

**Markets**

<b>SFE 200 Futures</b> (9.30am AEST)	7303	31	0.4
<b>NZX 50</b>	11765	90	0.8
<b>DJIA Futures</b>	33907	-62	-0.2
<b>S&amp;P 500 Futures</b>	4287	-9	-0.2
<b>NASDAQ Futures</b>	13506	-25	-0.2

**Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market opens today's trade with an overnight \$A appreciation, another major domestic bank reporting for the half year, additional influential domestic economic data late morning, and further material data for China before the middle of the day, ahead of a Bank of England rates decision tonight.

Overnight US equities markets posted robust late-trade rallies.

**Locally** today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases **March trade statistics** and **building approvals** at **11.30am AEST**.

Interest rate commentary will continue in light of today's scheduled releases and ongoing national election campaigning.

**Regionally** today, Caixin is due to announce its April **services PMI** for **China** at **11.45am AEST**.

**Japan's** markets are scheduled to remain **closed today**.

**China's** markets trade for the first time this week.

In overnight commodities trade, both Brent and WTI **crude** swung higher to settle with strong gains.

US **gold** futures closed slightly lower.

**Iron ore** (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) fell beneath \$US143/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** and **aluminium** turned variously higher. **Nickel** continued to fall.

The \$A was propelled to ~US72.55c after trading at ~US71.20c early yesterday evening.

**Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
<b>Dow Jones</b>	34061	932	2.8
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	4300	125	3.0
<b>NASDAQ</b>	12965	401	3.2
<b>FTSE 100</b>	7493	-68	-0.9
<b>DAX 30</b>	13971	-69	-0.5
<b>Shanghai Comp</b>	3047	Public	Holiday

**Overseas Markets Commentary**

Major European, UK and US equities markets trade diverged overnight, European and UK markets settling at, or nigh on, session lows, following some disappointing data releases and ahead of a US Federal Reserve (Fed) rates decision and one by the Bank of England tonight, following announcements of rate increases by central banks in Australia (Tuesday) and India

**Today's Stock Watch**
**National Australia Bank (NAB)**

A73c fully franked interim dividend from 69c a year ago.

11% higher, \$A3.551B interim NPAT.

4.1% higher, \$3.480B cash profit.

4.6% higher revenue.

12.48% CET1, against 13.00% six months ago, following a \$2.5B share buy-back.

**Ramsay Health Care (RHC)**

RHC has given notice to terminate the hospital purchaser provider agreement with private health insurance provider Bupa.

This will take effect from 2 August, unless RHC and Bupa agree on new contractual arrangements.

**Janus Henderson Group (JHG)**

Paying a US39c March quarter dividend.

\$US124.6M March quarter operating income, against \$US192.5M a year ago, and \$US157.6M for the December quarter 2021.

\$US78.7M net income, against \$US255.5M and \$US132.5M.

\$US620.0M revenue from \$US644.0M a year ago and \$US697.2M for the December quarter 2021.

\$US4.16 NTA from \$US4.41 at 31 December 2021.

\$US361.0M AUM from \$US405.1M at 31 March 2021, and \$US423.3M at 31 December 2021.

AGM materials also lodged post-trade yesterday.

**Netwealth Group (NWL)**

Anticipating \$13B FY22 net inflows.

\$790M April net inflows, impacted by absenteeism and market volatility.

**BWX Ltd (BWV)**

Teleconference scheduled to commence **10.30am AEST**.

Forecasting \$27M - \$30M FY22 EBITDA, down 19% - 10%.

Anticipating \$233M - \$243M revenue, up 20% - 25%.

**Immutep Ltd (IMM)**

Heralding new biomarker and lymphocyte data from the Phase IIb AIPAC trial assessing efti treatment for metastatic breast cancer. Details lodged post-trade yesterday.

**Resources**
**Sabre Resources (SBR)**

\$220,000 WA Government grant awarded for Sherlock Bay Ni-Cu-Co project drilling of high-grade nickel sulphide targets.

Additional project details lodged this morning. SBR 70%.

**Askari Metals (AS2)**

Heralding the completion of mapping and sampling across the WA Pilbara region Yarrie lithium project.

(yesterday).

Key US indices rallied markedly on the Fed's rate increase and associated assurances, to close near session peaks.

The Fed raised its benchmark interest rate for the second time this year, but this time by 0.5%, setting the rates range at 0.75% - 1%. In March, the Fed delivered a 0.25% increase.

Earlier, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which was not scheduled to convene a regular monetary policy meeting, announced a surprise 0.4% rate increase for loans to commercial banks, pushing this rate to 4.4%.

In addition, the RBI raised the required cash reserve ratio by 0.5%.

Early this morning (AEST), Saudi Arabia's central bank has raised both repo and reverse repo rates by 0.5% to 1.75% and 1.25% respectively.

From earlier overnight, European Union (EU) members debated a new, sixth list of proposed sanctions against Russia, these including harsher financial measures and speedier withdrawal from petroleum trade with Russia.

In the meantime, reports emerged of Belarus military drills, spawning public speculation that Belarus could join Russia in attacking Ukraine.

Russia further intensified attacks on the Azov steel facility in Ukraine's Mariupol, reportedly storming some site areas, to the point Ukraine authorities revealed contact had been lost with those within the facility.

Earlier yesterday, China was reported to have introduced additional Covid management restrictions in Beijing, including select public transport shutdowns.

In overnight **data** releases, **euro zone** March retail sales disappointed, falling by 0.4%, against predictions of a 0.2% March increase and after rising 0.4% in February.

Against March 2021, sales were up 0.8%.

**Germany's** March trade figures included a €9.7B surplus, following forecasts for €9.5B and against February's (revised) €11B surplus.

Seasonally adjusted, exports fell 3.3% for the month, after increasing by 6.2% in February.

Imports rose 3.4% after growing by a (revised) 4.3% in February.

Economists had anticipated a 2% fall in March exports and 1% rise in imports.

In the meantime, Germany's April services PMI was finalised at 57.6, 0.3 lower than the initial estimate, but representing a 1.5-point improvement for the month and the highest reading in eight months.

In the **UK**, net lending to individuals in March grew to £8.3B from £6.1B in February. Forecasters had expected a slight decrease to £6.0B.

In the **US**, the ISM's services sector PMI for April fell to 57.1 from 58.3 but had been expected to improve to 58.5. The orders component index dropped to 54.6 from 60.1.

March trade figures included a \$US109.8B deficit from an \$US89.8B shortfall in February. Economists had anticipated a \$US92B March deficit.

An April private sector employment report included an estimated 247,000 new jobs, against forecasts for 430,000 and following the 479,000 added in March.

## Pre-Open Announcements

### Air New Zealand (\* AIZ)

AIZ's NZ53c-per-share rights offer attracted an initial 88% take-up, worth ~\$NZ1.045B. Over subscriptions were worth \$NZ71M.

274M shares were offered in a book-build which attracted NZ81c per share and boosted the total rights offer raising to \$NZ1.2B.

Post-trade Tuesday, AIZ revealed that, while Covid, fuel price and Russia-Ukraine conflict risks continue, the airline is noting 'encouraging signs' in domestic and international passenger bookings.

Consequently, AIZ says it is possible that pre-significant items and pre-tax losses for FY22 may not be as large as initially expected.

AIZ traded on the ASX at A78.5c – A82c from Tuesday last week until calling a trading halt pre-trade Wednesday.

### Australian Vintage (AVG)

Heralding underlying growth progress. Commentary, likely figures and a 2022 vintage update lodged post-trade yesterday.

### Shriro Holdings (SHM)

SHM non-executive director Kim Slater has given notice to resign from the SHM board on the appointment of a new independent non-executive board member.

Ariadne Australia's Portfolio Services Pty Ltd, an ~5% SHM shareholder, requisitioned a meeting in April and has nominated John Murphy as an SHM director.

The SHM board also recommends Mr Murphy's potential board appointment.

The meeting is scheduled for 14 June.

## Resources

### Tombola Gold (TBA)

TBA has appointed TBA MD Byron Miles as executive chair following the resignation of non-executive chair Andrew Firek at the conclusion of the 29 April (Friday last week) AGM.

Mr Miles will receive an additional \$4000 per month for his additional chairman duties.

### Koba Resources (\* KOB)

Mineral explorer completed a successful ASX listing yesterday, following a \$9M IPO at 20c per share.

Opened at 25c and traded at 22.5c – 26c before settling at 23c. ~3.396M shares changed hands across 366 transactions.

65M quoted shares.

Chasing cobalt, copper and gold in the US.

## Energy

### Oilex Ltd (OEX)

£2.5M share placement arranged at 20p per share.

Participants and other details lodged post-trade yesterday.



The 55.6 final S&P Global April services PMI represented a 2.4-point fall for the month.

Meanwhile, weekly mortgage applications turned higher, rising by 2.5% after weeks of declines, including an 8.3% drop the previous week.

Average 30-year mortgage rates came in at 5.36% from 5.37% for the previous week.

**Tonight** in the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims, an April job cuts report and March quarter productivity are due.

Elsewhere, the **Bank of England** convenes a policy meeting and announces outcomes.

France hosts a 10-year bond auction.

Companies scheduled to report earnings later today or tonight include: Airbus, Ambev, Anheuser Busch, ArcelorMittal, BMW, Cameco, ConocoPhillips, Credit Agricole, Dominion Energy, DoorDash, Moderna, Monster Beverage, News Corporation, Norilsk Nickel, Petrobras, PetroChina, Shell, Shopify and Société Générale.

*Markets in Japan remain closed today due to a public holiday. China's markets trade for the first time this week.*

### Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
<b>Gold (NY)</b> (Jun)	1868.8	oz	-1.80	-0.1
<b>Silver (NY)</b> (Jul)	22.40	oz	-0.27	-1.2
<b>Gold (LON)</b> (3 May)	1870	oz		
<b>Platinum</b>	990	oz	29	3.0
<b>WTI Crude</b> (NYMEX Jun)	107.81	bbbl	5.40	5.3
<b>Brent Crude</b> (ICE EUR Jul)	110.14	bbbl	5.17	4.9
<b>Iron Ore</b> (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	142.90	t	-1.18	-0.8
<b>Copper</b> (LME 3mth Evening)	9474	t	63	0.7
<b>Nickel</b>	30648	t	-333	-1.1
<b>Aluminium</b>	2954	t	42	1.4
<b>Lead</b>	2282	t	30	1.3
<b>Zinc</b>	3961	t	5	0.1
<b>Tin</b>	40626	t	350	0.9

### Commodities Commentary

**Oil** – a phased embargo on Russian oil imports by the European Union (EU) appeared a major focus for overnight oil traders. Most EU nations were expected to try to phase out reliance on Russian oil by year's end, but Hungary and Slovakia were reported to be honouring purchase contracts through to the end of 2023.

OPEC+ members meet later today to discuss the continuing easing of production curbs.

A weekly US petroleum inventories report, published overnight by government agency the EIA, included a 1.302MMbbl increase in stored crude last week.

Petrol stocks fell by 2.23MMbbl, against production which rose by 175,000bbl/d.

Net crude imports rose by 545,000bbl/d.

Overnight Tuesday post-US trade, the American Petroleum Institute (API) released a weekly report which included an estimated 3.479MMbbl draw on US crude stocks last week.

**Gold** – a strong \$US, and further interest rate announcements

OEX has traded on the ASX over the past week at 0.30c – 0.40c.

### Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Air New Zealand	AIZ	5 May
OM Holdings	OMH	5 May
Airtasker Ltd	ART	6 May
Black Rock Mining	BKT	6 May
Pearl Global	PG1	6 May

### Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Canyon Resources	CAY	4 May
Osprey Medical	OSP	3 May
Resource Mining Corporation	RMI	4 May

### Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
<b>JMS</b>	Today	1	0	10.64
<b>VTG</b>	Today	13.3	100	4.75
FPC	Mon	3	100	6.55
NAC	Mon	1.6	100	4.75
NSC	Mon	1.35	100	4.78
UOS	Tue	1.35	0	3.17
RMD	Wed	4.14	0	0.57

### Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
<b>Today</b>	<b>IRE</b>	AGM
	<b>MAF</b>	AGM
	<b>NAB</b>	Interim
	<b>NWS</b>	Mar Q (o/night in US; 5pm EDT)
	<b>QBE</b>	AGM
	<b>RIO</b>	AGM (RIO Ltd)
<b>Tomorrow</b>	JRV	AGM (9am)
	MQG	Full year
	REA	Mar Q
<b>Tue</b>	PDL	Interim
	WPL	AGM
<b>Wed</b>	GRR	AGM
	SIQ	AGM
	URW	AGM (Paris, 10.30am)



plus material economic data releases to come this week, toyed with overnight gold interest.

The US Federal Reserve's overnight 0.5% key rate increase had been anticipated. Yesterday, India increased its repo rate, Saudi Arabia raised rates overnight, and the Bank of England is predicted to deliver a further rate increase tonight.

**Base metals** – overnight trade was pushed and pulled by interest rate decisions, and more to come, their likely impacts on inflation and short-term economic outlooks, associated currency swings, China's increasing Covid containment measures in Beijing and demand and supply issues associated with Russia's war on Ukraine.

In production-associated developments, Protests associated with the Las Bambas copper operations in Peru spread to Peru's capital city Lima.

Meanwhile, the LME revealed it would no longer warehouse lead produced in Russia.

*China's markets resume today, so larger volume LME trade is anticipated tonight. Japan's markets remain closed today, however.*

#### Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7245	0.0136	1.91
EUR – USD	1.0606	0.0094	0.90

#### Australian Data Today

ABS	Trade balance	Mar
ABS	Building approvals	Mar

#### US Data Today & Tonight

Initial jobless claims	30 Apr
Challenger job cuts	Apr
Productivity	Mar Q

#### Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

<b>China</b>	Caixin services PMI	Apr
<b>UK</b>	BoE policy meeting outcomes statement	5May
UK	S&P Global services PMI (final)	Apr
UK	Domestic vehicle sales	Apr
<b>Germany</b>	Factory orders	Mar
Germany	Construction PMI	Apr
Germany	Domestic vehicle registrations	Apr
<b>Euro zone</b>	Construction PMI	Apr

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