

**Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly
Australian Ethical Balanced Trust)**
ARSN 089 919 255

Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2015

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2015

Contents	Page
Directors' Report	1
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Changes in Equity	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7
Directors' Declaration	24
Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration	25
Independent Auditor's Report	26

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Directors' Report For the year ended 30 June 2015

Australian Ethical Investment Limited, the "Responsible Entity" of the Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust, the "Scheme") presents its directors' report together with the financial report of the Scheme for the year ended 30 June 2015 and the accompanying independent auditor's report.

Responsible Entity

Australian Ethical Investment Limited (ABN 47 003 188 930) serves as the Responsible Entity for the Scheme. The registered office and principal place of business for the Responsible Entity is:

Registered office:

Trevor Pearcey House (Block E)
Traeger Court, 34 Thynne Street
Bruce ACT 2617

Principal place of business:

Level 8, 130 Pitt St
Sydney,
NSW 2000

The following persons were directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report unless otherwise indicated:

Phil Vernon
Kate Greenhill
Stephen Gibbs
Mara Bun
Tony Cole

Principal activities and state of affairs

The principal activity of the Scheme is to pool investors' savings to invest in a diversified portfolio of securities, in accordance with the investment objectives and guidelines as set out in the current Product Disclosure Statement and within the provisions of the Scheme's constitution. The constitution of the Scheme authorises investments in a range of assets, which may include properties, capital stable interest bearing securities and equity investments, both domestic and international. Investments are sought to pursue the goal of a just and sustainable society and the protection of the natural environment as well as providing unitholders (the Scheme investors) with a competitive financial return.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Scheme's principal activities during the year and there were no significant changes in the Scheme's state of affairs, except those highlighted in the Review of operations.

Review of operations

Overview

The underlying fundamentals of the Scheme are consistent with those set out in the Scheme's Product Disclosure Statement dated 30 June 2015.

Fee changes

At 1 July 2014 all Responsible Entity fees were consolidated under a single management fee being 2.50%. Fees for the comparable 2014 period were 2.338% (1.90% management fee and a 0.438% administration fee).

Results

Total return is the percentage change of a unitholder's financial interest in the Scheme assuming all distributions are reinvested in the Scheme. These returns are calculated in accordance with FSC Standard 6 Product Performance-Calculation of Return. The Scheme achieved a total return of 8.5% (2014: 13.5%).

Distributions paid and/or payable

Distributions paid and/or payable by the Scheme during the year are shown in the accompanying Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

As per note 14 the Scheme paid an interim distribution of 0.50 (December 2013: 0.37). The year end distribution payable is 1.17 (June 2014: 0.91) cents per unit. The prior year final distribution of \$2,335,820 was paid during the period (June 2013: \$2,681,534).

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Directors' Report For the year ended 30 June 2015

Net Assets

The value of the Scheme's net assets attributable to unitholders as at 30 June 2015 was \$418,079,614 (30 June 2014: \$324,656,358).

Likely developments

The Responsible Entity continually reviews the Scheme and depending on that review may, during the course of the financial year, make decisions to change the offerings of products to investors. The Responsible Entity plans to continue to invest in line with the strategy set out in the Product Disclosure Statement.

Events occurring after the reporting date

Changes across Australian Ethical Investment managed fund products were implemented on 1 July 2015 to efficiently enable future growth and broaden product distribution opportunities. The Scheme will now be known as Australian Ethical Balanced Fund and an additional class of units has been introduced to hold related party investments (disclosed at note 17). All of the Australian Ethical Superannuation options and other Australian Ethical managed fund holdings as at 1 July 2015 have been reclassified, and all future applications and redemptions will be allocated, to this class.

As the investments in the Scheme are measured at their 30 June 2015 fair values in the financial report, any volatility in values subsequent to the balance date is not reflected in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income or the Statement of Financial Position. However the volatility in value of investments has been reflected in the current unit price.

Except as outlined above, during the period between the end of the financial year and the date of this report, there were no items, transactions or events of a material and unusual nature likely in the opinion of the Responsible Entity, to affect significantly the operations of the Scheme, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Scheme in future financial years.

Indemnities and insurance premiums for the Responsible Entity and auditors

No insurance premiums are paid for out of the assets of the Scheme for insurance cover provided to the Responsible Entity, its officers or auditor of the Scheme. Where the Responsible Entity acts in accordance with the Scheme's constitution and the law, it is generally entitled to an indemnity out of the assets of the Scheme against losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Scheme. The auditor of the Scheme is not indemnified out of the assets of the Scheme.

Related party disclosures

Fees paid to the Responsible Entity and its associates out of Scheme assets is shown in note 17 of the attached financial statements.

Environmental regulation

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

Auditor's declaration

The auditor's independence declaration is included on page 25 of the annual report and forms part of the Directors report for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited.



Phil Vernon
Managing Director
Australian Ethical Investment Limited
25 September 2015

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Investment income			
Interest income	4	603,871	699,510
Dividend and distribution income	5	8,729,971	5,158,474
Net change in fair value of financial assets	6	22,384,112	30,974,765
Rental income	11	681,028	623,392
Other income		-	20,609
Net investment income		<u>32,398,982</u>	<u>37,476,750</u>
Operating expenses			
Management fees	17	3,013,174	1,514,153
Administration fees	17	-	486,440
Amortisation	12	53,140	53,140
Investment property expenses	11	201,362	198,620
Operating expenses before finance costs		<u>3,267,676</u>	<u>2,252,353</u>
Profit from operating activities		29,131,306	35,224,397
Finance costs			
Distributions paid and payable to unitholders of the Scheme	14	<u>(5,037,557)</u>	<u>(3,199,836)</u>
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders (total comprehensive income)	3	<u><u>24,093,749</u></u>	<u><u>32,024,561</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	23,216,333	19,615,191
Trade and other receivables	8	6,174,772	3,685,236
Financial assets held at fair value through profit and loss	9	385,098,525	294,651,579
Loans and receivables held at amortised cost	10	1,750,879	3,735,779
Investment properties held at fair value	11	5,615,000	5,450,000
Intangible assets	12	22,142	75,282
Total assets		421,877,651	327,213,067
Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	13	175,028	220,889
Distribution payable	14	3,623,009	2,335,820
Total liabilities		3,798,037	2,556,709
Net assets attributable to unitholders	3	418,079,614	324,656,358
Represented by:			
Net assets attributable to unitholders at redemption price		422,186,035	327,641,830
Amounts payable to unitholders of the scheme		(3,623,009)	(2,335,820)
Adjustments arising from different unit pricing and accounting valuation		(483,412)	(649,652)
Total net assets attributable to unitholders	3	418,079,614	324,656,358

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2015

The Scheme's net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability under AASB 132 '*Financial Instruments: Presentation*'. As such the Scheme has no equity and no items of changes in equity at the start and end of the year.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Interest received		621,607	669,814
Dividends and distributions received		6,387,231	4,365,879
Rental and other income received		703,697	639,723
Expenses paid		(3,288,165)	(2,169,586)
Net cash provided by operating activities	16	4,424,370	3,505,830
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of investments		8,432,033	1,575,208
Proceeds from return of capital		-	10,936,446
Loans held at amortised cost repaid		1,984,900	1,398,738
Purchase of investments		(76,659,646)	(37,012,679)
Net cash used in investing activities		(66,242,713)	(23,102,287)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from issue of units		75,953,889	49,535,825
Payment of redemption of units		(10,108,563)	(13,854,080)
Distributions paid to unitholders		(425,841)	(425,768)
Net cash provided by financing activities		65,419,485	35,255,977
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		3,601,142	15,659,520
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		19,615,191	3,955,671
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	7	23,216,333	19,615,191

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 1 - Statement of significant accounting policies

Reporting Entity

The Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust, the "Scheme") is a registered managed investment scheme under the Corporations Act 2001. The Scheme was constituted on 2 November 1999. The Scheme will terminate on 1 November 2079 unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme constitution. The Scheme is domiciled in Australia and is a for profit entity. The financial statements of the Scheme are for the year ended 30 June 2015.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Corporations Act 2001. The financial statements of the Scheme complies with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors of the Responsible Entity on 25 September 2015.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the functional currency are prepared on a fair value basis with financial assets designated at fair value through profit and loss and derivatives which are measured at fair value, with the exception of receivables and payables which are measured at amortised cost.

The statement of financial position is prepared 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 expected to be recovered within twelve months, except for instruments in financial assets and net assets attributable to unitholders.

Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AASBs requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the result of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates. These accounting policies have been applied consistently.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

Refer to note 18 (g) Financial risk management and financial instruments - fair values, which contains information about estimation of fair values of financial instruments.

Accounting policies

There were no changes in accounting policies.

(a) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise deposits with banks and highly liquid financial assets with maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in their fair value and are used by the Scheme in the management of short-term commitments.

(b) Financial instruments

Financial instruments comprise financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss, trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, trade and other payables, and distributions payable.

Recognition and initial measurement

A financial instrument is recognised when the Scheme becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Regular way purchase and sales of financial assets are accounted for at trade date (i.e. the date the Scheme commits itself to purchase or sell the asset).

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised initially at fair value, with transaction costs recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. Financial assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs.

Derecognition

The Scheme derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Scheme neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and does not retain control of the financial asset.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 1 - Statement of significant accounting policies - continued

Derecognition- continued

On derecognition of a financial asset, the difference between the carrying amount of the asset (or the carrying amount allocated to the portion of the asset that is derecognised) and the consideration received (including any new asset obtained less any new liability assumed) is recognised in profit or loss. Any interest in such transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the Scheme is recognised as a separate asset or liability.

The Scheme derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled, or expire.

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss are classified as either held for trading or are designated at fair value through profit or loss. Financial assets and liabilities held for trading include derivative financial instruments. Financial assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss include equity securities, investments in unit trusts and fixed interest securities.

Measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition, all instruments classified at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value with changes in their fair value recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. All other financial instruments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less any recognised impairment.

Financial liabilities arising from redeemable units issued by the Scheme are carried at the redemption amount representing the unitholders' rights to the residual interest in the Scheme's assets, effectively the fair value at the reporting date.

Fair value measurement principles

The Scheme can invest into a variety of assets, including cash, equities, fixed and floating rate interest securities, unit trusts and derivative contracts. Generally, valuation information is obtained from third party industry standard service providers to ensure that the most recent security prices are obtained. The prices used to value investments include, but are not limited to:

- independent prices obtained for each security;
- quoted 'bid' prices on long securities and quoted 'ask' prices on securities sold short;
- redemption prices published by the relevant Responsible Entity, for investments into unlisted unit trusts.

For certain investments, prices cannot be obtained from the above sources. In these instances, valuations obtained from service providers are estimated through the use of valuation models which are consistent with accepted industry practice and incorporate the best available information regarding assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the assets or liabilities. Irrespective of the method used by third party industry standard service providers to obtain valuations, prices achieved in actual transactions may be different.

Impairment of financial assets held at amortised cost

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Losses are recognised in profit or loss. If an event occurring after the impairment was recognised causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, then the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss.

Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statements 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.

Derivative financial instruments

In accordance with the Investment Mandate, the Scheme may invest in derivative financial instruments to gain or hedge exposure to equities, interest rates or foreign currencies. Derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at cost. Subsequent to initial recognition, derivative financial instruments are stated at fair value. The gain or loss on remeasurement to fair value is recognised immediately in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

(c) Loans, trade and other receivables

Receivables are carried at amortised cost and may include accrued income and other receivables such as Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC).

(d) Investment property

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation (including property under construction for such purposes), is measured initially at its cost, including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, investment property is measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of investment property are included in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 1 - Statement of significant accounting policies - continued

(d) Investment property - continued

An investment property is derecognised upon disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits are expected from the disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the property (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in profit or loss in the period in which the property is derecognised.

(e) Trade and other payables

Payables are carried at amortised cost and may include amounts for unsettled purchases, accrued expenses and other payables such as GST and redemption monies owing by the Scheme. Unsettled purchases are amounts due to brokers for securities purchased that have not been paid at reporting date. Trades are recorded on trade date and normally settle within three business days. Accrued expenses include management fees payable.

(f) Distributions paid and payable

In accordance with the Constitution, the Scheme fully distributes its net income to unitholders. The distributions are determined by reference to the net taxable income of the Scheme. Distributable income includes capital gains arising from the disposal of investments. Unrealised gains and losses are transferred to net assets attributable to unitholders and are not assessable or distributable until realised. Realised capital losses are not distributed to unitholders but are retained to be offset against any future realised capital gains. Distributions paid and payable to unitholders are recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Comprehensive Income as 'Finance costs'. Distributions paid are included in the Statement of Cash Flows as 'Net cash flows (used in) provided by financing activities'.

(g) Change in net assets attributable to unitholders

Change in net assets attributable to unitholders may consist of realised net capital losses and unrealised increments and decrements arising from fluctuations in the value of investments. They are included in the determination of distributable income when assessable for taxation purposes.

(h) Revenue

Interest income

Interest income is recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income as it accrues. Interest income is recognised on a gross basis, including withholding tax, if any.

Dividend and distribution income

Dividend income relating to exchange-traded equity investments is recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income on the ex-dividend date. Income distributions from other managed investment schemes are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as dividend income on a present entitlement basis.

In some cases, the Scheme may receive or choose to receive dividends in the form of additional shares rather than cash. In such cases the Scheme recognises the dividend income of a dividend alternative with the corresponding increase in investments.

Rental income

Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the event that lease incentives are paid to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as an asset. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental income on a straight-line basis, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

(i) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Scheme qualifies for Reduced Input Tax Credits (RITC's) at a rate of between 55% to 75% depending on the service.

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO is included in receivables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(j) Income tax

Under current income tax legislation the Scheme is not liable to pay income tax as the net income of the Scheme is assessable in the hands of the beneficiaries (the unitholders) who are 'presently entitled' to the income of the Scheme. There is no income of the Scheme to which the unitholders are not presently entitled and additionally, the Scheme's Constitution requires the distribution of the full amount of the net income of the Scheme to the unitholders each period.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 1 - Statement of significant accounting policies - continued

(j) Income tax - continued

As a result, deferred taxes have not been recognised in the financial statements in relation to differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases, including taxes on capital gains which could arise in the event of a sale of investments for the amount at which they are stated in the financial statements. In the event that taxable gains are realised by the Scheme, these gains would be included in the taxable income that is assessable in the hands of the unitholders as noted above.

Realised capital losses are not distributed to unitholders but are retained within the Scheme to be offset against any realised capital gains. The benefit of any carried forward capital losses are also not recognised in the financial statements. If in any period realised capital gains exceed realised capital losses, including those carried forward from earlier periods and eligible for offset, the excess is included in taxable income that is assessable in the hands of unitholders in that period and is distributed to unitholders in accordance with the requirements of the Scheme's Constitution.

(k) Net assets attributable to unitholders

In accordance with AASB 132, unitholders' funds are classified as a financial liability and disclosed as such in the Statement of Financial Position, being referred to as 'Net assets attributable to unitholders'. The units can be put back to the Scheme at any time for cash equal to the proportionate share of the Scheme's net asset values. The value of redeemable units is measured at the redemption amount that is payable (based on the redemption unit price) at the Statement of Financial Position date if unitholders exercised their right to put the units back to the Scheme. Changes in the value of this financial liability are recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

(l) Expenses

All expenses, including management fees, are recognised in the profit or loss on an accruals basis.

(m) Foreign currency transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated to Australian currency at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transactions. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the reporting date. Unrealised foreign exchange gains or losses, arising on translation of assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency at reporting date, are recognised as part of the 'Net change in fair value of investments' in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Comprehensive Income. Realised gains and losses on amounts denominated in foreign currencies are also brought to account as part of 'Net change in fair value of investments' in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income and as part of 'Other income received' in the Statement of Cash Flows.

(n) Capitalised software

Intangible assets are held at cost less accumulated amortisation. The amortisable amount of all intangible assets are amortised over their estimated useful lives to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

A straight line basis of amortisation has been adopted for capitalised software. The amortisation rates are 3 - 5 years. The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. When re-valued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(o) Standards and interpretations in issue not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2015 reporting period and have not yet been early adopted by the Scheme. The assessment of the impact of these new standards (to the extent relevant to the Scheme) and interpretations is set out below:

AASB 9 Financial Instruments (effective from 1 January 2018)

AASB 9 Financial Instruments addresses the classification, measurement and derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities. It has also now introduced revised rules around hedge accounting. The standard is available for early adoption but management does not expect this to have a significant impact on the recognition and measurement of the Scheme's financial instruments as they are carried at fair value through profit or loss. Further, the derecognition rules have not been changed from the previous requirements, and the Scheme does not apply hedge accounting. The Scheme has not yet decided when to adopt AASB 9.

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (effective from 1 January 2017)

The Scheme has also not yet adopted AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* which looks at the nature, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from a contract. The Scheme has not yet decided when to adopt AASB 15 but management does not expect it will have a significant impact on the recognition and measurement of the Scheme's financial instruments.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 2 - Issued units

Each unit represents a right to an individual share in the Scheme per the Constitution. There are no separate classes of units and each unit has the same rights attaching to it as all other units in the Scheme.

	2015 Units	2014 Units
On issue at beginning of year	257,081,370	225,592,677
Issued	59,212,216	42,883,393
Redeemed	(7,587,621)	(11,394,700)
On issue at year end	<u>308,705,965</u>	<u>257,081,370</u>

Note 3 - Net assets attributable to unitholders

The Scheme manages its net assets attributable to unitholders as capital, notwithstanding net assets attributable to unitholders are classified as a liability. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Scheme is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders. Daily applications and redemptions are reviewed relative to the liquidity of the Scheme's underlying assets on a daily basis by the Responsible Entity. Under the terms of the Scheme's Constitution, the responsible entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer a redemptions of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interest of the unitholders.

The objective of the Scheme is to provide unitholders with returns in accordance with the Product Disclosure Statement. The Scheme aims to deliver income and capital appreciation through investing in equities. The Scheme is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Opening balance	324,656,358	253,795,867
Issued	76,113,323	49,570,228
Distributions reinvested	3,324,747	3,119,782
Redeemed	(10,108,563)	(13,854,080)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders	24,093,749	32,024,561
Total net assets attributable to unitholders	<u>418,079,614</u>	<u>324,656,358</u>

Note 4 - Interest income

Interest income from securities designated at fair value through profit and loss	140,745	181,725
Interest income from financial assets carried at amortised cost:		
Cash and cash equivalents	356,091	194,551
Loans and receivables	107,035	323,234
	<u>603,871</u>	<u>699,510</u>

Note 5 - Dividend and distribution income

Dividend and distribution income from securities designated at FVTPL	8,729,971	5,158,474
	<u>8,729,971</u>	<u>5,158,474</u>

Note 6 - Gains/(losses) on Financial assets

Unrealised gain/(loss) arising on financial assets designated as at FVTPL		
Unit trusts	21,974,966	31,240,561
Fixed interest securities	(949,361)	285,333
Change in fair value of investment properties	165,000	(150,000)
	<u>21,190,605</u>	<u>31,375,894</u>
Gain/(loss) on the disposal of investments	<u>1,193,507</u>	<u>(401,129)</u>
Net change in fair value of financial assets	<u>22,384,112</u>	<u>30,974,765</u>

Note 7 - Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank	23,216,333	19,612,104
Cash on Deposit - Property Manager	-	3,087
	<u>23,216,333</u>	<u>19,615,191</u>

Cash at bank earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates. For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash at bank and cash on deposit.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

	2015	2014
Note 8 - Trade and other receivables	\$	\$
Interest receivable	86,442	104,178
Rent and other income receivable	-	22,670
Dividends and distributions receivable	5,835,341	3,492,601
Applications receivable	207,400	47,966
Other receivables	45,589	17,821
	6,174,772	3,685,236

Note 9 - Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

		Note
Designated at fair value through profit or loss		
Unit trusts:		
Unlisted	385,098,525	289,491,859
Interest bearing securities		
Government securities	-	5,159,720
	385,098,525	294,651,579

The Scheme's accounting policy on fair value measurements is discussed in note 1(b).

Note 10 - Loans and receivables held at amortised cost

Loans to other entities - secured (i)	750,879	2,735,779
Term deposits	1,000,000	1,000,000
	1,750,879	3,735,779

(i) The Scheme holds loans to external parties secured by first mortgages that were paid out in full in August 2015. The weighted average interest rate on these loans is 5.77% per annum (2014: 7.53% per annum).

Note 11 - Investment properties

		Note
Commercial property at fair value		18
	5,615,000	5,450,000

At Fair Value

Opening balance at 1 July	5,450,000	5,600,000
Net gain/(loss) on property revaluation	165,000	(150,000)
Closing balance at 30 June	5,615,000	5,450,000

(a) Amounts recognised in profit and loss for

Rental income	681,028	623,392
Recoverable expenses income	-	20,609
Direct operating expenses from property that generate income	(201,362)	(198,620)
	479,666	445,381

(b) Valuation basis

Property investments are investments in properties which are held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or for both. Property investments are carried at fair value. An external valuation company, having an appropriately recognised professional qualification and recent experience in the location and category of property being valued, values the investment properties annually. The fair values are based on market values, being the estimated amount for which a property could be exchanged on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller, in an arm's length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion.

The investment properties have been independently valued in July 2015 by Egan National Valuers (the "valuers") (2014: CBRE and Jones Lang LaSalle), independent valuers not related to the Group, and the directors are of the view that these valuations reflect the fair value of the properties at 30 June 2015. The valuations have been made on the basis of fair value, using the capitalised rate. The capitalisation rate utilised for the 30 June 2015 valuations was 7.00 to 8.50% (30 June 2014: 8.50 to 9.00%). The valuers are members of the Institute of Valuers of Australia. Valuations reflect, where appropriate, the type of tenants, future rent reviews and market conditions. Any change in any of these factors could have a significant impact on the value of the Scheme's property investments. Any gain or loss from a change in fair value is recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. All property acquisition costs in respect of properties acquired are capitalised into the value of the property investments at the time of purchase to reflect the total acquisition cost in the Statement of Financial Position. Additions and other expenditure on property investments which are capital in nature are capitalised as incurred.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 11 - Investment properties - continued

(c) Leasing arrangements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases of investment properties not recognised in the financial statements are receivable as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Within one year	544,379	673,291
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	630,753	1,426,875
	1,175,132	2,100,166

Operating leases relate to the investment property owned by the Scheme with lease terms of between 1 to 2 years. All operating lease contracts contain market review clauses in the event that the lessee exercises its option to renew. The lessee does not have an option to purchase the property at the expiry of the lease period.

Note 12 - Intangible assets

Capitalised project costs	22,142	75,282
	22,142	75,282

Capitalised project costs

At cost

Balance as at 1 July	345,179	345,179
Balance as at 30 June	345,179	345,179

Accumulated amortisation and impairment

Balance as at 1 July	269,897	216,757
Amortisation	53,140	53,140
Balance as at 30 June	323,037	269,897

Note 13 - Trade and other payables

Other payables	175,028	220,889
	175,028	220,889

Note 14 - Distributions paid and payable

Distributions paid during the year	1,414,548	864,016
Distributions payable	3,623,009	2,335,820
	5,037,557	3,199,836

The Scheme paid an interim distribution of 0.50 (December 2013: 0.37). The year end distribution payable is 1.17 (June 2014: 0.91) cents per unit. The prior year final distribution of \$2,335,820 was paid during the period (June 2013: \$2,681,534).

Note 15 - Auditors' remuneration

Audit fees in relation to the Scheme are paid directly by the Responsible Entity. During the year the following fees were paid or payable by the Responsible Entity for services in relation to the audit of the Scheme.

Financial statements audit fees	28,690	28,300
Compliance plan audit	4,003	3,425
	32,693	31,725

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 16 - Reconciliation of profit for the period to net cash provided by operating activities

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Net profit from operating activities	29,131,306	35,224,397
Adjustments for:		
Net (gains)/losses on disposal of investments	(1,193,507)	401,129
Net gains on revaluation of investments	(21,190,605)	(31,375,894)
Amortisation of project costs	53,140	53,140
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Increase in income and other receivables	(2,330,103)	(806,956)
(Decrease)/increase in other payables	(45,861)	10,014
Net cash provided by operating activities	4,424,370	3,505,830

Non-cash financing and investing activities

During the year income distributions totalling \$3,324,747 (2014: \$3,119,782) were reinvested by unitholders for additional units in the Scheme.

Note 17 - Related party disclosures

Australian Ethical Investment Limited (AEIL), as Responsible Entity of each Scheme, provides investment services for the Scheme in accordance with each Scheme's constitution. Transactions with the Responsible Entity are undertaken on commercial terms and conditions.

The Scheme does not employ personnel in its own right. However it is required to have an incorporated Responsible Entity to manage the activities of the Scheme and this is considered the key management personnel.

The following persons were directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report unless otherwise indicated:

Phil Vernon
 Kate Greenhill
 Stephen Gibbs
 Mara Bun
 Tony Cole

None of the directors has an investment in the Scheme.

There were no other persons with responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Scheme, directly and indirectly during or since the end of the financial year.

At 1 July 2014 all Responsible Entity fees were consolidated under a single management fee being 2.50%. Fees for the comparable 2014 period were 2.338% for the retail class (1.90% management fee and a 0.438% administration fee).

Management fees	3,013,174	1,514,153
Administration fees	-	486,440
	3,013,174	2,000,593

Fees payable to the Responsible Entity at 30 June 2015 were \$129,045 (2014: \$194,683) and are included in other payables. An additional class of units was introduced at 1 July 2015 to hold related party investments.

Australian Ethical Superannuation Pty Ltd (ABN 43 079 259 733), a subsidiary of AEIL, is the Trustee of the Australian Ethical Retail Superannuation Fund (AERSF). Transactions with the AERSF are undertaken on commercial terms and conditions.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 17 - Related party disclosures - continued

Parties related to the Scheme (including the Responsible Entity, its related parties and other Schemes managed by the Responsible Entity), held units in the Scheme as follows:

30 June 2015

	Units held opening \$	Units held closing \$	Interest held %	Units acquired/(disposed) \$	Distributions paid/payable by the Scheme \$
AERSF	241,378,836	321,536,669	76.91%	62,045,784	3,862,606

30 June 2014

	Units held opening \$	Units held closing \$	Interest held %	Units acquired/(disposed) \$	Distributions paid/payable by the Scheme \$
AERSF	179,012,377	241,378,836	74.34%	39,447,559	17,984,244

The Scheme held an investment in a related party as follows:

30 June 2015

	Units held opening \$	Units held closing \$	Interest held %	Units acquired/(disposed) \$	Distributions paid/payable to the Scheme \$
Australian Ethical Fixed Interest Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Fixed Interest Trust)	94,051,732	103,879,187	70.01%	8,685,155	3,089,359
Australian Ethical International Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical International Equities Trust)	46,719,566	71,896,161	32.11%	18,750,000	-
Australian Ethical Cash Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Cash Trust)	-	8,162,648	14.14%	8,250,000	117,372
Australian Ethical Diversified Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Larger Companies Trust)	115,558,078	139,313,736	39.85%	12,070,489	1,617,606
Australian Ethical Property Trust	5,217,817	5,332,655	49.34%	-	-
Australian Ethical Australian Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Smaller Companies Trust)	26,711,575	29,433,129	8.15%	1,205,951	3,129,998

30 June 2014

	Units held opening \$	Units held closing \$	Interest held %	Units acquired/(disposed) or capital returned \$	Distributions paid/payable by the Scheme \$
Australian Ethical Fixed Interest Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Fixed Interest Trust)	68,520,344	94,051,732	77.46%	23,739,647	3,156,051
Australian Ethical International Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical International Equities Trust)	35,057,756	46,719,566	33.19%	2,582,000	-
Australian Ethical Diversified Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Larger Companies Trust)	87,981,758	115,558,078	42.39%	10,262,363	670,072
Australian Ethical Property Trust	16,122,085	5,217,817	49.31%	(10,936,446)	-
Australian Ethical Australian Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Smaller Companies Trust)	23,851,085	26,711,575	8.76%	101,468	1,123,718

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 17 - Related party disclosures - continued

Distributions paid/payable to the Scheme represent those distributions that accrued during the current financial year. The 2014 comparatives have been amended to be consistent with the current year disclosure.

Note 18 - Financial risk management and financial instruments

The Scheme is exposed to a variety of financial risks from investments in financial instruments, including operational risk, market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk.

This note presents information about the Scheme's exposure to each of the above risks, the Scheme's objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risks and the management of unitholder funds.

(a) Categories of financial instruments	2015	2014
<i>Financial assets</i>	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	23,216,333	19,615,191
Financial assets held at FVTPL	385,098,525	294,651,579
Loans and receivables held at amortised cost	1,750,879	3,735,779
Trade and other receivables	6,174,772	3,685,236
	<u>416,240,509</u>	<u>321,687,785</u>
<i>Financial liabilities</i>		
Other financial liabilities		
Trade and other payables	175,028	220,889
Distribution payable	3,623,009	2,335,820
Net assets attributable to unitholders	418,079,614	324,656,358
	<u>421,877,651</u>	<u>327,213,067</u>

(b) Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss arising from a wide variety of causes associated with the processes, technology and infrastructure supporting the Scheme's activities with financial instruments, either internally within the Scheme or externally at the Scheme's service providers, and from external factors other than credit, market and liquidity risks such as those arising from legal and regulatory requirements and generally accepted standards of investment management behaviour.

The Scheme's objective is to manage operational risk so as to balance the limiting of financial losses and damage to its reputation with achieving its investment objective of generating returns to investors.

This responsibility is supported by the development of overall standards for the management of operational risk, which encompasses the controls and processes at the service providers and the establishment of service levels with the service providers, in the following areas:

- requirements for:
 - appropriate segregation of duties between various functions, roles and responsibilities;
 - reconciliation and monitoring of transactions; and
 - periodic assessment of operational risk faced;
- documentation of controls and procedures;
- the adequacy of controls and procedures to address the risks identified;
- compliance with regulatory and other legal requirements;
- development of contingency plans;
- training and professional development;
- ethical and business standards; and
- risk mitigation, including insurance if this is effective.

Assessment of the adequacy of the controls and processes in place at the service providers with respect to operational risk is carried out via regular discussions and a review of the service providers' Controls Reports (GS007) on internal controls.

Substantially all of the assets of the Scheme are held by external custodian National Australia Bank Limited. The fund accounting manager monitors the credit ratings and capital adequacy of its custodian on a quarterly basis, and reviews the findings documented in the GS007 report on the internal controls annually.

(c) Financial risk management objectives

The Scheme is exposed to a number of risks due to the nature of its activities as further set out in its Product Disclosure Statement. These risks include market risk (including currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk, and liquidity risk. The Scheme's objective in managing these risks is the protection and enhancement of unitholder value.

The Scheme's risk management policies are approved by the Responsible Entity and seek to minimise the potential adverse effects of these risks on the Scheme's financial performance. The risk management system is an ongoing process of identification, measurement, monitoring and controlling risk.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 18 - Financial risk management and financial instruments - continued

(c) Financial risk management objectives - continued

The Investment Committee's Charter requires it to oversee the processes which govern the investment of money of the Scheme for which Australian Ethical Investment Limited is the responsible entity. The Investment Committee bears primary responsibility for the oversight of processes for the management of the above financial risks. It meets on a regular basis to analyse financial risk exposure and to evaluate management strategies in the context of the most recent economic conditions and forecasts.

(d)(i) 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 and this will affect the Scheme's income or the fair value of its holdings of financial instruments. Market risk comprises three types of risk: foreign exchange (currency risk), market interest rates (interest rate risk) and market prices (price risk). The portfolio manager manages the financial risks relating to the operations of the Scheme in accordance with an investment mandate set out in accordance with the Scheme's Constitution and Product Disclosure Statement. The Scheme's investment mandate is to invest in a range of assets, which may include properties, capital stable interest bearing securities and equity investments, both domestic and international. There has been no change to the Scheme's exposure to market risks or the manner in which it manages and measures the risk.

(d)(ii) Interest rate risk management

Interest rate risk represents the risk that the Scheme's financial performance will be adversely affected by fluctuations in interest rates.

The Scheme's interest rate risk is managed on a daily basis by the portfolio managers in accordance with the defined investment process and within the guidelines and restrictions outlined in the Scheme's investment mandate. The Scheme is monitored for mandate compliance. Where the interest rate risk exposure moves outside the Schemes' mandate restrictions or guidelines, the portfolio managers will rebalance the portfolios.

The Scheme's exposures to interest rates on financial assets and financial liabilities are detailed in the liquidity risk management section of this note.

Management has performed a sensitivity analysis relating to the Scheme's exposure to interest rate risk at balance sheet date. This sensitivity analysis demonstrates the effect on the current year results and net assets attributable to unitholders which could result from a change in interest rates by 1% (2014: 1%). In the analysis it is assumed that the amount of financial assets exposed to fluctuations in interest rates as at balance sheet date is representative of balances held throughout the financial year. No other flow on effects of fluctuations in interest rates have been taken into account.

At balance date, the effect on profit and net assets attributable to unitholders, as a result of changes in the interest rate, with all other variables remaining constant would be as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Increase in interest rate by 1%	393,383	1,786,376
Decrease in interest rate by 1%	(393,383)	(1,786,376)

(d)(iii) Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the total value of investments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer or all factors affecting all instruments traded in the market. The Scheme has investments in equity instruments which exposes it to price risk. The investment manager manages the Scheme's market risk on a daily basis in accordance with the Scheme's investment objectives and policies.

The Scheme's portfolio managers aim to manage the impact of market price risk through the use of consistent and carefully considered investment guidelines. Risk management techniques are used in the selection of investments. Investments (including derivatives) are only purchased that meet investment criteria. Risk can be reduced by diversifying investments across several asset managers, markets, regions and different asset classes.

As the majority of the Scheme's financial instruments are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the income statement, all changes in market conditions will directly affect investment income.

Management has performed a sensitivity analysis relating to the Scheme's exposure to price risk at the balance sheet date. This sensitivity analysis demonstrates the effect on current year results and net assets attributable to unit holders which could result from a change in market prices of 10% (2014: 10%). In the analysis it is assumed that the amount of financial assets exposed to fluctuations in market prices as at the balance sheet date is representative of balances held throughout the financial year. No other flow on effects or fluctuations in fair value have been taken into account.

At balance date, the effect on net assets attributable to unitholders and the change in net assets attributable to unit holders as a result of changes in market prices with all other variables remaining constant would be as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Increase in market prices by 10%	38,509,852	29,465,158
Decrease in market prices by 10%	(38,509,852)	(29,465,158)

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 18 - Financial risk management and financial instruments - continued

(e) Credit risk management

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss from a counterparty failing to meet its contractual commitments. The Scheme is predominately exposed to credit risk through its interest bearing securities, deposits at banks and trade and other receivables.

The Scheme's policy over credit risk is to minimise its exposure to counterparties, holding cash and cash equivalents at financial institutions with a credit rating of 'A' or higher and settling trade within 3 business days, and other receivables on a monthly basis.

In order to manage the exposure to risk, limitations are imposed on the level of unrated securities that can be held (no more than 5%) and the total value of securities rate with a rating of less than BBB (no more than 10%). The Scheme's exposure to interest bearing securities, loans and receivables is primarily through its investment in unlisted unit trusts.

At the balance sheet date, all cash was held with National Australia Bank, which carries a Standard & Poor's rating of AA- at 30 June 2015 (2014: AA-).

No financial assets carried at amortised cost were past due or impaired at 30 June 2015 (2014: nil).

The maximum credit risk exposure is represented by the respective carrying amounts of the relevant financial asset in the Statement of Financial Position.

The table below details the maximum exposure to credit risk for the assets held by the Scheme.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	23,216,333	19,615,191
Trade and other receivables	6,174,772	3,685,236
Loans and receivables	1,750,879	3,735,779
Interest bearing securities	-	5,159,720
Total	<u>31,141,984</u>	<u>32,195,926</u>

(e)(ii) Investments in interest bearing securities, loans and receivables

At 30 June the Scheme was invested in interest bearing securities, loans and receivables with the following credit quality ratings:

	2015	2014
Rating	%	%
AAA/ AA	29%	64%
A	14%	3%
BBB	0%	0%
Not rated	57%	33%
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

Not rated securities are primarily loans to external parties secured by first mortgages that were paid out in full in August 2015. The table shows ratings of these direct investments only. The Scheme's exposure to interest bearing securities, loans and receivables is primarily through its investment in unlisted unit trusts.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 18 - Financial risk management and financial instruments - continued

(f) Liquidity risk management

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Scheme will encounter difficulty in realising assets or otherwise raising funds to meet commitments associated with financial instruments.

The Scheme is exposed to daily cash redemptions of redeemable units. Therefore, the approach to managing liquidity is for the Scheme to invest a significant portion of their funds in financial instruments which under normal market conditions are readily convertible into cash (for example, the Scheme's unlisted unit trusts). As a result, there is a risk that the Scheme may not be able to liquidate all of these investments at their fair value in order to meet its liquidity requirements. In the event of significant redemptions, the Scheme has the ability to suspend redemptions until it can realise investments to meet the redemptions.

All payables of the Scheme are classed as normal operating obligations and are to be paid within three months of balance date.

Financial instrument composition and maturity analysis

	Weighted average interest rate %	2015				Total
		1-3 months	3 months to 1 year	1 to 5 years	5+ years	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Variable interest-bearing assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	1.90	23,216,333	-	-	-	23,216,333
Loan and receivables	5.56	750,879	-	1,000,000	-	1,750,879
Non-interest bearing						
Financial assets	N/A	385,098,525	-	-	-	385,098,525
Trade and other receivables	N/A	6,174,772	-	-	-	6,174,772
Total financial assets		415,240,509	-	1,000,000	-	416,240,509
Non-interest bearing						
Trade and other payables	N/A	175,028	-	-	-	175,028
Distribution payable	N/A	3,623,009	-	-	-	3,623,009
Amounts payable to unitholders	N/A	418,079,614	-	-	-	418,079,614
Total financial liabilities		421,877,651	-	-	-	421,877,651
	Weighted average interest rate %	2014				Total
		1-3 months	3 months to 1 year	1 to 5 years	5+ years	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Variable interest-bearing assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	2.40	19,615,191	-	-	-	19,615,191
Financial assets	4.22	-	-	5,159,720	-	5,159,720
Loans and receivables	7.05	250,000	-	750,000	2,735,779	3,735,779
Non-interest bearing						
Trade and other receivables	N/A	289,491,859	-	-	-	289,491,859
Financial assets	N/A	3,685,236	-	-	-	3,685,236
Total financial assets		313,042,286	-	5,909,720	2,735,779	321,687,785
Non-interest bearing						
Trade and other payables	N/A	220,889	-	-	-	220,889
Distribution payable	N/A	2,335,820	-	-	-	2,335,820
Amounts payable to unitholders	N/A	324,656,358	-	-	-	324,656,358
Total financial liabilities		327,213,067	-	-	-	327,213,067

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 18 - Financial risk management and financial instruments - continued

(g) Fair values

The following table provides an analysis of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable.

- Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. The Scheme utilises bid prices for its financial assets and liabilities. 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.

- Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices). The fair value of financial assets that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions. The Scheme utilises bid prices for its financial assets and liabilities, wherever applicable.

- Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs). This category includes instruments valued using quoted prices in active markets for similar instruments, quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are considered less than active or other valuation techniques.

Note also that all fair value measurements of the Scheme are recurring.

	2015			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Designated at fair value through profit or loss				
Unit Trusts				
Unlisted	-	385,098,525	-	385,098,525
Investment Properties held at fair value	-	-	5,615,000	5,615,000
TOTAL	-	385,098,525	5,615,000	390,713,525

	2014			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Designated at fair value through profit or loss				
Unit Trusts				
Unlisted	-	289,491,859	-	289,491,859
Interest bearing securities				
Government securities	5,159,720	-	-	5,159,720
Investment Properties held at fair value	-	-	5,450,000	5,450,000
TOTAL	5,159,720	289,491,859	5,450,000	300,101,579

During the year there was no transfers between levels.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 18 - Financial risk management and financial instruments - continued

(g) Fair values - continued

Investments classified within level 3 represent investments in properties which are held to earn rental income and for capital appreciation. Property investments are carried at fair value based on an annual assessment by an external valuation company, having an appropriately recognised professional qualification and recent experience in the location and category of property being valued. The investment properties have been independently valued in July 2015 by Egan National Valuers (the "valuers") (2014: CBRE and Jones Lang LaSalle), independent valuers not related to the Group, and the directors are of the view that these valuation reflect the fair value of the properties at 30 June 2015. There has been no change in valuation techniques during the year.

The fair values are based on market value and market rental. Market value is the estimated amount for which an asset should exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arms length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion. Market rental is the estimated amount for which premises should rent as at the relevant date between a willing lessor and a willing lessee in an arms length transaction, wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion, and having regard to the usual market terms and conditions for leases of similar premises.

The valuer opinions were arrived at after considering relevant general and economic factors and in particular recent sales and leasing transactions of comparable properties. They have adopted the capitalisation approach to valuation as it is this basis that investment property is invariably sold. The capitalisation approach has regard to the rental value of the property and requires that four essential factors be established, namely estimated market rental income, landlord's outgoings, an appropriate rate of capitalisation and any capital adjustments that might be required in order to account for any shortfall in rental income, premium income or capital expenditure required.

The valuations have been made on the basis of fair value, using the capitalised rate. The capitalisation rate utilised for the 30 June 2015 valuations was 7.00 to 8.50% (30 June 2014: 8.50 to 9.00%). Valuations reflect, where appropriate, the type of tenants, future rent reviews and market conditions. Any change in any of these factors could have a significant impact on the value of the Scheme's property investments. Any gain or loss from a change in fair value is recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income. All property acquisition costs in respect of properties acquired are capitalised into the value of the property investments at the time of purchase to reflect the total acquisition cost in the Statement of Financial Position. Additions and other expenditure on property investments which are capital in nature are capitalised as incurred.

Management has performed a sensitivity analysis of the Scheme's exposure to changes in unobservable inputs used to value property investments at the balance sheet date. This sensitivity analysis demonstrates the effect on current year results and net assets attributable to unit holders which could result from a change in capitalisation rate of 20% (2014: 20%). In the analysis it is assumed that the amount of financial assets exposed to fluctuations in unobservable inputs as at the balance sheet date is representative of balances held throughout the financial year. No other flow on effects or fluctuations in fair value have been taken into account.

At balance date, the effect on net assets attributable to unitholders and the change in net assets attributable to unit holders as a result of changes in capitalisation rates with all other variables remaining constant would be as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Increase in capitalisation rate by 20%	1,123,000	1,090,000
Decrease in capitalisation rate by 20%	(1,123,000)	(1,090,000)

The following table shows a reconciliation from the beginning balances to the ending balances for fair value measurements in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Investment Properties held at fair value		
Opening balance at 1 July	5,450,000	-
Transfers into level 3	-	5,450,000
Total gains in profit or loss	165,000	-
	5,615,000	5,450,000

Carrying amounts versus fair value

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities approximates their carrying amounts in the statement of financial position.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 19 - Investment in unconsolidated subsidiaries

The Scheme has applied the investment entity exemption and accordingly the following subsidiaries are recorded at fair value within financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss.

Subsidiary	Fair value as at		Ownership interest	
	30-Jun-15	30-Jun-14	30-Jun-15	30-Jun-14
	\$	\$	%	%
Australian Ethical International Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical International Equities Trust)	71,896,161	46,719,566	32.11%	33.19%
Australian Ethical Cash Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Cash Trust)	8,162,648	-	14.14%	0.00%
Australian Ethical Diversified Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Larger Companies Trust)	139,313,736	115,558,078	39.85%	42.39%
Australian Ethical Property Trust	5,332,655	5,217,817	49.34%	49.31%
Australian Ethical Australian Shares Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Smaller Companies Trust)	29,433,129	26,711,575	8.15%	8.76%

Each of the above subsidiary is incorporated in Australia.

As at 30 June 2015, the Scheme controlled the following scheme which is incorporated in Australia:

Subsidiary	Fair value as at		Ownership interest	
	30-Jun-15	30-Jun-14	30-Jun-15	30-Jun-14
	\$	\$	%	%
Australian Ethical Fixed Interest Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Fixed Interest Trust)	103,879,187	94,051,732	70.01%	77.46%

The Scheme does not have current commitments or intentions and contractual obligations to provide financial or other support to its unconsolidated subsidiaries. There are no loans or advances currently made to the unconsolidated subsidiaries. There are no significant restrictions on the ability of an unconsolidated subsidiary to transfer funds to the Scheme in the form of cash distributions.

Note 20 - Involvement with unconsolidated structured entities

The following structured entities are recorded at fair value within financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss.

Type of structure entities	2015	Fair Value	Exposure	Maximum
				exposure to loss
		\$	%	\$
Unlisted Unit trusts		27,081,009	100%	27,081,009
TOTAL		27,081,009	100%	27,081,009

Type of structure entities	2014	Fair Value	Exposure	Maximum
				exposure to loss
		\$	%	\$
Unlisted Unit trusts		1,233,091	100%	1,233,091
TOTAL		1,233,091	100%	1,233,091

The fair value of the exposure will change on a daily basis throughout the period and in subsequent periods and will cease once the investments are disposed of. The unconsolidated structured entities are managed in accordance with the investment strategy with the respective underlying investment managers. The investment decisions of the Scheme are based on the analysis conducted by the investment manager. The return of the Scheme is exposed to the variability of the performance of the underlying investment strategies. The underlying investment managers receive a management fee for undertaking the management of these investments.

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 21 - Events subsequent to the reporting date

Changes across Australian Ethical Investment managed fund products were implemented on 1 July 2015. The Scheme will now be known as Australian Ethical Balanced Fund and an additional class of units has been introduced to hold related party investments (disclosed at note 17). All of the Australian Ethical Superannuation options and other Australian Ethical managed fund holdings as at 1 July 2015 have been reclassified, and all future applications and redemptions will be allocated, to this class.

As the investments in the Scheme are measured at their 30 June 2015 fair values in the financial report, any volatility in values subsequent to the balance date is not reflected in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income or the Statement of Financial Position. However the volatility in value of investments has been reflected in the current unit price.

Except as outlined above, during the period between the end of the financial year and the date of this report, there were no items, transactions or events of a material and unusual nature likely in the opinion of the Responsible Entity, to affect significantly the operations of the Scheme, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Scheme in future financial years.

Note 22 - Contingencies and commitments

There are no contingent assets or liabilities or commitments as at 30 June 2015 (2014: Nil).

Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Directors' Declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited, the Responsible Entity of the Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust, the "Scheme"):

(a) The annual financial statements and notes that are set out on pages 3 to 23 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- i. Giving a true and fair view of the Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- ii. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001; and

(b) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Scheme will be able to pay its debts when they become due and payable.

(c) The Scheme has operated during the year in accordance with the provisions of the Schemes constitution.

The Directors draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements which contains a statement of compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited.



Phil Vernon
Managing Director
Australian Ethical Investment Limited
25 September 2015



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

To: the directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited, the Responsible Entity for the Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust):

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 30 June 2015 there have been:

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

KPMG

Karen Hopkins
Partner

Sydney
25 September 2015



Independent auditor's report to the unitholders of Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust)

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust) ('the Scheme'), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, notes 1 to 22 comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the directors' declaration.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of Australian Ethical Investment Limited ('the Responsible Entity') are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In note 1, the directors of the Responsible Entity also state, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that the financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We performed the procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards, a true and fair view which is consistent with our understanding of the Scheme's financial position and of its performance.

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



Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial report of Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (formerly Australian Ethical Balanced Trust) is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Scheme's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.
- (b) the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in note 1.

KPMG

Karen Hopkins
Partner

Sydney
25 September 2015

