



April 2026 Monthly Report

Returns 31-Dec-12 to 30-Apr-26

	Norse Capital	All Ords Accum	Outperformance	Small Ords Accum	Outperformance
Inception	510.73%	221.88%	288.86%	121.82%	388.91%
Inception per annum	14.53%	9.16%	5.37%	6.16%	8.38%
CY2026 (ytd)	-4.62%	-0.36%	-4.27%	-7.89%	3.27%
CY2025	4.13%	10.56%	-6.43%	24.96%	-20.83%
CY2024	45.23%	11.44%	33.78%	8.36%	36.87%
CY2023	17.73%	12.98%	4.75%	7.82%	9.90%
CY2022	-30.79%	-2.96%	-27.83%	-18.38%	-12.41%
CY2021	16.86%	17.74%	-0.88%	16.90%	-0.04%
CY2020	26.36%	3.64%	22.73%	9.21%	17.15%
CY2019	43.44%	24.06%	19.38%	21.36%	22.08%
CY2018	7.46%	-3.53%	10.99%	-8.67%	16.13%
CY2017	15.55%	12.47%	3.08%	20.02%	-4.46%
CY2016	9.31%	11.65%	-2.33%	13.18%	-3.87%
CY2015	36.80%	3.78%	33.02%	10.16%	26.65%
CY2014	10.81%	5.02%	5.79%	-3.81%	14.62%
CY2013	19.24%	19.66%	-0.41%	-0.76%	20.00%
1m	5.83%	2.36%	3.47%	3.33%	2.49%
3m	-1.51%	-1.95%	0.44%	-10.35%	8.85%
6m	-12.62%	-1.64%	-10.98%	-7.98%	-4.64%
1y	6.14%	9.96%	-3.82%	15.32%	-9.18%
2y pa	13.94%	9.39%	4.56%	9.37%	4.57%
3y pa	19.63%	9.56%	10.07%	8.69%	10.94%
5y pa	4.46%	8.03%	-3.58%	3.66%	0.79%
7y pa	9.55%	8.66%	0.89%	5.45%	4.10%
10y pa	12.74%	9.36%	3.39%	7.31%	5.43%
12y pa	14.51%	8.28%	6.24%	6.96%	7.55%
Sharpe Ratio	0.85	0.57	1.49x	0.32	2.66x
Sortino Ratio	1.40	0.80	1.75x	0.45	3.12x
Annualised standard deviation	14.93%	13.37%		16.49%	
Highest monthly return	11.91%	10.16%		14.27%	
Largest monthly loss	-10.61%	-20.94%		-22.38%	
Largest drawdown	-36.68%	-27.33%		-29.11%	
% positive months	67.50%	65.63%		58.75%	

Markets saw the (so-far at least) Iran war low late in March and staged a V-shaped recovery in April with indices in the US showing double-digit positive returns with the S&P500 up +10.4% and the Nasdaq up a stonking +15.7%. Relative to the US, the ASX indices returns looked anaemic with the All Ords +2.4% and the Small Ords +3.3%. The ASX doesn't have the AI exposure weighting evident in the US indices that drove much of April's performance. Our +5.8% somewhat split the difference and also reflected our net exposure entering April at only +55.6% long. The ASX All Tech Index finally saw a decent bounce after having been crushed the last 6+ months, up +9.75% in April.

As would be expected on a decent positive month, the biggest detractor to our performance came from our shorts and hedges which detracted -1.25% from performance with much of our put and put spread positions far out of the money. The +4.4% rise in the Aud-Usd cost the portfolio another -0.8% (which would have been -2% without our Aud-Usd currency futures hedge).

The only single stock negative of note came from RMD which ended the month down -7.4% ahead of their earnings release which came after month-end (so will affect next month's result).

On the positive side of the ledger, the biggest contributor to performance came from our exposure to US-listed semiconductors which as a group added +2.8% to the portfolio in April. +77.8% for ALAB, +94.3% for AAOI and +109.1% for BE along with a comparatively modest +14.4% for NVDA has taken what were relatively small positions to an overall portfolio weighting of 7.2%. The semiconductor (and adjacent) space as the picks and shovels fuelling AI investment has so far been the major financial beneficiary of the AI tailwind. A pity the prior exposure was too small in hindsight...

From a single stock perspective, the biggest positive contribution came from GOOG with the shares up +33.1% for the month which is an astounding addition of market capitalisation in a single month for one of the largest companies in the world. Great quarterly results with Google Cloud outpacing the other hyperscalers with revenue +63% (albeit from a lower base than AWS and Azure) which was an acceleration over the last couple of quarters as "...enterprise AI solutions have become our primary growth driver for cloud for the first time in Q1." Of the hyperscalers, Google has its own AI-model (Gemini, which showed a +60% uptake in customer API calls) and its own hardware (TPUs) as well as providing cloud infrastructure for the likes of Anthropic (Claude) in which it is

investing an additional \$40b. On the capex side, Alphabet has guided to \$180-\$190b for CY2026 which now outstrips the other hyperscalers. Of course there is an ROI risk on capex spend but Google seems to have passed an inflection point. As mentioned last month, I added to GOOG on the Iran war dip; the additional +10% size weighting just above \$281 now looks timid.

The SaaSocalypse theme which has been a topic the last few months seems to have quieted for now. Our US-listed enterprise software basket added +0.8% with CRWD +14.2%, DDOG +12.0% and ZS -6.9% (albeit we did add to ZS again down near the lows around ~\$118 late last month). The basket is currently at a ~10.7% weighting. Of our ASX listed stocks that were also impacted by the SaaSocalypse, PME was also a decent positive contributor with the shares rising +15%. They announced a couple of deals, a 5y \$23m contract with University of Maryland and a 5y \$37m contract renewal with Northwestern. We also saw a +14.4% rise in our newish position EOL. Finally, we exited the remainder of our SDR position when it rose back above \$3. My personal view is that SDR could possibly be more likely to fall on the “AI eats SaaS” side of the equation; in their announcement where “SiteMinder opens hotel distribution to the AI era”, they mention “8/10 travellers now want AI assistance” which doesn't really fill me with confidence about their ability to fend off the threat of AI going forwards.

Portfolio Holdings:

Cash:	32.7% (AUD and USD)
AUD-USD currency exposure:	18.4%
Longs:	68.5%
Shorts:	-2.8%
Options delta:	-1.2%
Net exposure:	64.6%
Top 5 equities (alphabetical):	AAPL, CRWD, GOOG, PME, RMD

Our exposure has gotten longer, both as the market has rallied increasing the value of our longs but also predominantly our option deltas vanishing away as our put strikes are now far out of the money. I converted some of our outright puts in QQQ, NVDA and SPY into put spreads at near zero cost to get some long strikes closer to market.

