# **Baillie Gifford American Fund**

a sub-fund of Baillie Gifford Overseas Growth Funds ICVC

# Authorised Corporate Director's Annual Short Report for the year ended 30th April 2012

### **Investment Objective**

The Fund aims to maximise the value of its shares through capital growth.

### **Investment Policy**

To invest in any economic sector, either directly or indirectly, of the United States of America. From time to time investment may also be made in any economic sector in Canada, either directly or indirectly. Investment will be mainly in shares in companies.

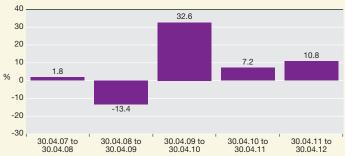
### **Risk and Reward Profile**

The Risk and Reward Indicator table demonstrates where the Fund ranks in terms of its potential risk and reward. The higher the rank the greater the potential reward but the greater the risk of losing money. It is based on past data, may change over time and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The shaded area in the table below shows the Fund's ranking on the Risk and Reward Indicator.

Typically lower rewards, lower risk				Typically higher rewards, higher risk		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Please note that even the lowest risk class can lose you money and that extreme adverse market circumstances can mean you suffer severe losses in all cases. Some risks which can't be easily measured may not be fully captured by the Risk and Reward Indicator. The Fund is classified in the category above because it invests in company shares which generally provide higher rewards and higher risks than other investments, such as bonds or cash. The indicator does not take into account the following material risks of investing in this Fund: Investment markets can go down as well as up and market conditions can change rapidly. The value of an investment in the Fund, and any income from it, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount invested. Custody of assets may involve a risk of loss if the custodian becomes insolvent or breaches duties of care. Where possible, all charges are taken from the Fund's revenue. Where there is insufficient revenue, the remainder will be taken from capital. This will reduce the value of the Fund.<sup>1</sup>

#### Past Performance<sup>2</sup>



The performance figures shown in this graph are for Class A Net Accumulation Shares. Performance figures reflect the ACD's annual fee of 1.5%, but exclude any initial charge paid. More recent performance for Class A Net Accumulation Shares and the other share classes in issue can be obtained by calling the ACD. Your call may be recorded for training or monitoring purposes. You should be aware that past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### Net Asset Values (as at the Year End)

Share Class	Net Asset Value per Share	Net Asset Value per Share
	30.04.12	30.04.11
A Net Accumulation	212.8p	193.9p
B Net Income	218.4p	198.2p
B Net Accumulation	231.9p	209.6p
C Net Accumulation	251.1p	225.4p

### **Investment Report**

For the year to 30th April 2012 the return on A Net Accumulation Shares was 10.8%<sup>2</sup> compared to the return on the S&P 500 Composite Index of 7.3%<sup>2</sup>, in sterling terms. Apple, Home Depot (DIY retailing) and O'Reilly Automotive (car parts distribution) were the most helpful contributors to investment performance.

The recovery in the domestic economy was the main feature of the period under review, with small businesses spending on capital equipment and hiring again, and with consumer confidence benefiting from rising employment. A much strengthened banking system was instrumental in this, as was the Federal Reserve's policy of maintaining very low interest rates. Even the depressed housing market has started to recover region by region, helped by affordability that is at highly attractive levels. The European debt crisis has continued to be the main threat to economic growth, but low inflation in the US means further monetary stimulus is likely if downside risks to growth increase.

Our positive outlook has been reflected in a portfolio shift towards companies that should benefit from a revival in the domestic economy. We bought a new holding in Harley-Davidson, the iconic motorcycle manufacturer, where a new management team are making improvements to the operational efficiency of the business. We continued to increase our banking exposure, adding First Republic Bank, a specialist mortgage lender that is gaining market share through exceptional relationship based service.

The other area of activity has been in the information technology sector, which continues to be a fertile area for stock idea generation because many American technology companies lead the world in innovation, and have excellent long-term growth opportunities. This is true of the portfolio's three new semiconductor holdings, Altera, Xilinx and Analog Devices, as well as of recent purchase Teradata, whose unique technologies enable huge amounts of data to be analysed very quickly.

To fund these purchases we sold two industrial holdings, United Technologies and Johnson Controls, whose international growth was slowing. In addition, sales were made on valuation grounds of two healthcare stocks that have been successful investments for the Fund, Intuitive Surgical and Edwards Lifesciences.

We remain optimistic about the prospects for the portfolio's focused selection of North American growth stocks.

Mick Brewis and team, 11th May 2012

#### **Distributions (for the Calendar Year)**

Share Class	Net Income per Share 2012	Net Income per Share 2011		
A Net Accumulation	0.00p	0.00p		
B Net Income	0.84p	1.34p		
B Net Accumulation	0.91p	1.41p		
C Net Accumulation	2.45p	2.84p		

#### **Ongoing Charges Figures (for the Financial Year)**

Share Class	Ongoing Charges Figure	Ongoing Charges Figure	
	30.04.12	30.04.11	
A Net Accumulation	1.54%	1.51%	
B Net Income	0.70%	0.68%	
B Net Accumulation	0.69%	0.68%	
C Net Accumulation	0.05%	0.05%	

#### Highest and Lowest Prices (for the Calendar Year)

-				-
Share Class	Highest Price	Lowest Price	Highest Price	Lowest Price
	per Share	per Share	per Share	per Share
	2012	2012	2011	2011
A Net Accumulation	218.9p	196.4p	204.3p	163.5p
B Net Income	225.3p	201.9p	209.1p	167.5p
B Net Accumulation	238.3p	213.6p	221.2p	177.1p
C Net Accumulation	257.8p	230.7p	238.2p	190.9p

#### Fund Facts

XD Date: 30th April Distribution Payment Date: 30th June

BAILLIE GIFFORD

<sup>1</sup>Further details of the risks associated with investing in the Fund can be found in the Prospectus which is available by calling Client Relations on 0800 917 2113. <sup>2</sup>Source: FE, bid to bid (10am prices), net income reinvested. You should be aware that past performance is not a guide to future performance.

# **Major Holdings**

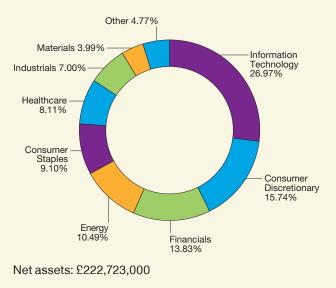
The Fund's 10 largest holdings at the end of this year and the previous year end are shown below.

Holdings		% of Fund Value
		as at 30.04.12
1	Apple	8.10
2	eBay	4.59
3	F5 Networks	4.33
4	Home Depot	4.28
5	Progressive	3.78
6	O'Reilly Automotive	3.74
7	Bed Bath & Beyond	3.56
8	Exxon Mobil	3.39
9	Brown-Forman B	3.19
10	Monsanto Company	3.16

Holdings		% of Fund Value
		as at 30.04.11
1	Apple	5.85
2	Oracle Corp	5.51
3	Schlumberger	4.84
4	Apache Corp	4.68
5	Danaher	4.37
6	Progressive	4.30
7	Exxon Mobil	3.88
8	Walgreen	3.63
9	Monsanto Company	3.55
10	Linear Technology	2.69

# **Classification of Investments**

#### 30th April 2012



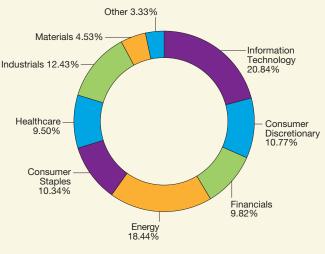
# **Report and Accounts**

Copies of the annual and interim Long Report and Financial Statements of the Fund are available free of charge on request by calling the ACD.

# **Other Information**

The Fund is a UCITS retail scheme under the Financial Services Authority's Collective Investment Schemes Sourcebook ('COLL'). Shareholders are not liable for the debts of the ICVC beyond the amount subscribed. The information in this report is designed to enable shareholders to make an informed judgement on the activities of the Fund during the year it covers and the result of those activities at the end of the year. For more information about the activities and performance of the Fund during this and previous years, please call Client Relations: 0800 917 2113 (fax 0131 275 3955) or visit our website at www.bailliegifford.com or e-mail us at trustenquiries@bailliegifford.com. Any comments expressed in this report should not be taken as a recommendation or advice.

### 30th April 2011



Net assets: £169,081,000

# Minimum Investment Levels

The minimum initial investment is £1,000 for Class A Shares (£50 per month for the Monthly Savings Plan) and £250,000 for Class B Shares. Class C Shares are only available to persons to whom an associate of the ACD provides services under an investment management agreement. Details of the minimum holding and redemption levels can be found in the Supplementary Information Document and full Prospectus.

# **Replacement of Simplified Prospectus**

As part of a European Directive<sup>3</sup> the Simplified Prospectus ('SP') will be replaced by the Key Investor Information Document ('KIID') together with a Supplementary Information Document ('SID'). The KIID is designed to replace the SP and to provide investors with clearer information. The SID ought to be read in conjunction with the KIID. This document includes additional information which an investor needs to be aware of and which is not in the new KIID. We replaced the SP with the KIID with effect from 4th June 2012.

<sup>3</sup>Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13th July 2009.

#### Authorised Corporate Director

Baillie Gifford & Co Limited (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, FSA Register No. 119179) Calton Square, 1 Greenside Row, Edinburgh EH1 3AN **Depositary** National Westminster Bank Plc (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, FSA Register No. 121878) Trustee & Depositary Services The Broadstone, 50 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9LD

#### **Investment Manager** Baillie Gifford & Co (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, FSA Register No. 142597) Calton Square, I Greenside Row,

Edinburgh EH1 3AN

Auditor KPMG Audit Plc Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EG

#### Registrar

Baillie Gifford Savings Management Limited (Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, FSA Register No. 150233) Calton Square, 1 Greenside Row, Edinburgh EH1 3AN