

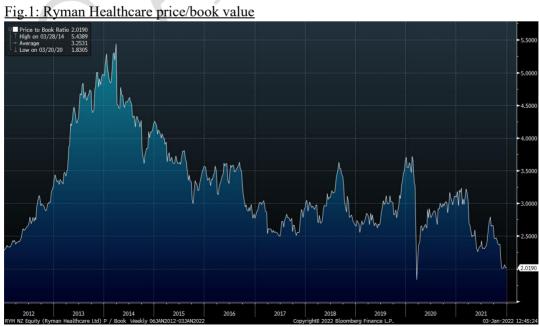
Holland Views: Ryman Health - Price: \$12.50; Mcap: NZ\$6.1bn (US\$4.4bn)

Why?

Those wanting to read a piece that explains a new idea to them in full technicolour maybe disappointed by what comes next. Looking at Ryman Healthcare there are many obvious points (such as its great history of growth and highly respected brand and reputation). There are also questions that arise. We looked at the company briefly a few years back. However, it was only in recent months that we spent more time on it, importantly on its business model and its accounts. Having done so we feel we have now answered the questions that arose as we did so. As a result, we are excited about what we have found/concluded. Explaining those questions and answers to someone who has not looked at the company closely however is hard. Attached to this note you will find an excel spreadsheet. In it we have laid out the story of Ryman as we see it in tables and charts. What follows below is a series of questions to try and get readers thinking on the right lines about it. After that, some observations and a short conclusion. We know that a US\$4bn company based in New Zealand will not get on many of our readers radars. That is a shame as we think the compounding abilities of this business in the next twenty years are likely as impressive as they were in the last twenty.

Asking the right questions

Ryman Healthcare has a wonderful brand having an almost perfect reputation for providing the very best retirement villages in New Zealand and Australia. Indeed, anyone looking at the wider global offering of retirement homes may quickly conclude that they are the best in the world in this area. Furthermore, global populations are aging and the need for elderly care is paramount. It is rarely provided with the love and commitment that Ryman brings. So, <u>why</u> are such a company's shares available to purchase at 12x earnings?



Source: Bloomberg

Ryman has grown its book value per share at 18% pa over the last 25 years. Additionally paying a c.2-3% dividend yield on top of that growth each year. It has done so by making past ROE's that are c.20%. If such a level of return is likely to be replicated in the future <u>why</u> do the shares today trade on 2x book?

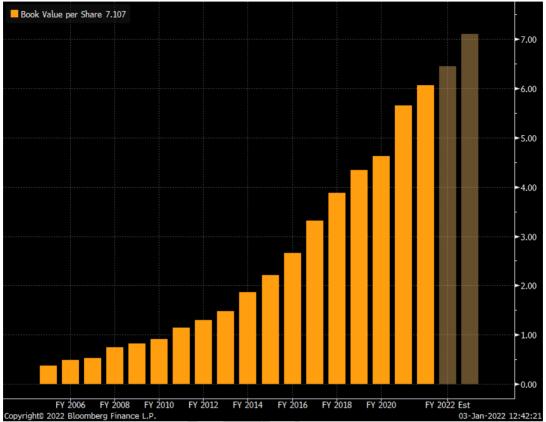


Fig.2: Ryman Healthcare book value per share

Source: Bloomberg

Answers and getting lost to find them

Whilst we think the answers to the above questions are partly in the spreadsheet we have enclosed and what follows, we think there is a danger in readers looking for them too quickly. The reason being that just more questions will arise (we have done this advisory job for a long time now!). Crucially we think an understanding of a company like Ryman rests upon an investor already having great foundations in their own approach to a number of factors. These being:

- What is the right accounting measure of return to focus on when trying to understand a company's equity compounding potential? Our answer is unequivocally Return on Equity (ROE)
- How mid-range ROE companies (15-25%) can compound capital powerfully if they have sufficient redeployment opportunities to so do
- Having an eye always toward deferred gratification and how today's investment return can be ignored if you think tomorrow's is compelling enough
- Being genuinely open minded as to where your future investing compound returns may come from in terms of sectors, business models and geography.

To view the remainder of this in-depth report, please contact Andrew Hollingworth, Andrew@hollandadvisors.co.uk for a complete PDF copy.

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