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# **Market Opener**

Tuesday, 21 November 2023

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#### Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT) NZX 50	7101 11180	19 -27	0.3
DJIA Futures	35225	213	0.6
S&P 500 Futures	4562	35	0.8
NASDAQ Futures	16087	191	1.2

#### **Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market commences today's trade with the \$A at ~US65.60c, Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) policy in sharp focus, AGM updates anticipated from a batch of high-profile stocks, and new regional economic data in hand, ahead of the release of US Federal Reserve policy meeting minutes tonight.

US equities markets rallied in unison overnight.

**Locally** today, **RBA governor** Michele Bullock participates in a panel discussion at the Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC) annual forum, commencing 10am AEDT.

RBA acting head of markets Carl Schwartz is scheduled to deliver an address entitled *Responding to Change* at an Australian Securitisation Forum conference, at 10.45am.

At **11.30am**, the RBA publishes the **minutes** of the 7 November monetary **policy meeting**.

Also at 11.30, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases an **employee earnings** report covering April through September, and also a publication containing Australian **State accounts** for **2022-2023**.

Stocks trading **ex-dividend** today include **AMC** and **ELD**. *Please see* p3 for a detailed ex-dividends list.

**Regionally** today, **South Korea** has released October **producer prices** pre-trade, these falling 0.1% for the month and calculated 0.8% higher than for October 2022.

September producer prices were reported 0.4% higher for the month and up 1.3% year-on-year.

Also pre-trade, **New Zealand** has reported October **international trade** figures, these including a \$NZ1.7B deficit following a \$NZ2.425B September shortfall.

This afternoon, **Japan** is scheduled to host a 20-year government bond auction.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** added ~2.0%.

US gold futures continued to fall slightly.

**Iron ore** (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned higher, settling above \$US129.0/t.

US (Dec) **copper** futures were pushed US7c/lb higher, to \$US3.82/lb.

Last night's **LME** final 3-mth evening price updates were unavailable from IRESS at time of publication. These are expected to become available via IRESS at  $^{\sim}11.30$ am AEDT.

The **\$A** appreciated to ~US65.65c after trading at ~US65.50c - ~US65.60c early yesterday evening.

# **Today's Stock Watch**

# **Brickworks Ltd (BKW)**

Short-term challenges remain for all BKW business.

Further trading commentary lodged, together with today's AGM materials.

## Origin Energy (ORG)

\$A9.43 implied cash payment for shareholders should they vote on Thursday for the proposed acquisition of ORG by the Brookfield consortium.

# Inghams Group (ING)

Proposing to outlay ~\$76M for the land and buildings associated with the ING Bolivar processing facility, Burton, South Australia.

# Avita Medical (AVH)

Anticipating \$US49.5M - \$US50.5M 2023 revenue, against previous guidance for \$US51M - \$US53M.

Commentary also lodged this morning.

#### HUB24 Ltd (HUB)

Today's investor day presentation lodged.

## TechnologyOne Ltd (TNE)

19% higher, \$441.4M full year revenue.

Additional full year (to 30 September) results lodged this morning.

#### The Calmer Co International (CCO) / Coles Group (COL)

CCO Kava products will be offered in COL stores from January 2024.

Additional details lodged this morning.

# The Star Entertainment Group (SGR)

NSW casino duty rates formally agreed.

#### **Resources**

### **BlueScope Steel (BSL)**

Mixed divisional trading update lodged with today's AGM materials.

#### Fortescue Metals Group (FMG)

AGM today following two expansion announcements since post-trade Thursday last week.



#### **Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	35151	204	0.6
S&P 500	4547	33	0.7
NASDAQ	14285	159	1.1
FTSE 100	7496	-8	-0.1
DAX 30	15901	-18	-0.1
Shanghai Composite	3068	14	0.5

#### **Overseas Markets Commentary**

Trade across major European, UK and US equities markets diverged again overnight.

Choppy trade featured across European and UK markets amid some sobering central bank commentary.

Key US indices, while opening cautiously, immediately trended higher however, ahead of some key monetary policy, economic and earnings reports this week.

Microsoft was pushed to a record high following two high-profile executive appointments, supporting broader large tech/communications sentiment.

Meanwhile, grim civilian casualty reports continued from the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey spoke publicly post-UK trade, the pre-speech text releases reiterating his view that consideration of interest rate cuts remained 'far too early', adding restrictive monetary policy was likely required 'for some time yet'.

This followed similar comments from Bundesbank (Germany's central bank) president Joachim Nagel overnight Friday.

The Bundesbank monthly report, published overnight, predicted a further, but slight, GDP decline for the December quarter.

The report also described likely domestic economic recovery as 'arduous'.

Earlier yesterday, **China** retained status quo for one-year and five-year prime loan rates.

Among relatively scant overnight **data** releases, **Germany**'s October producer prices were reported 0.1% lower for the month, in line with consensus, and following a 0.2% September decline.

Against October 2022, prices were down 11.0% against 14.7% year-on-year for September.

**Euro zone** October construction output was reported 0.3% lower than for October 2022, against forecasts for a 1.5% annualised gain and following a flat year-on-year September estimate.

In the **US**, the Conference Board October leading index continued lower, this time by 0.8% following a 0.7% fall for September. Index interpreters were quick to point out the series of declines indicated nearing recession.

A 20-year US bond auction delivered a 4.78% yield from 5.245%.

Tonight in the US, Federal Reserve policy meeting minutes are keenly anticipated. The October Chicago Fed national activity index is also due, together with October existing home sales.

Companies scheduled to report earnings or provide updates later today and tonight include: Analog Devices, AO World, Autodesk,

# **Pre-Open Announcements**

## Atlas Pearls (ATP)

Mourning the death of a West Lembata farm security patrol officer working for ATP subsidiary PT Cendana Indopearls.

#### Resources

#### Ionic Rare Earths (IXR)

London conference presentation lodged this morning.

# **Neometals Ltd (NMT)**

Withdrawing an AGM resolution designed to boost the maximum aggregate remuneration for non-executive directors.

NMT says the withdrawal decision is the consequence of considering the sentiment indicated in preliminary proxy voting returns.

## Red Hawk Mining (RHK)

Reducing the RHK board tally to five, including the chair and MD and CFO

In association, non-executive RHK directors Michael Wolley and James Gurry have resigned from the RHK board.

RHK traded at 49.5c Friday and not at all yesterday, after closing out the previous week at 60c.

## Tesoro Gold (TSO) / Culpeo Minerals (CPO)

TSO and CPO have appointed former large accounting firm auditor Graeme Morrissey as CFO, to take over from Pennee Osmond who has resigned from these roles.

## **Horizon Minerals (HRZ)**

34.00% proxy and 33.96% poll votes recorded against adopting the company's remuneration report at yesterday's

This constituted a 'first strike' under the Corporations Act.

## **Trading Halts**

Company	Code	Resuming
Amaero International	3DA	21 Nov
Aurora Labs	A3D	21 Nov
Bryah Resources	BYH	21 Nov
Turaco Gold	TCG	21 Nov
ADX Energy	ADX	22 Nov
Alterity Therapeutics	ATH	22 Nov
Firebird Metals	FRB	22 Nov
Genesis Resources	GES	22 Nov
Great Northern Minerals	GNM	22 Nov
Healius Ltd	HLS	22 Nov
Killi Resources	KLI	22 Nov
Norfolk Metals	NFL	22 Nov
WT Financial Group	WTL	22 Nov



Baidu, Best Buy, Dell Technologies, HP Inc, Lowe's Companies, Medtronic and NVIDIA.

In overnight corporate news, **Microsoft**'s price benefited by greater than 2.0% from the appointment of OpenAl co-founder and former CEO Sam Altman as an Al research team head, together with OpenAl co-founder and former OpenAl president Greg Brockman.

Meanwhile, a majority of OpenAI employees publicly called for OpenAI board renewal.

#### **Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Dec)	1980.3	OZ	-4.4	-0.2
Silver (COMEX 5000 Dec)	23.61	OZ	-0.24	-1.0
Platinum	920	OZ	20	2.2
WTI Crude (NYMEX Dec)	77.60	bbl	1.71	2.3
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jan)	82.32	bbl	1.71	2.1
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	129.31	t	0.36	0.3
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (17Nov)	8270	t	47	0.6
Nickel	16910	t	-117	-0.7
Aluminium	2209	t	-8	-0.4
Lead	2294	t	11	0.5
Zinc	2555	t	-21	-0.8
Tin	24867	t	-341	-1.3

#### **Commodities Commentary**

*Oil* – ongoing reports that OPEC+ was considering further production curbs this coming weekend pushed prices higher again overnight.

Overnight considerations also included supply security, with at least two ships confirmed to have changed course after Yemen's Houthis seized a cargo vessel in the Red Sea over the weekend.

The WTI December contract expired on overnight settlement, January delivery futures closing 1.8% higher for the session, at \$US77.83/bbl.

**Gold** – sentiment appeared impacted overnight by an early turn higher for US treasury yields, despite moderation and also despite a weaker \$US.

Key data and policy reports from tonight are expected to move sentiment this week, however.

**Base metals** – inventory updates, late-week promises of support from China's administrators and central bank, plus currency swings pushed and pulled overnight trade sentiment.

In addition, copper remained supported by a Quantum Minerals production disruption in Panama.

# **Exchange Rates**

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6558	0.0005	0.07
EUR – USD	1.0940	0.0018	0.16

#### **Suspensions** (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Applyflow Ltd	AFW	7 Nov
Armour Energy (receivers, managers; vol admin)	AJQ	13 Nov
Cann Group	CAN	17 Nov
EBOS Group	EBO	20 Nov
Mithril Resources	MTH	17 Nov
Panoramic Resources	PAN	17 Nov
TechGen Metals	TG1	17 Nov
VDM Group	VMG	21 Nov

#### **Ex-Dividends**

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AMC	Today	19.73	0	5.17
ELD	Today	23	30	6.94
KPG	Today	0.44	100	1.09
NUF	Tomorrow	5	0	2.38
USQ	Tomorrow	0.53	0	5.74
ALQ	Thu	19.6	20	3.18
СВО	Thu	3.3	70	0.00
CVL	29 Nov	3	100	4.35
GNC	29 Nov	30	100	3.60
IFT	29 Nov	5.93	0	1.95
ALL	30 Nov	34	100	1.36
PIA	30 Nov	1.35	100	5.17

# **Reports & Events**

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	92E	AGM
	AGL	AGM
	ALK	AGM
	AW1	AGM
	BSL	AGM
	BKW	AGM
	FMG	AGM
	HUB	Investor day
	MND	AGM
	QHL	AGM
	RNU	AGM
	RDY	AGM
	RIC	AGM
	TNE	Full year
	VHT	Interim
Tomorrow	APZ	AGM
	ASM	AGM



#### **Australian Data Today**

RBA	Policy meeting minutes	7 Nov
ABS	Employee earnings	Jun Q – Sep Q
ABS	Australian State accounts	2022- 2023

#### **US Data Tonight**

Federal Reserve policy meeting minutes	31 Oct - 1 Nov
Chicago Fed national activity index	Oct
Existing home sales	Oct

## Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

New Zealand	International trade	Oct
UK	Public sector finances	Oct
Euro zone	New domestic vehicle registrations	Oct

#### **Need More Information?**

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	CCX	AGM
	DOW	AGM
	GNG	AGM
	IRI	AGM
	JRL	AGM
	LOV	AGM
	MPL	AGM
	NWL	AGM
	NUH	AGM
	WEB	Interim (w/cast 9am)
Thu	AEF	AGM
	ARF	AGM
	BGL	AGM
	CLX	AGM
	CHN	AGM
	DEG	AGM
	DUG	AGM
	EVN	AGM
	HSN	AGM
	IFL	AGM
	JLG	AGM
	KAR	AGM
	MAD	AGM
	NHC	AGM
	PLS	AGM
	QUB	AGM
	RMS	AGM
	RRL	AGM
	STA	AGM
	WBT	AGM
	WGX	AGM
Fri	ADH	AGM
	ARL	AGM
	ASG	AGM
	BSE	AGM
	DYL	AGM
	DUR	AGM
	EL8	AGM
	ENR	AGM
	LIN	AGM
	NMT	AGM
	NXT	AGM
	PXA	AGM
	QAL	AGM
	SHV	Full year (w/cast 10.30am)
	SLR	AGM
	WTC	AGM