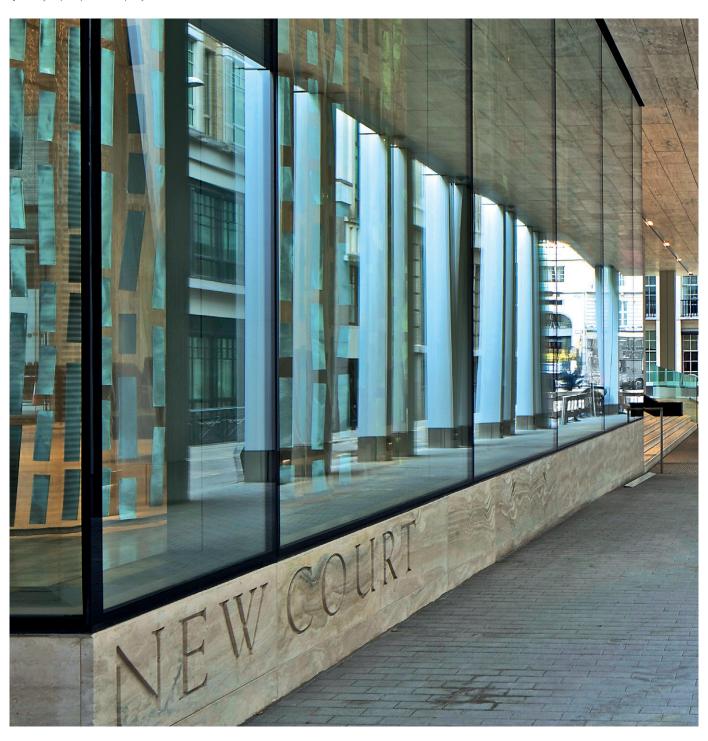
# **TM New Court Equity Growth Fund**



Quarterly Report | Issue 21 | July 2019







Cover: Our office at New Court. The site has been home to the business in London since 1809.

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© 2019 Rothschild & Co Wealth Management Values: All data as at 30th June 2019 (except inflation which is until 31st May 2019 as June 2019 data figures are not yet available). Sources of charts and tables: Rothschild & Co and Bloomberg, unless otherwise stated. Past performance is not indicative of future performance and investments and the income from them can fall as well as rise. Fund performance is shown in pounds sterling, after all fees, in total return, combining income and capital growth. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

Please ensure you read the Important Information section at the end of this document.

### Fund manager's review

Equity markets moved higher in the second quarter as volatility arising from a revival of trade tensions was followed by the anticipation of more supportive monetary policy from the US Federal Reserve. As the second quarter ended, the US economic cycle – which still matters most to global portfolios – stood on the brink of eclipsing the decade-long upswing of the 1990s to become the longest US economic expansion ever.

#### **Performance contributions**

The fund returned +3.6% in the second quarter. The fund has now returned +185.3%, compared to +163.9% for UK inflation +4%, since inception on  $15^{th}$  August 2003. This equates to +6.8% per annum for the fund compared to +6.3% for inflation +4% \*

Performance this quarter was driven by our return assets, with positive performance from most positions. The most notable contributions came from our companies, with a few positions making double-digit percentage gains. These included Cable One (+19.5%) and Charter (+13.9%), where internet subscriber numbers, which are central to our investment case, continued to grow. American Express (+13.3%) and Mastercard (+12.5%) both reported higher revenues from increased transaction volumes. Linde (+14.7%), producing the second set of results since the merger between Praxair and Linde AG, reported increased earnings and healthy pipeline of projects.

Returns from our diversifying assets were mixed, as we would anticipate given the market environment. With stock markets delivering decent returns, we are not surprised to see the assets we hold to protect the portfolio against meaningful declines in equity markets producing negative returns. This was offset by the gains made by the trend following funds, ACL and CFM, which capitalised on trends across equity, fixed income and commodity markets. Our fixed income holdings also produced small gains as government bond prices increased, and yields fell due to falling inflation expectations.

#### Portfolio activity

There were fewer changes to the portfolio this quarter following a busier end to 2018 and start to 2019.

Early in the quarter we completed the sale of our position in DMGT (previously Daily Mail and General Trust). DMGT is a holding company for a group of business-to-business and media companies. This had been held in the portfolio for a number of years, but we

had been considering exiting due to our higher return expectations for other return assets. The recent corporate activity, returning the stake in Euromoney and £200 million in cash to shareholders, gave us an opportunity to do so.

The monitoring of our portfolio is an ongoing process which includes formally reviewing the operating performance of all the companies in the portfolio and considering if position sizes remain optimised. Following such a review, we decided to increase our position in Wells Fargo as we believe our return expectations warranted a larger position size. At the end of the quarter Wells Fargo passed the regulatory stress test and its plan to increase its dividend and return capital to shareholders through repurchases of stock was approved.

We also increased our position in Ryanair, following a fall in the share price over the quarter, with lower fares and higher fuel and staff costs weighing on financial results. Airlines are a cyclical industry and shorter-term performance can be driven by factors beyond the company's control. However, the company's leading position as the lowest-cost, highest-volume carrier means we expect it to be a net beneficiary as weaker competitors falter when faced with a challenging environment.

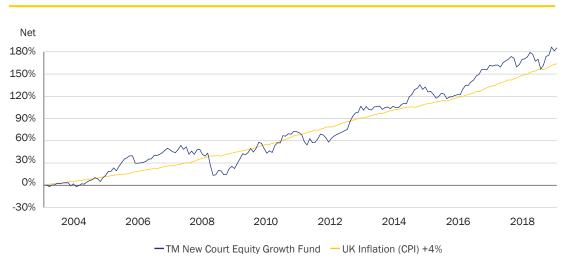
Towards the end of the quarter we added a new put option warrant on the S&P 500 index. One of the existing puts was coming up to expiry and protection against a significant decline in this major index could be purchased at a reasonable cost. At the time of purchase this left us with a range of put options in the portfolio, with strikes 'laddered' between 15% and 25% out of the money, with protection spread across US and European equity indices.

<sup>\*</sup> Annualised figures are calculated on a compound basis to best represent the results of staying continuously invested from inception of the strategy.

### **Fund performance**

Since inception, the Fund has slightly underperformed inflation +4%. As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the net asset value per share was £16.58. The Fund size was £83.0 million.

### Performance since inception\*



### Performance comparison - over time (%)

	Q2 2019	2019 YTD	2018	2017	2016	2015	Since inception*
TM New Court Equity Growth Fund	3.6	11.3	-5.1	9.1	11.0	0.3	185.3
UK inflation +4%	1.8	2.7	6.1	6.9	5.6	4.2	163.9
UK inflation	0.8	0.7	2.1	2.9	1.6	0.2	43.3
Global equities (in local currencies)	3.2	15.9	-7.7	19.8	9.0	1.3	229.2
Global equities (in sterling)	6.0	16.7	-3.9	13.2	28.7	3.2	319.2
UK government bonds	1.4	5.0	0.5	2.0	10.7	0.5	132.7
Sterling cash	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5	35.1

<sup>\*</sup> The TM New Court Equity Growth Fund (having changed its name from RPFM Market Fund on 1st June 2014) was created on 13th March 2012 as a result of an amalgamation with the RPIC Market Fund which was launched on 15th August 2003. The investment objective of each fund was similar, and therefore the performance shown above is combined. Past performance has been linked and presented as a consolidated performance history. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. The value of investments and the income from them can fall as well as rise.

Indices used: UK inflation (CPI inflation), global equities (MSCI All Country World Index in local currencies and sterling terms), UK government bonds (Bloomberg Barclays Gilts Total Return Index), sterling cash (Barclays Benchmark Overnight GBP Cash Index). All figures are calculated monthly from 28th August 2003 to 30th June 2019 (except inflation which is until 31sth May 2019 as June 2019 data figures are not yet available).

### **Fund holdings**

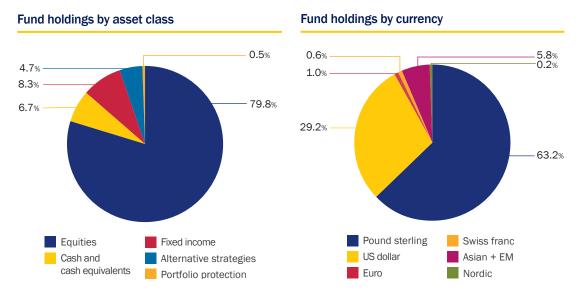
The Fund combines return and diversifying assets which are invested across global markets. The return assets are held to generate capital growth over the long term; the diversifying assets are held to protect capital and investment performance, particularly during difficult markets.

Return assets (79.8%)				Diversifying assets (20.2%	<b>6</b> )
Equities - Companies	24.8%	Equities - Companies	24.4%	Alternative strategies	4.7%
Admiral	4.2%	American Express	4.8%	CFM Trends	3.3%
Cable One	1.9%	Comcast	3.1%	Lyxor Winton Managed	1.4%
Charter Communications	1.6%	Deere	3.4%	Futures	
Fox	2.3%	Linde	3.6%		
Liberty Broadband	0.7%	Mastercard	2.3%	Portfolio protection	0.5%
Lloyds	3.8%	Moody's	3.8%	S&P 500 2350 put September 2019	<0.1%
Middleby	2.6%	S&P Global	3.6%	S&P 500 2300	0.1%
Ryanair	3.7%			(resettable put) December 2019	
Wells Fargo	4.1%	Equities - Funds	24.8%	Euro Stoxx 50 put	0.1%
		Bares US Equity	5.7%	(2950 resettable strike)	0.1%
Equities - Funds	5.8%	Berkshire Hathaway	5.2%	March 2020	
Cederberg Greater China	5.8%	IVI European	4.2%	S&P 500 2500 put June 2020	0.3%
Equity		Lansdowne Developed Markets	4.7%	34110 2020	
		Phoenix UK	5.0%	Fixed Income – Investment grade	8.3%
				Short dated fixed rate bonds	5.5%
				Floating rate bonds	2.8%
				Cash and cash equivalents	6.7%
				Currency hedges	
				EUR FX hedge	-5.0%
				USD FX hedge	-19.7%
				GBP FX hedge	24.7%
Special situations	Core	Diversifier			

Holdings are subject to change without notice. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding. Put warrants behave like insurance; we pay a premium for them and hope that they expire worthless, losing only the premium (a very small detraction). They will increase in value if equity markets fall, thereby providing some protection to the portfolio in the event of a fall in the value of equities held in the portfolio.

### **Fund allocations**

The Fund is invested across global regions, asset classes and currencies. The fund manager follows a diversified investment approach and aims to preserve and grow the real value of the Fund over the longer term.



Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding. The above currency exposure is net of foreign exchange hedges. For the purposes of more accurately managing currency risk, where appropriate, we reflect the currency exposure of certain funds based on the underlying securities held within the fund, rather than the denomination of the fund.

## **Supporting information**

#### **TM New Court Equity Growth Fund**

Type of fund	Authorised non-UCITS retail scheme unit trust.
Objective	The objective of the Fund is to preserve and grow the real value of the Fund over the long term through a diversified investment approach. The Fund may utilise a wide range of asset classes in order to achieve its objective. These may include equities, cash deposits, bonds, warrants, money market instruments, derivatives and forward transactions, funds (regulated and unregulated), exposure to currencies, commodities and property.
Launch date	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2012
Share class	Income. Base currency is pound sterling.
Minimum investment	£10,000
Estimated synthetic OCF*	1.48%. This includes the manager's fee (1.00%), other expenses (0.14%) and expenses on underlying fund investments (0.34%).
Pricing	Valuation day for subscriptions: each business day Valuation day for redemptions: each business day Settlement period: T+4
Comparators	UK CPI +4%. MSCI All Country World in sterling. Bloomberg Barclays Gilts Total Return Index Barclays Benchmark Overnight GBP Cash Index.

The investment manager is Rothschild & Co Wealth Management UK Limited. The Manager is Thesis Unit Trust Management Limited, Exchange Building, St John's Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UP. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

<sup>\*</sup> The Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) as calculated for the 12 months to 31st December 2018. The OCF is the ratio of the Fund's total disclosable costs (excluding overdraft interest) to the average net assets of the Fund. It is intended to provide a reliable figure that gives the most accurate measure of what it costs to invest in the Fund and is calculated based on the last period's figures. The Synthetic OCF includes the OCF of the underlying fund investments weighted on the basis of their investment proportion in the Fund. From time to time management fees may differ. This will be disclosed and explained to you in good time before you invest.

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In an environment where short-term thinking often dominates, our long-term perspective sets us apart. We believe preservation first is the right approach to managing wealth.

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There can be no assurance that an investment will achieve returns at levels comparable to the returns reflected herein. An investors' return may be different than that of the TM New Court Equity Growth Fund because of, among other things, differences in the amount of capital at risk, diversification, risk tolerance and portfolio turnover.

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