

Markets

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST) | 5705 | 42 | 0.7 |
| NZX 50 | 7705 | -8 | -0.1 |
| DJIA Futures | 21568 | 8 | 0.0 |
| S&P 500 Futures | 2475 | 1 | 0.0 |
| NASDAQ Futures | 5934 | 0 | 0.0 |

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences mid-week trade ahead of key domestic data and a keenly anticipated speech by the head of the Reserve Bank of Australia (**RBA**), and on largely positive commodity price leads.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reports June quarter **CPI** growth **11.30am** AEST.

A speech by Reserve Bank of Australia (**RBA**) governor Philip Lowe is scheduled to commence **1.05pm**.

A monthly job vacancies update is also expected today.

In overnight commodities trade, **oil** continued its latest rally. **US gold** futures were pushed slightly lower. **LME copper** picked up the pace of its recent positive run. **Iron ore** (China port, 62% Fe) rose for a second consecutive day.

The **\$A** ultimately moved slightly higher, after trading at ~US79.30c early yesterday evening. Comparable demeanour is not assured today, given a CPI release and RBA speech.

Overseas Markets

| INDEX | CLOSE | +/- | % |
|----------------------|--------------|-----|-------------|
| Dow Jones | 21613 | 100 | 0.5 |
| S&P 500 | 2477 | 7 | 0.3 |
| NASDAQ | 6412 | 1 | 0.0 |
| FTSE 100 | 7435 | 57 | 0.8 |
| DAX 30 | 12264 | 55 | 0.5 |
| Shanghai Comp | 3244 | -7 | -0.2 |

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and most US equities markets recovered support overnight from a mix of select corporate earnings and outlooks, the breaking of a domestic US political deadlock and some encouraging economic indicators.

US Republican lawmakers voted by the slimmest margin to renew efforts to put in place new healthcare legislation.

In US data releases, the Conference Board's consumer sentiment reading came in at 121.1, following forecasts of 116.

A Case-Shiller house price report indicated 5.7% higher prices over the May quarter.

The Richmond Fed's manufacturing index rose three points to 14, following forecasts of seven.

In **Germany**, an IFO business sentiment index was calculated at a record high.

Tonight in the **US**, the Federal Reserve concludes a two-day policy meeting and releases a statement.

Australia – June quarter **CPI 11.30am** AEST

RBA – governor Philip Lowe is speaking on *The Labour Market & Monetary Policy* at an Anika Foundation lunch, **1.05pm** AEST

Today's Stock Watch

Suncorp Group (SUN) / Tower Ltd (TWR)

The New Zealand Commerce Commission has decided not to approve the proposed SUN acquisition of TWR.

SUN's \$NZ1.40-per-share proposal was made via SUN subsidiary Vero Insurance New Zealand. Sun is assessing options.

Sigma Healthcare (SIG)

SIG has commenced a formal negotiation period with My Chemist/Chemist Warehouse Group, in an attempt to resolve a supply agreement dispute.

The parties have agreed that should this fail, they will initiate a confidential and binding mediation and arbitration process.

Retail Food Group (RFG)

JVs secured with AL Hathboor Group and HKO Group, to secure commercial coffee opportunities across the Middle East and North Africa. RFG 50%.

Acrux Ltd (ACR)

FY 2017 Axiron net sales totalled \$US143.0M, against \$US149.3M for FY 2016.

Axiron sales netted \$US36.8M during the June quarter, following \$US27.3M in the March quarter.

Bapcor Ltd (BAP)

Hellaby acquisition optimisation benefits teleconference scheduled to commence 10.30am AEST. Statistics lodged pre-trade. Planning to publish full-year results 2.30pm 23 August.

Sky City Entertainment (SKC)

FY 2017 results will include a \$NZ95M impairment for SKYCITY Darwin. Adelaide Casino \$330M expansion project presentation also lodged this morning.

Resources

Independence Group (IGO)

Produced 8433t of nickel during FY 2017, at a \$A3.28/lb cash cost. Zinc and copper (in concentrate) totalled 32,638t and 4565t respectively, at a A76c/lb (Zn) cash cost. Nova project resource estimated at 11.4Mt @ 2.4% Ni, 1.0% Cu & 0.08% Co. In addition, the Jaguar project Triumph deposit resource has been calculated at 2.2Mt @ 6.2% Zn, 0.5% Cu, 0.5% Pb, 84g/t Ag & 0.3g/t Au. FY2018 guidance also lodged. Webcast teleconference 10am AEST.

St Barbara (SBM)

Produced 381,101oz of gold during the year to 30 June, at a \$A907/oz AISC. \$A161M cash. Nil debt. FY 2018 guidance also lodged this morning. Webcast teleconference 11am AEST.

Energy

Senex Energy (SXY)

Produced ~170,000boe during the June quarter, boosting the FY 2017 total to 750,000boe. Sold 720,000boe over the year for \$43.6M revenue, and 160,000boe during the June quarter, for \$9.9M. \$134.8M cash as at 30 June.

Live-streamed (audio) teleconference 10am AEST.

Among data releases, June new home sales and Markit's initial July services PMI are due, together with weekly mortgage applications.

Amazon, Boeing, Coca-Cola, Daewoo Engineering & Construction, Facebook, Ford Motor Co, Hyundai Motor, ITV, Nintendo and Samsung C&T are among companies scheduled to report earnings today or tonight.

In overnight corporate news, **McDonald's** traded ~5% higher on a better-than-anticipated June quarter, bolstered by new offerings.

Alphabet, which had reported late-Monday, was pushed ~3% lower on cost-v-profit margin fears.

Another outlook upgrade from **Caterpillar** propelled this stock almost 6% higher.

General Motors booked a 42% quarterly net profit drop.

The FTSE 100 was buoyed by a \$US1.2B price secured by shoemaker **Jimmy Choo**, in a sales process 'won' by US business **Michael Kors**. Jimmy Choo shares jumped ~17%.

Commodities

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | \$US/ | +/- | % |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------------|
| Gold (NY) (Aug) | 1252 | oz | -2 | -0.2 |
| Silver (NY) (Sep) | 16.5 | oz | 0.03 | 0.2 |
| Gold (LON) | 1254 | oz | -1 | -0.1 |
| Platinum | 925 | oz | -4 | -0.4 |
| WTI Crude (Sep) | 47.9 | bbl | 1.6 | 3.3 |
| Brent Crude (Aug) | 50.2 | bbl | 1.6 | 3.3 |
| Iron Ore (CHN port 62%) | 69.5 | t | 1.6 | 2.4 |
| Copper | 6225 | t | 198 | 3.3 |
| Nickel | 10005 | t | 225 | 2.3 |
| Aluminium | 1930 | t | 18 | 0.9 |
| Lead | 2318 | t | 58 | 2.6 |
| Zinc | 2836 | t | 48 | 1.7 |
| Tin | 20305 | t | 150 | 0.7 |
| CBT Wheat (Sep) | 4.74 | bshl | -0.15 | -3.0 |

Commodities Commentary

Oil – pushed to levels not seen since early June, on the previous day's demonstrative support, and admonishment, from Saudi Arabia for the current output curb agreement.

Brent crude notably settled above \$US50/bbl.

A (US) government agency weekly US petroleum inventories report is due tonight.

Gold – profit-taking was cited as a major factor in overnight price moves, ahead of the US Federal Reserve's post-policy meeting statement tonight.

Better-than-expected regional manufacturing and consumer confidence indices supported small select \$US appreciation from a new 13-month low.

Base metals – growth expectations, in particular for the euro zone, Japan and China, were considered the main push behind positive overnight sentiment.

Copper was well-supported, due to China's historic high demand, industrial-related output uncertainty in Chile, and rallying oil prices.

Exchange Rates

| CURRENCIES | LAST | +/- | % |
|------------------|--------|---------|--------------|
| AUD – USD | 0.7935 | -0.0002 | -0.03 |
| EUR – USD | 1.1647 | 0.0001 | 0.00 |

Pre-Open Announcements

Transurban Group (TCL)

Financial close achieved for the \$US475M 395 Express Lanes extension project.

Mirvac Group (MGR)

Selling a 50% interest in a Collins St, Melbourne office development for \$414M.

Mitula Group (MUA)

MUA board confidence confirmed this morning following yesterday's 45% share-price plunge following lowered guidance. MUA board members and management hold 45% of MUA. Planning to release interim results 10 August.

Resources

BC Iron (* BCI)

June quarter activities report lodged post-trade yesterday.

Blackham Resources (* BLK)

\$39.1M debt. \$17M due at the end of the year. June quarter statistics lodged post-trade yesterday.

Energy

Karoon Gas Australia (* KAR)

Brazil Santos Basin Echidna light oil project development concept approved, including a leased FPSO, two horizontal production wells and one gas injection well.

This enables FEED to commence, ahead of anticipated daily peak production totalling 14,000bbl for each well.

Trading Halts

| Company | Code | Resuming |
|-------------------------|------|----------|
| Blackstone Resources | BSX | 26 Jul |
| Riedel Resources | RIE | 26 Jul |
| 9 Spokes International | 9SP | 27 Jul |
| Echo Resources | EAR | 27 Jul |
| G Medical Innovations | GMV | 27 Jul |
| Memphasys Ltd | MEM | 27 Jul |
| Molopo Energy | MPO | 27 Jul |
| Wattle Health Australia | WHA | 27 Jul |

Suspensions (selected)

| Company | Code | Since |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|
| Azonto Petroleum | APY | 21 Jul |
| Baralaba Coal Company | BCL | 10 Jul |
| Clancy Exploration | CLY | 13 Jul |
| Dotz Nano | DTZ | 24 Jul |
| European Lithium | EUR | 7 Jul |
| Magnis Resources | MNS | 5 Jul |
| Magnum Gas & Power | MPE | 12 Jul |
| MSM Corporation International | MSM | 12 Jul |
| Peak Resources | PEK | 6 Jul |
| Premiere Eastern Energy | PEZ | 11 Jul |
| Realm Resources | RRP | 14 Jul |
| Sundance Resources | SDL | 26 Jul |

**Australian Data Today**

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-------|
| ABS | CPI | Jun Q |
| DoEmplyt | Skilled job vacancies | Jul |

US Data Tonight

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| New home sales | Jun |
| Markit services PMI | Jul |
| MBA mortgage applications | 21 Jul |

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------|
| UK | GDP (1 st) | Jun Q |
|-----------|------------------------|-------|

Need More Information?

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

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Ex-Dividends

| Code | Ex-Div | Div (c) | Fr (%) | Yield (%) |
|------------|--------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| MIR | Today | 10.5 | 100 | 3.55 |
| AOD | Fri | 0.31 | 0 | 7.67 |
| WQW | Fri | 3.52 | 0 | 7.91 |

Reports & Events

(selected scheduled)

| When | Company | Report/Event |
|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| Today | IGO | Jun Q |
| | SBM | Jun Q |
| | SXY | Jun Q |
| Tomorrow | BPT | Jun Q |
| | FMG | Jun Q |
| | GUD | Full-year |
| | MQG | AGM |
| | OGC | Jun Q |
| Fri | AWE | Jun Q |
| | PRG | AGM |
| | SFR | Jun Q |
| Mon | IFN | Jun Q |
| | ORG | Jun Q |
| | SYR | Jun Q |
| Tue | AQG | Jun Q |
| | CCP | Full-year |
| | ERA | Interim |
| | NVT | Full-year |