



MAPLE-BROWN ABBOTT

INVESTMENT MANAGERS SINCE 1984

Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund
ARSN 087 294 504

Interim financial report for the half year ended
31 December 2023

Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund

Interim Financial Report

Contents

Directors' report	1
Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Statement of Comprehensive Income	6
Statement of Changes in Equity	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to and forming part of the interim financial report	9
1 Summary of material accounting policies	9
2 Net assets attributable to unitholders	10
3 Distributions paid and payable	11
4 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments	11
5 Related parties	11
6 Financial instruments	12
7 Events subsequent to balance date	14
Directors' declaration	15
Independent auditor's review report to the unitholders	16

This interim financial report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and any public announcements made in respect of Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Directors' report

The directors of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited, the Responsible Entity of the Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund (the Fund), present their interim report together with the interim financial report of the Fund for the half year ended 31 December 2023 and the auditor's report thereon.

Responsible Entity

Maple-Brown Abbott Limited is the Responsible Entity of the Fund (AFSL No. 237296).

The registered office and principal place of business of the Responsible Entity and the Fund is Level 26, Tower One, International Towers, 100 Barangaroo Avenue, Barangaroo NSW 2000.

Directors

The names of the directors of the Responsible Entity during the half year and up to the date of issuance of this report are:

Name	Period of directorship
T T Robinson	Appointed 07/03/2013
R A R Lee	Appointed 22/10/2015
J A Elliott	Appointed 04/01/2017
S S Rahmani	Appointed 14/10/2019 (resigned 14 February 2024)
A R Maple-Brown	Appointed 11/05/2022
M J McQuire	Appointed 14/02/2024

Principal activities

The Fund invests in accordance with its investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the Fund's current Product Disclosure Statement and in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The Fund did not have any employees during the half year.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Fund's activities during the year.

Review and results of operations

Subject to the criteria for stock selection outlined in the Product Disclosure Statement, the Responsible Entity aims to outperform the S&P/ASX 200 Total Return Index (Benchmark), after fees, over a four-year period.

Review and results of operations (continued)

Summary of the Fund's performance after fees over the last two half years:

	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
	%	%
Total return*		
– Ordinary class	3.9	9.7
– Wholesale class	4.1	10.0
Benchmark	7.6	9.8
Distribution per unit for the half year ended (excluding tax credits) (note 3):		
– Ordinary class	0.0296	0.0306
– Wholesale class	0.0325	0.0330

*Total return is based on the movement in withdrawal value per unit plus distributions and is before tax and after all fees and charges. Imputation credits and foreign income tax offsets are not included in the performance figures.

Significant changes in state of affairs

In the opinion of the Responsible Entity, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund during the half year under review.

Likely developments

The Fund will continue with its principal activities.

Events subsequent to balance date

No significant events have occurred since the end of the interim reporting period which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position or on the results and cash flows of the Fund.

Indemnities and insurance premiums for the officers of the Responsible Entity and auditors

No insurance premiums are paid out of the assets of the Fund for insurance cover provided to the officers of the Responsible Entity or auditors of the Fund. So long as the officers of the Responsible Entity act in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and the law, the officers of the Responsible Entity are generally entitled to an indemnity out of the assets of the Fund against losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Fund. The auditors of the Fund are not indemnified out of the assets of the Fund.

Environmental legislation

The operations of the Fund are not subject to any particular or significant environmental regulation under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law.

Rounding

The Fund is of a kind referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*, and in accordance with that instrument, amounts in the financial report and the Directors' report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise stated.

Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

The lead auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 4 and forms part of the Directors' report for the half year ended 31 December 2023.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited.



Director of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited (ABN 73 001 208 564)
22 February 2024
Sydney, Australia



Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Directors of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited, as the Responsible Entity for
Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the review of Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund for the half-year ended 31 December 2023 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

KPMG

Ashley Trang

Partner

Sydney

22 February 2024

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	31 December 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		18,713	19,464
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	6	252,389	249,904
Applications receivable		-	29
Interest, dividends and distributions receivable		198	1,469
Other receivables		-	21
Total assets		<u>271,300</u>	<u>270,887</u>
Liabilities			
Redemptions payable		46	32
Balances due to brokers		-	285
Distribution payable	3	3,812	2,396
Sundry creditors and accruals		255	291
Total liabilities		<u>4,113</u>	<u>3,004</u>
Net assets attributable to unitholders - liability	2	<u>267,187</u>	<u>267,883</u>

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

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Note	31 December 2023 \$'000	31 December 2022 \$'000
Revenue			
Dividends and distributions		6,182	7,446
Interest		82	63
Net change in the fair value of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		<u>5,611</u>	<u>18,996</u>
		<u>11,875</u>	<u>26,505</u>
Expenses			
Responsible Entity fee		1,407	1,440
Transaction costs		78	96
Other expenses		<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>
		<u>1,498</u>	<u>1,545</u>
Profit from operating activities		<u>10,377</u>	<u>24,960</u>
Finance costs			
Distributions paid and payable to unitholders	3	8,903	9,289
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders	2	<u>1,474</u>	<u>15,671</u>
Total comprehensive income		<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

The Fund's net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability under AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*. As such, the Fund has no equity and no items of changes in equity have been presented for the current or comparative period.

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

Statement of Cash Flows

	31 December 2023 \$'000	31 December 2022 \$'000
Operating activities		
Proceeds from sale of investments	23,433	41,051
Purchase of investments	(20,592)	(28,166)
Interest received	79	49
Dividends and distributions received	7,456	8,683
Transaction costs paid	(78)	(96)
Responsible Entity fees paid	(1,404)	(1,425)
Other expenses paid	(31)	(8)
Net cash flows from operating activities	8,863	20,088
Financing activities		
Proceeds from issue of units	7,166	5,916
Payments on redemption of units	(13,302)	(13,020)
Distributions paid	(3,478)	(6,365)
Net cash flows used in financing activities	(9,614)	(13,469)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(751)	6,619
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the half year	19,464	10,414
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	18,713	17,033

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

1 Summary of material accounting policies

This interim financial report covers the Fund as an individual entity.

The Fund is a registered managed investment scheme under the *Corporations Act 2001*. The Fund was constituted on 6 May 1986 and will terminate 80 years (less one day) from the date of commencement or at such earlier time as provided by the Fund's Constitution or by the law.

Maple-Brown Abbott Limited is the Responsible Entity. The registered office and principal place of business of the Responsible Entity is Level 26, Tower One, International Towers, 100 Barangaroo Avenue, Barangaroo NSW 2000.

The interim financial report was authorised for issue by the directors of the Responsible Entity on 22 February 2024. The directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the interim financial report.

(a) Statement of compliance

The general purpose interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with accounting standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

This interim financial report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and any public announcements made in respect of the Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The interim financial report is prepared on the basis of fair value measurement of assets and liabilities, except where otherwise stated.

There have been no significant changes to the risk management policies and processes of the Responsible Entity since the previous financial year end.

(b) Basis of preparation of interim report

Functional and presentation currency

The interim financial report is presented in Australian dollars, which is the Fund's functional currency.

Use of estimates

In a limited number of circumstances, the Responsible Entity makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. These estimates and associated assumptions are reviewed regularly and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The use of estimates and critical judgements in fair value measurement is described in note 6.

Change in accounting standards

Except as described below, the accounting policies applied in these interim financial statements are the same as those applied in the Fund's financial statements as at and for the year ended 30 June 2023.

1 Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

(b) Basis of preparation of interim report (continued)

a) Material accounting policy information

The Fund has adopted Disclosure of Accounting Policies (Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2) from 1 January 2023. The amendments did not result in any changes to the accounting policies themselves, but require the disclosure of material accounting policy information rather than significant accounting policies.

The amendments require the disclosure of 'material', rather than 'significant', accounting policies. The amendments also provide guidance on the application of materiality to disclosure of accounting policies, assisting entities to provide useful, entity-specific accounting policy information that users need to understand other information in the financial statements.

Management reviewed the accounting policies and no updates were required.

2 Net assets attributable to unitholders

	Ordinary class \$'000	Wholesale class \$'000	Total \$'000
Six months ended 31 December 2023			
Opening balance	153,583	114,300	267,883
Applications	3,344	7,802	11,146
Redemptions	(6,130)	(7,186)	(13,316)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders	<u>852</u>	<u>622</u>	<u>1,474</u>
Closing balance	<u><u>151,649</u></u>	<u><u>115,538</u></u>	<u><u>267,187</u></u>

Six months ended 31 December 2022

Opening balance	146,450	107,613	254,063
Applications	6,595	6,867	13,462
Redemptions	(4,932)	(8,224)	(13,156)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders	<u>9,113</u>	<u>6,558</u>	<u>15,671</u>
Closing balance	<u><u>157,226</u></u>	<u><u>112,814</u></u>	<u><u>270,040</u></u>

2 Net assets attributable to unitholders (continued)

	Ordinary class Units '000	Wholesale class Units '000
Six months ended 31 December 2023		
Opening balance	167,998	123,703
Applications	3,703	8,524
Redemptions	<u>(6,776)</u>	<u>(7,824)</u>
Closing balance	<u>164,925</u>	<u>124,403</u>
Six months ended 31 December 2022		
Opening balance	169,419	123,065
Applications	7,694	7,612
Redemptions	<u>(5,457)</u>	<u>(8,992)</u>
Closing balance	<u>171,656</u>	<u>121,685</u>

The Responsible Entity considers net assets attributable to unitholders as capital. This capital is invested in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution. The Responsible Entity may make additional investments in the case of net applications, or realise investments in the case of net redemptions, depending on the desired level of liquidity in the Fund. Under the Fund's Constitution, the Responsible Entity may suspend applications or redemptions if it is considered to be in the best interests of unitholders.

3 Distributions paid and payable

	31 December 2023		31 December 2022	
	\$'000	\$ per unit	\$'000	\$ per unit
Ordinary class				
30 September	2,839	0.0171	2,903	0.0169
31 December (payable)	<u>2,056</u>	<u>0.0125</u>	<u>2,355</u>	<u>0.0137</u>
	<u>4,895</u>	<u>0.0296</u>	<u>5,258</u>	<u>0.0306</u>
Wholesale class				
30 September	2,252	0.0184	2,221	0.0181
31 December (payable)	<u>1,756</u>	<u>0.0141</u>	<u>1,809</u>	<u>0.0149</u>
	<u>4,008</u>	<u>0.0325</u>	<u>4,030</u>	<u>0.0330</u>
Total distributions paid and payable	<u>8,903</u>		<u>9,288</u>	

4 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

There are no contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 31 December 2023 and 30 June 2023.

5 Related parties

There have been no significant changes to the related party transactions disclosed in the last annual financial report.

5 Related parties (continued)

All transactions with related parties are conducted on normal commercial terms and conditions. This includes that Maple-Brown Abbott Limited, directly and on behalf of other Funds issued by it, and its directors and director's related entities, may invest in or withdraw from the Fund from time-to-time, and the Responsible Entity may rebate management fees to these entities where they are wholesale clients, as defined in the Corporations Act. Staff may also invest in or withdraw from the Fund from time-to-time and may also be charged lower than the stated management costs, as allowed by the Corporations Act.

6 Financial instruments

Market exposures

As at the end of the reporting period the market exposures were as follows:

	31 December 2023	30 June 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:		
Australian-listed equities	252,389	249,904
Total	252,389	249,904

Carrying amounts versus fair values

The fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amounts in the Statement of Financial Position.

Fair value measurement recognised in the Statement of Financial Position

Fair value measurements are classified using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the subjectivity of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

- Level 1 – fair values measured using quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical instruments;
- Level 2 – fair values measured using directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices) observable inputs, other than quoted prices included in Level 1; and
- Level 3 – fair values measured using inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

As at the end of the reporting period the financial instruments carried at fair value split by valuation method is summarised below:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
As at 31 December 2023				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
Australian-listed equities	252,389	-	-	252,389
Total	252,389	-	-	252,389

6 Financial instruments (continued)

As at 30 June 2023	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
Australian-listed equities	249,904	-	-	249,904
Total	<u>249,904</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>249,904</u>

Transfer between levels

The Responsible Entity's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period. There have been no transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy at the end of 31 December 2023 and 30 June 2023. There were also no changes made to any of the valuation techniques applied as of 31 December 2023.

Fair value measurement

Fair value in an active market (level 1)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives and equity securities) is based on last sale prices at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs. For the majority of financial assets and liabilities, information provided by the quoted market independent pricing services is relied upon for valuation.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. An active market is a market in which transactions for the financial asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market (level 2 and 3)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for debt securities held. The Responsible Entity may use a variety of valuation methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at the end of each reporting period. Valuation techniques used for non-standardised financial instruments, such as over-the-counter derivatives, include the use of comparable arm's length transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument or any other valuation technique that is commonly used by market participants which maximises the use of market inputs and relies as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

For other pricing models, inputs are based on market data at the end of the reporting period.

The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty, and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions held. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including liquidity risk and counterparty risk.

6 Financial instruments (continued)

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

The Fund did not hold any financial instruments with fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs during the half year ended 31 December 2023 or year ended 30 June 2023.

Financial instruments not measured at fair value

The carrying value less impairment provision of other receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short term nature.

7 Events subsequent to balance date

No significant events have occurred since the end of the interim reporting period which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position or on the results and cash flows of the Fund.

Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited, the Responsible Entity of Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund:

- 1 The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (a) complying with AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*; and
 - (b) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half year ended on that date; and
- 2 There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited.



Director of Maple-Brown Abbott Limited (ABN 73 001 208 564)
22 February 2024
Sydney, Australia



Independent Auditor's Review Report

To the unitholders of Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund

Conclusion

We have reviewed the accompanying **Interim Financial Report** of Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund (the Fund).

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the Interim Financial Report of Maple-Brown Abbott Australian Share Fund does not comply with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- complying with *Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

The **Interim Financial Report** comprises:

- Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2023;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the half-year ended on that date;
- Notes 1 to 7 including selected explanatory notes; and
- Directors' Declaration.

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 the Fund 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 these requirements.



Responsibilities of the Directors for the Interim Financial Report

The Directors of the Maple-Brown Abbott Limited (the Responsible Entity) are responsible for:

- the preparation of the Interim Financial Report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with *Australian Accounting Standards* and the *Corporations Act 2001*
- such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Interim Financial Report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Interim Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the Interim 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 Interim Financial Report does not comply with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and complying with *Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

A review of an Interim 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.

KPMG

Ashley Trang

Partner

Sydney

22 February 2024