# LF Ruffer Equity & General Fund

An actively-managed fund emphasising absolute growth with diversity of risk

During the quarter LF Ruffer Equity & General Fund (REG)'s O accumulation shares declined 2.1%. This compares with an increase of 4.2% in the FTSE All-Share Total Return Index (ASXTR). During 2021 REG increased by 12.9%, while ASXTR 18.3%.

A few of our largest holdings detracted in the last quarter of 2021. This is still a bifurcated market: despite the strong performance of the indices, in particular involving US tech and more broadly the very high-quality businesses, we keep identifying 'value' in many securities, always aiming at risk-adjusted returns. Here is a brief recap of some of our largest holdings.

Science Group (SAG) is a research and development consultancy which has significant property value, net cash and has been an astute acquirer of businesses and of its own shares. We back its chairman (and main shareholder) M. Ratcliffe, an entrepreneur with a unique combination of operational acumen and focus on capital allocation. The acquisition of Frontier in 2019 has proved to be outstanding, SAG remains strongly cash generative and is becoming a more diversified business. During the tough times of covid, Science Group demonstrated solid operational performance and increased its profitability. Mr Ratcliffe has consistently produced enormous value for the shareholders of the companies he has led. Last September we participated in the first placing of SAG since 2010 and we expect it to become a much larger business over time.

Serco, LSL, Ashmore, Conduit Holdings and Balfour Beatty are very different businesses, but they have two things in common. They are listed in the UK, one of the most undervalued markets globally, and they are run by strong, owner-like management. We back R Soames, S Embley/D Stewart, M Coombs, N. Eckert/T. Carvey and L Quinn to make us money over time.

Titan Cement produces more than 60% of its earnings from the US, where its fundamentals are strong. Importantly, under the business-friendly leadership in Greece, the potential resurgence of its economy offers significant optionality for Titan, as the fiscal stimulus gradually kicks in. Based on recent transactions, its American assets alone are likely to be worth more than Titan's current enterprise value.

The Greek market is part of the 're-opening trade' and clearly the emergence of omicron, the new variant, has negatively affected many such stocks. Further to our Greek portfolio, we have been allocating capital to a few airlines eg Jet2, a unique business focusing on leisure travel out of the UK. Mr Meeson and his team have built a very solid franchise, which is likely to grow strongly and gain share as the effects of covid subside. We also recently bought Southwest, the US airline which has developed the most successful low-cost model historically.

The current macro environment is characterised by very high unpredictability, bonds are increasingly vulnerable and stock indices are at worryingly high levels. REG seeks to generate equity-like returns over the long term, take less risk than the market and avoid permanent loss of capital. During the period we have managed REG (from the beginning of 2008) the return has been 163.7% versus 112.4% for ASXTR. The result over the last 14 years has been a portfolio with relatively low volatility (approximately half that of the market). We always aim for risk-adjusted returns in building and managing our portfolio of intensely researched equities.

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.

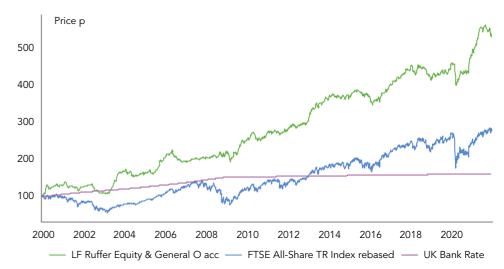


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### Investment objective

The fund aims to provide capital growth by investing in a diversified global portfolio of predominantly equities. The fund is actively managed, and is not constrained by any requirement to track indices or conform to investment fashion.

## Performance since launch on 1 December 1999



O accumulation shares	Performance %
Q4	-2.1
Year to date	12.9
1 year	12.9
3 years	30.3
5 years	35.5
10 years	92.1

Share price as at 31 December 2021	р	
O accumulation	543.03	
O income	502.08	
C accumulation	558.53	
C income	508.64	

12 month performance to December %	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
LF Ruffer Equity & General O acc	11.2	-6.5	9.9	5.0	12.9
FTSE All-Share TR Index rebased	13.1	-9.5	19.2	-9.8	18.3
UK Bank Rate	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.1

Source: Ruffer LLP, FTSE International (FTSE) †

## LF Ruffer Equity & General Fund as at 31 Dec 2021

#### Portfolio structure



As	9	
•	Gold exposure and gold equities	4.
•	Options and protection	0.4
•	Cash	10.

		%
•	UK equities	37.5
•	North America	21.4
•	Europe equities	20.0
•	Japan equities	1.9
•	Japan index-linked	1.2
•	Australasia	1.0
•	Asia ex-Japan equities	0.9
	Other equities	0.2



Currency allocation	9	
Sterling	82.	
<ul> <li>US dollar</li> </ul>	9.	
• Yen	3.	
• Euro	1.	
<ul><li>Other</li></ul>	4.	

## 10 largest of 99 equity holdings

Stock	% of fund	Stock	% of fund
Science Group	7.6	Serco Group	1.9
Titan Cement	4.5	Jet2	1.7
iShares Physical Gold	2.9	Conduit	1.7
Coty	2.3	LSL Property Services	1.7
ExxonMobil	2.1	Attraqt	1.6
Source: Ruffer LLP. Pie chart totals may	not equal 100 due to roundi	na.	

Source: Ruffer LLP. Pie chart totals may not equal 100 due to rounding

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The information contained in this document does not constitute investment advice and should not be used as the basis of any investment decision. References to specific securities are included for the purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell these securities. Ruffer LLP has not considered the suitability of this fund against any specific investor's needs and/or risk tolerance. If you are in any doubt, please speak to your financial adviser.

The fund data displayed is designed only to provide summary information and the report does not explain the risks involved in investing in the fund. Any decision to invest must be based solely on the information contained in the Prospectus, Key Investor Information Document and the latest report and accounts.

The fund's prospectus and key investor information documents are provided in English and available on request or from ruffer.co.uk. Please note that LF Ruffer Investment Funds is a UK UCITS. The LF Ruffer Equity & General Fund is not registered for distribution in any country other than the UK.

## Fund size £183.8m

#### Fund information

%		O class	C class	
Ongoing (	Charges Figure*	1.58	1.28	
Annual ma	nagement charge	1.50	1.20	
Maximum	initial charge	5.0	5.0	
Yield		0.15	0.43	
Minimum i	nvestment		£1,000	
Ex dividen	d dates	15 Mar	, 15 Sep	
Pay dates		15 May	, 15 Nov	
Dealing	Weekly forward, every	is a business day of th	ness day e month	
Cut off	10am on Wednesda day) and the last bus			
ISIN	O class GB0009346718 (acc) GB0009340802 (inc)	GB00B7VZQ\ GB00B6Y8P	. ,	
SEDOL	0934671 (acc) 0934080 (inc)		ΩV5 (acc) PL7 (inc)	
Investmen	t adviser	Ru	uffer LLP	
ACD	Link	Link Fund Solutions Limited		
Depositary	The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited			
Auditors		Ernst & Yo	ung LLP	
Structure	In	Sub-fund of I vestment Fund UK domicile Eligible	ls (OEIC)	

## **Fund Manager**

# Alex Grispos

Graduated from Imperial College with a First Class degree in Mechanical Engineering, started in equity research in 1998 at Alpha Trust in Greece, then worked in venture capital



for six years. Joined Top Technology Ventures in the UK, and subsequently became Investment Manager with RTF based in London and St Petersburg, Russia. Joined Ruffer in 2005 and is manager of the LF Ruffer Equity and General Fund.

#### Ruffer LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 30 November 2021, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £23.7bn.

Dealing line

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### **Enquiries**

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<sup>\*</sup>Refers to accumulation shares

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