

WS Ruffer Diversified Return Fund

SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2021



February saw a continuation of the AI-fuelled rally with both the S&P and Nasdaq indices ending the month at new all-time highs. The equity market exuberance was given a shot in the arm by Nvidia's earnings announcement mid-month, following which the stock rallied more than 16% in a day. Nvidia's market value gain on that day alone was greater than the total value of US gold mining companies. The market jitters evident around a single company's earnings release hints to us of an unstable trend that could just as easily surprise to the downside. This observation makes the derivative protections we hold especially attractive, albeit they were a drag on performance during the month.

Equities were a key driver of performance during February despite our low weight. Notably, Chinese equity markets rebounded. This turnaround followed an announcement by the Chinese securities regulator at the end of January banning stock lending. We believe sentiment and positioning in Chinese equities has reached extreme lows and this is reflected in attractive valuations. Furthermore, the incremental support being provided to asset markets by the Chinese authorities gives us comfort they are pushing in our direction. This stands in stark contrast to the setup for US equity markets where, needless to say, we remain cautious of both valuations and momentum.

Meanwhile bond yields continued to rise in February, as expectations for the number of interest rate cuts in 2024 fell, increasing the divergence between bond and equity market performance so far this year. Despite this, long-dated UK inflation-linked bonds were a positive contributor to performance as the oversold dynamics of January were reversed. However, our other interest rate sensitive holdings such as gold mining equities and the yen suffered as yields rose.

Having entered 2024 believing markets were priced for perfection (aka a soft landing), we are now watching closely as growth and inflation risks start to be re-priced. Expectations of a US recession in the next six months are falling fast, and the pace of disinflation has abated. Looking ahead, we expect persistent inflation to remain an issue as policy makers have shown a willingness to deliver a swift and deep-pocketed response to any economic pain and the most realistic long term solution to bulging government deficits is inflation. We continue to position the fund to benefit from this structural theme, through exposure to gold, inflation-linked bonds and commodities.

However, our focus in the immediate future remains on liquidity risks, as central bankers continue to shrink the size of their balance sheets. Any meaningful fiscal or monetary support for markets is, in our view, likely only to arrive after asset prices have been hit. In such an environment, we find confidence in a portfolio that leans heavily on the attractive real return available in cash and short dated bonds whilst holding additional protection to benefit from falling markets.

I CLASS FEBRUARY 2024

Performance I acc %	GBP	
February	-0.1	
Year to date	-2.5	
1 year	-5.6	
3 years pa	-	
5 years pa	-	
10 years pa	-	
Since inception pa	-0.5	
Share price, p		
I GBP acc	98.76	
I GBP inc	95.91	
Dividend yield	1.94	
	Net	Gross
Duration (years)	2.6	2.7
Equity exposure %	14.6	17.4

12 month performance to 31 December 2023

%	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RDRF I acc	-	-	-	5.2	-5.4
UK Bank Rate	-	-	-	1.5	4.7

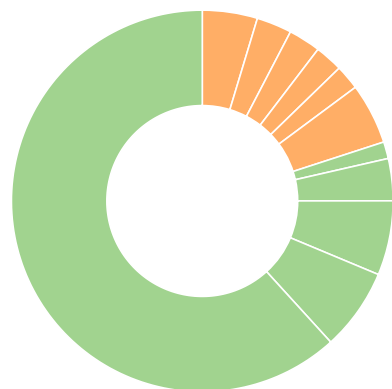
One to twelve month performance figures are cumulative, all others are annualised. Source: Ruffer LLP, Bloomberg. The comparator benchmark shown in this document is as stated in the fund's prospectus. Ruffer performance is shown after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of 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

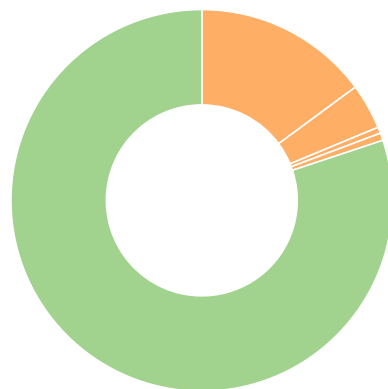
To seek to achieve positive returns in all market conditions over any 12 month period, after all costs and charges have been taken. Underlying this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation. Capital invested is at risk and there is no guarantee that a positive return will be delivered over any one or a number of 12 month periods.

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ASSET ALLOCATION



CURRENCY ALLOCATION



Asset allocation	%
Short-dated bonds	61.8
Cash	7.0
Long-dated index-linked gilts	6.3
Gold exposure and gold equities	3.6
Index-linked gilts	1.4
Credit and derivative strategies	-2.0
Commodity exposure	4.7
Consumer discretionary equities	3.0
Energy equities	2.7
Financials equities	2.4
Healthcare equities	2.1
Other equities	7.2

Currency allocation	%
Sterling	80.1
Yen	14.9
US dollar	3.9
Euro	0.5
Other	0.6

Geographical equity allocation	%
North America equities	4.7
Asia ex-Japan equities	4.6
UK equities	4.2
Europe equities	3.4
Other equities	0.5

5 LARGEST EQUITY HOLDINGS

Stock	% of fund
iShares MSCI China A UCITS ETF	2.0
BP	1.7
Alibaba Group ADR	1.1
Cigna	0.9
TSMC ADR	0.7

Largest equity holdings exclude Ruffer funds | Source: Ruffer LLP | Totals may not equal 100 due to rounding

RUFFER LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 31 January 2024, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £22.9bn.



FUND SIZE **£1,814.3M**

FUND INFORMATION

Annual management charge %	0.9
Minimum investment (or equivalent in other currency)	£50m
Ongoing Charges Figure %	0.92
Dealing frequency	Daily
Valuation point	12:00
Ex dividend dates	15 Mar, 15 Sep
Pay dates	15 May, 15 Nov
Investment manager	Ruffer LLP
Depository	The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited
Authorised Corporate Director	Waystone Management (UK) Limited
Auditors	Ernst & Young LLP
Structure	Sub-fund of WS Ruffer Managed Funds (OEIC) UK domiciled UCITS Eligible for ISAs

Share class	ISIN	SEDOL
I GBP acc	GB00BMWLOW82	BMWLOW8
I GBP inc	GB00BMWLOW75	BMWLOW7

ENQUIRIES

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FUND TEAM



Duncan MacInnes

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.



Ian Rees

FUND MANAGER

Joined Ruffer in 2012, after graduating from the University of Bath with an honours degree in economics. He is a CFA charterholder and co-manager of three of Ruffer's flagship funds.



Jasmine Yeo

FUND MANAGER

Joined Ruffer in 2017, having graduated with a degree from Warwick Business School. She is a member of the CISI, and co-manager of two of Ruffer's flagship funds and Ruffer's investment trust.



Gemma Cairns Smith

FUND SPECIALIST

Joined Ruffer in 2020 as part of the graduate programme. She holds a first class degree in land economy from the University of Cambridge and is a CFA charterholder.

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

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The fund's prospectus and key investor information documents are provided in English and available on request or from ruffer.co.uk/rdrf WS Ruffer Managed Funds is a UK UCITS. The WS Ruffer Diversified Return Fund is not registered for distribution in any country other than the UK. In line with the Prospectus, it is possible at any one time the WS Ruffer Diversified Return Fund may invest more than 35% of its assets in transferable securities issued or guaranteed by an EEA state, one or more local authorities, a third country or a public international body to which one or more EEA States belong. The only aforementioned securities where Ruffer would currently consider holding more than 35% would be UK or US government issued transferable securities.

