

**Markets**

<b>SFE 200 Futures</b> (9.30am AEST)	7471	17	0.2
<b>NZX 50</b>	11894	19	0.2
<b>DJIA Futures</b>	34459	-23	-0.1
<b>S&amp;P 500 Futures</b>	4439	-3	-0.1
<b>NASDAQ Futures</b>	14219	-2	0.0

**Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market opens Thursday trade, the last ASX trading day for this week, with a rates decision from the Bank of Korea and material domestic economic reports due late morning, ahead of a European Central Bank monetary policy meeting and outcomes statement tonight.

US equities markets swung higher overnight.

**Locally today, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases March employment statistics 11.30am AEST.**

At the same time, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) reports February **lending to business**.

At 11am AEST, the Melbourne Institute reports **inflation expectations**.

**NHC** is among stocks trading **ex-dividend** today. *Please see p3 for a detailed ex-dividends list.*

**Regionally, South Korea** has reported March **import and export prices** pre-trade. These were respectively calculated 35.5% and 22.8% higher than for March 2021.

The **Bank of Korea** is also holding a policy meeting today, from which outcomes are anticipated **11am AEST**.

In overnight commodities trade, **oil** prices were propelled sharply higher for a second consecutive session.

US **gold** futures also extended Tuesday's rally, but with a modest increase.

**Iron ore** (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) continued to fall.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** and **aluminium** turned lower. **Nickel** rallied.

The **\$A** rose to ~US74.55c, after falling to US74.20c early yesterday evening.

**Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
<b>Dow Jones</b>	34565	344	1.0
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	4447	49	1.1
<b>NASDAQ</b>	13644	272	2.0
<b>FTSE 100</b>	7581	4	0.1
<b>DAX 30</b>	14076	-49	-0.3
<b>Shanghai Comp</b>	3187	-27	-0.8

**The ASX will be closed tomorrow  
 and Monday next week (18 April), due to Easter**

**Settlements**

**Today's trades settle Wednesday next week (20 April)**

**Yesterday's settle Tuesday next week (19 April)**

**State One wishes readers a safe and peaceful Easter**

The Market Opener will resume Tuesday

**\* Ni-Cu-PGE exploration listing – 11am AEST– NYM \***

**Today's Stock Watch**
**Bank of Queensland (BOQ)**

22c fully franked interim dividend from 17c a year ago.

38% higher, \$212M interim NPAT.

44% higher, \$833M ordinary activities revenue.

**Uniti Group (UWL)**

Agreeing to a scheme of arrangement \$5.00-per-unit acquisition by a Morrison/Brookfield consortium. UWL has traded at \$4.62 - \$4.845 over the past five trading sessions.

**Flexiroam Ltd (FRX)**

Initial three-year agreement secured to supply IoT connectivity to wearable device manufacturer Lutikey Llc. Details lodged this morning.

**Resources**
**Sheffield Resources (SFX)**

The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) board has approved a \$A160M loan facility in support of SFX's WA Kimberley region Thunderbird JV mineral sands project.

SFX holds 50% as does Yansteel's YGH Australia Investment Pty Ltd.

**iTech Minerals (ITM)**

South Australia Eyre Peninsula project Caralue Bluff prospect drilling has returned significant intersections. Assays lodged this morning. Also heralding Burtons prospect sampling.

**Kuniko Ltd (KNI)**

Heralding Norway Skuterud cobalt project downhole geophysics which has confirmed conductors identified previously by airborne geophysics. An initial diamond drilling campaign is due to commence 2 May.

**Energy**
**Sacgasco Ltd (SGC) / Xstate Resources (XST)**

Drilling of a third oil development well in Canada commencing, following the completion of drilling of Tabers 01-03-08-17.



## Overseas Markets Commentary

Marked choppy trade featured across major European and UK equities markets overnight, but key US indices trended steadily higher from opening, posting rally-mode gains.

Inflation pressures remained among forefront considerations, not only from new economic data releases.

The Bank of Canada raised its overnight target interest rate by 0.5% to 1.0% and foreshadowed further increases, citing a domestic economy that was 'moving into excess demand' and inflation 'persisting well above target'.

Earlier, a 10-year bond auction hosted by Germany notably delivered a 0.83% yield from 0.38%.

In Russia-Ukraine conflict developments, Russia claimed progress in its aim to secure eastern Ukraine.

Ukrainian troops reportedly holed up in the key port city Mariupol were also reported to be out of ammunition, in addition to needing food and medical aid.

This, as the presidents of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland travelled to Kyiv to demonstrate solidarity for Ukraine, the Lithuanian president declaring, 'The fight for Europe's future is happening here'.

Meanwhile Orsk refinery revealed Russia's state-operated bank Sberbank had opened a \$US690M credit line with the refinery.

In overnight **data** releases, the **UK** reported a 1.1% CPI increase for March, on par with expectations, this putting the annualised rate at 7.0%.

In the **US**, March producer prices were calculated 1.4% higher for the month, following a 0.9% February appreciation.

Against March 2021, prices were up 11.2%.

Weekly US mortgage applications declined 1.3% after dropping 6.3% the previous week. In the meantime, the average 30-year mortgage rate rose to 5.13% from 4.9%.

A 30-year bond auction produced a 2.815% yield from 2.357%.

**Tonight** in the **US**, March retail sales, March import prices, weekly new unemployment claims and a preliminary University of Michigan national consumer sentiment reading are due, together with February business inventories.

Elsewhere, the **European Central Bank** (ECB) convenes a policy meeting later today from which results will be known tonight. Further information covering the bank's views on inflation pressures, geopolitical risk and asset holdings is anticipated.

Companies scheduled to report earnings later today or tonight include Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, UnitedHealth and Wells Fargo. Deliveroo is expected to provide a trading update.

In overnight corporate news, JPMorgan Chase reported a 42% drop in March quarter profit and warned of adverse impacts from rising inflation and the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

**Markets in the US, UK and Europe will be closed Friday due to Easter. UK and European markets will remain closed Monday.**

## Pre-Open Announcements

### Develop Global (\* DVP) / Bellevue Gold (BGL)

DVP has secured a \$A400M mining contract with BGL's Bellevue gold mine, WA. Details lodged pre-trade.

### Resources

#### Narryer Metals (\* NYM)

Mineral exploration company scheduled to list on the ASX **11am** AEST, following a \$5M IPO at 20c per share.

~27.9M quoted shares.

Three nickel-copper-PGE exploration projects – one in WA and two in South Australia.

#### CZR Resources (CZR)

In response to an ASX price and volume query, CZR has pointed to a media article published yesterday, in which CZR was deemed 'a stock to watch', amid 'billionaire investor' interest in junior iron ore companies.

Creasy Group company Yandal Investments is listed as CZR's top shareholder, with 45.21%. Mark Creasy is listed as a separate shareholder, the second top CZR investor, with 10.07%.

CZR traded as high as 1.2c yesterday before settling at 1.1c.

79.44M shares changed hands across 331 transactions.

CZR had settled at 0.85c Tuesday.

#### Pilbara Minerals (PLS)

PLS's downstream JV with POSCO has become a reality with PLS drawing ~\$A79.6M under a convertible bond agreement with POSCO ahead of issuing ~79.6M convertible bonds to POSCO 100% subsidiary POS-LT Pty Ltd.

PLS recouped 2.07% yesterday, settling at \$2.96 after closing lower the previous six sessions.

#### Firetail Resources (\* FTL) / Gascoyne Resources (GCY)

Mineral exploration company FTL, formed by the demerger of joint GCY and (the former) Firefly Resources copper gold and lithium exploration assets, completed an enviable ASX listing yesterday, following an \$8.125M IPO at 25c per share.

Opened at 29.5c and traded at 28.5c – 38.5c before settling at 36.5c.

~6.265M shares changed hands across 788 transactions.

~61.78M quoted shares.

GCY acquired Firefly Resources under an agreed scheme of arrangement, initially announced June 2021 and implemented November 2021.

GCY held 8.36% of FTL on listing.

**Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
<b>Gold (NY)</b> (Jun)	1984.7	oz	8.60	0.4
<b>Silver (NY)</b> (May)	26.03	oz	0.29	1.1
<b>Gold (LON)</b>	1961	oz	12 Apr	
<b>Platinum</b>	984	oz	19	2.0
<b>WTI Crude</b> (NYMEX May)	104.25	bbl	3.65	3.7
<b>Brent Crude</b> (ICE EUR Jun)	108.78	bbl	4.14	4.0
<b>Iron Ore</b> (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	154.67	t	-0.89	-0.6
<b>Copper (LME 3mth Evening)</b>	10300	t	-44	-0.4
<b>Nickel</b>	32977	t	493	1.5
<b>Aluminium</b>	3236	t	-31	-1.0
<b>Lead</b>	2433	t	39	1.6
<b>Zinc</b>	4460	t	86	2.0
<b>Tin</b>	43309	t	536	1.3

**Commodities Commentary**

**Oil** – overnight prices were pushed and pulled by China’s March trade statistics, reported yesterday, new stockpiles data out of the US, and varying supply and demand scenarios.

A monthly report published by the International Energy Agency (IEA) overnight included a forecast for a 3MMbbl/d drop in Russian crude output from May.

The agency also predicted 2022 international crude consumption would come in at 99.4MMbbl/d, against an earlier forecast of 99.7MMbbl/d, in part citing the impacts of China’s Covid-containment measures.

Meanwhile, commodities traders were reported to be planning to cut Russian petroleum purchases from as early as mid-May.

Earlier yesterday, China’s March crude imports were reported to have fallen by 14% year-on-year, to 10.1MMbbl/d, this attributed in part to higher prices.

China’s CNOOC was in the meantime reported to be considering exiting projects in Canada, the UK and US.

A weekly US petroleum inventories report, published overnight by government agency the EIA, included a 9.382MMbbl increase in stored crude and 3.649MMbbl fall for petrol stocks.

Petrol production rose by 377,000bbl/d.

Net crude imports rose by 1.208MMbbl/d.

Overnight Tuesday, post-US trade, the American Petroleum Institute (API) released a weekly report estimating a 7.857MMbbl rise for US crude stocks last week.

A weekly US petroleum oil rig report is due tonight.

**Gold** – additional inflation data and inflation comments out of the Bank of Canada helped support gold prices to one-month peaks overnight.

Broad geopolitical risk was also viewed as an influencing factor.

A European Central Bank (ECB) policy meeting, outcome statement and subsequent press conference tonight is likely to swing some of tonight’s gold sentiment.

**Base metals** – overnight trader considerations included China’s March trade statistics, reported yesterday, inventories and energy prices and the approach of a long holiday weekend for many markets.

Zinc traded at one-month highs on supply concerns related to

**Trading Halts**

Company	Code	Resuming
Latin Resources	LRS	14 Apr
Lunnon Metals	LM8	14 Apr
Megado Gold	MEG	14 Apr
Pacgold Ltd	PGO	14 Apr
Sabre Resources	SBR	14 Apr
Black Cat Syndicate	BC8	19 Apr
Carawine Resources	CWX	19 Apr
Tempest Minerals	TEM	19 Apr

**Suspensions** (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Buddy Technologies (rcvrs & mngrs apptd)	BUD	13 Apr
Fatfish Group	FFG	12 Apr
Pathfinder Resources	PF1	8 Apr
Thomson Resources	TMZ	11 Apr

**Ex-Dividends**

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
<b>DVR</b>	Today	1.5	100	3.92
<b>NHC</b>	Today	30	100	2.95
<b>SEC</b>	Today	2.5	100	4.43
KPG	Tue	0.36	100	0.95
SOL	Wed	29	100	2.18
MFF	Fri (22 Apr)	3.5	100	2.54

**Reports & Events**

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
<b>Today</b>	<b>AKE</b>	Mar Q
	<b>BOQ</b>	Interim (audio w/cast 10am)
	<b>WFL</b>	Webinar, Q&A (11.30am)
<b>Wed</b> (20 Apr)	COE	Mar Q (audio w/cast 10.30am)
	HIL	AGM (9.30am)
	RIO	Mar Q
<b>Thu</b> (21 Apr)	CGF	Mar Q



energy prices and gas supplies in Europe and falling stockpiles in LME-registered warehouses.

China's March trade figures, reported yesterday, included a \$US47.38B trade surplus from \$US115.95B for February and following forecasts for \$US25B. The March 2021 trade surplus had been recorded at \$US11.83B.

March 2022 imports surprised declining 0.1% year-year, against predictions of a 10% climb.

Exports rose 14.7% year-on-year, following expectations for a 13% increase.

Among specific metals trade, China's March copper imports were reported to have fallen by 8.8% year-on-year.

Some Easter long weekend positioning is anticipated tonight, mixed with caution ahead of GDP, industrial production, fixed asset investment and retail sales updates anticipated out of China Monday.

### Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7454	0.0000	0.01
EUR – USD	1.0895	0.0052	0.48

### Australian Data Today

ABS	Employment (incl wages, jobs, unemployt, partcptn)	Mar
Melb Inst	Inflation expectations	Apr
RBA	Lending to business	Feb

### US Data Today & Tonight

Initial jobless claims	9 Apr
Retail sales	Mar
Import prices	Mar
Business inventories	Feb
Uni of Michigan consumer confidence (preliminary)	Apr

### Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

South Korea	Import & export prices	Mar
South Korea	Bank of Korea policy meeting outcomes	14Apr
Euro zone	ECB policy meeting outcomes	14Apr

### Need More Information?

Contact your State One Stockbroking advisor on 08 9288 3388 or 1300 651 898, or by email, [advice@stateone.com.au](mailto:advice@stateone.com.au)

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