

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	6737	-77	-1.1
NZX 50	11520	-51	-0.4
DJIA Futures	30805	4	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	3875	2	0.1
NASDAQ Futures	11924	2	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences Wednesday trade ahead of an ASX closure tomorrow. This is due to a special national public holiday in relation to the death of Queen Elizabeth II, for which a memorial service will be hosted by the Governor General and Australian Government.

Today's trade considerations will be influenced by several factors, including: key domestic economic reports by late morning; a speech by the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) deputy governor; a swag of stocks trading ex-dividend; expectations of a further significant rate increase by the US Federal Reserve tonight; and an anticipated additional rate rise by the Bank of England overnight Thursday, prior to the resumption of ASX trade Friday.

US equities markets fell overnight.

Locally today, Westpac and Melbourne Institute publish their monthly **consumer sentiment** report at **10.30am** AEST.

RBA deputy governor Michele Bullock is scheduled to speak publicly at midday, her address entitled a **Review of the Bond Purchase Program**.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases a finalised **employment** statistics report for **August** at 11.30am AEST, this containing additional detail to last week's report.

Several large-cap and/or high-profile stocks trade **ex-dividend** today including **ABC, ALX, CCV, COH, CWY, LYL** and **NWH**. Please see pp3-4 for a detailed ex-dividends list.

Regionally today, no major economic reports are due for release.

Japan's markets will be closed again Friday after trading for the first time this week yesterday.

In overnight commodities trade, **oil** turned lower.

US **gold** futures continued modestly so.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) again settled slightly lower.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** rose a little. **Nickel** settled with a further decisive gain. **Aluminium** closed with a slight decline. Full (including outcry) trade had resumed for the first time this week.

The **\$A** fell to ~US\$66.90c after trading at ~US\$67.00c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	30706	-313	-1.0
S&P 500	3856	-44	-1.1

ASX – closed tomorrow (Thursday) due to a public holiday
Normal trade resumes Friday

Settlements – today's trades settle Monday next week
Trades executed yesterday (Tuesday) settle Friday (23 Sep)

Today's Stock Watch

Brickworks Ltd (BKW)

41c fully franked final dividend from 40c a year ago.
257% higher \$854.39M full year NPAT.
28% higher, \$1.09B revenue.
\$18.34 NTA from \$13.78.

Washington H Soul Pattinson & Co (SOL)

43c final and 15c special dividends, each fully franked, from a 36c final dividend a year ago.
\$12.491M full year net loss from a \$273.196M FY21 NPAT.
142.5% higher, \$2.785B revenue. \$25.26 NTA from \$19.16.

Link Administration Holdings (LNK)

UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) draft released regarding Link Fund Solutions. Details lodged pre-trade.

Telix Pharmaceuticals (TLX)

The IPAX-1 study of TLX101 in combination with external beam radiation therapy for the treatment of recurrent glioblastoma multiforme has indicated satisfactory safety and tolerability. Study statistics lodged this morning.

Monadelphous Group (MND)

\$160M worth of new contracts and contract extensions recently secured.
These include a decommissioning contract with Petrofac.

Sezzle Inc (SZL)

August income fell 4.8% for the month to \$US9.7M.
Underlying merchant sales rose 1.1% to \$US142.8M.

Resources

BlueScope Steel (BSL)

Today's investor day materials lodged pre-trade.

Pilbara Minerals (PLS)

PLS has sold another cargo of spodumene concentrate via its digital auction system, this time 5000t (dry).
The highest of 22 bids came in at \$US6988/t (5.5%, FOB Port Hedland).
PLS says this is equivalent to ~\$US7708/t (6.0%, CIF China).

Nickel Industries (NIC)

Strategic co-operation agreement secured with QMB New Energy Materials, covering the potential NIC supply of 5-7Mtpa of limonite over 20 years.



NASDAQ	11425	-110	-1.0
FTSE 100	7193	-44	-0.6
DAX 30	12671	-132	-1.0
Shanghai Comp	3122	7	0.2

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and UK equities markets opened higher, but soon declined overnight, UK equities markets trading for the first time this week.

US equities markets opened lower and subsequent sentiment mostly never looked like recovering before close of trade.

Inflation levels and central bank activity remained in focus.

Overnight, ahead of an anticipated sizeable rate increase out of the US Federal Reserve tonight, Switzerland's central bank raised its main interest rate by 1.00% to 1.75%.

Earlier yesterday, Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) September policy meeting minutes confirmed policy makers had discussed international economic growth risks and hence the potential to slow the pace at which rates would be increased to control inflation.

In the US, Ford Motor Co foreshadowed an adverse \$US1B impact on the company from inflationary pressures. Ongoing parts shortages would also delay deliveries, the company warned.

Meanwhile, the UN general assembly session opened with an impassioned plea for climate change action.

Among overnight data releases, **Germany** reported a 7.9% jump in producer prices during August.

Economists had predicted a 2% increase following a 5.3% July climb.

Against August 2021, prices were up 45.8%.

Canada's August CPI reading surprised, representing 0.3% deflation for the month and a 7.0% annualised inflation rate from 7.6% at the end of July.

During July, the CPI had risen by 0.1% and a 0.2% increase had been expected for August.

In the **US**, August housing starts rose 12.2% for the month following a 10.9% July tumble and forecasts for a new 1.8% decline.

Building permits dropped 10% for the month against expectations of a 3% fall following July's 0.6% pullback.

A US 20-year bond auction produced a 3.82% yield from 3.38%.

Tonight in the US, the **Federal Reserve** concludes a monetary policy meeting and announces outcomes, these expected to include another substantial interest rate increase. The Fed is also due to release updated forecasts.

US economic data reports scheduled for release tonight include August existing home sales, together with weekly mortgage applications and mortgage rates.

Elsewhere, Germany hosts a 10-year bond auction.

Geopolitical relations will also be highlighted as the UN general assembly continues.

Pre-Open Announcements

Reliance Worldwide Corporation (RWC)

RWC intends to appoint former Metcash (ASX: MTS), David Jones and Lend Lease Group (ASX: LLC) CFO Brad Soller as an independent director.

RWC requires shareholder approval to increase the size of its board.

Decmil Group (DCG)

DCG has appointed recent Austal Ltd (ASX: ASB) COF Greg Jason as CFO, effective 27 September (Tuesday next week).

Acting CFO (also a former DCG CFO) Peter Thomas will resume his role as a DCG director.

Booktopia Group (BKG)

BKG independent non-executive director Su-Ming Wong has resigned from the BKG, effective yesterday.

Fellow independent non-executive directors Fiona Pak-Poy, Judy Slatyer and (BKG chair) Chris Beare intend to step down at the 28 November AGM.

Mr Beare will finish as chairman as soon as a new chair is elected.

The resignations follow BKG discussions with significant BKG shareholder the AL (Tony Nash) Family Trust after the trustee called for a change of directors.

Structural Monitoring Systems (SMN)

\$A1.925M placement completed at A35c per CDI, together with a 1:1 free attaching option.

The options are exercisable at \$1.20 each by COB 6 April 2024. SMN has traded on the ASX at 40c – 48c over the past five sessions.

Resources

Newcrest Mining (* NCM)

Denver Gold Forum presentation lodged post-trade yesterday. NCM was scheduled to present overnight last night.

Northern Star Resources (NST)

Denver Gold Forum presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

Lucapa Diamond Company (LOM)

The Lulo diamond JV has recovered a 131 carat white Type IIa diamond.

Additional details lodged this morning.

Gold Mountain (GMN)

Resuming from a trading halt having completed a \$1.56M, 0.6c-per-share placement.

Monday pre-trade, GMN revealed the company had secured a HoA with Mars Mines for a 60-day exclusive option to acquire up to 75% of four lithium-prospective licences in north-east Brazil.

Pending shareholder approval, GMN will acquire an initial 20% of the 285sq km area covered by the licences.

GMN has paid Mars \$A30,000 cash and 30M GMN shares in

**Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1671.1	oz	-7.1	-0.4
Silver (NY) (Dec)	19.18	oz	-0.18	-0.9
Platinum	920	oz	0	0.0
WTI Crude (NYMEX Oct)	84.45	bbl	-1.28	-1.5
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Nov)	90.62	bbl	-1.38	-1.5
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	98.80	t	-0.19	-0.2
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	7754	t	9	0.1
Nickel	24964	t	369	1.5
Aluminium	2245	t	-5	-0.2
Lead	1879	t	-5	-0.2
Zinc	3128	t	-12	-0.4
Tin	21176	t	241	1.2

Commodities Commentary

Oil – overnight price declines were mostly attributed to expectations of further interest rate rises, including out of the US Federal Reserve tonight. In association, the \$US also continued strong against other major currencies.

A weekly US petroleum inventories report is due tonight from government agency the EIA.

Overnight post-US trade, the American Petroleum Institute (API) released a weekly report which included a 1.035MMbbl increase in US crude stocks last week.

The WTI October contract expired on settlement overnight, the November delivery contract falling \$US1.42/bbl for the session to \$US83.94/bbl.

Gold – cautious trade was reported overnight, ahead of key central bank announcements to come this week, Switzerland's central bank announcing a 1.0% rate increase and the \$US continuing strong. Meanwhile, US 10-year bond yields reached highs not seen since April 2011.

The **US Federal Reserve** announces the outcomes of its policy meeting overnight tonight and also publishes a new set of forecasts.

The Bank of England convenes a policy meeting and announces outcomes overnight tomorrow.

The Bank of Japan is also scheduled to hold a policy meeting tomorrow (AEST) and to announce outcomes. Inflation and currency commentary is anticipated, rather than any interest rate move.

Base metals – the London Metals Exchange (LME) traded in full (including outcry) for the first time this week overnight, hence with more traders reacting to data and developments since Friday's close.

These included Covid management restrictions being lifted in key manufacturing and port locations in China.

Other overnight considerations included updated inventories, including an increase in copper stocks, plus \$US strength.

Yesterday, the People's Bank of China retained status quo (3.65% and 4.30% respectively) for one- and five-year loan prime rates.

order to secure the option.

Pending due diligence and the shareholder go-ahead, consideration for the initial 20% will comprise 95M GMN shares and 125M GMN options, exercisable at 1.2c each within 12 months of issue.

Additional details, including project features, lodged Monday, when the trading halt was called.

GMN traded at 0.6c – 0.7c last week.

Energy**A-Cap Energy (ACB)**

ACB has appointed CEO Andrew Tunks as MD.

Dr Tunks recommenced with ACB as CEO in July.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Carbonxt Group	CG1	21 Sep
Grand Gulf Energy	GGE	21 Sep
Moho Resources	MOH	21 Sep
Respiri Ltd	RSH	21 Sep
Consolidated Zinc	CZL	23 Sep
Encounter Resources	ENR	23 Sep
Estrella Resources	ESR	23 Sep
Victory Goldfields	1VG	23 Sep

Suspensions *(selected)*

Company	Code	Since
AusCann Group Holdings	AC8	1 Sep
BWX Ltd	BWX	29 Aug
Doriemus Plc	DOR	8 Sep
Terramin Australia	TZN	14 Sep

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
ABC	Today	5	100	6.07
AHX	Today	0.4	100	1.60
ALX	Today	20	0	5.03
CAJ	Today	0.5	100	2.99
CCV	Today	1	100	8.00
COG	Today	4.8	100	5.28
COH	Today	145	40	1.43
CUP	Today	2	100	3.81
CWY	Today	2.45	0	0.88
EMB	Today	20	100	3.33
GNE	Today	8.93	0	5.99
KPG	Today	1.56	100	1.16
LAU	Today	1.8	0	3.06
LYL	Today	36	100	4.78
MAH	Today	0.35	0	4.06

**Exchange Rates**

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6694	-0.0025	-0.38
EUR – USD	0.9973	-0.0044	-0.44

Australian Data Today

Westpac/MelbInst	Consumer sentiment	Aug
ABS	Workforce (final, additional detail)	Aug

US Data Tonight

Existing home sales	Aug
MBA mortgage applications	16 Sep

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

UK	CBI industrial trends orders	Sep
UK	Public sector net borrowing	Aug
Russia	Producer prices	Aug

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NWH	Today	7	100	4.09
SHJ	Today	3.5	0	4.56
BFL	Fri	11.72	0	11.18
LFS	Fri	7.85	100	5.73
VLS	Fri	2.75	100	3.33
IMD	Mon	1.9	100	1.46
PIC	Tue	3.3	100	4.44
SXE	Tue	4	100	6.71
CIW	Wed (28 Sep)	0.4	100	5.00
CWP	Wed	14.5	100	5.98
MYR	Wed	2.5	100	2.54

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	BKW	Full year
	BSL	Investor day
	SOL	Full year (w/cast 1pm)
Tomorrow	AIZ	AGM
	MCY	AGM
Fri	SUN	AGM
Mon	SM1	Full year
Wed (28 Sep)	ASX	AGM
30 Sep	MQG	Interim