Ruffer UK Mid and Smaller Companies

SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH ON 25 JUNE 2012



- Ruffer UK Mid and Smaller Companies - FTSE All-Share TR £

Escalating tensions in the Middle East at the start of the quarter reintroduced geopolitical risk into equity prices. Yet, whether rationally or not, this fear soon receded, and equity prices enjoyed a mammoth 'Santa rally' following their interpretation that the US Federal Reserve was finished with its hiking cycle and would soon be cutting rates.

The UK joined in regardless of whether a 'soft landing' in the US necessarily entails a 'soft landing' in the UK. However, domestic bourses were also propelled by the M&A activity that we wrote about last quarter. We remain of the view that the UK market is one of the most attractively valued globally and it is probable that corporate activity continues. We are working hard to add the right ideas to the portfolio, but our cash buffer remains vital. The economy is not out of the woods yet, and good prices can always become more attractive.

The 'right-sizing' of the fund has continued this quarter with eight further asset exits (and further reductions) recycled into three new ideas. Jet2 is a long-known idea and was initiated following some profit taking from our On The Beach position, as diversification of the thesis that UK consumers protect spending on summer holidays. Convatec is also a long-known idea and adds a flavour of healthcare to the portfolio. It does not screen statistically cheap, but one has reasons to believe that its revenue growth will be structural and we back CEO Bitar to keep delivering. Finally, Reckitt was also added to the portfolio as we believe that the business is strong, while the shares have significantly de-rated during the last few years; if Reckitt's management team does not perform, corporate activity would not be surprising.

As briefly mentioned above, On The Beach performed well in the quarter adding 1.2% to performance. This followed results in line with their guidance, and a strong messaging from the company for next year's outlook. Few in the market have believed the company, and so this saw a sharp rerating higher. Another surprise to markets was Epwin, which confirmed guidance and initiated a buyback, noting that they had excess capital and a strong outlook. This contributed 1.0% to the fund's performance in the quarter. Tesco was the third best performing stock (giving 0.7% to performance) given the market rally and its size in the fund. On the other side of the ledger, GRIT cost the fund 0.6% in performance, with the market continuing to fail to believe the NAV. Bakkavor also slipped and detracted 0.5% from performance on little news, but the illiquidity of the stock can cost one in price terms. Also, BP subtracted 0.4% from performance during the quarter as the oil price fell.

A good Q4 tempts one to throw caution to the wind and proclaim any bear market done with. The fund remains liquid, and we resist such an urge. We are awaiting better entry prices, but we believe the book has enough firepower to keep step with a further market rally. Importantly we are working hard, studying and meeting businesses, thus enhancing our 'analytical net' for potential new ideas over time.

MARKETING COMMUNICATION



C CLASS DECEMBER 2023

Performance C cap %	GBP
Q4	3.6
Year to date	6.9
1 year	6.9
3 years pa	2.4
5 years pa	7.4
10 years pa	7.6
Since inception pa	10.5
Share price, p	
C GBP cap	3.1759
C GBP dis	2.2879
O GBP cap	3.0543
Z GBP cap	3.6265
Z GBP dis	2.4697

12 month performance to 31 December 2023

%	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RUMS C cap	15.9	14.9	11.7	-10.1	6.9
FTSE All-Share TR £	19.2	-9.8	18.3	0.3	7.9

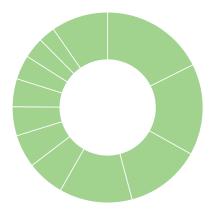
One to twelve month performance figures are cumulative, all others are annualised. Source: Ruffer LLP, FTSE International. Ruffer performance is shown after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. 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 sub-fund is to achieve positive returns from an actively managed portfolio mainly of equities and equity-related securities of companies admitted to or dealt on a Regulated Market or Other Regulated Market in the United Kingdom and with market capitalisations below the level which would warrant inclusion in the FTSE 100 Index.

Ruffer UK Mid and Smaller Companies 31 Dec 23

ASSET ALLOCATION



Asset allocation	%
Industrial engineering equities	17.6
Cash	15.5
Retail equities	12.8
Short-dated bonds	12.4
Industrial services equities	6.4
Building equities	5.6
Travel and leisure equities	4.9
Protection equities	4.8
Food and beverage equities	4.1
Media equities	3.5
Oil and gas equities	2.8
Other equities	9.6

5 LARGEST HOLDINGS

Stock	% of fund
Castings	7.4
Balfour Beatty	5.9
Epwin	5.4
Tesco	5.2
Volex	5.0

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 30 November 2023, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £23.4bn.

FUND SIZE £362.5M

FUND INFORMATION

Maximum annual management cha	rge %		O class 1.59 C class 1.26 Z class 0.11
Maximum initial charge %		O class 5.0 C class 5.0 Z class 7.5	
Minimum investm equivalent in oth			O class £1,000 C class £10m Z class £30m
Ongoing Charge	s Figure %		O class cap GBP 1.61 C class cap GBP 1.30 C class dis GBP 1.30 Z class cap GBP 0.12 Z class dis GBP 0.12
Cut offs		the da (so t	n Luxembourg time on y before valuation day ypically Friday and the timate business day of the month)
Dealing frequenc	у	not follow	ekly, every Monday (if a business day, on the ring business day) Plus ne last calendar day of each month
Pay dates			thin five business days after ex dividend date
Record date		Third Monday of November	
Investment mana	ger		Ruffer LLP
Custodian		Pict	et & Cie (Europe) S.A.
Auditors			Ernst & Young S.A.
Structure			o-fund of Ruffer SICAV, uxembourg domiciled UCITS SICAV
Share class	ISIN		SEDOL
C GBP cap	LU078803	36498	B8F3087
C GBP dis	LU078803	86571	B8F30B0
O GBP cap	LU078820)6679	B8F4LY3
Z GBP cap	LU078803	36654	B8F4LB0

LU0788036738

B8F4LD2

ENQUIRIES

Z GBP dis

Ruffer LLP 80 Victoria Street London SW1E 5JL rif@ruffer.co.uk +44 (0)20 7963 8218 ruffer.co.uk/rums

FUND TEAM



Alex Grispos research director | fund manager

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 two of Ruffer's specialist funds.



Joseph David RESEARCH ANALYST

Joined Ruffer as a graduate in 2015, after graduating from the University of Cambridge with an honours degree in philosophy. Began working on the fund in 2020. He is a CFA charterholder.

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The risk indicator assumes you keep the product for 5 years.

The actual risk can vary significantly if you cash in at an early stage and you may get back less. The summary risk indicator is a guide to the level of risk of this product compared to other products. It shows how likely it is that the product will lose money because of movements in the markets or because we are not able to pay you. We have classified this product as 3 out of 7, which is a medium-low risk class. This rates the potential losses from future performance at a medium-low level, and poor market conditions are unlikely to impact our capacity to pay you. Please refer to the prospectus for more information on the specific risks relevant to this product not included in the summary risk indicator. This product does not include complete protection from future market performance, so you could lose some or all of your investment. If we are not able to pay you what is owed, you could lose your entire investment.

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