

Ruffer Investment Company Limited

PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH ON 7 JULY 2004



October saw a sell-off in bond and equity markets, with both the benchmark US ten year Treasury bond and the MSCI World equity index falling by over 3%. It was the sixth consecutive month of losses for Treasuries and the third consecutive month of losses for the equity market.

Rising bond yields (so falling bond prices) since the summer have been driven by resilient economic data, a theme that continued in October, and by further increases in forecasts for US government spending. Something that also looks set to continue, with the conflict in the Gaza Strip adding further to US defence and foreign aid spending.

In the portfolio, although the protections worked (especially credit) and the balance of the portfolio was much improved as compared to earlier in the year, the muted nature of the equity sell-off so far has meant that these gains were insufficient to fully offset the losses from our bond holdings.

It has long been our belief – expressed on these pages almost every month this year – that rising bond yields would, slowly then suddenly, cause damage to financial markets and thereafter the wider economy. Wary of the timing of such an event, we have kept the portfolio relatively lightly positioned this year, but that has not prevented it from failing to deliver on Ruffer’s core objective of preserving capital over a rolling 12 month period. Whilst similar previous rolling 12 month losses for the Ruffer portfolio have historically heralded significant downturns in markets (and ensuing positive returns for the portfolio), that is scant consolation at this point.

In October, however, we drew a line in the sand. The bond market narrative shifted from ‘recession is still a possibility’ to ‘definitely a soft landing’, with long-dated US yields rising through the important 5% level as a result. This shift gave us an attractively priced opportunity to significantly increase the portfolio’s interest rate sensitivity (duration), with investors seemingly comfortable that both the economy and financial markets can support higher interest rates for longer. We did so by adding to our existing longer duration position in US TIPS (treasury inflation protected securities) and also buying long-dated nominal government bonds for only the second time since the financial crisis (the previous time being the prior high in yields in October 2022).

It is our firm view that bond yields cannot rise further from here without doing significant damage to both the real and financial economies. In the short term the opposite may be more likely – that bond yields come down, giving markets a temporary fillip – and we should benefit from such an outcome through the fund’s increased duration. However, signs are increasingly visible that high interest rates are causing damage in financial markets (struggling small caps, utilities and banks) and now also in the real economy (higher corporate delinquencies, falling job openings and sky high mortgage rates). So far, this year has been a difficult one for our portfolio and a trying time for our investors, but we feel the fund is well set to deliver on our aims in the volatile environment to come.

We are holding a meeting for shareholders on Tuesday 5 December at our office in London. If you would like to attend please email ruffer@ruffer.co.uk.

OCTOBER 2023

Performance %	Net Asset Value	Share price
October	-1.6	-1.3
Year to date	-9.6	-14.2
1 year	-7.7	-13.8
3 years pa	5.5	5.1
5 years pa	5.4	3.8
10 years pa	3.7	2.9
Since inception pa	6.9	6.5

Share price

RIC	264.00
Net Asset Value (NAV) per share	275.46

	Net	Gross
Duration (years)	5.1	6.3
Equity exposure %	15.7	13.6

RIC GBP	Volatility %	Sharpe	Sortino
3 years	6.4	0.6	1.0
5 years	6.8	0.6	1.1
10 years	5.9	0.5	0.9
Since inception	6.4	0.8	1.5

	%
Premium/discount to NAV	-4.2
NAV total return since inception ¹	260.2
Standard deviation ²	1.85
Maximum drawdown ²	-9.59

12 month performance to 30 September 2023

%	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RIC	-2.7	9.2	21.0	0.9	-5.8
FTSE All-Share TR £	2.7	-16.6	27.9	-4.0	13.8
Twice Bank Rate	1.5	0.8	0.2	1.6	8.3

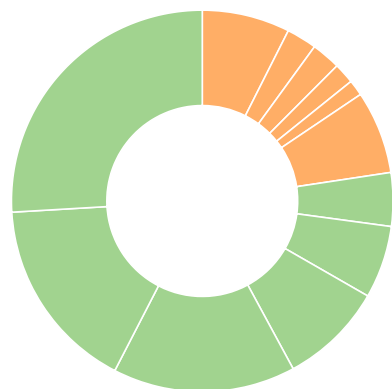
¹ Including 46.4p of dividends ² Monthly data (total return NAV). All figures in the performance table are calculated on a total return basis (including reinvestment of income). If monthly performance is quoted in the commentary, it may be calculated on a price return basis and differ from the information in this table. One to twelve month performance figures are cumulative, all others are annualised. Source: Ruffer LLP, FTSE International. Ruffer performance is shown after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of the shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount originally invested. The value of overseas investments will be influenced by the rate of exchange.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

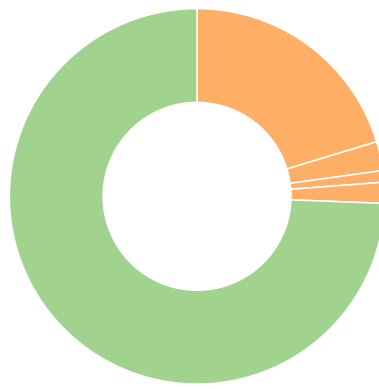
The principal objective of the Company is to achieve a positive total annual return, after all expenses, of at least twice the Bank of England base rate. The Company predominantly invests in internationally listed or quoted equities or equity-related securities (including convertibles) or bonds which are issued by corporate issuers, supra-nationals or government organisations. Where appropriate, collective investment schemes will also be used to gain exposure to these assets.

Ruffer Investment Company Limited as at 31 Oct 23

ASSET ALLOCATION



CURRENCY ALLOCATION



Asset allocation	%
Short-dated bonds	25.9
Non-UK index-linked	16.5
Credit and derivative strategies	15.5
Long-dated bonds	8.8
Long-dated index-linked gilts	6.2
Gold exposure and gold equities	4.5
Commodity exposure	7.4
Financials equities	2.6
Consumer discretionary equities	2.5
Consumer staples equities	1.8
Energy equities	1.3
Other equities	7.1

Currency allocation	%
Sterling	74.4
Yen	20.3
US dollar	2.5
Euro	1.0
Other	1.8

Geographical equity allocation	%
UK equities	6.4
North America equities	3.7
Europe equities	2.6
Asia ex-Japan equities	2.0
Other equities	0.5

5 LARGEST EQUITY HOLDINGS

Stock	% of fund
Alibaba Group ADR	1.0
TSMC	0.5
Ambev SA	0.5
BP	0.4
Bayer AG	0.4

Excludes holdings in Ruffer funds | Source: Ruffer LLP Totals may not equal 100 due to rounding

RUFFER LLP

The Ruffer Group manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 30 September 2023, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £24.1bn.

NAV **£1,056.0M**

SHARES **383,367,764**

MARKET CAPITALISATION **£1,012.1M**

FUND INFORMATION

Annual management charge %	(no performance fee) 1.0	
Ongoing Charges Ratio %	(audited at 30 Jun 23) 1.08	
Valuation point	Weekly, every Tuesday and the last business day of the month	
Ex dividend dates	March, October	
Administrator	Apex Fund and Corporate Services (Guernsey) Limited	
Custodian	Northern Trust (Guernsey) Limited	
Broker	Investec	
Structure	Guernsey domiciled limited company	
Discount management	Share buyback Discretionary redemption facility	
Listing	London Stock Exchange	
NMPI status	Excluded security	
Stock ticker	RICA LN	
Wrap	ISA/SIPP qualifying	
Share class	ISIN	SEDOL
	GB00B018CS46	B018CS4

ENQUIRIES

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FUND TEAM



Duncan MacInnes
INVESTMENT DIRECTOR |
FUND MANAGER

Joined Ruffer in 2012. He graduated from the University of Glasgow School of Law in 2007 and spent four years working at Barclays in Glasgow, London and Singapore. He is a CFA charterholder and co-manager of two of Ruffer's flagship funds.



Jasmine Yeo
INVESTMENT MANAGER |
FUND SPECIALIST

Joined Ruffer in 2017, having graduated with a degree from Warwick Business School. She is a member of the CISI, following completion of the CISI Masters in Wealth Management. She has managed private client portfolios and now works with wealth managers and advisors as part of Ruffer's UK wholesale team. She is co-manager of one of Ruffer's flagship funds.

GLOSSARY

Volatility measures the extent to which returns vary over a given period. High volatility means returns have been more variable over time

Duration measures the sensitivity of a bond or fixed income portfolio's price to changes in interest rates. The higher the duration, the more sensitive the price or portfolio is to changes in interest rates

UK Bank Rate the rate the Bank of England charges banks and financial institutions for loans with a maturity of one day

Sharpe ratio measures the performance of an investment, adjusting for the amount of risk taken (compared to risk-free). The higher the ratio, the better the returns compared to the risk taken

Sortino ratio measures the extra return an investment makes for each unit of bad risk (the chance of losing money below a certain target)

DISCLAIMER

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