



# Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC

Managed by  
Frostrow Capital LLP

Investment Manager  
Lindsell Train Limited



Nick Train

Fund Information as at 31 October 2008

[www.finsburygt.com](http://www.finsburygt.com)

## Investment Objective and Benchmark Index

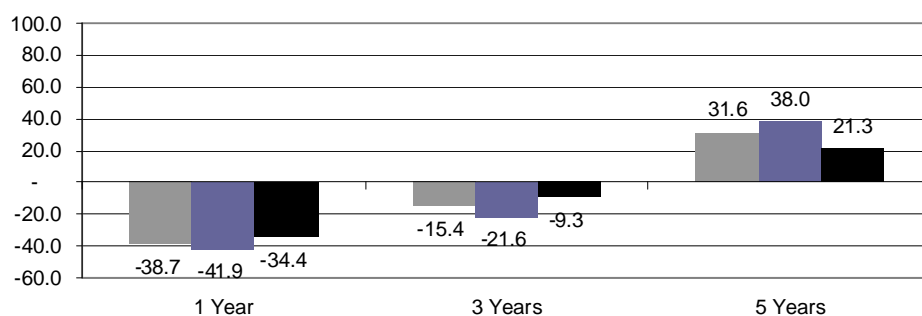
Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC invests in the shares of UK listed companies with the objective of achieving capital and income growth and providing a total return in excess of that of its benchmark, the FTSE All-Share Index (net dividends reinvested).

## Cumulative Performance (%)

Trust: Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC – NAV (total return)

Trust: Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC – Share Price (total return)

Index: FTSE All-Share Index (net dividends reinvested)



## Discrete Performance – Calendar Years (%)

Percentage Growth	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	YTD
NAV	22.4	31.4	21.7	22.0	-3.5	-33.9
Share Price	27.6	43.4	29.2	20.5	-10.3	-34.4
Index	20.9	12.8	22.0	16.8	5.3	-31.3

Source: Fundamental Data. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

## Investment Outlook

During the month of October the NAV fell 7.5% while the index fell 11.9%.

After another horrendous month for the stock market shareholders will perhaps forgive us if we focus here on what we regard as positive recent developments. We were pleased that HBOS preference shares closed the month essentially unchanged, implying, we hope, that investors believe the merger with Lloyds will proceed and that this will significantly improve the security of the preference dividends. During the month we switched another third of our HBOS ordinary shares into Lloyds, believing that if the deal consummates Lloyds will be an attractive investment, but if it founders HBOS ordinary shares would fall materially. Remaining exposure to HBOS ords is less than 0.5%.

We are pleased to note the absolute share price gains in October of a number of major holdings – Barr, Cadbury, Diageo and Pearson all made progress. In one way or another all these companies have “defensive” qualities – consumption of chocolate or education does not vary much, even in a recession. We hope, though, that these shares can make further gains once sentiment improves across the market. It seems likely that both short and long term interest rates will fall and such a decline in the discount rate is typically helpful for the valuation of this type of company – offering stable growth and above average returns on equity. The recent dramatic fluctuations in shares in more cyclical companies, such as commodity extractors, suggests that investors may turn to the more sedate, but predictable charms of other key FGIT holdings, such as Reed, Sage and Unilever. We hope so.

## Biography

**Nick Train** began his career as an Investment Manager at GT Management in 1981, having graduated from Queen’s College, Oxford with a second class honours in Modern History (1977-1980). He left GT in June 1998, after 17 years, on its acquisition by INVESCO. At his resignation he was a Director of GT Management (London), Investment Director of GT Unit Managers and Chief Investment Officer for Pan-Europe. He joined M&G in September 1998, as a Director of M&G Investment Management. In June 1999 he was appointed as Head of Global Equities at M&G. He left M&G in April 2000 to co-found Lindsell Train Limited. He is investment adviser to the Worshipful Company of Saddlers.

## Investment Manager Profile

Investment management services are provided by Lindsell Train Limited (Lindsell Train). Lindsell Train was formed in December 2000. However the principals, Michael Lindsell and Nick Train had 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 world’s stock markets. 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 a small number of stocks with the intention of holding them for the medium to long term. Lindsell Train currently manages around £456m as at 30 June 2008. Lindsell Train is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

## Investment Policy

The Company has a concentrated portfolio of 25-30 stocks with a low turnover, and aims to have an above-market dividend yield. The Investment Manager uses a bottom-up stock picking approach and looks to invest in a universe of excellent UK listed businesses that appear mostly undervalued. The Company’s policy is to invest no more than 15% of its gross assets in other listed investment companies (including listed investment trusts).

## Discount Control Mechanism

The Directors have adopted an active discount management policy to establish and support an improved rating in the Company’s shares through the use of share buybacks, with a view to limiting the discount to NAV per share at which the shares trade to no more than 5%. Up to 10% of the shares bought back may be held in treasury for reissue at later dates at no more than the discount at which they were purchased.

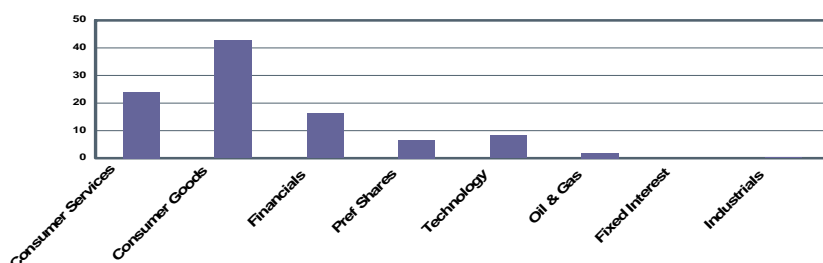
# Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC

## Ten Largest Holdings as at 31 October 2008 (% of total investments)

Name	Sector	Total
Diageo	Consumer Goods	12.7
Unilever	Consumer Goods	9.9
Barr (AG)	Consumer Goods	9.0
Cadbury	Consumer Goods	7.6
Pearson	Consumer Services	6.4
Reed Elsevier	Financials	5.5
HBOS	Consumer Services	5.5
Sage	Technology	4.8
Lloyds TSB	Financials	4.8
Rathbone Brothers	Financials	4.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>70.7</b>

HBOS shares are split: Ordinary shares 0.3% & Preference shares 5.2%

## Sector Breakdown as at 31 October 2008 (%)



## Share Price Total Return on £100 (£) as at 31 October 2008

YTD	65.6
1 year	58.1
3 years	78.4
5 years	138.0

Source: Fundamental Data. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

## Standardised Discrete Performance (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	Oct 03- Oct 04	Oct 04- Oct 05	Oct 05- Oct 06	Oct 06- Oct 07	Oct 07- Oct 08
NAV	24.7	24.8	25.5	9.8	-38.7
Share Price	35.4	30.0	23.3	9.5	-41.9
Index	11.6	19.8	21.7	13.6	-34.4

## Awards

**Highly Commended 2006 & 2007**  
Moneywise Magazine  
Category: UK Growth & Income

**Winner 2004**  
Investment Trust Magazine  
Best Growth & income Trust 2004

## Important Information

Finsbury Growth & Income Trust PLC (the "Company") is a UK investment trust listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a member of the Association of Investment Companies. As this Company may implement a gearing policy investors should be aware that the share price movement may be more volatile than movements in the price of underlying investments. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. 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. There can be no assurance that the Company'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 Company and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation. Investment Trust share prices may not fully reflect underlying net asset values. There may be a difference between the prices at which you may purchase ("the offer price") or sell ("the bid price") a share on the stock market which is known as "bid-offer" or "dealing" spread. This is set by the market makers and varies from share to share. This spread typically averages 1-2% each way on the mid-market price (the price halfway between the bid and offer prices), and can fluctuate and at times be higher than average. Net Asset Value per share is calculated in accordance with the guidelines of the Association of Investment Companies in that income received by the company in the period since the last annual accounts is excluded. Total net assets are stated inclusive of income received. Any opinions on individual stocks are those of the Company's Investment Manager and no reliance should be given 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 Frostrow Capital LLP and no assurances are made as to their accuracy.

www.finsburygt.com

## Fast facts

As at 31 October 2008

Launch Date	1926
Annual Management Fee (payable by the Trust)	0.60% of the market capitalisation plus £70,000
Performance fee	See Annual Report for details
Year / interim end	30 September/ 31 March
Capital Structure	50,858,673 Ordinary shares of 25p 1,938,750 Treasury shares

## Trust Characteristics

Number of Holdings	28
Net Assets (£m)	£96.4m
Dividend Policy	Provisional dates: May & October
Current Net Yield	5.3%
Gearing (AIC basis)	113
Share Price (p)	178.00
NAV (p) Undiluted	189.54
(Discount) / Premium Undiluted	(6.09%)
NAV (p) Fully-diluted	189.21
(Discount) / Premium Fully-diluted	(5.92%)

## Codes

Sedol	0781606
ISIN	GB0007816068
Bloomberg	FGT LN
Epic	FGT

## Private Investors

New and existing holders can access the Trust via: [www.alliancetrust.co.uk](http://www.alliancetrust.co.uk)

## How to Contact Us

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Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

