Ruffer Total Return International

Positive returns with low volatility

O and OI classes April 2023 **Issue 142**

Despite ongoing stresses in the US banking system, asset markets collectively shrugged their shoulders in April. According to Deutsche Bank, despite the second largest ever banking failure in the US, it was in fact the least volatile month since the pandemic. It won't surprise that we are not so sanguine.

Banking crises always lead to credit contractions. We are seeing this play out now: National Federation of Independent Business small business credit conditions are approaching GFC levels, whilst both the Fed Beige Book and the Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey are signalling further declines in credit availability coming down the tracks. What is particularly pernicious today is the additional undermining of trust in the security of deposits. This is where the banking crises of March intersect with our fears of an asset market liquidation. As a reminder, central to the argument was that changes in the size and composition of the Fed's balance sheet would be damaging to asset markets. On the one hand, we have seen an immediate (but supposedly temporary) increase in the size of the Fed's balance sheet. On the other hand, a light has been shone on the relative danger of uninsured banking deposits compared to government backed money market funds. Given the fact that the increased safety of the latter actually comes with a higher interest rate, we expect deposit flight from banks to continue despite continued efforts to reinforce the regulatory system. Not only will this lead to further scrutiny of the increasing levels of taxpayer deposit guarantees, but it will continue to undermine the ability of commercial bank balance sheets to act as a shock-absorber for any distress in financial markets.

At Ruffer, we always aim to create a portfolio that is robust to multiple future pathways. The fine line between monetary and financial stability is central to how the portfolio is positioned today. If the Federal Reserve prioritises financial stability concerns, continues to expand its balance sheet and sets the scene for interest rate cuts before inflation is wrung out of the system, then we enter the next phase of the inflationary regime. Under this scenario our portfolio allocations to inflation-linked bonds, gold and commodities should get an immediate tailwind. However, if the Federal Reserve continues to focus on bringing inflation down through monetary tightening, then we fear that liquidation risk comes to the fore. If interest rates remain where they are, let alone go higher, and quantitative tightening continues (proving the recent central bank balance sheet expansion to be as temporary as originally claimed), then the painful chokehold of the interest rate squeeze will continue. In this environment, the portfolio is protected by its low equity weight (both gross and net) and potent protections against likely distress in credit markets.

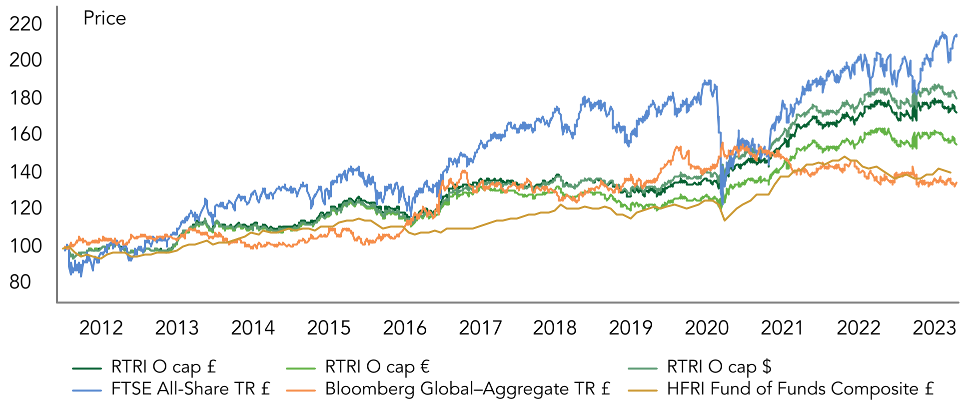
Ruffer performance is shown after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of the shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount originally invested. The value of overseas investments will be influenced by the rate of exchange. Future performance is subject to taxation which depends on each investor's personal situation, and may be subject to change in the future.

Investment objective

The investment objective of the Ruffer Total Return International ('the fund') is to achieve low volatility, positive returns from an actively managed portfolio. The fund may have exposure to the following asset classes: cash, debt, securities of any type (including government and corporate debt), equities and equity related securities and commodities (including precious metals). Overriding this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation. Investors should note that there can be no assurance that the investment objective will be achieved.

Performance since fund launch on 14 July 2011

Past performance does not predict future returns



Performance O cap shares %	GBP	EUR	USD
April 2023	-2.5	-2.6	-2.4
Year to date	-4.1	-4.6	-3.9
1 year	-3.6	-5.3	-2.9
3 years	20.0	16.3	21.4
5 years	26.6	19.7	32.3
10 years	50.7	37.1	58.1

Share price as at 30 April 2023		
O CHF	Capitalisation	1.4680
OI EUR	Capitalisation	1.5462
O EUR	Capitalisation	1.5448
O GBP	Capitalisation	1.7136
O USD	Capitalisation	1.7919
OI USD	Capitalisation	1.7931

12 month performance to March %	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RTRI O cap £	-2.1	3.2	22.2	8.4	-1.6
RTRI O cap €	-3.4	2.0	21.5	7.6	-3.3
RTRI O cap $	-0.6	5.0	22.7	8.5	-1.0
FTSE All-Share TR £	6.4	-18.5	26.7	13.0	2.9
Bloomberg Global–Aggregate TR £	7.2	9.5	-5.9	-1.9	-2.1
HFRI Fund of Funds Composite £	7.8	-0.7	11.5	6.1	4.4

Source: Ruffer LLP, FTSE International, Bloomberg, Hedge Fund Research Inc. The comparator benchmarks shown in this document is as stated in the fund's prospectus.

Ruffer Total Return International as at 30 Apr 2023

Fund size £5,762.7m €6,560.8m

Asset allocation

Asset allocation	%
Short-dated bonds	27.5
Cash	12.1
Non-UK index-linked	9.6
Index-linked gilts	8.6
Long-dated index-linked gilts	7.4
Gold exposure and gold equities	7.3
Illiquid strategies and options	2.3
Commodity exposure	8.8
UK/Europe equities	8.1
North America equities	4.0
Asia ex-Japan equities	2.0
Japan equities	1.7
Other equities	0.5

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

10 largest equity holdings*

Stock	% of fund
iShares MSCI China A UCITS ETF	1.0
Bayer AG	0.8
Ryanair	0.7
Shell	0.6
Alibaba Group Holding	0.6
Ambev SA	0.5
Hoya	0.5
Glencore	0.5
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co	0.5
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited	0.4

5 largest bond holdings

Stock	% of fund
UK Treasury index-linked 2.5% 2024	6.3
US Treasury 0.625% TIPS 2024	6.0
Australian govt bonds 2.75% 2024	5.5
UK Treasury 0.125% 2024	5.0
US Treasury FRN 31 Oct 2024	4.2

*Excludes holdings in Ruffer funds

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Fund information

	%
Ongoing Charges Figure	1.55
Maximum annual management fee (O class)	1.5
Annual management fee	1.4
Maximum subscription fee	5.0
Minimum investment (or equivalent in other currency)	£1,000
O share classes	Capitalisation only (equivalent to accumulation)
Dealing	Weekly, every Wednesday (if not a business day, on the following business day) Plus on the last business day of each month
Cut off	4pm Luxembourg time on the day before valuation day (so typically Tuesday and the penultimate business day of the month)

ISIN and SEDOL				
	CHF	O cap	LU0638558808	B4R1SD2
	EUR	OIcap	LU2252564898	BMYP2W0
	EUR	O cap	LU0638558717	B42NV78
	GBP	O cap	LU0638558634	B41Y053
	USD	O cap	LU0638558980	B449LX0
	USD	OIcap	LU2252564971	BMYP2X1

Structure	Sub-fund of Ruffer SICAV, a Luxembourg domiciled UCITS SICAV
Management company, administrative agent, registrar and transfer agent, paying and domiciliary agent	FundPartner Solutions (Europe) S.A.
Investment manager	Ruffer LLP
Depositary bank	Pictet & Cie (Europe) S.A.
Auditors	Ernst & Young S.A.

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Fund Manager

Alex Lennard

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2006 after graduating from Exeter University with an honours degree in economics and finance. He is a member of the CISI. He is co-manager of two of Ruffer's flagship funds.

Ruffer LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 31 March 2023, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £26.5bn.

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Notice for Investors in Switzerland: Ruffer SICAV's prospectus, KIIDs, articles of association and the annual and semi-annual reports are available free of charge at the offi ce of the Swiss representative: FundPartner Solutions (Suisse) S.A., Route des Acacias 60 CH – 1211 Geneva 73. Ruffer SICAV's paying agent in Switzerland is Banque Pictet & Cie S.A. of the same address.