

Markets

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-----|------|
| SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT) | 7825 | -14 | -0.2 |
| NZX 50 | 11967 | 51 | 0.4 |
| DJIA Futures | 40223 | 17 | 0.0 |
| S&P 500 Futures | 5308 | 5 | 0.1 |
| NASDAQ Futures | 18582 | 20 | 0.1 |

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences Friday trade with the \$A at ~US65.70c, a material report due from the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), plus influential regional economic data due and some in hand, following further overnight international central bank activity.

US equities markets continued this week's run of higher settlements, with 0.2% - 0.7% gains, overnight.

Locally today, the RBA's six-monthly **financial stability review** report is anticipated at **11.30am AEDT**.

Regionally today, **Japan** is scheduled to report February **CPI** at **10.30am AEDT**.

Pre-trade, **South Korea** has published February **producer prices**, these rising by 0.3% for the month and 1.5% year-on-year, after appreciating by 0.5% and 1.3% respectively in January.

Pre-trade, **New Zealand** has released February **international trade** statistics, these including a \$NZ0.22B deficit from a \$NZ1.09B January shortfall. Economists had anticipated a \$NZ0.8B new deficit.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** extended Wednesday's swing lower, but slightly so.

US **gold** (Comex) futures picked up the pace of Wednesday's turn higher, approaching \$US2185/oz.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned higher to close above \$US110.5/t.

US **copper** futures picked up US1c/lb, to close at \$US4.06/lb.

Last night's LME final 3-mth evening price updates were unavailable from IRESS at time of publication. These are expected to become available via IRESS at 11.30am AEDT.

The \$A dropped to US65.70c after trading at US66.10c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

| INDEX | CLOSE | +/- | % |
|---------------------------|-------|-----|------|
| Dow Jones | 39781 | 269 | 0.7 |
| S&P 500 | 5242 | 17 | 0.3 |
| NASDAQ | 16402 | 32 | 0.2 |
| FTSE 100 | 7883 | 145 | 1.9 |
| DAX 30 | 18180 | 165 | 0.9 |
| Shanghai Composite | 3077 | -3 | -0.1 |

Today's Stock Watch
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare (FPH)

Anticipating \$NZ1.73B full year operating revenue from previous guidance of \$NZ1.70B, due to a change in the \$NZ - \$US exchange rate.

Likewise, FPH is adjusting forecast full year underlying profit after tax to \$NZ260M - \$NZ265M from \$NZ250M - \$NZ260M. Land valuation and hospital consumables commentary also lodged this morning.

Virgin Money UK (VUK)

VUK and Nationwide Building Society have agreed the terms of Nationwide's proposed cash acquisition of VUK, as flagged by VUK and Nationwide 7 March.

Under the agreed arrangements, VUK shareholders will receive £2.18 cash-per-share plus a proposed 2p-per-share dividend.

VUK has traded on the ASX at \$3.83 - \$4.07 over the past five sessions. For the session immediately following the 7 March (post-ASX trade) announcement, VUK traded at \$4.05 - \$4.12.

Aspen Ltd (APZ) / Eureka Group Holdings (EGH)

EGH 19.29% shareholder Filetron Pty Ltd does not intend to accept APZ's proposed 0.26 APZ-for one EGH share takeover of EGH. EGH continues to regard the APZ offer as 'inadequate' and one that 'materially undervalues' the group. EGH has traded at 52c - 54c for the week to date.

APZ has traded at \$1.725 - \$1.80.

Resources
Turaco Gold (TCG) / Aurum Resources (AUE) / Predictive Discovery (PDI)

TCG and JV partner PDI are selling the Cote d'Ivoire Boundiali permit to AUE for \$800,000 cash or up to \$1.2M worth of AUE shares.

AUE is drilling two exploration permits located immediately north of Boundiali, having recently acquired a controlling interest in these.

Boundiali has formed part of an 88:11 JV between TCG and PDI, and the sale proceeds will be split accordingly.

TCG will focus on the Cote d'Ivoire Afema and Eburnea gold projects, applying funds from the proposed Boundiali sale to the Afema project.

Meanwhile, PDI is completing pre-feasibility for the Bankan gold project in Guinea.

Energy
Invictus Energy (IVZ)

Analysis has confirmed rich gas-condensate within the Cabora Bassa project Mukuyu-2 well, Zimbabwe. IVZ 80%.



Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European, UK and US equities markets proved generally more tempered overnight intra-session than in previous sessions.

Considerations included central bank activity and commentary, material economic indicators, and corporate news and reports causing significant select moves within the communications/tech sector.

In the UK, the **Bank of England** monetary policy meeting outcomes statement confirmed status quo for interest rates, with governor Andrew Bailey venturing rate cuts were 'on the way'. Of the nine-member deciding panel, one member voted for a cut, against eight favouring no change. This represented the first policy meeting since September 2021 that no panel member had voted for a rate increase.

Meanwhile, Switzerland's central bank, the **Swiss National Bank**, cut its main interest rate overnight for the first time in nine years, by 0.25% to 1.50%, following a 1.20% February inflation rate.

Norway's central bank kept rates on hold.

Germany's central bank the Bundesbank predicted a sluggish economy for some time yet and inflation fluctuations amid ongoing price growth for the services sector.

Earlier yesterday Australia reported a drop in unemployment during February, from 4.1% to 3.7%.

In a swag of overnight economic data releases, initial March PMIs for the **euro zone** came in mixed.

The manufacturing PMI continued to decline, this time by 0.8 to 45.7 rather than improving slightly to 47.0, as forecast.

The services PMI continued in expansion mode, improving by 0.9 to 51.2, rather than by 0.3 to 50.5, as expected.

February new domestic vehicle registrations were reported 10.1% higher than for February 2023, following a 12.1% annualised January increase.

Germany's preliminary March PMI readings were also mixed, the manufacturing PMI remaining in contraction mode and deteriorating, falling to 41.6 from 42.5, rather than improving, as forecast, by 0.6 to an albeit remaining contractionary 43.1.

The services PMI also continued to indicate contraction, but rose by 1.5 to 49.8, exceeding consensus for a 0.5-point improvement to 48.8.

In the **UK**, initial March PMIs included an improvement for the manufacturing sector and deterioration for the services sector.

The manufacturing PMI rose by 2.4 points, to 49.9, just 0.1 from the expansion-contraction cut-off point, against forecasts for a much smaller increase to 47.8.

The services PMI fell by 0.4 to 53.4, against consensus for no change.

In the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims tallied 210,000 against forecasts for 215,000 following the previous week's 212,000.

The Philadelphia Fed March manufacturing index fell to 3.2 from 5.2, defying consensus for a plunge to -2.3.

S&P/Global initial March PMIs included a 0.3-point rise for the manufacturing PMI to 52.5 against expectations for a 0.5-point

Pre-Open Announcements

Tourism Holdings (THL)

THL has appointed Scott Technology CFO Cameron Mathewson as CFO, effective 1 July.

IMEXHS Ltd (IME)

IME has secured medical imaging software contract renewals with two clients.

One contract, worth \$1.7M in total contract value three years has been renewed with improved terms and pricing.

The other contract, worth \$425,000 in annualised recurring revenue, has been renewed for two years with improved pricing and covers the provision of a larger scope of services.

BNK Banking Corporation (BBC)

BBC has purchased ~\$80M worth of high-margin residential mortgages.

The mortgages are from a residential securitisation warehouse established by BBC and Goldman Sachs in 2021.

BBC provides the origination, underwriting and servicing for the warehouse.

Clarity Pharmaceuticals (CU6)

SECURE clinical trial patient dosing underway.

Electro Optic Systems Holdings (EOS)

EOS remains in a trading halt while completing a \$A35M, \$1.70-per-share fully underwritten placement.

EOS is also planning a \$5M SPP at the same price.

Peter Warren Automotive Holdings (PWR)

CEO Mark Weaver is planning to relinquish his PWR at the end of the financial year.

Resources

Develop Global (* DVP)

NSW Woodlawn copper-zinc project measured and indicated resource re-estimated at 8.1Mt, up 11% from the previous calculation.

The total resource tallies 11.26Mt.

Raiden Resources (* RDN)

WA Pilbara Mt Sholl project infill soil sampling has determined two lithium targets, confirming previously defined anomalies.

Details and plans lodged this morning.

In addition, soil sampling undertaken by First Quantum Minerals has defined a nickel anomaly with an up to 1.2km strike length.

Genesis Minerals (GMD)

GMD has updated the company's resources to 15.2Moz and reserves to 3.3Moz.

The updates include the WA northern goldfields Gwalia and Tower Hill deposits, acquired from St Barbara (ASX: SBM).

Presentation outlining a five-year strategic plan lodged post-trade yesterday.



decline.

The services PMI fell to 51.7 from 52.3, following forecasts for a smaller decline to 52.0.

The Conference Board February leading index rose to 0.1% from -0.4%, against expectations for -0.2%.

February existing home sales jumped by 9.5% for the month.

Tonight in the **US**, no major economic indicators are anticipated.

Elsewhere, the Bank of Russia convenes a monetary policy meeting from which it announces outcomes and subsequently hosts a press conference.

Companies listed to report earnings later today or tonight include China Petroleum & Chemical Corp, Taiwan Semiconductor and Zijin Mining.

In overnight corporate news, social media group Reddit gained 48% on its NYSE debut.

Micron Technologies added 14% after reporting post-US trade Wednesday, delivering better-than-expected revenue and profit and forecast further positive revenue.

Apple dropped ~4% following news the US Department of Justice had launched legal action alleging anti-competitive activity.

Commodities

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | \$US/ | +/- | % |
|---|--------|-------|-------|------|
| Gold (COMEX 100 Apr) | 2184.7 | oz | 23.7 | 1.1 |
| Silver (COMEX 5000 May) | 25.01 | oz | -0.09 | -0.4 |
| Platinum | 906 | oz | 0 | 0.0 |
| WTI Crude (NYMEX May) | 81.07 | bbl | -0.20 | -0.3 |
| Brent Crude (ICE EUR May) | 85.78 | bbl | -0.17 | -0.2 |
| Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe) | 110.94 | t | 0.65 | 0.6 |
| Copper (LME 3mth Evening) <small>(20Mar)</small> | 8928 | t | -48 | -0.5 |
| Nickel | 17492 | t | 97 | 0.6 |
| Aluminium | 2273 | t | 4 | 0.2 |
| Lead | 2064 | t | -29 | -1.4 |
| Zinc | 2509 | t | 3 | 0.1 |
| Tin | 27230 | t | -215 | -0.8 |

Commodities Commentary

Oil – overnight trade appeared pushed and pulled by a stronger \$US, international interest rates commentary, potential scenarios from Middle East and Russia-Ukraine conflict and demand speculation.

Tonight, a weekly US petroleum drill rig report is due from Baker Hughes.

Gold – prices vacillated overnight, in response to mixed economic indicators, and a \$US appreciation amid other currency swings.

A Bank of England monetary policy meeting maintained status quo for interest rates, but the Swiss National Bank cut its key rate for the first time in nine years.

Base metals – a \$US appreciation and supply, indications of likely multiple international interest rate cuts this year, and demand scenarios influenced overnight base metals trade.

Zinc and lead were supported following Glencore's temporary halt to McArthur River operations, due to rain from ex-cyclone Megan. This followed other zinc operation hiatuses announced earlier this

Trading Halts

| Company | Code | Resuming |
|--------------------------------|------|----------|
| Askari Metals | AS2 | 22 Mar |
| ChemX Materials | CMX | 25 Mar |
| Electro Optic Systems Holdings | EOS | 25 Mar |
| Gratifii Ltd | GTI | 25 Mar |
| Opyl Ltd | OPL | 22 Mar |
| Pentanet Ltd | 5GG | 22 Mar |
| Pioneer Credit | PNC | 25 Mar |
| Power Minerals | PNN | 25 Mar |
| Red Mountain Mining | RMX | 22 Mar |
| Sunshine Metals | SHN | 25 Mar |
| Warriedar Resources | WAB | 25 Mar |

Suspensions (selected)

| Company | Code | Since |
|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Audio Pixels Holdings | AKP | 1 Mar |
| Avenira Ltd | AEV | 12 Mar |
| Calidus Resources | CAI | 15 Mar |
| Cann Group | CAN | 1 Mar |
| Cape Range | CAG | 21 Mar |
| DiscovEx Resources | DCX | 12 Mar |
| Dubber Corporation | DUB | 29 Feb |
| Holista Colltech | HCT | 21 Mar |
| Keybridge Capital | KBC | 1 Mar |
| KneoMedia Ltd | KNM | 7 Mar |
| Land & Homes Group | LHM | 1 Mar |
| Tivan Ltd | TVN | 14 Mar |

Ex-Dividends

| Code | Ex-Div | Div (c) | Franking (%) | Yield (%) |
|------------|--------|---------|--------------|-----------|
| VLS | Today | 6 | 100 | 1.27 |
| CCV | Mon | 1 | 100 | 8.70 |
| CWP | Mon | 8 | 100 | 4.05 |
| LYL | Mon | 37 | 100 | 6.72 |
| NCC | Mon | 3.75 | 50 | 11.19 |
| NWH | Mon | 6.5 | 100 | 2.68 |
| PRN | Mon | 2 | 100 | 0.00 |
| ALX | Tue | 20 | 0 | 7.45 |
| CVL | Tue | 2.5 | 100 | 5.38 |
| FLT | Tue | 10 | 100 | 0.84 |
| NZO | Tue | 2.55 | 0 | 0.00 |
| SXE | Tue | 1 | 100 | 5.00 |



week due to permit issues in Peru.

Exchange Rates

| CURRENCIES | LAST | +/- | % |
|------------------|--------|---------|--------------|
| AUD – USD | 0.6571 | -0.0052 | -0.78 |
| EUR – USD | 1.0862 | -0.0071 | -0.65 |

Australian Data Today

| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| RBA | Financial stability review (bi-annual) | Mar |
|-----|--|-----|

Overseas Data Today & Tonight

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Japan | CPI | Feb |
| South Korea | Producer prices | Feb |
| New Zealand | International trade | Feb |
| UK | GfK consumer confidence (~11am AEDT) | Mar |
| UK | Retail sales | Feb |
| UK | CBI industrial trends orders | Mar |
| Germany | IFO business climate | Mar |
| Germany | Import prices | Jan |
| Russia | BoR policy meeting outcomes | 22Mar |

Need More Information?

Contact your State One Stockbroking advisor on 08 9288 3388 or 1300 651 898, or by email, advice@stateone.com.au

Disclaimer / Disclosure / General Advice Warning / Confidentiality Notice

This market opener and its contents always remain the property of State One Stockbroking Ltd ("State One") and as such cannot be reprinted, distributed, copied, posted on the internet, in part or whole, without written prior approval from State One.

The contents of this document constitute General Advice and have been prepared without taking account of your investment objectives, financial situation or needs. Because of that you should, before taking any action to acquire or deal in, or follow a recommendation (if any) in respect of any of the financial products or information mentioned in this document, consult your own investment advisor to consider whether that is appropriate having regard to your own objectives, financial situation and needs.

While State One believes information contained in this document is based on information which is believed to be reliable, its accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed, and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given or implied and no responsibility for any loss or damage arising in any way for any representation, act or omission is accepted by State One or any officer, agent or employee of State One. If applicable, you should obtain the Product Disclosure Statement relating to any relevant financial product mentioned in this document (which contains full details of the terms and conditions of the relevant financial product) and consider it before making any decision about whether to acquire the financial product.

The directors and associated persons of State One may have a long or short interest in the financial products discussed in this document and they may earn brokerage, commissions, fees and advantages, pecuniary or otherwise, in connection with the making of a recommendation or dealing by a client in such financial products. Additionally, State One may earn fees due to having been appointed advisors to, or may be undertaking or about to commence research relating to, any of the companies mentioned herein.