

## Portfolio Managers







William Curtayne Portfolio Manager

Wayne Gentle Portfolio Manager

Jason Kururangi Co-Portfolio Manager

In October, the Fund was down 2.1%, underperforming the broader ASX 200 by 0.8%. After a strong September, October saw a modest retracement for global equity markets. Within Australia, this was at least partially driven by moderating expectations around the size and scale of stimulus being expected out of China. This drove a reversion of flows from resources back into financials.

Key positive contributors include prospective uranium developer NexGen Energy (+20.1%), that rallied strongly on the back of improving sentiment towards nuclear power. This was fuelled by Amazon and Google in October, both announcing nuclear energy investment. This follows Microsoft's September agreement to restart the Three Mile Island nuclear generating station. Nuclear power has seen a resurgence, as big tech companies explore reliable low-carbon power sources.

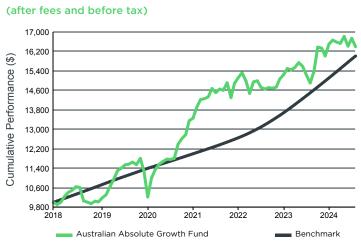
Payment provider Block also performed well (+7.7%), as the US economy continued to grind higher, proving more resilient than many in the market feared. Gold miners Bellevue Gold (+23.1%) and Northern Star Resources (+11.0%) performed well as gold continued to rally, delivering better than feared quarterly updates. Key detractors over the month included terminal provider SmartPay (-32.0%) on domestic regulatory concerns, and Flight Centre (-28.5%) following a weak quarterly trading update.

We expect to see continued volatility in markets given the US election, Chinese fiscal policy and the Middle East conflict. Given the key areas of news flow around a US election and Chinese fiscal policy, it is hard to call market direction in the short term. We continue to be diversified in our existing holdings, while continuing to manage positions in businesses where the stock price runs ahead of fundamentals and add to those that have underperformed. We will continue to actively manage our exposure to China and resources into November, depending on how news flow and announcements adjust their outlook.

# To view Milford's October 2024 Market and Economic Review please see milfordasset.com/insights.

For previous fund reports see milfordasset.com/fund-reports.

## **Cumulative Fund Performance**



Assumes the growth of \$10,000 invested at the Fund's inception date.

## **Key Fund Facts**

Objective <sup>1</sup>	Targets an absolute return with an annualised return objective of 5% above the New Zealand Official Cash Rate while seeking to protect capital over rolling three year periods			
Description	Diversified fund that primarily invests in Australasian equities, complemented by selective exposure to international equities and cash			
Minimum recommo investment timefra		7 years +		
Target Allocation		17.5% Income Assets / 82.5% Growth Assets		
Neutral FX Exposu	ire	0%		
Net Asset Value (N	IAV)	\$669.1 M		
Buy-sell Spread		None - swing pricing applies (See PDS for details)		
Inception Date		1 March 2018		
Benchmark		OCR + 5% p.a.		
Base Fund Fee <sup>2</sup>		1.05%		
Performance Fee	erformance Fee 15% of the Fund's returns above the Benchmark <sup>1</sup> , subject to the high watermark.			
Total Fund Fees <sup>3</sup>		1.25% (includes an est. performance fee)		
		Lower risk Higher risk		
Risk Indicator		1 2 3 4 5 6 7		
		Potentially lower returns Potentially higher returns		



### Investment Performance after fees as at 31 October 2024<sup>4</sup>

#### Unit Price: \$1.6257

	1 Month	3 Months	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	Since inception (p.a.)
Milford Australian Absolute Growth Fund (Gross Of Tax)	-2.06%	-2.51%	10.02%	3.81%	7.21%	7.69%
After Tax 10.50%	-2.02%	-2.57%	10.22%	3.87%	7.15%	7.66%
After Tax 17.50%	-1.99%	-2.60%	10.35%	3.90%	7.11%	7.64%
After Tax 28.00%	-1.94%	-2.66%	10.55%	3.95%	7.05%	7.60%
Benchmark	0.80%	2.47%	10.44%	9.00%	7.55%	7.31%

## **Top Security Holdings**

Holdings	% of Fund
CSL	6.36%
BHP	5.75%
Telstra	3.17%
Macquarie	2.99%
Woolworths	2.75%
Goodman	2.74%
Santos	2.45%
NAB	2.36%
ANZ	2.31%
Viva Energy Group	2.29%

## **Current Asset Allocation**

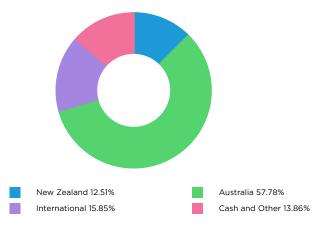
	Actual Investment Mix	Neutral Investment Mix
Effective Cash #	13.86%	7.5%
New Zealand Fixed Interest	2.21%	10%
International Fixed Interest	1.81%	0.0%
New Zealand Equities	6.58%	0.0%
Australian Equities	69.59%	77.5%
International Equities	5.95%	5%
Other	0.00%	0.0%

# The actual cash held by the Fund is 12.59%. Effective Cash reported above is adjusted to reflect the Fund's notional positions (e.g. derivatives used to increase or reduce market exposure).

## **Sector Allocation**

Allocation	Weight %
Materials	21.88%
Financials	14.27%
Health Care	12.05%
Energy	7.16%
Real Estate	6.39%
Communication Services	5.99%
Utilities	4.37%
Consumer Staples	3.88%
Other Sectors	10.15%
Cash and Other	13.86%

#### **Region Exposure**



1. After the Base Fund Fee but before tax and before the performance fee. 2. Where applicable, the Base Fund Fee includes an estimate of non-related underlying fund charges. 3. The Total Fund Fees comprise the Base Fund Fee and any estimated Performance Fee. Please refer to the Product Disclosure Statement for more information as to how these are calculated. 4. Please note past performance is not a guarantee of future returns.

Please refer to the 'Glossary for the Monthly Fact Sheet' at <u>milfordasset.com/fact-sheet</u> for more information about the data published within this document. Disclaimer: The Milford Fund Fact Sheet has been prepared by Milford Funds Limited. It is based on information believed to be accurate and reliable although no guarantee can be given that this is the case. No reproduction of any material either in part or in full is permitted without prior permission. For more information about the Fund, please refer to the Production Disclosure Statement or the latest Quarterly Fund Update.