Ruffer Total Return International

Positive returns with low volatility

During November the fund price fell by 0.5%. This compared with a rise of 0.6% in the FTSE All-Share Index and a gain of 0.9% in the FTSE Government All-Stocks Index (both figures total returns in sterling).

It has been another month of marking time for markets, recovering from the gyrations of the third quarter. US employment data and pronouncements from Janet Yellen and her fellow Federal Reserve officials seem to indicate a rate hike is likely in December, whilst commentary implied that the European Central Bank would be moving in the opposite direction and Mark Carney remained steadfast in his apparent ambition of avoiding any interest rate moves on his watch. As we write this, just after the month end, so far Draghi has disappointed, albeit on heightened expectations of further rate cuts and asset purchases, but both Yellen and Carney appear to be holding to their course.

November was also notable for the awful terrorist attacks in Paris and escalating tension and confusion in the Middle East, not least after Turkey shot down a Russian military aircraft. In more normal times such events might have seen a rush to buy gold and a spike up in the oil price, but these are far from normal times. Instead the oil price fell by more than 10% in November alone and gold hit a five year low. It seems, for now at least, that faith in central banks and monetary policy trumps events in the real world, but this is neither the usual, nor a permanent, state of affairs.

We are fascinated by the dichotomy between those stocks that are perceived as 'safe', and command often eye-watering valuations, and those that are patently unsafe, but whose valuations in no way reflect the current reality of near zero interest rates. We are increasingly fearful of the apparent safety of the former, mindful that, for stock prices at least, valuations in the end almost always triumph over quality, and that safe companies can be transformed into dangerous investments merely by the trick of higher share prices. That is not to say that we have not benefited from this fashion for safety; our holdings in Johnson & Johnson, BT, Novartis, and more latterly General Dynamics and Lockheed Martin, all provided welcome profits. However we may now be approaching the end of this particular road and accordingly have cleared the portfolio of all but the most heavily disguised such stocks.

We are drawn to the attractions of industries shunned by investors for their obvious dangers. Fortunately we are far too faint hearted to have acted on this fascination, beyond dipping a toe in Exxon, but we have a growing sense that the prevailing investment wind may soon change. When entire industries are priced for the end of their world it can come as a pleasant surprise to find that Armageddon is merely a temporary phenomenon. It may be too early for the move from safety into such clear and visible danger, and so far we have only the nerve for the first part of this trade, but our sense is that 2016 will be a year when it proves better to be embarrassingly early than even a fraction too late.

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C class November 2015 Issue 53

Investment objective

The investment objective of Ruffer Total Return International ('the fund') is to achieve positive returns with low volatility 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). Pervading this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation.

Performance since launch on 14 July 2011 – C class shares

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-	—— R	TRI C cap £	—— RTI	RI C cap €	—— FTSE	All-Share TR	ef —	FTSE Govt A	II-Stocks TR £

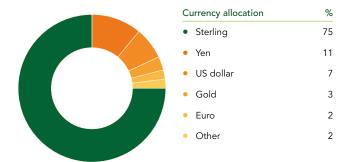
Performance %	November 2015	Year to	date	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
C GBP capitalisation shares	-0.5		2.1	2.2	22.0	na	na
Percentage growth (C GBP cap	o)	%	Share	price as at 3	0 Novembe	r 2015	
30 Sep 2014 – 30 Sep 2015		4.6	C CHF	capitalisatio	n		117.69
			C EUR	capitalisatio	n		120.03
30 Sep 2013 – 30 Sep 2014		2.6	C EUR	distribution			118.69
30 Sep 2012 – 30 Sep 2013		12.5	C GBP	capitalisatio	n		122.73
			C GBP	distribution			120.48
30 Sep 2011 – 30 Sep 2012		3.6	C GBP	income			120.24
30 Sep 2010 – 30 Sep 2011		na	C USD	capitalisatio	n		121.09
Source: Ruffer LLP			C USD	distribution			119.93

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.

Ruffer Total Return International as at 30 November 2015

Portfolio structure





5 largest of 8 bond holdings

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Stock	% of fund	Stock	% of fund
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2068	6.8	Dai-ichi Life Insurance	2.6
UK Treasury index-linked 1.875% 2022	5.5	Mizuho Financial	2.4
US TIPS 0.625% 2021	5.4	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial	2.3
US TIPS 1.25% 2020	4.7	Lloyds Banking	2.2
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2019	4.6	Sumitomo Mitsui Financial	2.1
Source: Ruffer LLP		* Excludes holdings in pooled funds	

5 largest of 59 equity holdings*

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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.

Fund size £1,424.2m

Fund information

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BHY81			

domiciliary agent

Investment manager Ruffer LLP

Custodian Pictet & Cie (Europe) S.A.

Auditors Ernst & Young S.A.

FundPartner Solutions

(Europe) S.A.

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Fund Managers

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Joined Ruffer in 2011, previous work included fund management and macro research at Goldman Sachs, GLG Partners and Fulcrum Asset Management. He graduated from École Centrale



Paris in 1999, and holds an MSc in Mathematics from Oxford University.

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 Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment.



Ruffer LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 30 November 2015, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £18.3bn, of which over £9.4bn was managed in open-ended Ruffer funds.

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^{*} Specific share classes available on request