)
- (b) inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices) (level 2), and

4. Fair value measurements (continued)

- (c) inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

The following table presents the Company's financial assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value according to the fair value hierarchy at 31 December 2023:

31 December 2023

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets				
Trading portfolio	38,251	21,532	-	59,783
Total	<u>38,251</u>	<u>21,532</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,783</u>

30 June 2023

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets				
Trading portfolio	42,750	17,420	-	60,170
Total	<u>42,750</u>	<u>17,420</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,170</u>

There were no transfers between levels for recurring fair value measurements during the period. The Company's policy is to recognise transfers into and out of fair value hierarchy as at the end of the reporting period.

5. Dividends

(a) Ordinary Shares

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023 \$'000	31 December 2022 \$'000
Dividends provided for or paid during the half-year	<u>1,370</u>	<u>1,377</u>

Since the end of the half-year, the Directors have declared a fully franked dividend of 1.1 cents per share to be paid on 27 March 2024. The aggregate amount of \$1.202 million has not been recognised as a liability at the end of the period.

(b) Dividend rate

Dividends provided for or paid are fully franked at 25% tax rate (2023: 25%).

6. Earnings per share

(a) Basic and diluted earnings per share

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
	Cents	Cents
From continuing operations attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the company	2.14	4.01

(b) Weighted average number of shares used as denominator

	Half-year ended	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
	Number	Number
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating basic and diluted earnings per share	109,533,071	110,144,709

7. Issued capital

(a) Issued capital

	31 December 2023 Shares	30 June 2023 Shares	31 December 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Ordinary shares - fully paid	109,299,498	109,658,101	60,086	60,250

(b) Movements in ordinary share capital

	Number of shares	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2023	109,658,101	60,250
On-market share buyback	(358,603)	(164)
Balance at 31 December 2023	109,299,498	60,086
	Number of shares	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022	110,154,394	60,475
On-market share buyback	(18,000)	(8)
Balance at 31 December 2022	110,136,394	60,467

8. Contingencies

The Investment Management Agreement entered into by the Company with Kaplan Funds Management Pty Ltd may be terminated by either party giving to the other no less than one-year written notice of its intention to do so.

The Company had no other contingent liabilities at 31 December 2023 (2022: nil).

9. Events occurring after the reporting period

Since half-year end, 344,997 shares have been bought in the on-market share buy-back. The program is on-going until 19 July 2024.

Other than the declaration of a fully franked dividend of 1.1 cents per share, as outlined in note 5, no other matter or circumstance has occurred subsequent to the period end that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company or economic entity in subsequent financial years.

Ironbark Capital Limited
ABN 89 008 108 227
Directors' Declaration
For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

In the Directors' opinion:

- (a) the Interim Financial Statements and notes set out on pages 13 to 20 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*, and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date.
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Michael J Cole AM
Chairman

Sydney
16 February 2024



IRONBARK CAPITAL LIMITED
ABN 89 008 108 227

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
IRONBARK CAPITAL LIMITED
ABN 89 008 108 227**

Conclusion

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Ironbark Capital Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the half-year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the accompanying half-year financial report of Ironbark Capital Limited does not comply with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Ironbark Capital Limited financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134: *Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410: *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity*. Our responsibilities are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of Ironbark Capital Limited in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Responsibility of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of Ironbark Capital Limited are responsible for the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Review of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134: *Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001*.



A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

MNSA PTY LTD

MNSA Pty Ltd

Mark Schiliro
Director

Sydney
16th February 2024