# Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) ARSN 167 220 546

**Annual Report** 30 June 2024

# **Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return)**

ARSN 167 220 546

# Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024

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These financial statements cover the Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) as an individual entity.

The Responsible Entity of the Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) is Pinnacle Fund Services Limited (ACN 082 494 362, AFSL 238371). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 19, 307 Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000.

#### **Directors' report**

The directors of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited, the Responsible Entity of the Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return), present their report together with the financial statements of the Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) (the "Fund"), for the year ended 30 June 2024.

#### Principal activities

The Fund is a registered managed investment fund domiciled in Australia.

The Fund may hold between 40 and 70 listed Australian securities, as well as securities expected to be listed on an Australian exchange, in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Information Memorandum and the Fund's Constitution. It targets a 'Total Return' of capital, dividends and franking credits. In addition, the Fund will seek to remain fully invested with the Fund's allowable maximum cash exposure of 5% of total assets at any one time.

The Fund did not have any employees during the year.

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

#### **Directors**

The following persons held office as directors of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited during the year or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report:

Mr Ian Macoun Mr Calvin Kwok Mr Andrew Chambers

The Responsible Entity also has a Compliance Committee consisting of one non-external member and three external members.

The Committee met four times during the year.

#### Review and results of operations

The broader share market, represented by the S&P ASX200 returned 12.10% over the year. The Fund outperformed its benchmark for the year by 2.91%. Overweight holdings in Life360 Inc, Altium Limited and National Australia Bank Limited made a positive contribution to relative performance. The main detractors were underweight holdings in Westpac Banking Corporation and Commonwealth Bank of Australia as well as an overweight holding in APM Human Services International Limited.

There have been no significant changes to the operations of the Fund since the previous financial period. The Fund continued to invest funds in accordance with target asset allocations as set out in the governing documents of the Fund and in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The performance of the Fund, as represented by the results of its operations, was as follows:

	Year ended	Year ended
	30 June	30 June
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Total comprehensive income for the year	17,291	15,100
Distributions paid and payable	4,909	5,185
Distributions (cents per unit)	5.1969	5.2962

# Significant changes in state of affairs

In the opinion of the directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund that occurred during the financial year.

#### **Directors' report (continued)**

#### Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

- (i) the operations of the Fund in future financial years, or
- (ii) the results of those operations in future financial years, or
- (iii) the state of affairs of the Fund in future financial years.

#### Likely developments and expected results of operations

The Fund will continue to be managed in accordance with the investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the governing documents of the Fund and in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The results of the Fund's operations will be affected by a number of factors, including the performance of investment markets in which the Fund invests. Investment performance is not guaranteed and future returns may differ from past returns. As investment conditions change over time, past returns should not be used to predict future returns.

#### Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

No insurance premiums are paid for out of the assets of the Fund in regards to insurance cover provided to the officers of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited. So long as the officers of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited act in accordance with the Fund's Constitution and the Law, the officers remain indemnified out of the assets of the Fund against losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Fund.

The auditors of the Fund are in no way indemnified out of the assets of the Fund.

#### Fees paid to and interests held in the Fund by the Responsible Entity or its associates

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Fund property during the year are disclosed in Note 13 of the financial statements.

No fees were paid out of Fund property to the directors of the Responsible Entity during the year.

The number of interests in the Fund held by the Responsible Entity (including Solaris Investment Management Limited & Pinnacle Fund Services Limited) or its associates as at the end of the financial year are disclosed in Note 11 of the financial statements.

## Interests in the Fund

The movement in units on issue in the Fund during the year is disclosed in Note 11 of the financial statements.

The value of the Fund's assets and liabilities is disclosed in the statement of financial position and derived using the basis set out in Note 2 of the financial statements.

# Environmental regulation

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

#### Rounding of amounts to the nearest thousand dollars

The Fund is an entity of the 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 directors' report have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars or nearest dollar, unless otherwise stated.

# **Directors' report (continued)**

# 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 5.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Mr C. Kwok

Director

Pinnacle Fund Services Limited

Brisbane

19 September 2024



# Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Kristy van Horck

Partner

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Brisbane 19 September 2024

# Statement of comprehensive income

N	Year ended 30 June otes 2024 \$'000	Year ended 30 June 2023 \$'000
Investment income Interest income Dividend/distribution income Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss Other income Total net investment income/(loss)	111 4,507 12,831 - 17,449	48 5,397 9,800 14 15,259
Expenses Transaction costs Other operating expenses Total operating expenses	158 158	144 15 159
Profit/(loss) for the year  Other comprehensive income	17,291	15,100
Total comprehensive income for the year	17,291	15,100

The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of financial position

		As at	As at
		30 June	30 June
	Notes	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	1,111	3,546
Receivables	9	1,201	714
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	113,992	117,570
Total assets	_	116,304	121,830
Liabilities			
Distributions payable	6	648	509
Payables	10	32	323
Total liabilities	_	680	832
Net assets attributable to unitholders - equity	11 _	115,624	120,998

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of changes in equity

	Notes	Year ended 30 June 2024 \$'000	Year ended 30 June 2023 \$'000
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year		120,998	109,342
Comprehensive income/(loss) for the year			
Profit/(loss) for the year		17,291	15,100
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial year		17,291	15,100
Transactions with unitholders			
Applications	11	4,000	700
Redemptions	11	(22,770)	(710)
Reinvestment of distributions	11	1,014	1,751
Distributions paid and payable	6, 11	(4,909)	(5,185)
Total transactions with unitholders		(22,665)	(3,444)
Total equity at the end of the financial year	11	115,624	120,998

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of cash flows

	Notes	Year ended 30 June 2024 \$'000	Year ended 30 June 2023 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities Proceeds from sales of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss Transaction costs on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss Dividends/distributions received Other income Interest received Other expenses paid Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	14 (a)	72,453 (56,898) (158) 4,583 - 111 - 20,091	52,223 (50,532) (144) 5,269 14 48 (15) 6,863
Cash flows from financing activities Proceeds from applications by unitholders Payments for redemptions by unitholders Distributions paid Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities	- -	4,000 (22,770) (3,756) (22,526)	700 (710) (6,637) (6,647)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(2,435)	216
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,546	3,330
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	7, 14 (b)	1,111	3,546
Non-cash financing activities	14 (c)	1,014	1,751

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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# 1 General information

These financial statements cover the Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) (the "Fund") as an individual entity. The Fund was constituted on 24 December 2013. The Fund will terminate on the day immediately proceeding the 80th anniversary of the commencement date unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions of the Fund Constitution.

The Responsible Entity of the Fund is Pinnacle Fund Services Limited (the "Responsible Entity"). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 19, 307 Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000. The financial statements are presented in the Australian currency.

The Responsible Entity is incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Solaris Investment Management Limited acts as investment manager of the Fund.

The Custodian of the Fund is Apex Group Holdings Limited.

The Fund may hold between 40 and 70 listed Australian securities, as well as securities expected to be listed on an Australian exchange, in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Information memorandum and the Fund's Constitution. It targets a 'Total Return' of capital, dividends and franking credits. In addition, the Fund will seek to remain fully invested with the Fund's allowable maximum cash exposure of 5% of total assets at any one time.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors on 19 September 2024. The directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements after they have been issued.

## 2 Summary of material accounting policies

The material accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated in the following text.

# (a) Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Accounting Standard Board and the *Corporations Act 2001* in Australia. The Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) is a for-profit Fund for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of fair value measurement of assets and liabilities except where otherwise stated.

The statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis. Assets and liabilities are presented in decreasing order of liquidity and are not distinguished between current and non-current. All balances are generally expected to be recovered or settled within twelve months, except for investments in financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and net assets attributable to unitholders.

The Fund manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within twelve months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at balance date.

In the case of net assets attributable to unitholders, the units are redeemed on demand at the unitholder's option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within twelve months cannot be reliably determined.

(i) Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

The financial statements of the Fund also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

(ii) New and amended standards adopted by the Fund

There are no standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 July 2023 that have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

(iii) New standards, amendments and interpretations effective after 1 July 2024 and have not been early adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective after 1 July 2024, and have not been early adopted in preparing these financial statements. None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

#### (b) Financial instruments

#### (i) Classification

The Fund's investments are classified as at fair value through profit or loss. They comprise:

#### Assets

The Fund classifies its investments based on its business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The Fund's portfolio of financial assets is managed and its performance evaluated on a fair value basis in accordance with the Fund's document investment strategy. The Fund uses fair value information to assess performance of the portfolio and to make decisions to rebalance the portfolio or to realise fair value gains or minimise losses through sales or other trading strategies. The Fund's policy is for the Responsible Entity to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.

Equity securities and derivatives are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

#### (ii) Recognition/derecognition

The Fund recognises financial assets and financial liabilities on the date they become party to the contractual agreement (trade date) and recognises changes in fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities from this date.

A financial asset is derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or the Fund has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liabilities are discharged.

Any gains or losses arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) are included in the statement of comprehensive income in the year the asset is derecognised as realised gains or losses on financial instruments.

#### (iii) Measurement

- Financial assets and liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss

At initial recognition, the Fund measures financial assets and financial liabilities at their fair value. Transaction costs of financial assets and financial liabilities carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss in the period in which they arise. This also includes dividend expense on short sales of securities, which have been classified at fair value through profit or loss.

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets is subsequently based on their quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Fund is the current bid price and the quoted market price for financial liabilities is the current asking price.

#### (b) Financial instruments (continued)

#### (iii) Measurement (continued)

- Financial assets and liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss (continued)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using valuation techniques. The Fund uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each reporting date. Valuation techniques used include the use of comparable recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models and other valuation techniques commonly used by market participants making the maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

Further details on how the fair values of financial instruments are determined are disclosed in Note 4.

#### (iv) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### (c) Net assets attributable to unitholders

Units are redeemable at the unitholders' option in accordance with the Fund's constitution, however, applications and redemptions may be suspended by the responsible entity if it is in the best interests of the unitholders in accordance with the Fund's constitution.

The units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash based on the redemption price, which is equal to a proportionate share of the fund's net asset value attributable to the unitholder.

The units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at balance sheet date if the holder exercises the right to put the unit back to the Fund.

Units are classified as equity when they satisfy the following criteria under AASB 132 Financial instruments: Presentation:

- the puttable financial instrument entitles the holder to a pro-rata share of net assets in the event of the Fund's liquidation;
- the puttable financial instrument is in the class of instruments that is subordinate to all other classes of instruments and class features are identical;
- the puttable financial instrument does not include any contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset, or to exchange financial instruments with another entity under potentially unfavourable conditions to the Fund, and it is not a contract settled in the Fund's own equity instruments; and
- the total expected cash flows attributable to the puttable financial instrument over the life are based substantially on the profit or loss.

## (d) Margin accounts

Margin accounts comprise cash held as collateral for derivative transactions and short sales. The cash is held by the broker and is only available to meet margin calls.

## (e) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions and cash held with brokers for margin calls.

Payments and receipts relating to the purchase and sale of investment securities are classified as cash flows from operating activities, as movements in the fair value of these securities represent the Fund's main income generating activity.

#### (f) Investment income

#### (i) Interest income

Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost is recognised using the effective interest method and includes interest from cash and cash equivalents. Interest income on assets held at fair value through profit or loss is included in the net gains/(losses) on financial instruments. Other changes in fair value for such instruments are recorded in accordance with the policies described in Note 2(b).

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or financial liability and of allocating the interest income or interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts throughout the expected life of the financial instrument, or a shorter period where appropriate, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Fund estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument (for example, prepayment options) but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees paid or received between the parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, including transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

#### (ii) Dividend and distributions

Dividend income is recognised on the ex-dividend date net of any related foreign withholding tax.

Trust distributions are recognised on an entitlements basis.

#### (g) Expenses

Any expenses which are paid by the unitholder from Fund assets are included in the Fund's financial statements and recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on an accruals basis.

#### (h) Income tax

Under current legislation, the Fund is not subject to income tax provided it attributes the entirety of its taxable income to unitholders.

#### (i) Distributions

Distributions are payable as set out in the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement and/or Fund's Constitution. Such distributions are recognised as payable when they are determined by the Responsible Entity of the Fund.

# (j) Increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders

Income not distributed is included in net assets attributable to unitholders. The Fund's distributions are classified as distributions paid and payable in the statement of changes in equity.

#### (k) Due from/to brokers

Amounts due from/to brokers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet delivered by the end of the year. The due from brokers balance is held for collection and consequently measured at amortised cost.

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance on amounts due from broker at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the broker, probability that the broker will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

#### (I) Receivables

Receivables may include amounts for dividends, interest and trust distributions. Dividends and trust distributions are accrued when the right to receive payment is established. Interest is accrued at the end of each reporting period from the time of last payment in accordance with the policy set out in Note 2(e) above. Amounts are generally received within 30 days of being recorded as receivables.

#### (I) Receivables (continued)

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance on receivables at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund shall measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

The amount of the impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss within other expenses. When a trade receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in profit or loss.

Receivables include such items as Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC) and application monies receivable from unitholders.

#### (m) Payables

Payables include liabilities, accrued expenses owed by the Fund and any distributions declared which are unpaid as at the end of the reporting period. These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

A separate distribution payable is recognised in the statement of financial position.

Distributions declared effective 30 June in relation to unitholders who have previously elected to reinvest distributions are recognised as reinvested effective 1 July of the following financial year.

# (n) Applications and redemptions

Applications received for units in the Fund are recorded net of any entry fees payable prior to the issue of units in the Fund. Redemptions from the Fund are recorded gross of any exit fees payable after the cancellation of units redeemed. Unit redemption prices are determined by reference to the net assets of the fund divided by the number of units on issue.

# (o) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The GST incurred on the costs of various services provided to the Fund by third parties such as audit fees, custodial services and investment management fees have been passed onto the Fund. The Fund qualifies for Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC) at a rate of 75% hence transaction costs and other expenses have been recognised in the statement of comprehensive income net of the amount of GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Accounts payable are inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included in receivables in the statement of financial position. Cash flows relating to GST are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis.

#### (p) Use of estimates

The Fund makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. Estimates are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

For the majority of the Fund's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available. However, certain financial instruments, for example over-the-counter derivatives or unquoted securities, are fair valued using valuation techniques. Where valuation techniques (for example, pricing calculations) are used to determine fair values, they are validated and periodically reviewed by experienced personnel of the Responsible Entity, independent of the area that created them.

Calculations use observable data, to the extent practicable. However, areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations require management to make estimates. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments.

For certain other financial instruments, including amounts due from/to brokers and payables, the carrying amounts approximate fair value due to the short-term nature of these financial instruments.

#### (q) Rounding of amounts

The Fund is an entity of the 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 directors' report have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars or nearest dollar, unless otherwise stated.

#### 3 Financial risk management

#### (a) Objectives, strategies, policies and processes

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including price risk, foreign currency risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

All securities investments present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum loss of capital on long equity is limited to the fair value of those positions

The Fund's overall risk management program focuses on ensuring compliance with the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement and seeks to maximise the returns derived for the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed. Financial risk management is carried out by an Investment Manager under policies approved by the Board of Directors of the Responsible Entity ("the Board").

The Fund aims to provide investors with access to an actively managed, diversified portfolio of listed Australian securities, as well as in securities expected to be listed on an Australian exchange.

The Fund uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods are explained below:

#### (b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises of three types of risks: price risk, foreign currency risk and interest rate risk. Market risk is managed and monitored using sensitivity analysis, and minimised through ensuring that all investment activities are undertaken in accordance with established mandates and investment strategies.

The market risk disclosures are prepared on the basis of the Fund's direct investments and not on a look-through basis for investments held in the Fund.

The Fund has exposure to different financial markets. The Fund may be materially affected by market, economic, social and/or political conditions globally and in the jurisdictions and sectors in which it invests or operates. This includes conditions affecting interest rates, the availability of credit, currency exchange and trade barriers. These conditions are outside the control of the Fund and could adversely affect the liquidity and value of the Fund's investments.

# (i) Price risk

The Fund is exposed to equity securities and derivatives price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which prices in the future are uncertain.

The Investment Manager mitigates this price risk through diversification and a careful selection of securities and other financial instruments within specified limits set by the Board. The Fund's overall market positions are monitored on a daily basis by the Fund's Investment Manager. Compliance with the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement is reported to the Board at least quarterly.

#### 3 Financial risk management (continued)

#### (b) Market risk (continued)

#### (i) Price risk (continued)

Net assets attributable to unitholders include investments in equity securities and related derivatives. At 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023, the overall market exposures were as follows:

	As at	As at
	30 June	30 June
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Listed equities	105,821	110,158
Listed unit trusts	7,295	7,405
Listed property trusts	874	-
Derivatives - Futures	2	7
Total	113,992	117,570

#### Sensitivity analysis

The following summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's operating profit and net assets attributable to unitholders to price risk. The reasonably possible movements in the risk variables have been determined based on management's best estimate, having regards to a number of factors, including historical correlation of the Fund's Investments with the relevant benchmark and market volatility. However, actual movements in the risk variables may be greater or less than anticipated due to a number of factors, including unusually large market shocks resulting from changes in the performance of the economies, markets and securities in which the Fund invests. As a result, historic variation in risk variables should not be used to predict future variation in the risk variables.

At 30 June 2024, if the equity prices had increased by 13% (2023: 13%) with all other variables held constant, this would have increased net assets attributable to unitholders (and net operating profit/(loss)) by approximately \$14,818,960 (2023: \$15,284,100). Conversely, if the equity prices had decreased by 13% (2023: 13%), this would have decreased net assets attributable to unitholders (and net operating profit/(loss)) by approximately \$14,818,960 (2023: \$15,284,100).

#### (ii) Foreign exchange risk

The Fund is not exposed to significant risks from movements in foreign exchange rates as there are no financial assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies.

# (iii) Cash flow and interest rate risk

The majority of the Fund's financial assets are non-interest-bearing. Interest-bearing financial assets and interest-bearing financial liabilities mature or reprice in the short-term, no longer than twelve months. As a result, the Fund is subject to limited exposure to fair value interest rate risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates.

# (c) Credit risk

The Fund is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay amounts in full when they fall due, causing a financial loss to the Fund.

The Fund is exposed to counterparty credit risk on derivative financial instruments, cash and cash equivalents, amounts due from brokers and other receivables.

In accordance with the Fund's policy, the investment manager monitors the Fund's credit position on a daily basis and the Board of Directors reviews it on a quarterly basis.

# (i) General approach

The Fund determines credit risk and measures expected credit losses for financial assets measured at amortised cost using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considered both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. At 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023, all receivables, amounts due from brokers, cash and short-term deposits are held with counterparties with a credit rating of AA or higher and are either callable on demand or due to be settled within 1 week. Management considers the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

#### 3 Financial risk management (continued)

#### (c) Credit risk (continued)

#### (ii) Derivative financial instruments

The Fund also restricts its exposure to credit losses on the trading of derivative instruments it holds by entering into master netting arrangements with counterparties (approved brokers) with whom it undertakes a material volume of transactions. Credit risk associated with favourable contracts is reduced by master netting arrangement to the extent that if an event of default occurs, all amounts with the counterparty are closed and settled on a net basis. The Fund's overall exposure to credit risk on derivative instruments subject to a master netting arrangement can change substantially within a short period, as it is affected by each transaction subject to the arrangements.

#### (ii) Settlement of securities transactions

All transactions in listed securities are settled/paid for upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is considered low, as delivery of securities sold is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made once purchase on the securities have been received by the broker. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligations.

#### (iii) Cash and cash equivalents

The exposure to credit risk for cash and cash equivalents is low as all counterparties have a rating of A (as determined by Standard & Poor's) or higher.

#### (iv) Other

The Fund is not materially exposed to credit risk on other financial assets.

The clearing and depository operations for the Fund's security transactions are mainly concentrated with one counterparty, namely Citigroup Pty Limited. Citigroup Pty Limited at 30 June 2024 had a credit rating of A (S&P) and A3 (Moody's). At 30 June 2024, substantially all cash and cash equivalents, balances due from brokers and investments are held in custody by Citigroup Pty Limited.

# (v) Maximum exposure to credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk before any credit enhancements at the end of each reporting period is the carrying amount of the financial assets.

## (d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund may not be able to generate sufficient cash resources to settle its obligations in full as they fall due or can only do so on terms that are materially disadvantageous.

The Fund is exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units and daily margin calls on derivatives. It therefore primarily holds investments that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed.

The Fund may, from time to time, invest in exchange traded derivative contracts. The derivative products purchased by the Fund are traded on an active exchange. Liquidity risk related to the use of derivative products is considered to be low.

In accordance with the Fund's policy, the Investment Manager monitors the Fund's liquidity position on a daily basis.

Maturity analysis for non-derivative financial liabilities

The table below analyses the Fund's non-derivative financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the end of the reporting period to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

At 30 June 2024	Less than 1 month \$'000	1-3 months \$'000	3-12 months \$'000	12-60 months \$'000
Distributions payable	648	-	-	-
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased	32	-	-	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders	115,624	-	-	-
Contractual cash flow (excluding derivatives)	116,304	-	-	-

#### 3 Financial risk management (continued)

#### (d) Liquidity risk (continued)

Maturity analysis for non-derivative financial liabilities (continued)

At 30 June 2023	Less than 1 month \$'000	1-3 months \$'000	3-12 months \$'000	12-60 months \$'000
Distributions payable	509	_	-	-
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased	323	-	-	-
Net assets attributable to unitholders	120,998	-	-	
Contractual cash flow (excluding derivatives)	121,830	-	-	-

The Fund is not materially exposed to liquidity risks for derivative financial instruments held

#### 4 Fair value measurements

The Fund measures and recognises financial assets and liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss on a recurring basis.

- Financial assets/liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)
- Derivative financial instruments

The Fund has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis in the current reporting period.

#### Fair value hierarchy

Classification of financial assets and financial liabilities

The Fund classifies fair value measurements 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:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1);
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly (Level 2); and
- Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (Level 3).

# (a) 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 listed equity securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

The Fund values its investments in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 2 of the financial statements. For the majority of its investments, the Fund relies on information provided by independent pricing services for the valuation of its investments.

The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Fund is the current bid price; the quoted market price for financial liabilities is the current asking price. When the Fund holds derivatives with offsetting market risks, it uses mid-market prices as a basis for establishing fair values for the offsetting risk positions and applies this bid or asking price to the net open position, as appropriate.

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 asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

# 4 Fair value measurements (continued)

# (b) Recognised fair value measurements

The following table presents the Fund's financial assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value according to the fair value hierarchy at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023:

At 30 June 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Listed equities	105,821	-	-	105,821
Listed unit trusts	7,295	-	-	7,295
Listed property trusts	874	-	-	874
Derivatives - Futures	2	-	-	2
Total financial assets	113,992	-	-	113,992
At 30 June 2023	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Listed equities	110,158	-	_	110,158
Listed unit trusts	7,405	-	-	7,405
Derivatives - Futures	7	-	-	7
Total financial assets	117,570	-	-	117,570

# (i) Transfers between levels

Management's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

There were no transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy for the year ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

# 5 Auditor's remuneration

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the Fund:

	Year ended	Year ended
	30 June	30 June
	2024	2023
	\$	\$
PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia		
(i) Audit and other assurance services		
Audit and review of financial statements	13,950	13,515
Audit of compliance plan	3,655	3,565
Total remuneration for audit and other assurance services	17,605	17,080
(ii) Non audit services		
Tax Compliance Services	5,990	5,900
Total remuneration for audit and non-audit services	23,595	22,980

The fees for audit and non-audit services are paid by the investment manager out of the management fees that they charge outside of the Fund.

# 6 Distributions to unitholders

The distributions were paid/payable as follows:

	Year ended 30 June	Year ended 30 June	Year ended 30 June	Year ended 30 June
	2024	2024	2023	2023
	\$'000	CPU	\$'000	CPU
Distributions				
Distributions paid - September	1,892	1.8595	2,153	2.2063
Distributions paid - December	973	0.9591	1,364	1.3924
Distributions paid - March	1,396	1.6166	1,159	1.1806
Distributions payable - June	648	0.7617	509	0.5169
Total distributions	4,909		5,185	
7 Cook and each equivalents				
7 Cash and cash equivalents				
			As at	As at
			30 June	30 June
			2024	2023
			\$'000	\$'000
Cash at bank			949	3,235
Deposits held with brokers for margin calls			162	311
Total cash and cash equivalents			1,111	3,546
8 Financial Instruments at fair value through	h profit or loss			
			As at	As at
			30 June	30 June
			2024	2023
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss			\$'000	\$'000
- 1				
Listed equities			105,821	110,158
Listed unit trusts			7,295	7,405
Listed property trusts Futures			874 2	- 7
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or lo	ss	<u> </u>	113,992	117,570
9 Receivables				
			As at	As at
			30 June	30 June
			2024	2023
			\$'000	\$'000
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold			633	70
Accrued income			565	641
GST receivable			3	3
Total receivables			1,201	714
10 Payables				
-				<b>.</b>
			As at	As at
			30 June 2024	30 June 2023
			\$'000	\$'000
Due to brokers - navable for equirities surebased			32	າດາ
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased  Total payables			32	323 323
i otal payables			JŁ	323

#### 11 Net assets attributable to unitholders

Movements in number of units and net assets attributable to unitholders during the year were as follows:

	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	30 June	30 June	30 June	30 June
	2024	2024	2023	2023
	Units	\$'000	Units	\$'000
Opening balance	98,509,668	120,998	96,999,279	109,342
Applications	3,196,420	4,000	566,894	700
Redemptions	(17,446,004)	(22,770)	(578,487)	(710)
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	793,180	1,014	1,521,982	1,751
Distributions paid and payable	-	(4,909)	-	(5,185)
Profit/(loss) for the year		17,291	=	15,100
Closing balance	85,053,264	115,624	98,509,668	120,998

As stipulated within the Fund's Constitution, each unit represents a right to an individual share in the Fund and does not extend to a right to the underlying assets of the Fund. There are no separate classes of units and each unit has the same rights attaching to it as all other units of the Fund.

Units are redeemed on demand at the unitholder's option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within twelve months after the end of the reporting period cannot be reliably determined.

#### Capital risk management

The Fund considers its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders.

Daily applications and redemptions are reviewed relative to the liquidity of the Fund's underlying assets on a daily basis by the responsible entity. Under the terms of the Fund's constitution, the responsible entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust a redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unitholders.

# 12 Derivative financial instruments

In the normal course of business the Fund enters into transactions in various derivative financial instruments with certain risks. A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract which is settled at a future date and whose value changes in response to the change in a specified interest rate, financial instrument price, commodity price, foreign exchange rate, index of prices or rates, credit rating or credit index or other variable.

Derivative financial instruments require no initial net investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factors.

Derivative transactions include a wide assortment of instruments, such as forwards, futures and options. Derivatives are considered to be part of the investment process. The use of derivatives is an essential part of the Fund's portfolio management. Derivatives are not managed in isolation. Consequently, the use of derivatives is multifaceted and includes:

- hedging to protect an asset or liability of the Fund against a fluctuation in market values or to reduce volatility,
- a substitution for trading of physical securities, and
- adjusting asset exposures within the parameters set in the investment strategy, and adjusting the duration of fixed interest
  portfolios or the weighted average maturity of cash portfolios.

While derivatives are used for trading purposes, they are not used to gear (leverage) a portfolio. Gearing a portfolio would occur if the level of exposure to the markets exceeds the underlying value of the Fund.

# 12 Derivative financial instruments (continued)

The Fund holds the following derivative instruments:

#### **Futures**

Futures are contractual obligations to buy or sell financial instruments on a future date at a specified price established in an organised market. The futures contracts are collateralised by cash or marketable securities. Changes in futures contracts' values are usually settled net daily with the exchange. Futures are contractual obligations to receive or pay a net amount based on changes in Share Price Index (SPI) futures at a future date at a specified price, established in an organised financial market.

The Fund's derivative financial instruments at year end are detailed below:

	Long Contract/ notional \$'000	Short Contract/ notional \$'000	Fair values	
30 June 2024			Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000
SPI Futures	777	-	2	
	Long	Short		
	Contract/	Contract/	Fair values	
	notional	notional	Assets	Liabilities
30 June 2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
SPI Futures	2,685	-	7	

An overview of the risk exposure relating to derivatives is included in Note 3.

# 13 Related party transactions

## Responsible Entity

The Responsible Entity of the Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) is Pinnacle Fund Services Limited (ACN 082 494 362). The investment manager of the Fund is Solaris Investment Management Limited.

# Key management personnel

# **Directors**

Key management personnel includes persons who were directors of Solaris Investment Management Limited (investment manager) during the year or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report.

Mr W Earnshaw

Mr S Martin (resigned 29 November 2023)

Mr M Bell (appointed 29 November 2023)

Mr I Macoun

Mr B Machen

Mr D Longan

The following persons held office as directors of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited Pinnacle Fund Services Limited during the year or since the end of the year and up to the date of this report.

Mr Ian Macoun Mr Calvin Kwok Mr Andrew Chambers

# Manager's fees and other transactions

No management fees were incurred by the Fund for year ended 30 June 2024 or 30 June 2023.

# Related party unitholdings

Parties related to the Fund (including Solaris Investment Management Limited and Pinnacle Fund Services Limited, their related parties and other Funds managed by Solaris Investment Management Limited and Pinnacle Fund Services Limited), did not hold any units in the Fund for the year ended 30 June 2024 or 30 June 2023.

# 13 Related party transactions (continued)

#### Key management personnel compensation

Key management personnel are paid by Pinnacle Investment Management Ltd, the parent entity of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited. Payments made from the Fund to Pinnacle Fund Services Limited do not include any amounts directly attributable to key management personnel remuneration.

#### Key management personnel loan disclosures

The Fund has not made, guaranteed or secured, directly or indirectly, any loans to the key management personnel or their personally related entities at any time during the reporting year.

#### Other transactions within the Fund

From time to time directors of Pinnacle Fund Services Limited or their director related entities, may invest in or withdraw from the Fund. These investments or withdrawals are on the same terms and conditions as those entered into by other Fund investors and are trivial in nature.

Apart from those details disclosed in this note, no key management personnel of the Responsible Entity have entered into a material contract with the Fund during the financial year and there were no material contracts involving directors' interests existing at year end.

# 14 Reconciliation of net profit/(losses) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	Year ended	Year ended
	30 June	30 June
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Reconciliation of net profit/(losses) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		
Net profit/(loss) for the year	17,291	15,100
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	72,453	52,223
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(56,898)	(50,532)
Net gains/(losses) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(12,831)	(9,800)
Net change in receivables and accrued income	76	(128)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	20,091	6,863
(b) Components of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash as at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to		
the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,111	3,546
Closing balance	1,111	3,546
(c) Non-cash financing and investing activities		
During the year, the following distribution payments were satisfied by the issue of units under the		
distribution reinvestment plan	1,014	1,751
<u> </u>	1,014	1,751

# 15 Events occurring after the reporting period

There have been no significant events that have occurred since the end of the reporting year which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the year ended on that date. The Fund continued to invest funds in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

# 16 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

There are no outstanding contingent assets and liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

#### **Directors' declaration**

In the opinion of the directors of the Responsible Entity:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 6 to 24 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
  - complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Note 2(a) confirms that the financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

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

Mr C. Kwok Director

Pinnacle Fund Services Limited

Brisbane

19 September 2024



# Independent auditor's report

To the unitholders of Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return)

# **Our opinion**

# In our opinion:

The accompanying financial report of Solaris Australian Equity Fund (Total Return) (the Registered Scheme) is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Registered Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

# What we have audited

The financial report comprises:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024
- the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- the notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information
- the directors of the Responsible Entity's declaration.

# **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

# Independence

We are independent of the Registered Scheme in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & 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 financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

# Other information

The directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.



Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon through our opinion on the financial report.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Responsibilities of the directors of the Responsible Entity for the financial report

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

In preparing the financial report, the directors of the Responsible Entity are responsible for assessing the ability of the Registered Scheme to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors of the Responsible Entity either intend to liquidate the Registered Scheme or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Kristy van Horck

Partner

Brisbane 19 September 2024