

# Japanese Equity Fund – A Share Class

A sub-fund of Close Investments Global Funds plc  
(formerly Close Finsbury Global Investment Funds plc)

**Fund Adviser**  
Lindsell Train Limited



Michael Lindsell

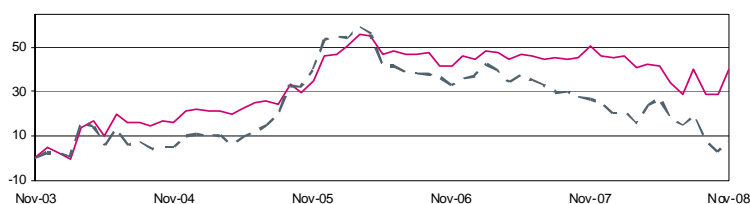
## Investment Objective

To increase real value of client capital over the longer term from a focused portfolio of equities (and if considered appropriate, convertible securities) primarily quoted on stock markets in Japan. The investment performance of the managers will be measured against the TOPIX Index (in Yen terms) and their target will be to secure out-performance over the long term.

## 5 Year Performance (GBP)

**Fund:** Japanese Equity Fund A Share Class

**Index:** Japan (TSE) First Section (TOPIX)



Source: Lipper. Percentage Growth Total Return, Gross Tax Default. Fund and Index performance has been rebased to sterling. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

## Cumulative Year Performance

	Fund%	Index%
YTD	-4.3	-12.3
1 year	-7.1	-13.3
3 years	3.7	-19.7
5 years	40.0	14.9

## Discrete Year Performance

	Fund%	Index%
2007	0.4	-7.9
2006	-0.1	-11.5
2005	20.6	39.3
2004	15.4	7.4
2003	40.5	23.3

## Standardised Discrete Performance Information

Percentage Growth	Nov 03- Nov 04	Nov 04- Nov 05	Nov 05- Nov 06	Nov 06- Nov 07	Nov 07- Nov 08
12 Month Total Return	15.7	16.8	4.5	6.7	-7.1

Source: Cumulative, Discrete and Standardised Discrete performance all sourced from Lipper. Basis: Percentage Growth, Total Return, Gross Tax Default, rebased to sterling. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

## Investment Outlook

The Fund fell marginally (0.1%), which compared favourably to the 3.7% fall in the TOPIX Index. The outperformance was mainly attributable to good performance from smaller company shares that we have been accumulating in recent months. Ozeki rose 10% following good half year business results, Meiko Network advanced 15% and Morningstar was up 22% from very depressed levels. The best of all was the Osaka Securities Exchange which ended the month 37% higher having doubled from the lowest price at which we had bought shares in October. The company confirmed the purchase of the JASDAQ small companies exchange for Y7bn, an acquisition that when combined with their small companies market, Hercules, could develop into the main liquidity pool for small companies in Japan. This would be an important additional franchise to complement the existing futures and options contracts and thus could transform the company's value over time. Other good performers in November included SFCG and Credit Saison, two of our beaten up non-bank shares, but Takefujii was a notable decliner, falling 14%.

More companies continue to take advantage of low prices to buy back shares. This month saw further announcements from Takeda, Canon, Obic Business Consultants, Mabuchi Motor and Astellas. Such activity has ensured that as much as 74% of this year's projected cash flow for our non-financial companies will be paid as dividends or use in share repurchases.

We have recently begun two new holdings: Keyence and Nomura. Keyence operates a highly successful business selling sensors for a wide variety of industrial and commercial uses. They entrust almost all of the manufacturing to others and thus take none of the capital risk. Return on capital is high and stable, as are margins, and net cash makes up at least 60% of today's valuation, making the shares cheaper than they have been since we can recall. Nomura is Japan's largest and most dominant securities broker. Its prime franchise is its unrivalled nationwide presence as a stockbroker, securities distributor and wrap account manager for Y70t of customer assets in Japan. Another attractive part of the business is its asset management division, which currently manages Y20t of bond and equity assets. Aside from this the company runs a private equity division and global investment bank, recently bolstered by the acquisition of Lehman's European operations. Today, the company is raising new capital which has contributed to its price weakness, but at 70% of its adjusted book value (to account for the cost of the Lehman acquisition) and a 4% plus dividend yield it seems a good juncture to begin a new position.

Figures sourced from Lipper. Figures quoted in Japanese Yen (local currency)

## Biography

Michael Lindsell is the Investment Adviser to the Japanese Equity Fund. Michael's career and interest in Japanese equities started over 20 years ago at Lazard Brothers. Successful roles as a Japanese equities fund manager and Head of Japanese equities followed at Scimitar Asset Management Hong Kong, Warburg Asset Management and GT Management's Tokyo office followed over the next 15 years. After being relocated to the UK in 1997, he was appointed head of the combined global product team following the acquisition of GT by INVESCO in 1998. 18 months later, Michael left to establish Lindsell Train Limited, together with Nick Train in 2000.

## Adviser Profile

Lindsell Train Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, was formed in December 2000 by Michael Lindsell and Nick Train who worked together at GT Management from 1992 through to GT's takeover by INVESCO in 1998. Both Michael Lindsell and Nick Train went on to fulfil senior roles at INVESCO and M&G PLC respectively, where they continued to develop an in depth knowledge of investment processes and the worlds' stockmarkets. Their shared investment philosophy is to invest in durable businesses that are significantly under priced or less durable businesses that are valued by the market at a significant discount to their net balance sheet financial assets. This is achieved by choosing a concentrated portfolio of stocks with the intention of holding them for the medium to long term. They have £443m funds under management as at June 2008.

## Investment Policy

The Japanese Equity Fund is an actively managed fund investing in a select portfolio of between 20 to 30 stocks. The investment style is bottom-up, where companies are screened to find good medium-term growth prospects, strong balance sheets and attractive valuations.

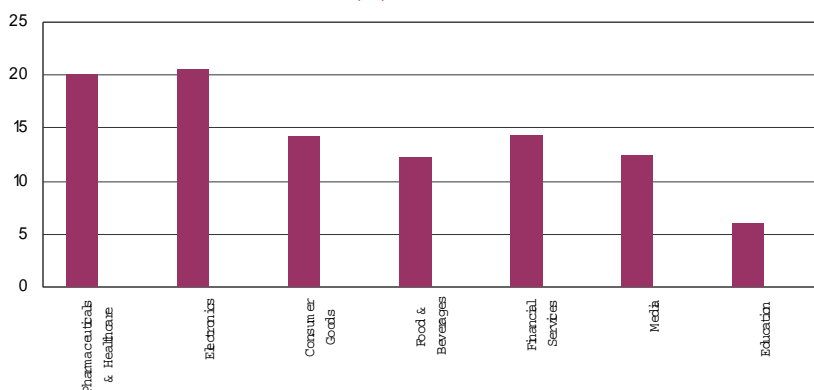
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### Ten Largest Holdings as at 30/11/2008 (%)

Name		Total
Nintendo	Media	8.9
Canon	Electronics	8.0
Astellas Pharma	Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare	7.7
Kao	Consumer Goods	7.6
Meiko Network Japan	Education	6.1
Osaka Securities Exchange	Financial Services	4.9
Ito En Ltd	Food & Beverages	4.8
Obic Business Consultants	Electronics	4.5
Takeda Pharmaceutical	Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare	4.3
Kirin Brewery	Food & Beverages	4.0
		<b>60.8</b>

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Close Investments Limited

### Sector Breakdown as at 30/11/2008 (%)



### Share Price Total Return on £100 (£)

YTD	95.7
1 year	92.9
3 years	103.7
5 years	140.0

Source: Close Investments Limited

### Risk Warning

The information contained herein concerns a sub-fund of Close Investments Global Funds plc, an open ended investment company domiciled in Ireland and a recognised collective investment scheme for the purposes of the UK Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, which is managed by Close Investments Limited. Any opinions on individual stocks are those of the Fund's Investment Adviser and no reliance should be placed on any such views. Any research in this document has been procured and may have been acted upon by Lindsell Train Limited for its own purposes. The results are being made available to you only incidentally. The views expressed herein do not constitute investment or any other advice and are subject to change. They do not necessarily reflect the views of any company in the Close Brothers Group or any part thereof and no assurances are made as to their accuracy. The performance information set out above refers to the past. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. An investor may not get back the original amount invested. The returns on the Japanese Equity may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be achieved and investment results may vary substantially over time. This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase shares in the Fund and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation.

Please note that the views and information expressed should not be taken as a recommendation or advice on how the Fund or any holding mentioned is likely to perform. If you wish to obtain financial advice as to whether an investment is or remains suitable for your needs you should consult a financial advisor.

Issued by Close Investments Limited

December 2008

As at 30 November 2008

## Fast Facts

<b>Launch Date</b>	30/10/1998
<b>Benchmark</b>	Japan (TSE) First Section (TOPIX)
<b>Charges</b>	4.5% Initial
<b>Annual Management Charge</b>	1.5% Payable by the Fund
<b>Performance fee</b>	20% of the amount by which NAV growth has exceeded the growth in the benchmark

## Fund Characteristics

<b>Number of Holdings</b>	36
<b>Total Fund Value (Million)</b>	10.3GBP/1.5bnYen 31.8GBP (A+B) 4.7bnYen (A+B)
<b>Yield</b>	N/A
<b>Currency</b>	Yen
<b>Fund Type</b>	OEIC
<b>Price</b>	1.1000GBP 160.7664Yen
<b>Dealing</b>	Daily

## Codes

<b>Sedol</b>	0438418
<b>ISIN</b>	IE0004384180
<b>Bloomberg</b>	FINJEQI ID

## How to Invest

Minimum Investment Yen200,000 Lump Sum  
Yen20,000 Top-up

### New contact details

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