

# LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund

Positive absolute returns with low volatility



C class March 2022 Issue 7

During March, the fund price rose from 105.49p to 107.04p. This compared with a return on the UK Bank Rate of 0.1%.

Operation Stable Door began in earnest during March as the Federal Reserve raised interest rates for the first time in four years to try to contain inflation running at a near-half century high of 7.9%. Government bond yields moved abruptly to price in the most aggressive interest rate hiking cycle since 1994. Global bonds have just endured their worst quarter ever despite war, pestilence (covid disruption in China) and growing fears of a recession. So much for conventional bonds acting as a 'safe haven'. This should not come as a surprise to regular readers of this report, as we have written about the vulnerability of conventional bonds for some time.

What was the impact on the fund? The fund successfully navigated the first three months of this year as both equities and bonds ended up in negative territory. During March long-dated inflation-linked bonds ('linkers') fell in value as yields rose faster than inflation expectations, but our interest rate options – which profit from rising yields – more than offset this fall in value. Active duration management via derivatives continues to be essential to the fund's resilience in a rising yield environment. Long linkers remain a key holding for the world we are heading into and so this balance will be maintained.

While fixed income volatility hasn't been this high since the global financial crisis, equity markets look increasingly complacent, with many recovering all losses since the start of the Ukraine war. We trimmed equity exposure to 35% reflecting greater uncertainty and profit taking in some equity derivative protections. Overall, equities were a positive contributor for the month, with energy stocks once again leading the charge.

Commodity markets continued to perform well with higher prices helping the Australian dollar, where we now have exposure of around 5%. In World war II, America was famously dubbed the 'great arsenal of democracy'. In the era ahead, Australia looks set to be the 'great arsenal of commodities' for western democratic states. On top of this, Australian pension funds may soon start to close their net short position in their domestic currency, adding a further kicker to the Aussie dollar. The allocation was funded from the US dollar.

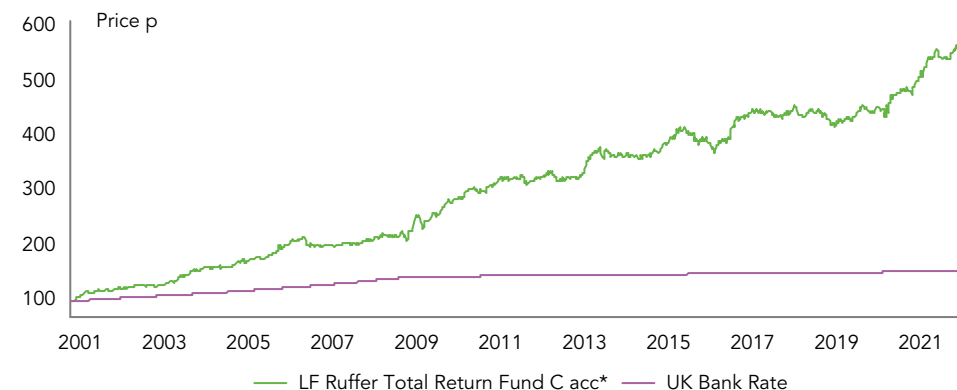
Finally, we added 2% to bullion exposure. Gold exposure and gold mining equities were the largest positive performance driver during the month. Total gold exposure now stands at close to 10%.

Near-term the path ahead remains highly uncertain – as ever, we aim to be resilient whatever happens. Longer-term, covid and the Russia-Ukraine war mark successive great accelerations towards the more inflation-prone and volatile era ahead. We believe we have the right asset mix to deal with the challenges and capture the opportunities in this new regime.

## 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.

## Performance based on LF Ruffer Total Return Fund\* since launch on 29 Sep 2000



\*All figures refer to simulated past performance based on the actual performance of the LF Ruffer Total Return Fund and include reinvested income.

C accumulation shares*	Performance %	Share price as at 31 March 2022	p
March 2022	0.7	<b>C accumulation</b>	<b>107.04</b>
Year to date	4.0	<b>C income</b>	<b>107.01</b>
1 year	6.1		
3 years	32.7		
5 years	29.8		
10 years	72.1		

12 month performance to March %	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
LF Ruffer Total Return Fund C acc*	-1.4	-0.8	4.0	20.3	6.1
UK Bank Rate	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.1	0.2

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.

Source: Ruffer LLP. Current UK regulations require that any information provided on past performance must be based on, and show complete 12 month periods, starting after the first complete calendar quarter. Therefore the performance charts and other relevant performance data will be provided after 30 September 2022. As such, the performance chart is that of the existing fund, LF Ruffer Total Return Fund, whereas the share price laid out above is of LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund. Ruffer performance is shown in GBP after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Calendar quarter data has been used up to the latest quarter end and monthly data thereafter.

# LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund as at 31 Mar 2022

## Asset allocation



### Asset allocation %

● Index-linked gilts	14.4
● Long-dated index-linked gilts	10.4
● Gold exposure and gold equities	10.0
● Short-dated bonds	8.8
● Cash	8.5
● Non-UK index-linked	7.7
● Options	3.1
● UK equities	11.9
● North America equities	10.2
● Japan equities	7.6
● Europe equities	6.1
● Other equities	1.2

### Currency allocation %

● Sterling	62.8
● US dollar	16.3
● Yen	7.7
● Australian dollar	5.8
● Euro	1.9
● Other	5.5

## Currency allocation



## 10 largest equity holdings

Stock	% of fund
BP	2.9
Shell	2.1
Cigna	1.4
GlaxoSmithKline	1.2
Chesapeake Energy	1.1
Vodafone Group	1.1
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group	1.0
Bayer	1.0
Berkshire Hathaway	0.9
Bristol-Myers Squibb	0.9

## 5 largest bond holdings

Stock	% of fund
UK Treasury index-linked 1.875% 2022	6.2
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2024	5.1
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2065	3.8
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2068	3.8
UK Treasury 0.125% 2023	3.7

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

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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](http://ruffer.co.uk). Please note that LF Ruffer Managed Funds is a UK UCITS. The LF Ruffer Diversified Return Fund is not registered for distribution in any country other than the UK. In line with the Prospectus, it is possible that at any one time the LF 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.

Fund size £452m

## Fund information

Ongoing Charges Figure (capped)	1.13
Annual management charge	1.1
Yield (historic)	NA
Minimum investment	£1,000
Ex dividend dates	15 Mar, 15 Sep
Pay dates	15 May, 15 Nov
Dealing frequency	Daily
Valuation point	12:00
ISIN	Accumulation GB00BMWLQT53 Income GB00BMWLQS47
SEDOL	BMWLQT5 BMWLQS4
Investment manager	Ruffer LLP
Auditors	Ernst & Young LLP
Authorised Corporate Director	Link Fund Solutions
Depository	The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited
Structure	Sub-fund of LF Ruffer Managed Funds (OEIC) UK domiciled UCITS Eligible for ISAs

## Dealing line

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## Fund Managers

### Duncan MacInnes

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2012. He graduated from Glasgow University School of Law in 2007 and spent four years working at Barclays in Glasgow, London and Singapore. He is a CFA charterholder and is co-manager of Ruffer Investment Company.



### Ian Rees

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2012, after graduating from the University of Bath with an honours degree in economics. He spent 2017 in Ruffer's Hong Kong office working as an equity analyst covering emerging markets, and is a CFA charterholder.



### Rachel Holdsworth

FUND SPECIALIST

Joined Ruffer in 2013 after graduating from Oxford University with a first class honours degree in biological sciences. She is a member of the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment.

## Ruffer LLP

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