

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7413	33	0.5
NZX 50	12098	43	0.4
DJIA Futures	34725	-34	-0.1
S&P 500 Futures	4532	-4	-0.1
NASDAQ Futures	14747	-9	-0.1

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens a new week's trade, and the last few days of trade for the March quarter, with the annual national budget due to be delivered tomorrow evening and speculation regarding China's economy spawned by weekend data and Covid developments.

Overnight Friday equities trade featured unsteady sentiment.

Commodities trade proved mixed.

Since overnight Friday trade:

- China has announced a two-stage lockdown (one half of the city at a time) for the commercial capital Shanghai over a total nine-days;
- Turkey's president has offered to host Russia-Ukraine peace talks in Istanbul this week, these reportedly scheduled for later today through Wednesday;
- Ukraine's president has offered compromise positions as part of any peace deal; and
- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has expressed concerns at Russian attacks in the Chernobyl region.

Locally today, a steady flow of further pledges, commentary and speculation is expected ahead of the official national budget release, in turn ahead of a national parliamentary election, due by 21 May.

Stocks trading **ex-dividend** today include **COH** and **REH**. Please see pp3-4 for a detailed ex-dividends list.

Regionally today, no major economic data releases are anticipated.

Yesterday however, **China** reported a 5.0% year-on-year increase in January – February **industrial profits**, against forecasts for a 29% improvement. 2021 industrial profits had represented a 34.3% increase on those for 2020.

In overnight Friday commodities trade, **oil** seesawed higher, Brent crude settling beyond \$US120.50/bbl.

US **gold** futures turned modestly lower.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) rose slightly, trading above \$US149.85/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper**, **nickel** and **aluminium** declined, nickel by more than 4.5%.

The **\$A** rose to US75.15c after trading at ~US75.05c early Friday evening.

*** Copper & gold exploration listing – 11.30am AEDT – FEG ***

Today's Stock Watch

Cardno Ltd (CDD)

Proposing to sell the material operating business of the company, Cardno International Development, for ~\$A56.5M to DT Global Australia.

The share purchase agreement represents \$1.45 per Cardno International Development share.

Conditions included CDD approval at a meeting to be scheduled prior to 31 May.

CDD will continue to operate the South American Caminosca operations but wind down this business, likely by December. CDD will continue with the Latin American Entrix business.

CDD is promising a medium to longer-term plans update by no later than the release of full year results in August.

CDD traded at \$1.52 - \$1.615 last week.

Bendigo & Adelaide Bank (BEN)

BEN has appointed Colonial First State CFO Andrew Morgan as BEN CFO, effective June.

Mr Morgan will take over from Travis Crouch who has opted to be deputy CFO for family reasons.

Air New Zealand (AIZ)

AIZ has secured a further 12 months' worth of support for cargo flights under a NZ Government international air connectivity maintenance scheme. The new support covers 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023. The renewed scheme support is estimated to be worth \$NZ180M in cargo revenue.

For 1H FY22, AIZ estimates the scheme was responsible for \$182M worth of cargo revenue.

Resources

Coda Minerals (COD) / Torrens Mining (TRN)

South Australia Elizabeth Creek COD-TRN JV copper project Emmie IOCG drilling and independent re-evaluation has revealed a new copper-rich bornite zone.

COD 70% and JV operator; TRN30%.

COD and TRN are planning to merge under an arrangement announced early February.

Shree Minerals (SHH)

SHH has been advised by Tasmania's EPA to also submit the Nelson Bay River DSO iron project development proposal to the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, for consideration under an Act covering giant freshwater crayfish.

The EPA advised this additional step after considering public and agency submissions received regarding SHH's plans.

**Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	34861	153	0.4
S&P 500	4543	23	0.5
NASDAQ	14169	-23	-0.2
FTSE 100	7483	16	0.2
DAX 30	14306	32	0.2
Shanghai Comp	3212	-38	-1.2

Overseas Markets Commentary

Marked vacillating trade featured across most major European, UK and US equities markets overnight Friday.

Trader considerations included a batch of key data releases from both sides of the Atlantic, plenty of continued central bank commentary and speculation, and a stream of announcements from a late-week NATO summit also including all G7 and European Union member nations.

The summit focused on how best to resolve Russia's war on Ukraine and to alleviate the considerable associated and seemingly targeted humanitarian suffering.

Amid a string of interest rate rise promotions from **US Federal Reserve** officials, Bank of America forecast 0.5% (benchmark overnight) rate increases from two Federal Reserve meetings this year, and Citigroup from four.

Among overnight Friday **data** releases, the **UK's** February retail sales were estimated 0.3% lower for the month following a 1.9% January improvement and predictions for a new 0.7% increase.

Against February 2021, sales were 7.0% higher.

Earlier Friday, during ASX trade, the UK GfK consumer confidence index was reported at -31 from -26 for February, but against forecasts for a great drop to -35.

An IFO business climate index for **Germany** was estimated at 90.8 from February's 98.5.

Both the current conditions and expectations component indices fell, the expectations figure notably coming in at 85.1 from 98.4.

Euro zone February lending to households and businesses were each reported 4.4% higher than for February 2021, a little above expectations.

In the **US**, a final 59.4 University of Michigan-calculate March consumer sentiment reading represented the lowest estimate since August 2011, 0.3 lower than the initial calculation and 3.4 points lower than for February.

The expectations component index dropped 5.1 points to 54.3.

February pending home sales fell 4.1% for the month after tumbling 5.8% in January. A further decline had been predicted, but only by up to 3%.

Against February 2021, pending sales were down 5.4%.

Tonight in the US, February wholesale inventories and the March Dallas Fed (Texas region) manufacturing index are due.

Pre-Open Announcements**The Star Entertainment Group (* SGR)**

MD and CEO Matt Bekier has resigned.

ASX Ltd (* ASX)

The CHES replacement project is experiencing delays. The ASX is consequently warning of a 'strong likelihood' of the ultimate expected go-live date being pushed back. Link to full update details lodged by the ASX pre-trade.

Advanced Human Imaging (* AHI)

AHI has completed the basis of a master services agreement with Peru-headquartered digital health and medical specialist Nextmedicall, whereby Nextmedicall will gain rights to use AHI licensed body and face measuring and scanning software development kits.

AHI says it cannot currently offer a financial assessment of the agreement and that no minimum order requirements are contained within the agreement.

AHI recouped 8.62% Friday, settling at 31.5c.

Orica Ltd (ORI)

ORI has appointed Medical Developments International (ASX: MVP) chair and former Seqirus president Gordon Naylor as an independent non-executive director, effective 1 April (Friday). Mr Naylor is also a previous CSL (ASX: CSL) CFO.

Resources**Far East Gold (* FEG)**

Exploration company scheduled to list on the ASX **11.30am** AEDT, following an \$11.7345M IPO at 20c per share.

~122.04M quoted shares.

Six copper and gold projects in Australia and Indonesia.

Tempest Minerals (* TEM)

Multiple copper sulphide mineralised zones noted from WA Yalgoo region Meleya project Orion target drilling.

Assays pending.

Green Technology Metals (* GT1)

Exercising rights to acquire an additional 29% interest in three lithium projects in Ontario, Canada, boosting GT1's JV interest in the combined projects to 80%.

Consideration comprises ~4M GT1 shares, valued at \$A3.5M on a 5-day volume weighted average.

GT1 traded at 77c – 95c last week.

Pan Asia Metals (* PAM)

The Thailand Reung Kiet lithium project initial resource estimate is expected to be delayed due to laboratory backlogs and a decision to also include results from drilling not completed until 1 February.

Podium Minerals (POD)

Heralding WA Parks Reef historic 3E PGM intercepts re-

**Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$/US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1954.2	oz	-8	-0.4
Silver (NY) (May)	25.615	oz	-0.32	-1.2
Gold (LON)	1953.8	oz	-11.4	-0.6
Platinum	1000	oz	-20	-2.0
WTI Crude (NYMEX Apr)	113.90	bbl	1.56	1.4
Brent Crude (ICE EUR May)	120.65	bbl	1.62	1.4
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	149.87	t	0.24	0.2
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	10268	t	-83	-0.8
Nickel	35492	t	-1743	-4.7
Aluminium	3606	t	-19	-0.5
Lead	2355	t	43	1.8
Zinc	4074	t	29	0.7
Tin	42358	t	-443	-1.0

Commodities Commentary

Oil – overnight Friday trade featured marked price swings, Brent crude and WTI settling higher greater than 1.0% higher after each being pushed up to \$US3/bbl lower intra-session.

For the first time in three weeks, both Brent and WTI settled higher for the week, Brent up ~11.5% and WTI adding ~8.5%.

Meanwhile, **Yemen** Houthis again claimed responsibility for further attacks on petroleum facilities within **Saudi Arabia**.

For its part, Aramco confirmed a Jeddah fuel distribution centre had been attacked but that two resulting tank fires had been contained.

The Iranian-backed Houthis claimed they had also launched drone attacks on two Saudi refineries – one in Ras Tanura and the other in Rabigh.

Saudi Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter, with Russia credited as the second largest international crude exporter.

Switzerland-headquartered traders Trafigura and Vitol in the meantime confirmed they had continued to meet contract commitments in March, loading Rosneft Urals and Kazakh-produced crude – an estimated (by industry trackers) combined 22 cargoes representing ~16.7MMbbl of oil.

Other traders including Glencore, Gunvor and Petracor, were also reported to have continued taking Russian crude in March.

Trafigura and Vitol stated they had not executed new Russian crude contracts since 24 February (the first day of Russia's offence on Ukraine). One existing Trafigura Russian oil contract reportedly extends until 2023 however, a Vitol one until at least October, and two Petraco deals until 31 March and 31 December respectively.

Glencore and Gunvor were reported to have contracts ending this week after which both traders were intending no new business with Russia during the current conflict.

In addition to recorded trader activity, customers were reported to have agreed to take eight cargoes of Russian oil from Trafigura and six from Vitol during April.

Not all Russian oil previously contracted by the traders is expected to head to customers, however, as some European customers had reportedly expressed reluctance (late-February – early-March) to take their orders and no tankers had been secured for some of the loadings scheduled for this week.

Other companies, including Exxon Mobil, Shell and TotalEnergies

assaying for rhodium and iridium content. Intersections lodged this morning.

Perseus Mining (PRU)

Extending the Côte d'Ivoire Sissingué gold mine and satellite deposits mine life to March 2026.

The 31 December 2021 resources estimate came in at 7.2Mt @ 1.7g/t Au for 394,000oz of gold.

Proved and probable reserves were calculated at 5.0Mt @ 1.8g/t Au for 282,000oz of gold.

American Rare Earths (ARR)

ARR has appointed ARR CFO Noel Witcher also as company secretary, joining current company secretary Wayne Kernaghan, who will have the title joint company secretary.

Energy**Metgasco Ltd (* MEL)**

WA Perth Basin Cervantes-1 oil well drilling underway.

MEL estimates 16 days for total depth (2370m prognosed) to be reached.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
3D Metalforge	3MF	28 Mar
Aston Minerals	ASO	28 Mar
Desert Metals	DM1	28 Mar
Gascoyne Resources	GCY	28 Mar
Invictus Energy	IVZ	28 Mar
Westar Resources	WSR	28 Mar
YPB Group	YPB	28 Mar
Alligator Energy	AGE	29 Mar
Antilles Gold	AAU	29 Mar
Consolidated Zinc	CZL	29 Mar
Sequoia Financial Group	SEQ	29 Mar
Sprintex Ltd	SIX	29 Mar
Tietto Minerals	TIE	29 Mar

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Roto-Gro International	RGI	1 Mar

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
COH	Today	155	0	1.14
LYL	Today	18	100	4.29
NCC	Today	3.75	100	6.94
REH	Today	75	100	0.93
SXE	Tomorrow	1	100	6.30
AOF	Wed	3.8	0	6.06



were also reported to have continued to load pre-orders of Russian oil in March, with Shell taking one 4 March-purchased further load of spot Russian crude.

No further information was revealed overnight Friday regarding the US consideration of a further oil release from strategic reserves.

A US weekly petroleum drill rig report, published overnight Friday, included seven additional operational oil rigs, restoring the total (531 oil rigs) to the highest in almost two years.

Gold – prices turned overnight Friday, Comex futures settling below \$US1955/t.

Meanwhile, US 10-year bond yields reached an almost three-year peak, at ~2.50%.

Late-Friday, the US confirmed sanctions against Russia included any gold trade with Russia's central bank, which is said to have stockpiled ~US132B worth of gold assets.

Key economic data releases that could influence some gold sentiment this week include US monthly employment statistics.

Base metals – overnight Friday trade again featured relatively low volume trade, industry analysts pointing to uncertainty regarding future sanctions on Russia and their impacts.

Meanwhile, due to higher prices, the LME announced the exchange's clearing house default fund would be boosted beyond \$US2B in April (which commences Friday).

China's January - February **industrial profits**, released yesterday, were calculated 5.0% more than for January-February 2021, but economists had anticipated a 34.3% improvement. The new figure was largely attributed to increased energy and transport costs.

China's official March PMIs are due later this week.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7512	-0.0003	-0.03
EUR – USD	1.0980	-0.0003	-0.02

US Data Today & Tonight

Dallas Fed manufacturing	Mar
Wholesale inventories	Feb

Need More Information?

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ARF	Wed	4.05	0	3.09
CIP	Wed	4.33	0	4.38
CLW	Wed	7.63	0	5.67
COF	Wed	4.15	0	7.12
COS	Wed	0.92	100	2.26
CQE	Wed	4.4	0	4.16
CWP	Wed	13	100	5.31
DXC	Wed	5.83	0	6.24
DXI	Wed	4.33	0	5.07
GCI	Wed	0.77	0	4.58
GDF	Wed	1.8	0	4.43
HCW	Wed	2.25	0	1.53
HDN	Wed	2.08	0	5.59
HM1	Wed	13.5	100	4.01
NPR	Wed	2.41	0	0.00
QRI	Wed	0.69	0	5.57
RFF	Wed	2.93	0	3.80
TCF	Wed	3	0	5.67
WPR	Wed	4.11	0	6.11
WQG	Wed	2.75	100	1.76
APE	Thu	42.5	100	3.28
CDM	Thu	4	100	4.81
CDO	Thu	7.5	100	0.00
EDC	Thu	2	0	7.75
GVF	Thu	3.3	100	5.10
HVN	Thu	20	100	6.27
IMA	Thu	2	100	7.27
PGF	Fri	5	100	2.94

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	AFI	Briefing (w/cast tele 10am)
Tomorrow	SIG	Full year (tele 9am)
Wed	URW	Investor Day (Netherlands)
Thu	WIN	AGM
Fri	SM1	Interim (tele 9am)



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