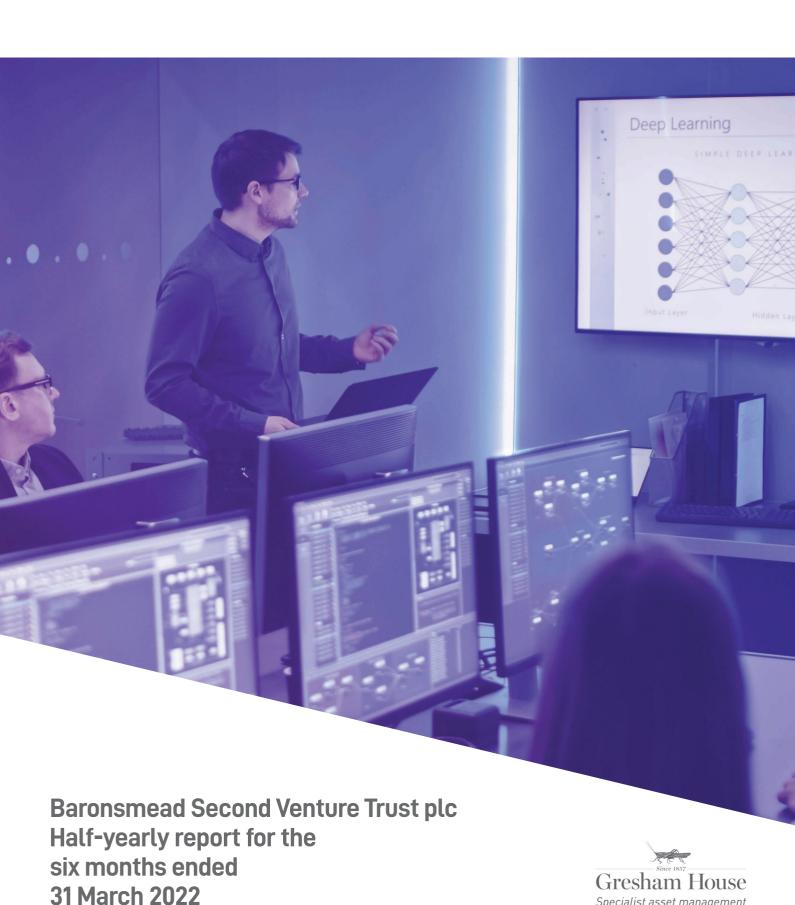
Baronsmead



Specialist asset management

About Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc

Our investment objective

Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc (the "Company") is a tax efficient listed company which aims to achieve long-term investment returns for private investors, including tax free dividends.

Investment policy

- To invest primarily in a diverse portfolio of UK growth businesses, whether unquoted or traded on AIM.
- Investments are made selectively across a range of sectors in companies that have the potential to grow and enhance their value.

Dividend policy

- The Board will, where possible, seek to pay two dividends to shareholders in each calendar year, typically an interim dividend in September and a final dividend following the Annual General Meeting in February.
- The Board will use, as a guide, when setting the dividends for a financial year, a sum representing 7 per cent. of the opening NAV of that financial year.

Key elements of the business model

Access to an attractive, diverse portfolio

Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc gives shareholders access to a diverse portfolio of growth businesses.

The Company will make investments in growth businesses, whether unquoted or traded on AIM, which are substantially based in the UK in accordance with the prevailing VCT legislation. Investments are made selectively across a range of sectors.

The Manager's approach to investing

The Manager endeavours to select the best opportunities and applies a distinctive selection criteria based on:

- Primarily investing in parts of the economy which are experiencing long-term structural growth.
- Businesses that demonstrate, or have the potential for, market leadership in their niche.
- Management teams that can develop and deliver profitable and sustainable growth.
- Companies with the potential to become an attractive asset appealing to a range of buyers at the appropriate time to sell.

In order to ensure a strong pipeline of opportunities, the Manager invests in building deep sector knowledge and networks and undertakes significant proactive marketing to interesting target companies in preferred sectors. This approach generates a network of potentially suitable businesses with which the Manager maintains a relationship ahead of possible investment opportunities.

The Manager as an influential shareholder

The Manager is an engaged and supportive shareholder (on behalf of the Company) in both unquoted and significant quoted investments. For unquoted investments, representatives of the Manager often join the investee board. The role of the Manager, with investees is to ensure that strategy is clear, the business plan can be implemented and that the management resources are in place to deliver profitable growth. The intention is to build on the business model and grow the company into an attractive target able to be either sold or potentially floated in the medium term.

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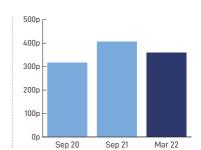
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If you have sold or otherwise transferred all of your shares in Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc, please forward this document and the accompanying form of proxy as soon as possible to the purchaser or transferee, or to the stockbroker, bank or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was, or is being, effected, for delivery to the purchaser or transferee.

Strategic report

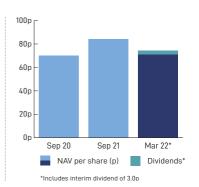
Financial highlights





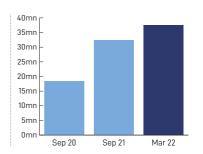
Net Asset Value ("NAV") total return to shareholders for every 100.0p invested at launch (January 2001).





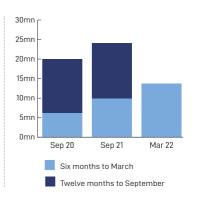
NAV per share decreased 11.9 per cent. to 74.2p, before the deduction of dividends, in the six months to 31 March 2022.





£37.5mn raised in the period (before costs).





£13.7mn realised proceeds in the period, returning 2.1x cost.

- $1. \ Alternative\ Performance\ Measures\ ("APM")/Key\ Performance\ Indicators\ ("KPIs")-please\ refer\ to\ glossary\ on\ page\ 21\ for\ definitions.$
- 2. Please refer to table on page 5 for breakdown of NAV per share movement.

Performance summary

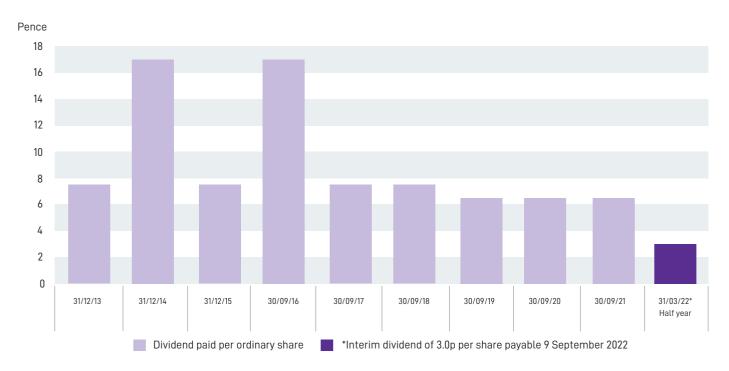
Ten-year performance record



^{*}Six months to 31 March 2022.

Source: Gresham House Asset Management Ltd

Dividend history over the last ten years



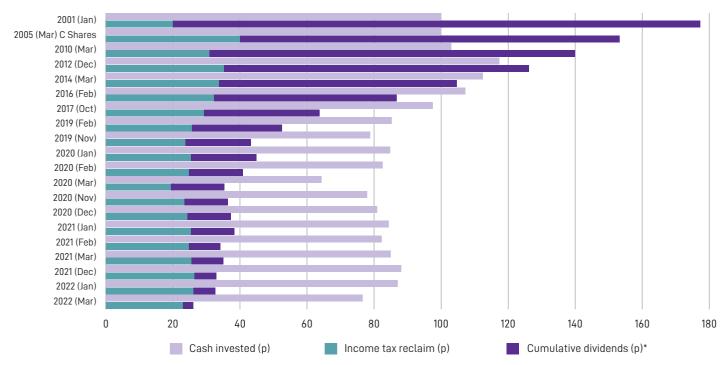
^{**}Net asset value total return (gross dividends reinvested) rebased to 100p.

Strategic report

Performance summary

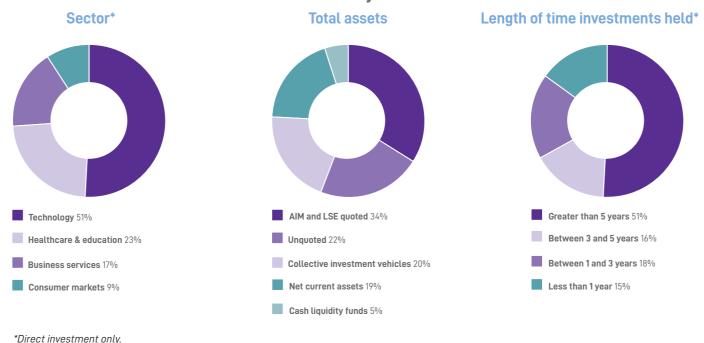
Cash returned to shareholders by date of investment

The chart below shows the cash returned to shareholders based on the subscription price and the income tax reclaimed on subscription.



^{*}Includes interim dividend of 3.0p per share payable on 9 September 2022.

Investment diversification at 31 March 2022 by value



Chairman's statement



Sarah Fromson Chairman

The six months to 31 March 2022 saw an increased level of volatility in public markets due to greater levels of uncertainty heading into 2022. Investor fears were exacerbated by a rise in geopolitical risk in Europe as Russia invaded Ukraine, slowing economic growth and increasing expectations of a prolonged period of higher inflation driven by higher commodity prices.

These headwinds have been reflected mainly in the softer performance of the AIM traded investments within the portfolio in the six months to 31 March 2022. Despite the drop in the value of the portfolio over the period, the Manager believes that – in aggregate – the fundamentals of the underlying portfolio companies remain robust and the growth prospects for the majority of investee companies continue to be positive.

The Board is also pleased to declare an interim dividend of 3.0p to be paid on 9 September 2022 to shareholders on the register as of 12 August 2022. The dividend will be paid from realised capital profits generated from the successful sales of portfolio companies. Over the period, capital proceeds of £13.7mn were realised from the sale, or partial sale, of four portfolio companies. The combined return from these sales was 2.1x invested cost.

I must, of course, remind shareholders that payment dates and the amount of future dividends depend on the level and timing of profitable realisations and cannot be guaranteed.

Results

During the six months to 31 March 2022, the Company's NAV per share decreased 11.9 per cent. from 84.3p to 74.2p after the payment of a final dividend of 3.5p per share on 4 March 2022. The table below breaks down the movement in NAV over the six months.

	Pence per ordinary share
NAV as at 1 October 2021 (after deducting the final dividend of 3.5p)	84.3
Valuation decrease (11.9 per cent.)	(10.1)
NAV as at 31 March 2022	74.2

The 30 April 2022 NAV was 75.1p, a 1.2 per cent. increase driven by slightly firmer quoted markets.

Strategic report

The Chairman's statement forms part of the strategic report.

Chairman's statement continued

Portfolio review

The table below provides a summary of each asset class and the return generated during the period under review.

Asset class	NAV* (£mn)	% of NAV*	Number of investees**	% return in the period***
Unquoted	54	22	35	(5)
AIM and LSE traded companies	84	35	49	(18)
LF Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	29	12	48	(16)
LF Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income Fund	13	6	46	(1)
LF Gresham House UK Smaller Companies Fund	6	2	44	(10)
Liquid assets [#]	57	23	_	
Total	243	100	222	-

- * By value at 31 March 2022.
- ** Includes investee companies with holdings by more than one fund. Total number of individual companies held is 173.
- *** Return includes interest received on unauoted realisations during the period.

The value of the unquoted portfolio decreased 5 per cent. in the six months to 31 March 2022. The drop in value of the unquoted portfolio was driven by a combination of softer trading performance in several e-commerce assets and a general de-rating of valuation multiples in the consumer and marketing services sectors. These declines were partially offset by uplifts in healthcare investments which continue to grow strongly and to benefit from the long-term structural growth drivers in this market.

The value of the Company's portfolio of investments directly held in AIM-traded companies decreased 18 per cent. in the six months to 31 March 2022. The value of the Company's investment into the LF Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund decreased by 16 per cent., the LF Gresham House UK Smaller Companies Fund decreased by 10 per cent, and the LF Gresham House Multi Cap Income Fund decreased by 1 per cent. This was primarily driven by negative investor sentiment surrounding inflationary pressures, expectations of interest rate rises and the cost-of-living squeeze in the UK. The implications of the ongoing war in Ukraine continue to impact negatively on global equity markets, with a

particularly pronounced effect on UK and European equities.

Investments and divestments

The Company's investments and divestments during the period are set out below.

Investments

I am pleased to report that the Company made five new investments totalling £8.5mn and two follow-on investments with a combined value of £1.8mn in the six months to 31 March 2022. Below are descriptions of the new investments made:

- Aptamer (quoted) platform providing antibody alternatives to the pharma industry across a range of applications.
- Oberon (quoted) corporate advisory business providing advice, asset management and deal arrangement services.
- Popsa (unquoted) provider of a mobile app that lets users design photo albums digitally and have them delivered in print.
- Proximity Insight (unquoted) platform used by front-line sales associates of omni-channel retailers

to better engage and transact with their customers.

 Skillcast (quoted) – provider of staff compliance training.

During the period the Company also invested £4.1mn into the LF Gresham House UK Multi Cap Income Fund and £1.4mn into the LF Gresham House Smaller Companies Fund.

Following the period end, four further follow-on investments were made, totalling £4.3mn and a new unquoted investment of £0.9mn was made into Bidnamic, a market leading provider of Google shopping management software.

Realisations

Proceeds of £4.4mn were received during the period from sales of quoted investments, including:

- Cerillion plc top-slicing delivered proceeds of £1.5mn, equating to a money multiple of 11.4x.
- Cloudcall Group plc takeover by Xplorer Capital Management resulting in proceeds of £2.9mn and a money multiple of 0.9x.

From the unquoted portfolio, the sale of the investment in Carousel successfully completed in February

^{*} Represents cash, OEICs and net current assets.

2022. The sale returned proceeds of £9.3mn, which, in addition to the loan-note interest received during the lifetime of the investment, resulted in a total gross money multiple of 5.0x original investment cost.

Venture capital industry

I would also like to draw attention to the UK Parliamentary inquiry into the venture capital industry, launched in April 2022. The Committee will be examining the regulation around venture capital, the role of key bodies and how the industry can be strengthened. The Board and Manager welcome the opportunity to provide the inquiry with the information they are seeking on how VCTs provide small UK businesses with funding to assist with their growth and development.

Fundraising

I am pleased to report that, during the period, the Company successfully raised £37.5mn (before costs) through an offer for subscription which became fully subscribed in February 2022. The Board are pleased to welcome the 1,811 new shareholders who invested for the first time and to thank the 524 existing shareholders who continue to support the Company.

The Board will consider whether to raise new funds in the 2022/23 tax year. This will be determined by the Company's cashflow and its anticipated requirements to fund new and follow-on investments over the next two to three years. The Board appreciates that shareholders would like plenty of notice of its fundraising intentions and will ensure that shareholders are informed of any such fundraising at the earliest practical time.

Investment Manager

The Board is pleased to see the integration progress made by the Investment Manager following the acquisition of the VCT business of Mobeus Equity Partners LLP in September 2021. The Board believes the combined platform enhances the Manager's ability to source, invest in and manage attractive early-stage unquoted investments. The Board believes that this will benefit the Company through more consistent and increased rates of investment which will ultimately support the delivery of attractive long-term performance and dividends for the Company's shareholders. We note that the Baronsmead VCTs retain their distinctive approach as hybrid VCTs; investing across the spectrum of fast growing, small, quoted and unquoted companies.

Following the successful integration. Fund Manager Bevan Duncan has decided to pursue a new career path as Chief Operating Officer at an early stage, high growth technology company. The Board would like to wish him every success in his next role and are reassured by the depth and experience of the wider team to continue to deliver for investors. Trevor Hope will be Managing Director for the private equity team, working closely with Ken Wotton, Managing Director of Public Equity, who continues to be responsible for the quoted portfolio within the Baronsmead VCTs. Clive Austin remains Managing Director of VCT portfolio with responsibility for portfolio and asset management alongside Ed Wass, a highly experienced portfolio partner.

Outlook

The macro-economic environment has undoubtedly become more challenging over the past six months. The Board and Manager are planning for further market volatility, ongoing pressure on companies' operating margins due to rising costs and weaker consumer demand, together with supply chain disruption and shortages of talent within portfolio companies. The Manager is regularly engaging with portfolio company management teams to forecast cash levels and expected usage rates, to plan for stress scenarios and, more generally, to reduce execution risk over the next 12 months.

We note that the portfolio remains highly diversified, with over 80 direct holdings, and is largely positioned in parts of the economy which the Board expects will see long-term structural growth. The volatility and disruption also provide good opportunities to invest in earlier stage, higher growth companies that are quickly moving to exploit changes in their target markets. The Company remains suitably capitalised and the Manager is well resourced to support investment into new and existing portfolio companies, which are expected to create value and provide attractive dividend payments to shareholders over the long-term.

Sarah Fromson

Chairman

26 May 2022

Strategic report

Investments in the period

Company	Location	Sector	Activity	Book cost £'000
Unquoted investments				
New				
Popsa Holdings Ltd	Surrey	Technology	Mobile-first photobook app provider	3,379
Proximity Insight Holdings Ltd	London	Technology	Platform for front-line sales associates of omni-channel retailers to engage with customers	1,152
Follow on				
Airfinity Ltd	London	Healthcare & education	Provides real time life science intelligence as a subscription service	1,039
RevLifter Ltd	London	Technology	Al platform using advanced behavioural analytics to deliver tailored promotions to users	779
Total unquoted investments				6,349
AIM-traded investments				
New				
Aptamer Group plc	Yorkshire	Healthcare & education	Platform providing antibody alternatives to the pharma industry	2,390
Skillcast Group plc	London	Healthcare & education	Compliance e-learning and regulatory technology services	817
Oberon Investments Group plc	London	Business services	Corporate advisory business	742
Total AIM-traded investments				3,949
Total investments in the period				10,298

Realisations in the period

Company		First investment date	Original book cost [†] £'000	Proceeds [‡] £'000	Overall multiple return
Unquoted realisations					
Carousel Logistics Ltd	Full trade sale	Oct 13	2,336	9,333	5.0*
Total unquoted realisations			2,336	9,333	5.0*
AIM-traded realisations					
CloudCall Group plc	Take over	Apr 14	3,214	2,900	0.9
Cerillion plc	Market sale	Jul 15	129	1,474	11.4
Mi-Pay Group plc	Liquidated	Nov 12	800	11	0.0
Total AIM-traded realisations			4,143	4,385	1.1
Total realisations in the period			6,479	13,718#	2.1

[†] Residual book cost at realisation date.

[#] Proceeds at time of realisation including interest.

Includes interest/dividends received, loan note redemptions and partial realisations accounted for in prior periods.

[#] Deferred consideration of £15,000 was also received in respect of Glide which had been sold in a prior period.

Responsibility statement of the Directors in respect of the half-yearly financial report

Half-yearly report

The important events that have occurred during the period under review, the key factors influencing the financial statements and the principal uncertainties for the remaining six months of the financial year are set out in the Chairman's statement and the Strategic report.

The principal risks facing the Company are mostly unchanged since the date of the Company's Annual Report for the financial year ended 30 September 2021 and continue to be as set out in that Report on pages 18 and 19.

Risks faced by the Company include but are not limited to; loss of approval as a Venture Capital Trust, investment performance risk, legislative risk, regulatory and compliance risk, operational risk, and economic and political risk. The Board considers the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine to be factors which permeate these risks, and their impacts

for the remaining six months of the year continue to be kept under review.

Responsibility statement

Each director confirms that to the best of our knowledge:

- the condensed set of financial statements has been prepared in accordance with FRS 104 Interim Financial Reporting Standards and gives a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit and loss of the Company.
- This half-yearly report includes a fair review of the information required by:
 - a) DTR 4.2.7R of the Disclosure
 Guidance and Transparency
 Rules, being an indication of
 important events that have
 occurred during the first
 six months of the financial year
 and their impact on the
 condensed set of financial
 statements; and a description

- of the principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the year; and
- Guidance and Transparency
 Rules, being related party
 transactions that have taken
 place in the first six months of
 the current financial year and
 that have materially affected
 the financial position or
 performance of the entity during
 that period; and any changes in
 the related party transactions
 described in the last annual
 report that could do so.

The half-yearly report was approved by the Board of Directors on 26 May 2022 and was signed on its behalf by Ms Sarah Fromson, Chairman.

Sarah Fromson

Chairman

26 May 2022



Condensed income statement

For the six months to 31 March 2022 (Unaudited)

	Six months to 31 March 2022		Six months to 31 March 2021			Year to 30 September 2021			
Notes	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000
(Losses)/gains on investments 5 Income Investment management fee Other expenses	961 (706) (359)	(27,719) - (2,116) -	(27,719) 961 (2,822) (359)	- 566 (661) (377)	37,141 - (1,983) -	37,141 566 (2,644) (377)	3,821 (1,424) (665)	59,071 - (4,272) -	59,071 3,821 (5,696) (665)
(Loss)/profit before taxation Taxation on ordinary activities	(/	(29,835) -	· · · ·	(472)	35,158 -	34,686	1,732 (108)	54,799 108	56,531
(Loss)/profit for the period, being total comprehensive income for the period	(104)	(29,835)	(29,939)	(472)	35,158	34,686	1,624	54,907	56,531
Return per ordinary share: Basic and Diluted 2	(0.04p)	(10.04p)	(10.07p)	(0.18p)	13.23p	13.05p	0.59p	19.96p	20.55p

All items in the above statement derive from continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those disclosed in the Income Statement.

The revenue column of the Income Statement includes all income and expenses. The capital column accounts for the realised and unrealised profit or loss on investments and the proportion of the management fee charged to capital.

The total column of this statement is the unaudited Statement of Total Comprehensive Income of the Company prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard ("FRS"). The supplementary revenue return and capital return columns are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice issued by the Association of Investment Companies ("AIC SORP").

Condensed statement of changes in equity

For the six months to 31 March 2022 (Unaudited)

		Non-distributable reserves Distr		Distributal	Distributable reserves		
		Called-up	Share	Revaluation	Capital	Revenue	
		share capital	premium	reserve	reserve	reserve	Total
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 October 2021		31,206	74,231	77,481	63,698	1,758	248,374
(Loss)/profit after taxation		-	-	(34,540)	4,705	(104)	(29,939)
Net proceeds of share issues, share buybacks							
& sale of shares from treasury	3	4,583	31,868	-	(1,050)	-	35,401
Dividends paid	4	-	-	-	(10,465)	(308)	(10,773)
At 31 March 2022		35,789	106,099	42,941	56,888	1,346	243,063

For the six months to 31 March 2021 (Unaudited)

		Non-distributable reserves			Distributa		
	Notes	Called-up share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
At 1 October 2020		27,146	46,775	30,890	75,290	2,216	182,317
Profit/(loss) after taxation		-	-	31,462	3,696	(472)	34,686
Net proceeds of share issues, share buybacks	6						
& sale of shares from treasury	3	4,060	27,459	_	(1,608)	_	29,911
Dividends paid	4	-	-	_	(8,354)	(1,232)	(9,586)
At 31 March 2021		31,206	74,234	62,352	69,024	512	237,328

For the year ended 30 September 2021 (Audited)

		Non-distributable reserves			Distributa		
	Notes	Called-up share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
At 1 October 2020 Profit after taxation Net proceeds of share issues, share		27,146 -	46,775 -	30,890 46,591	75,290 8,316	2,216 1,624	182,317 56,531
buybacks & sale of shares from treasury Dividends paid		4,060 -	27,456 -	- -	(3,908) (16,000)	– (2,082)	27,608 (18,082)
At 30 September 2021		31,206	74,231	77,481	63,698	1,758	248,374

Condensed balance sheet

As at 31 March 2022 (Unaudited)

Notes	As at 31 March 2022 £'000		As at 30 September 2021 £'000
Fixed assets			
Unquoted investments 5	53,887	52,113	59,971
Traded on AIM 5	83,916	94,364	102,394
Collective investment vehicles 5	60,053	54,503	75,701
Listed on LSE	34	36	34
Investments	197,890	201,016	238,100
Current assets			
Debtors	106	110	109
Cash at bank	46,647	37,767	12,312
	46,753	37,877	12,421
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	(1,580)	(1,565)	(2,147)
Net current assets	45,173	36,312	10,274
Net assets	243,063	237,328	248,374
Capital and reserves			
Called-up share capital	35,789	31,206	31,206
Share premium	106,099	74,234	74,231
Capital reserve	56,888	69,024	63,698
Revaluation reserve 5	42,941	62,352	77,481
Revenue reserve	1,346	512	1,758
Equity shareholders' funds	243,063	237,328	248,374
Net asset value per share Number of ordinary shares in circulation	74.2p 327,596,768		87.77p 282,974,085

Condensed statement of cash flows

For the six months to 31 March 2022 (Unaudited)

	Six	Six	
	months to	months to	Year to
	31 March	31 March	30 September
	2022	2021	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(2,536)	(1,670)	(1,850)
Net cash inflow from investing activities	12,689	16,050	1,083
Net cash before financing activities	10,153	14,380	(767)
Net cash inflow from financing activities	24,182	20,279	9,971
Increase in cash	34,335	34,659	9,204
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net cash			
Increase in cash	34,335	34,659	9,204
Opening cash at bank and on deposit	12,312	3,108	3,108
Closing cash at bank and on deposit	46,647	37,767	12,312
Reconciliation of (loss)/profit before taxation to net cash outflow from			
operating activities			
(Loss)/profit before taxation	(29,939)	34,686	56,531
Gains/(losses) on investments	27,719	(37,141)	(59,071)
Changes in working capital and other non-cash items	(316)	785	690
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(2,536)	(1,670)	(1,850)

Notes to the financial statements

For the six months to 31 March 2022 (Unaudited)

1 Basis of preparation

The condensed financial statements for the six months to 31 March 2022 comprise the unaudited financial statements set out on pages 10 to 13 together with the related notes on pages 14 to 17. The Company applies FRS 102 and the AIC's Statement of Recommended Practice ('the SORP') for its annual Financial Statements. The condensed financial statements for the six months to 31 March 2022 have therefore been prepared in accordance with FRS 104 'Interim Financial Reporting' and the principles of the SORP. They have also been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as the accounting policies set out in the Company's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2021.

The financial information contained in this half-yearly financial report does not constitute statutory accounts as defined in sections 434 – 436 of the Companies Act 2006. The half-yearly financial report for the six months ended 31 March 2022 and for the six months ended 31 March 2021 have been neither audited nor reviewed by the Company's auditors. The information for the year to 30 September 2021 has been extracted from the latest published audited financial statements, which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The report of the auditor for the audited financial statements for the year to 30 September 2021 was: (i) unqualified; (ii) did not include a reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying their report; and (iii) did not contain a statement under section 498 (2) or (3) of the Companies Act 2006. No statutory accounts in respect of any period after 30 September 2021 have been reported on by the Company's auditors or delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

Copies of the half-yearly financial report have been made available to shareholders and are available from Gresham House, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6EE.

2 Performance and shareholder returns

Return per share is based on a weighted average of 297,083,965 ordinary shares in issue (31 March 2021 – 265,723,554 ordinary shares; 30 September 2021 – 275,054,819 ordinary shares).

Earnings for the first six months to 31 March 2022 should not be taken as a guide to the results of the full financial year to 30 September 2022.

3 Called-up share capital

The below table details the movement in called-up share capital during the period.

Allotted, called-up and fully paid:

£'000
31,206 4,583
35,789
(2,909)
(209)
88
(3,030)
32,759

Carrying one vote each

During the six months to 31 March 2022 the Company issued 45,829,661 shares at net proceeds of £36,451,000 (after costs). During the same period, the Company purchased 2,090,978 shares to be held in treasury at a cost of £1,689,000 (including costs). The Company also sold 884,000 shares from treasury for proceeds of £639,000. At 31 March 2022, the Company held 30,292,705 ordinary shares in treasury. Shares may be sold out of treasury below Net Asset Value as long as the discount at issue is narrower than the average discount at which the shares were bought into treasury.

Excluding treasury shares, there were 327,596,768 ordinary shares in circulation at 31 March 2022 (31 March 2021 – 285,692,452 ordinary shares; 30 September 2021 – 282,974,085 ordinary shares).

4 Dividends

The final dividend for the year ended 30 September 2021 of 3.5p per share (3.4p capital, 0.1p revenue) was paid on 4 March 2022 to shareholders on the register on 4 February 2022. The ex-dividend date was 3 February 2022.

During the year to 30 September 2021, the Company paid an interim dividend on 10 September 2021 of 3.0p per share (2.7p capital, 0.3p revenue).

5 Investments

All investments are initially recognised and subsequently measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognised in the Income Statement.

The methods of fair value measurement are classified into a hierarchy based on reliability of the information used to determine the valuation.

- Level 1 Fair value is measured based on quoted prices in an active market.
- Level 2 Fair value is measured based on directly observable current market prices or indirectly being derived from market prices.
- Level 3 Fair value is measured using a valuation technique that is not based on data from an observable market.

The valuation of unquoted investments contained within level 3 of the Fair Value hierarchy involves key assumptions dependent upon the valuation methodology used. The primary methodologies applied are:

- Cost of recent investment
- Earnings multiple
- Offer less 10 per cent.

The earnings multiple approach involves more subjective inputs than the cost of recent investment and offer approaches and therefore presents a greater risk of over or under estimation. Key assumptions for the earnings multiple approach are the selection of comparable companies and the use of either historic or forecast revenue or earnings, as considered most appropriate. Other assumptions include the appropriateness of the discount magnitude applied for reduced liquidity and other qualitative factors. These assumptions are described in more detail in note 2.3 in the Company's Report and Financial Statements for the year to 30 September 2021. The techniques used in the valuation of unquoted investments have not changed materially since the date of that report.

	Level 1		Level 2	Level 3	
			Collective		
	Traded	Listed	investment		
	on AIM	on LSE	vehicles	Unquoted	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening book cost	63,064	3,429	48,404	45,722	160,619
Opening unrealised					
appreciation/(depreciation)	39,330	(3,395)	27,297	14,249	77,481
Opening fair value	102,394	34	75,701	59,971	238,100
Movements in the period:					
Purchases at cost	3,949	-	5,699	6,349	15,997
Sale - proceeds	(4,374)	-	(15,000)	(9,114)	(28,488)
- realised gains/(losses) on sales	1,037	-	-	(1,585)	(548)
Unrealised (losses)/gains realised during the period	111	-	-	7,258	7,369
Decrease in unrealised depreciation	(19,201)	-	(6,347)	(8,992)	(34,540)
Closing fair value	83,916	34	60,053	53,887	197,890
Closing book cost	63,787	3,429	39,103	48,630	154,949
Closing unrealised appreciation/(depreciation)	20,129	(3,395)	20,950	5,257	42,941
Closing fair value	83,916	34	60,053	53,887	197,890
Equity shares	83,916	34	_	25,225	109,175
Preference shares	_	-	-	18,160	18,160
Loan notes	_	-	-	10,502	10,502
Collective investment vehicles	_	-	60,053	-	60,053
Closing fair value	83,916	34	60,053	53,887	197,890

Notes to the financial statements

6 Other required disclosures

6.1 Segmental reporting

The Company has one reportable segment being investing in primarily a portfolio of UK growth businesses, whether unquoted or traded on AIM.

6.2 Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company's assets consist of equity and fixed interest investments, shares in collective investment schemes, cash and liquid resources. Its principal risks are therefore market risk, price risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Other risks faced by the Company include loss of approval as a Venture Capital Trust, legislative, investment performance, economic, political and other external factors, regulatory and compliance and operational risks. These risks, and the way in which they are managed, are described in more detail in the principal risks and uncertainties table within the Strategic report section in the Company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021. The Board continues to regularly review the risk environment in which the Company operates.

6.3 Related parties

Gresham House Asset Management Ltd ('the Manager') manages the investments of the Company. The Manager also provides or procures the provision of secretarial, accounting, administrative and custodian services to the Company. Under the management agreement, the Manager receives a fee of 2.5 per cent. per annum of the net assets of the Company. This is described in more detail under the heading 'The Investment Management Agreement' within the Strategic Report in the Company's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021. During the period the Company has incurred management fees of £2,822,000 (31 March 2021 – £2,644,000; 30 September 2021 – £5,696,000) and secretarial and accounting fees of £76,000 (31 March 2021 – £71,000; 30 September 2021 – £143,000) payable to the Manager. No performance fee has been accrued at 31 March 2022 (31 March 2021 – £nil; 30 September 2021 – £nil). This is described in more detail under the heading 'Performance fees' within the Strategic Report in the Company's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year to 30 September 2021.

A related party relationship exists between the Company and Happy Days Consultancy Ltd, owing to the significant influence deemed to be held over the operations of the company. As at 31 March 2022, the loan balance stood at £3,510,000, including £1,122,000 of capitalised interest, as provided for in the Agreement with the company.

6.4 Investment in associates

The Company has made the presumption that the following holdings are investments in associates, owing to the proportion of equity held and representation on the board representing significant influence over the operations of the company. The investments held are held as part of an investment portfolio, and are therefore measured at fair value through profit and loss, as detailed in note 5 rather than using the equity method, as permitted by Section 14 of FRS 102:

Name	Location	Class of Shares held	% of Equity	Profit (£mn)	Net Assets (£mr	Results for n) year ended
Happy Days Consultancy Ltd	UK	A Ordinary & B Ordinary	35.7	(3.0)	(12.7)	31 December 2020 ¹

Latest published set of financial statements available at Companies House.

6.5 Going concern

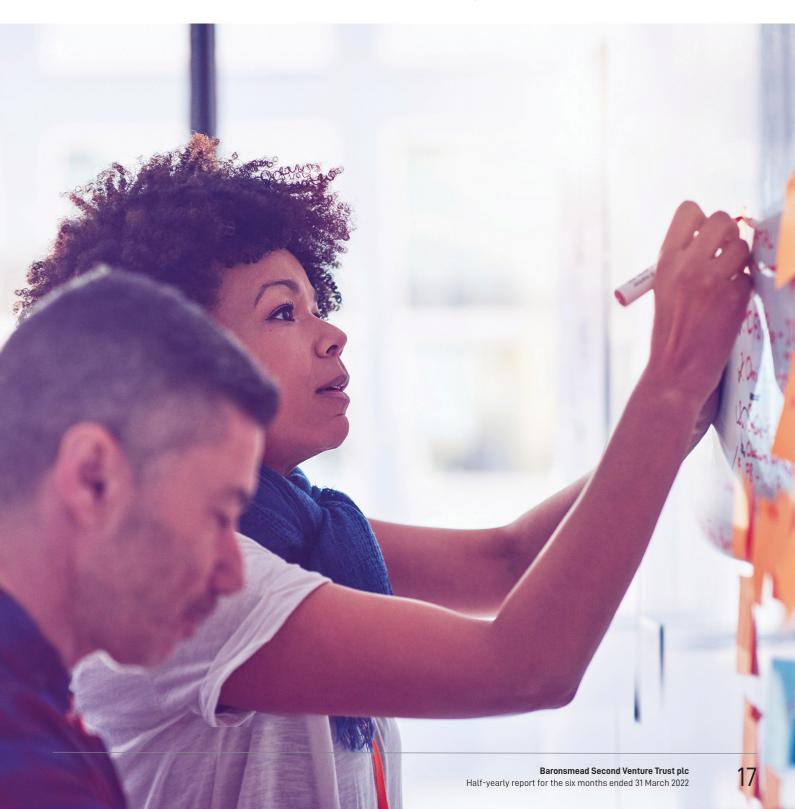
After making enquiries, and bearing in mind the nature of the Company's business and assets, the Directors consider that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In arriving at this conclusion, the Directors have considered the Company's cash balances, the liquidity of the Company's investments and the absence of any gearing. The Directors are therefore also satisfied that the Company has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for at least the next 12 months and that, accordingly, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

6 Other required disclosures (continued)

6.6 Post balance sheet events

The following events occurred between the balance sheet date and the signing of these financial statements:

- The 30 April 2022 NAV of 75.1p was announced on 6 May 2022. At the date of publishing this report, the Board is unaware of any matter that will have caused the NAV per share to have changed significantly since the latest NAV.
- Two follow-on investments, into Tribe and Panthera, completed in April 2022 totalling £2.9mn.
- Two further follow-on investments, into Yappy and Glisser, completed in May 2022 totalling £1.4mn.
- One new investment, into Bidnamic, completed in May 2022 totalling £0.9mn.



Appendices

Cash returned to shareholders

The table below shows the cash returned to shareholders that invested in **Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc** dependent on their subscription cost, including the income tax available to be reclaimed on the subscription.

	Cash invested	Income tax reclaim	Net cash invested	Cumulative dividends paid [#]	Return on cash invested#
Year subscribed	(p)	(p)	(p)	(p)	(%)
2001 (January)	100.0	20.0	80.0	157.3	177.3
2005 (March) - C share*	100.0	40.0	60.0	113.2	153.2
2010 (March)	103.1	30.9	72.2	109.0	135.7
2012 (December)	117.4	35.2	82.2	91.0	107.5
2014 (March)	112.4	33.7	78.7	71.0	93.2
2016 (February)	107.2	32.2	75.0	54.5	80.8
2017 (October)	97.5	29.2	68.2	34.5	65.4
2019 (February)	85.3	25.6	59.7	27.0	61.7
2019 (November)	78.9	23.7	55.2	19.5	54.7
2020 (January)	84.8	25.4	59.4	19.5	53.0
2020 (February)	82.5	24.8	57.7	16.0	49.4
2020 (March)	64.3	19.3	45.0	16.0	54.9
2020 (November)	77.9	23.4	54.5	13.0	46.7
2020 (December)	80.9	24.3	56.6	13.0	46.1
2021 (January)	84.4	25.3	59.1	13.0	45.4
2021 (February)	82.2	24.7	57.5	9.5	41.6
2021 (March)	84.9	25.5	59.4	9.5	41.2
2021 (December)	88.1	26.4	61.7	6.5	37.4
2022 (January)	87.1	26.1	61.0	6.5	37.5
2022 (March)	76.6	23.0	53.6	3.0	33.9

 $The \ total\ return\ could\ be\ higher\ for\ those\ shareholders\ who\ were\ able\ to\ defer\ a\ capital\ gain\ on\ subscription\ and\ the\ net\ sum\ invested\ may\ be\ less.$

^{*} Dividends paid to C shareholders post conversion have been adjusted by the conversion ratio (0.85642528).

[#] Includes interim dividend of 3.0p per share payable 9 September 2022.

Full investment portfolio

							% of Equity	
				31 March 3	0 September		held by Baronsmead	
		Original	Accounting	2022	2021		Second	% of Equity
Company	Sector	Book cost† £'000	Book cost† £'000	fair value £'000	fair value £'000	% of net assets	Venture Trust plc	held by all funds"
Unquoted	occioi	1000	2000	2 000	1 000	433013	1103t ptc	dictolius
IWP Holdings Ltd	Business services	1,587	1,587	4,780	5,679	2.0	4.2	9.0
Airfinity Ltd	Healthcare & education	2,598	2,598	3,884	1,559	1.6	9.2	20.0
Happy Days Consultancy Ltd	Healthcare & education	4,180	4,482	3,510	3,510	1.4	35.7	64.9
eConsult Ltd	Healthcare & education	2,599	2,599	3,486	3,491	1.4	5.2	11.4
Popsa Holdings Ltd	Technology	3,379	3,379	3,466	J,471 —	1.4	3.7	8.1
Patchworks Ltd	Technology	1,716	1,716	3,079	1,716	1.3	11.4	25.0
Clarilis Ltd	Technology	1,819	1,819	2,723	2,723	1.2	7.6	16.7
Scurri Web Services Ltd	Technology	2,293	2,293	2,363	2,332	1.0	6.9	14.7
Yappy Ltd	Consumer markets	954	954	2,143	2,662	0.9	11.5	24.7
Rezatec Ltd	Technology	1,620	1,620	2,020	1,921	0.8	0.0	0.0
Armstrong Craven Ltd	Business services	664	1,335	1,875	1,649	0.8	10.3	18.7
Cisiv Ltd	Technology	789	789	1,799	1,322	0.7	9.2	17.3
Metrion Biosciences Ltd	Healthcare & education	1,192	1,192	1,798	1,568	0.7	12.7	27.3
RevLifter Ltd	Technology	1,558	1,558	1,773	811	0.7	6.2	13.6
SecureCloud+ Ltd	Technology	789	789	1,426	1,817	0.6	8.8	16.6
SilkFred Ltd	Consumer markets	966	966	1,360	1,707	0.6	2.8	5.1
Glisser Ltd	Business services	1,457	1,457	1,235	1,549	0.5	7.6	16.2
Proximity Insight Holdings Ltd	Technology	1,152	1,152	1,152	-	0.5	4.1	9.4
Tribe Digital Holdings Pty Ltd	Technology	1,067	1,067	1,141	1,563	0.5	3.5	6.7
Vinoteca Ltd	Consumer markets	1,054	1,054	1,083	1,074	0.4	6.7	14.3
Counting Ltd	Business services	1,059	1,059	1,055	1,055	0.4	2.5	5.3
Your Welcome Ltd	Technology	1,030	1,030	990	872	0.4	8.3	15.6
Pointr Ltd	Technology	526	526	979	979	0.4	2.7	5.1
Equipsme (Holdings) Ltd	Business services	949	949	949	949	0.4	6.8	12.8
Panthera Biopartners Ltd	Healthcare & education	260	260	829	438	0.3	11.9	26.0
TravelLocal Ltd	Consumer markets	1,325	1,325	753	530	0.3	4.5	9.5
Munnypot Ltd	Technology	562	562	562	562	0.2	1.5	2.7
Evotix Ltd	Technology	423	423	423	423	0.2	0.7	1.3
Funding Xchange Ltd	Business services	795	795	397	397	0.2	3.7	8.0
RockFish Group Ltd	Consumer markets	789	789	395	395	0.2	6.6	12.3
Key Travel Ltd	Business services	255	255	349	334	0.1	0.0	0.0
Rainbird Technologies Ltd	Technology	789	789	197	395	0.1	3.3	6.3
CMME Group Ltd	Consumer markets	1,136	1,204	-	-	0.0	2.3	4.2
Custom Materials Ltd	Technology	2,437	2,437	-	3,290	0.0	7.7	14.1
Samuel Knight International Ltd	Business services	795	795	-	-	0.0	7.0	13.2
		46,563	47,604	53,887		22.2		
Delisted (previously AIM)								
InterQuest Group plc	Business services	620	726	-	-	0.0	2.2	4.3
MXC Capital Ltd	Business services	270	300	-	-	0.0	0.3	0.6
		890	1,026	-		0.0		
Total unquoted		47,453	48,630	53,887		22.2		
AIM								
Cerillion plc	Technology	1,507	1,667	15,264	16,572	6.3	6.7	12.2
Netcall plc	Technology	2,616	5,983	7,988	12,869	3.3	9.9	24.8
IDOX plc	Technology	1,028	2,972	6,948	7,753	2.9	2.5	4.8
Ideagen plc	Technology	720	1,063	5,695	8,422	2.3	0.9	1.7
Anpario plc	Healthcare & education	662	2,239	5,178	5,561	2.1	3.9	5.8
Inspired plc	Business services	861	2,682	4,243	4,872	1.7	2.8	22.2
Bioventix plc	Healthcare & education	309	940	3,864	4,594	1.6	2.3	7.0
Property Franchise Group plc	Consumer markets	838	1,032	2,867	2,281	1.2	2.6	9.5
Aptamer Group plc	Healthcare & education	2,390	2,390	2,512	_,	1.0	3.0	5.7
PCI-PAL plc	Technology	1,345	1,345	2,281	2,557	0.9	6.0	10.9
Diaceutics plc	Healthcare & education	1,590	1,590	2,092	2,280	0.9	2.5	12.8
Belvoir Lettings plc	Consumer markets	919	826	1,936	1,860	0.8	2.0	9.5
5 -1				,	,	***		

Appendices

					30 September		% of Equity held by Baronsmead	
Company	Sector	Original Book cost [†] £'000	Accounting Book cost [†] £'000	2022 fair value £'000	2021 fair value £'000	% of net assets	Second Venture Trust plc	% of Equity held by all funds"
	Sector	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000	doseto	II UST PIC	att folius
AIM (continued)		=4.4	=					
Access Intelligence plc	Business services	716	716	1,846	2,637	8.0	1.4	7.3
TPXimpact Holdings plc	Technology	660	660	1,783	2,229	0.7	1.0	1.9
Everyman Media Group plc	Consumer markets	956	1,010	1,453	1,591	0.6	1.3	4.0
Vianet Group plc	Business services	2,092	1,724	1,410	1,874	0.6	5.8	16.9
Begbies Traynor Group plc	Business services	545	513	1,374	1,625	0.6	0.8	3.7
Beeks Financial Cloud Group plc	Technology	413	413	1,361	1,584	0.6	1.5	2.7
Crossword Cybersecurity plc	Technology	1,282	1,282	1,154	1,368	0.5	5.7	11.0
IXICO plc	Healthcare & education	825	825	1,090	2,298	0.4	6.1	11.1
Open Orphan plc	Healthcare & education	1,445	1,437	1,007	1,511	0.4	1.1	1.9
Eden Research plc	Business services	1,375	1,380	842	1,225	0.3	4.0	7.3
One Media iP Group plc	Technology	1,008	912	823	895	0.3	5.9	10.8
Driver Group plc	Business services	1,529	1,747	821	1,467	0.3	5.5	19.9
Rosslyn Data Technologies plc	Technology	1,407	1,407	762	1,143	0.3	8.6	28.3
Deepverge plc	Healthcare & education	1,590	1,590	689	1,219	0.3	2.4	4.6
Oberon Investments Group plc	Business services	742	742	680	_	0.3	2.6	5.0
Merit Group plc	Technology	4,253	4,253	631	808	0.3	6.1	10.2
SysGroup plc	Technology	1,579	1,578	582	886	0.2	5.1	28.3
SEEEN plc	Technology	1,590	1,590	495	1,307	0.2	7.1	13.3
Crimson Tide plc	Technology	668	668	468	601	0.2	3.4	6.4
Fusion Antibodies plc	Healthcare & education	660	660	460	991	0.2	3.1	5.7
Skillcast Group plc	Healthcare & education	817	817	441	-	0.2	2.5	4.7
Gresham House plc*	Business services	137	145	441	432	0.2	0.1	0.2
Scholium Group plc	Consumer markets	1,100	682	418	330	0.2	8.1	14.7
Gama Aviation plc	Business services	1,004	1,171	356	211	0.1	0.9	1.7
Science In Sport plc	Consumer markets	352	330	339	452	0.1	0.4	0.8
Fulcrum Utility Services Ltd	Business services	438	1,650	270	773	0.1	0.9	1.0
KRM22 plc	Technology	550	550	253	154	0.1	2.1	3.7
Tasty plc	Consumer markets	2,033	6,085	225	350	0.1	3.5	14.2
Totally plc	Healthcare & education	86	197	178	173	0.1	0.3	0.5
Poolbeg Pharma plc	Healthcare & education	51	51	157	242	0.1	0.5	0.9
Zoo Digital Group plc	Technology	817	586	120	121	0.1	0.1	0.2
CloudCoco Group plc	Technology	535	359	49	49	0.0	0.5	0.8
LoopUp Group plc	Technology	616	640	37	151	0.0	0.6	1.1
I-nexus Global plc	Technology	688	688	33	48	0.0	2.9	5.4
Total AIM		49,344	63,787	83,916		34.5		
Listed								
Hawkwing plc	Business services	2,136	3,429	34	34	0.0	1.1	28.3
Total listed		2,136	3,429	34		0.0		
Collective investment vehicles								
LF Gresham House UK Micro Cap Fund	ı	6,189	10,335	28,876	34,507	11.9		
LF Gresham House UK Multi Cap Incon		11,878	11,878	13,229	9,028	5.5		
LF Gresham House UK Smaller Compa		5,500	5,500	6,558	5,776	2.7		
BlackRock Sterling Liquidity Fund	inioo i unu	5,695	5,695	5,695	13,195	2.7		
JPMorgan Sterling Liquidity Fund		5,695	5,695	5,695	13,175	2.3		
Total collective investment vehicles		34,957	3 9,103	60,053	10,170	24.7		
Total investments		133,890	154,949	197,890		81.4		
Net current assets		133,070	134,747	45,173		18.6		
Net assets				243,063		100.0		

[†] The original cost column provides the combined cost of investments made by BVCT3, BVCT4 and BVCT5 prior to the merger of the three VCT's to become BSVT. This is included for information purposes for shareholders reviewing the portfolio.

The accounting cost column ties into the investment note on page 15 of these accounts. For Investments owned before the assets of BVCT 4 and BVCT 5 were acquired by BVCT 3 the accounting book cost is a sum of the original cost of the investments held in BVCT 3 and the market value of the investment in BVCT 4 and BVCT 5 at the date of each of the mergers.

[#] All funds managed by Gresham House Asset Management Ltd.

^{*} Acquired November 2014, pre change of Investment Manager on 30 November 2018.

Glossary

AIM The Alternative Investment Market, a sub-market of the London Stock Exchange,

designed to help smaller companies access capital from the public market.

Annual Dividend Yield The ratio of dividend paid/declared for financial year divided by opening net asset

value per share.

Book Cost (Original)Total acquisition value, including transaction costs, less the value of any disposals or

capitalised distributions allocated on a weighted average cost basis.

Book Cost (Accounting)The original book cost of an asset, rebased to the value at which it was used in

a subsequent transaction, such as a transfer between entities.

Collective Investment Vehicle An entity which allows investors to pool their money, investing the pooled funds on

their behalf.

Discount/Premium If the share price is lower than the NAV per share it is said to be trading at a discount.

The size of the Company's discount is calculated by subtracting the share price from the NAV per share and is usually expressed as a percentage of the NAV per share. If the share price is higher than the NAV per share, this situation is called a premium.

EBITDA Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation – a proxy for the cash

flow generated by a business, most commonly used for businesses that do not (yet)

generate operating or shareholder profits.

IFA Independent Financial Advisors, professionals who offer independent advice to their

clients and recommend suitable financial products.

Key Performance Indicators ("KPIs") A measurable value that demonstrates how effectively the Company is achieving core

business objectives.

NAV The total value of all the Company's assets, at current market value, having deducted

all liabilities at their carrying value.

NAV per share Total Net Asset Value divided by the number of shares.

NAV total return A measure showing how the Net Asset Value has performed over a period of time,

taking into account both capital returns and dividends paid to shareholders.

Return on Cash Invested to

shareholders

The amount of cash returned to shareholders through income tax reclaimed, and cumulative dividends paid, expressed as a percentage of the initial investment.

Shares Held in TreasuryShares in the Company repurchased by itself, reducing the number of freely traded

shares.

SME Small and medium-sized entities. These are independent companies which meet

two of the three recognition criteria for small or medium companies according to

UK Legislation.

Total Assets All assets, both current and non-current. An asset is an economic resource owned by

an entity that can lead to an increase in economic value.

VCT ValueThe value of an investment when acquired, rebased if the holding is added to or any

payment is made which causes an increase or decrease in its value.

80 per cent. test Ensuring that the Company meets the requirement to hold 80 per cent. of its

investments in qualifying holdings.

Shareholder information and contact details

Shareholder account queries

The Registrar for Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc is Computershare Investor Services plc ("Computershare").

The Registrar will deal with all of your queries with regard to your shareholder account, such as:

- Change of address
- Latest share price
- Your current shareholding balance
- Your payment history including any outstanding payments
- Your payment options (cheque, direct payment to your bank/building society account, reinvestment)
- Paper or electronic communications
- Request replacement cheques or share certificates (for which there may be additional administrative and other charges)

You can contact Computershare with your queries in several ways:

Telephone:	0800 923 1534	This is an automated self-service system
	•	It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
	•	You should have your Shareholder Reference Number ("SRN") to hand, which is available on your share certificate and dividend tax voucher and which you should always keep confidential for security reasons
	•	Press '0' if you wish to speak to someone
	•	The Contact Centre in Bristol is available on UK business days between 8.30am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday
On-line:	Investor Centre • www.investorcentre.co.uk	Computershare's secure website, Investor Centre, allows you to manage your own shareholding online
	•	You will need to register to use this service on the Investor Centre web site
	•	You should have your SRN to hand, which is available on your share certificate and dividend tax voucher and which you should always keep confidential for security reasons
Email:	web.queries@computershare	.co.uk
Post:	Computershare Investor Servi The Pavilions Bridgwater Road Bristol BS99 6ZZ	•

Share price

The Company's shares are listed on the London Stock Exchange. The mid-price of the Company's shares is given daily in the Financial Times in the Investment Companies section of the London Share Service. Share price information can also be obtained from the link on the Company's website and many financial websites.

Financial calendar

August 2022 - Quarterly factsheet to 30 June 2022

November/December 2022 - Announcement of final results for the period to 30 September 2022

February 2023 - Annual General Meeting

Additional information

The information provided in this report has been produced in order for shareholders to be informed of the activities of the Company during the period it covers. Gresham House Asset Management Ltd does not give investment advice and the naming of companies in this report is not a recommendation to deal in them.

Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc is managed by Gresham House Asset Management Ltd which is Authorised and regulated by the FCA. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Stock market and currency movements may cause the value of investments and the income from them to fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount they originally invested. Where investments are made in unquoted securities and smaller companies, their potential volatility may increase the risk to the value of, and the income from, the investment.

Secondary market in the shares of Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc

The existing shares of the Company are listed on the London Stock Exchange and can be bought and sold using a stockbroker in the same way as shares of any other listed company.

The market makers in the shares of Baronsmead Second Venture Trust plc are:

Panmure Gordon & Co. +44 (0)20 7886 2500 (the Company's broker)

Winterflood +44 (0)20 3100 0009

Qualifying investors* who invest in the existing shares of the Company can benefit from:

- Tax free dividends:
- Realised gains are not subject to capital gains tax (although any realised losses are not allowable);
- No minimum holding period; and
- No need to include VCT dividends in annual tax returns.

The UK tax treatment of VCTs is on a first in first out basis and therefore tax advice should be obtained before shareholders dispose of their shares and also if they deferred a capital gain in respect of new shares acquired prior to 6 April 2004.

 * UK income tax payers, aged 18 or over, who acquire no more than £200,000 worth of VCT shares in a tax year.

Shareholder information and contact details

Warning to shareholders

It is possible that shareholders in the Company may be targeted by fraudsters. Information for shareholders concerning share fraud is set out below.

Share fraud includes scams where investors are called out of the blue and offered shares that often turn out to be worthless or non-existent, or an inflated price for shares they own or are otherwise told to transfer their shares. These calls come from fraudsters operating in 'boiler rooms' that are mostly based abroad.

While high profits are promised, those who buy or sell shares in this way usually lose their money.

Protect yourself

If you are offered unsolicited investment advice, discounted shares, a premium price for shares you own, or free company or research reports, you should take these steps before handing over any money or share certificates:

- 1. Get the name of the person and organisation contacting you.
- 2. Check the FCA Register at www.fca.org.uk/register to ensure they are authorised (or www.fca.org.uk/publication/systems-information/aifmd-small-register.pdf).
- 3. Use the details on the FCA Register to contact the firm.
- 4. Call the FCA Consumer Helpline on **0800 111 6768** (freephone) from 8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday (except public holidays) and 9.00am to 1.00pm, Saturday (from abroad call **+44 20 7066 1000**) if there are no contact details on the Register or you are told they are out of date.
- 5. Search the FCA's list of unauthorised firms and individuals to avoid doing business with.
- 6. REMEMBER: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

If you use an unauthorised firm to buy or sell shares or other investments, you will not have access to the Financial Ombudsman Service (https://www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk/) or Financial Services Compensation Scheme (https://www.fscs.org.uk/) if things go wrong.

Report a scam

If you are approached about a share scam you should tell the FCA using the Share Fraud Reporting Form (www.fca.org.uk/consumers/report-scam-unauthorised-firm), where you can find out about the latest investment scams. You can also call the FCA Consumer Helpline on **0800 111 6768**.

If you have already paid money (or otherwise dealt with share fraudsters) you should contact ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040 or use the ActionFraud (https://www.actionfraudalert.co.uk/) Online Reporting Tool.

More detailed information on this or similar activity can be found on the FCA web site.

Corporate information

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Sarah Fromson (Chair)† Malcolm Groat* Graham McDonald Tim Farazmand#

Secretary

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