

VT AJ Bell Balanced Q2 2023 Report

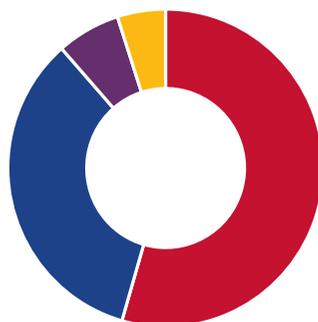
Commentary

The quarter was generally good for global stock markets and bad for bonds, though there was a more mixed picture under the surface. Sticky inflation in the UK prompted a kneejerk 0.5% rate hike from the Bank of England, bringing the base rate to 5% and boosting the pound versus major peers the US dollar, euro and yen. As the Balanced fund mixes sterling-based and foreign currency holdings, it was relatively insulated from the volatility.

The fund's asset allocation is balanced between bonds, stocks and some alternative assets. While the bond allocation suffered, damage was limited because of our allocation to emerging market and global high-yield bonds – whose higher income largely made up for declines in capital value. The allocation to stocks was bumped up in sterling terms by those in the US, with AI technology focusing attention on several large companies.

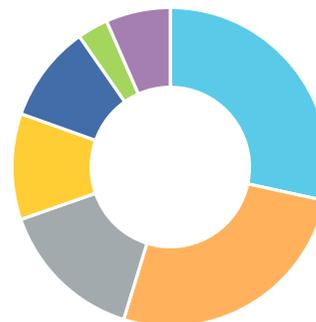
The fund finished the quarter 0.4% lower, as UK stocks, property and gilts felt the weight of association with the UK, though this was partially offset by international stocks.

Asset Breakdown



Shares	54.5%
Bonds	34.1%
Cash	6.5%
Other	4.9%

Shares Regional Breakdown



United Kingdom	28.4%
North America	26.4%
Asia Emerging	14.9%
Japan	10.8%
Asia Developed	9.8%
Africa	3.1%
Other	6.6%

Shares Sector Breakdown



Financial Services	16.7%
Technology	16.2%
Consumer Cyclical	10.4%
Industrials	9.9%
Healthcare	9.4%
Consumer Defensive	8.8%
Communication Services	7.1%
Other	21.7%

Bond Maturity Breakdown

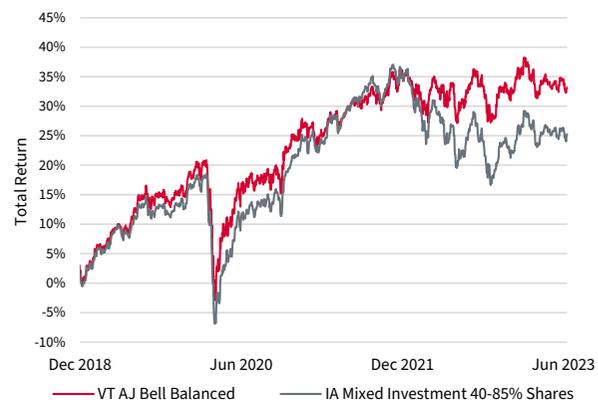


Less than 1 Year	0.8%
1-3 Years	20.9%
3-5 Years	21.1%
5-7 Years	19.5%
7-10 Years	16.4%
10-15 Years	7.7%
15-20 Years	4.3%
20-30 Years	6.9%
30+ Years	2.3%

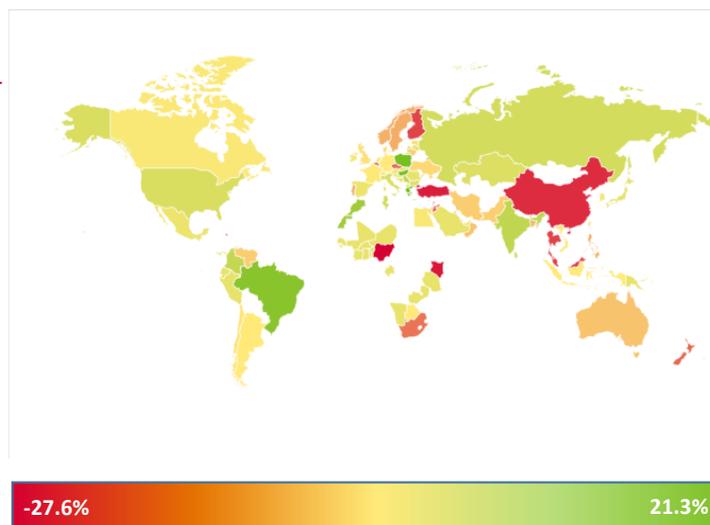
Trailing Returns (%)

Last quarter	-0.4
Year to Date	0.4
1 Year	3.1

Historic Performance



Q2 2023 Stock Market Performance (in GBP)



Top 10 Holdings

	Weight (%)
HSBC MSCI Emerging Markets ETF	16.8
Vanguard S&P 500 ETF	14.1
Vanguard FTSE UK All-Share Index	13.0
iShares ESG Overseas Corporate Bond Index	9.0
Vanguard UK Investment Grade Bond Index	8.4
Cash	6.7
Amundi MSCI Japan ETF	6.0
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index	4.8
iShares UK Property ETF	3.4
Vanguard USD Emerging Markets Government Bond ETF	3.0

Fund Snapshot

ISIN	GB00BYW8RX12
IA Sector	IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares
Inception Date	18/04/2017
Ongoing Charge	0.31%
Fund Size (£m)	644.77
12 Month Yield (Reinvested)	2.23%

⚠ The value of investments can go down as well as up and you may get back less than you originally invested. We don't offer advice, so it's important that you understand the risks, if you're unsure please consult a suitably qualified financial adviser. Past performance is not a guide to future performance and some investments need to be held for the long term. Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.