

#### Portfolio Managers







**Anthony Ip** Portfolio Manager

Ian RobertsonPaul MorrisCo-Portfolio ManagerCo-Portfolio Manager

The Fund returned 0.5% in April, behind the benchmark return of 0.9%. The month saw market volatility unleashed by the US administration's tariff announcements, which was followed by a subsequent partial market recovery on more conciliatory tones from the US president. The Fund's relative performance was constrained by overweight exposure to AUD bank subordinated bonds and AUD corporate hybrids, both of which underperformed in April. Absolute returns were supported by lower government bond yields, reflecting expectations of lower economic growth, which offset the impact of wider credit spreads (the extra yield of corporate bonds over government bonds).

Australian credit spreads widened materially, reflecting similar moves offshore. This widening has resulted in attractive valuations in parts of the Australian corporate bond market, which the Fund will look to capitalise on over time. To that end, the Fund added Sydney Airport and Mirvac Group (real estate investment trust) in AUD, while it trimmed a moderate amount of NZD corporate bonds given the NZD market did not widen as much as the moves seen offshore. The Fund retains an overweight to AUD credit, including in bank subordinated bonds and corporate hybrids, given more attractive valuations.

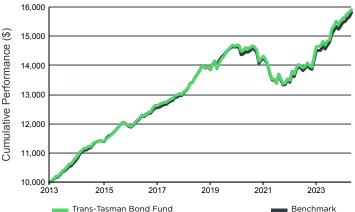
In April, the markets navigated cross currents of higher inflation risks from tariffs, which typically lower bond prices, and economic growth risks, which typically lift bond prices. The net impact was that NZD and AUD market interest rates ended the month broadly lower. In Australia, the Fund was moderately underweight AUD rates, which was a headwind to relative returns. Here we view market expectations for Reserve Bank of Australia rate cuts to be overly optimistic and maintain our underweight positioning for now. Meanwhile our NZ interest rate positioning is close to neutral.

Looking ahead, while there remains uncertainty on the macroeconomic front, AU and NZ corporates are better insulated from the direct impacts of tariff policy. The strength of AU and NZ corporate balance sheets, the attractive interest rate environment, combined with now more attractive valuations of many of the Fund's corporate bond holdings should support medium term returns.

To view Milford's April 2025 Market and Economic Review please see milfordasset.com/insights.

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

# Cumulative Fund Performance (after fees and before tax)



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

## **Key Fund Facts**

Objective <sup>1</sup>	To generate a positive, low volatility return that exceeds the relevant benchmark over the minimum recommended investment timeframe					
Description	Primarily invests in trans-Tasman fixed interest securities					
Minimum recommended investment timeframe		3 years +				
Target Allocation		100% Income Assets / 0% Growth Assets				
Neutral FX Exposure		0%				
Net Asset Value (NAV)		\$1,389.1 M				
Yield <sup>2</sup>		3.65%				
Average Credit Rating		A+				
Duration		3 years				
Rating Categories		Inv.Grade 84% / High Yield 4% / Unrated 2%				
Inception Date		2 December 2013				
Current Distribution		0.85 cents per unit (Quarterly)				
Benchmark		50% x S&P/ASX Corporate Bond 0+ Total Return Index (100% NZD-hedged) + 50% x S&P/NZX Investment Grade Corporate Bond Total Return Index				
Base Fund Fee <sup>3</sup>		0.65%				
Performance Fee		Not applicable				
Total Fund Fee	<sub>5</sub> 4	0.65%				
		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 30 April 2025<sup>5</sup>

#### Unit Price: \$1.1864

	1 Month	3 Months	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	Since inception (p.a.)
Milford Trans-Tasman Bond Fund (Gross Of Tax)	0.54%	1.57%	8.24%	5.53%	2.48%	4.15%
After Tax 10.50%	0.48%	1.41%	7.36%	4.95%	2.23%	3.72%
After Tax 17.50%	0.44%	1.30%	6.79%	4.56%	2.06%	3.43%
After Tax 28.00%	0.39%	1.13%	5.92%	3.98%	1.81%	2.99%
Benchmark	0.94%	1.99%	8.56%	5.39%	2.22%	4.10%

#### **Top Fixed Interest Holdings**

Holdings	% of Fund			
NZGBI 2% 2025	3.92%			
NZLGFA 4.5% 2030	3.68%			
Housing NZ 3.42% 2028	2.67%			
NZLGFA 3.5% 2033	2.66%			
NZLGFA 1.5% 2029	2.63%			
Progress Trust RMBS 2050	2.45%			
Origin Energy 5.35% 2031	2.34%			
GTA Finance 2.2% 2027	2.33%			
NAB 5% 2029	2.21%			
ANZ Float 2030	2.03%			
NZLGFA 2.25% 2031	1.95%			
NZLGFA 4.5% 2027	1.84%			
Westpac 4.95% 2030	1.77%			
NBN Co 5.35% 2035	1.65%			
NZLGFA 4.5% 2032	1.65%			
NZ Govt. 4.5% 2035	1.62%			
Contact 6.398% 2030	1.44%			
United Energy Distribution 5.417% 2032	1.44%			
NZLGFA 1.5% 2026	1.42%			
NZ Govt. 3.5% 2033	1.37%			

Note: Fixed interest securities are reported in the following format: Issuer name, interest (coupon rate), maturity year.

### **Current Asset Allocation**

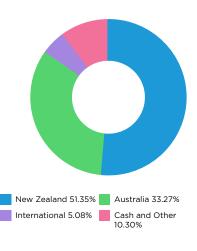
	Actual Investment Mix	Neutral Investment Mix
Effective Cash #	9.37%	3%
New Zealand Fixed Interest	48.75%	48.5%
International Fixed Interest	40.95%	48.5%
New Zealand Equities	0.00%	0.0%
Australian Equities	0.00%	0.0%
International Equities	0.00%	0.0%
Other	0.93%	0.0%

# The actual cash held by the Fund is 8.65%. 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 % Government 30.72% Financials 21.90% Utilities 16.47% Real Estate 10.19% Industrials 3.90% Communication 3.23% Services **Consumer Staples** 2.60% Energy 0.69% Other Sectors 0.00% Cash and Other 10.30%

#### **Region Exposure**



1. After the Base Fund Fee but before tax. 2. The yield to maturity is not an indicator of future return, but reflects the current yield to maturity of the fund's underlying holdings (before tax and after the base fund fee). 4. 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. 5. Includes the reinvestment of distributions. Returns prior to 1 March 2018 are from when the Fund was previously offered to wholesale investors only and have been adjusted for the current Total Fund Fees. Please note past performance is not a guarantee of future returns.

Please refer to the 'Glossary for the Monthly Fact Sheet' at milfordasset.com/fact-sheet for more information about the data published within this document.

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