Concentrated

QUEST *Invest with Experience*

Portfolio Features

Inception	9 February 2005
Benchmark Index	S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index
No of holdings	33 (Maximum 35)
Quest AUM	$1,010m
Strategy AUM	$108m
Investment horizon	3 - 5 years
Investment Strategy	Fundamental with a focus on business quality and free cash flow
Derivatives/Shorting	Nil
AFSL	279207
Lonsec Rating	Reviewed and Rated by Lonsec

Stock Performance January 2026

POSITIVE	
ALS	+12%
BHP	+11%
Flight Centre	+8%
Light & Wonder	+6%
Judo	+5%

NEGATIVE	
Qoria	-43%
Zero	-18%
Wisetech	-15%
Car Group	-10%

Concentrated Portfolio January 2026

Global markets continue to grind higher, in the face of higher government bond yields in Europe, Japan, the US and Australia. The **MSCI World** index rose 2.2% for the month. Commodities were particularly strong, notwithstanding significant volatility late in the month. Gold rose a further 9%, Silver 11%, Brent lifted 16% and Copper another 4%.

The return of OPEC's curtailed production and new oil field developments have weighed on oil for the last few years with the occasional relief rally. President Trump's recent posture toward Iran's leadership has been highly confrontational, with explicit military threats and renewed pressure for a nuclear-deal-style agreement. Oil rallied, we believe temporarily, on the potential for supply interruptions. His global posturing, particularly towards needing to own Greenland, supported interest in gold, commodities in general and helped lift the AUDUSD to 70c.

Early reporting of the December quarter for major US companies has been slightly better than expected, almost entirely from cost control. CY26 guidance has not varied. The next quarter should also be positive given the GDP benefits from Trump's tax and housing OBBB Act are biased to the first quarter of CY2026. ASX reporting starts imminently.

The Quest portfolio lagged the overall market, primarily due to the fall in Qoria and weakness in other software holdings. Qoria produced a quarterly update with cashflow below company guidance and was hammered on perceived balance sheet weakness. We exited the position.

The appointment of an experienced, respected, replacement Chair for the Federal Reserve provided the impetus for the late correction in commodities. His peers report him as having been more hawkish historically but maybe that has changed, given Trump's pressure on the outgoing Chair for rate cuts. Kevin Warsh has historically been critical of the expansion of the Fed's balance sheet. The longer term implications of this view remain to be seen.

Short term momentum continues to be positive, but persistent market volatility, low consumer confidence and higher costs of debt are concerning. The chart of the following page shows a high correlation between current weak US payroll growth and recessions. The leadup to the US mid term elections will likely see policy actions aimed at boosting confidence and the market, but such actions could have the opposite effect.

Performance*

To 31 January 2026	1 month	3 months	1 year	3yrs (pa)	5yrs (pa)	10 yrs (pa)	15yrs (pa)	Since inception (pa)
Quest Aust Equities Concentrated	**-0.6%**	**-2.4%**	**-2.0%**	**5.0%**	**9.1%**	**11.2%**	**10.7%**	**11.2%**
ASX300 Accumulation index	1.7%	0.4%	7.8%	9.8%	10.1%	10.1%	8.5%	8.1%
Value added	-2.3%	-2.8%	-9.8%	-4.8%	-1.0%	1.1%	2.2%	3.1%

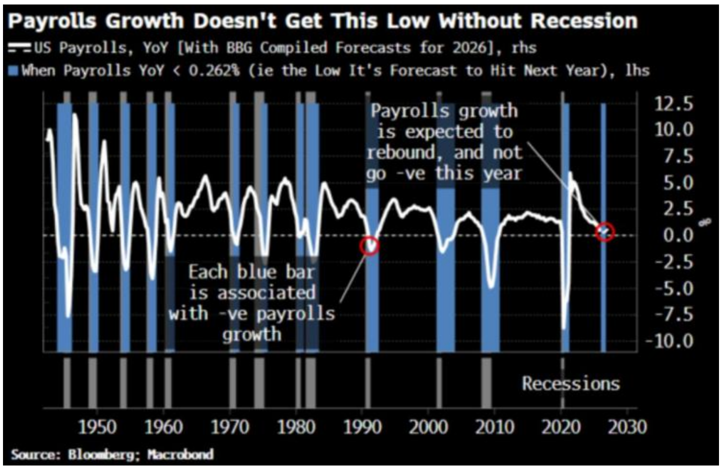
*Returns before fees and tax based on the JBWere platform model portfolio. **Past performance is no guarantee of future performance**. Individual returns will differ for investors, depending on when the initial investment was established and the timing of any additional investments or redemptions. Inception date is February 2005

PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

It was a quiet month for portfolio activity, with the main activity realising some gains from the gold holdings, primarily via **Genesis Minerals**, and the associated benefit seen in **ALS**. We also exited **Vulcan Energy Resources.**

AUB Group entered the portfolio via a discounted placement to fund the purchase of PIHL Holdings Ltd. This builds on AUB's existing UK activities, is accretive and expands their retail insurance broker activities in the UK. We have followed the sector closely for a number of years, with a successful holding in Steadfast that was sold in 2023. Since then premiums in some categories have rolled over and the brokers have been out of favour. We see AUB as well managed, with good growth prospects, an attractive valuation as well as ongoing growth options.

CHART OF THE MONTH



Source Iress

KEY PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

LARGE CAP	
Aristocrat Leisure	ANZ
BHP	Commonwealth Bank
Genesis Minerals	Origin Energy
MID CAP	
Xero	Challenger
ALS	Light & Wonder
Infratil	Dexus
SMALL CAP	
Judo Capital	Maas Group
Pinnacle Investment	Ventia Services

INVESTMENT PROFILE

The Quest Australian Equities Concentrated Portfolio is a Separately Managed Account (SMA), actively managed by Quest Asset Partners Pty Limited. Our objective is to outperform the S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index. The SMA structure allows the investor to retain beneficial ownership of the portfolio while maximising transactional and tax visibility.

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