

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7001	-11	-0.2
NZX 50	12286	7	0.1
DJIA Futures	34969	-9	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	4476	-17	-0.4
NASDAQ Futures	14560	-126	-0.9

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade with an overnight \$A appreciation, new data in hand from China, a material domestic economic indicator report due late morning, and earnings and updates from several large-cap domestic stocks.

Overnight international equities trade featured swinging sentiment.

Locally today, the NAB monthly **business confidence** report is anticipated **11.30am** AEDT.

Also today, the Australian Parliament reconvenes for its first sitting for election year 2022.

Regionally today, December bank lending, earnings and household earnings reports are due out of **Japan** in the first hour of ASX trade.

Post-ASX trade yesterday, **China** reported January **foreign exchange reserves** at \$US3.222 trillion from \$US3.25 trillion for December. Forecasters had anticipated \$US3.26 trillion.

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

US **gold** futures picked up the pace of Friday's gain.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned higher, rallying beyond \$US150.00/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** reportedly turned modestly lower.

Nickel was reported to have continued higher, gaining ~1.0%.

Aluminium reportedly rose more than 1%. *Last night's LME final price updates were unavailable from IRESS at time of publication.*

The **\$A** was pushed to ~US71.30c after approaching US71.05c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	35091	1	0.0
S&P 500	4484	-17	-0.4
NASDAQ	14016	-82	-0.6
FTSE 100	7573	57	0.8
DAX 30	15207	107	0.7
Shanghai Comp	3430	69	2.0

Overseas Markets Commentary

Marked vacillations featured across major European, UK and US equities markets overnight, amid a plethora of commentary

*** Mineral exploration listing – midday AEST – WA1 ***

Today's Stock Watch
Macquarie Group (MQG)

\$A750.1B AUM at 31 December, up 2% for the quarter.

12.2% CET1 ratio. \$A11.5B capital surplus.

Additional statistics lodged pre-trade in today's 2022 operational briefing presentation.

Reporting 'improved overall market conditions'.

Suncorp Group (SUN)

23c fully franked interim dividend, against 26c a year ago.

20.8% lower, \$388M interim NPAT.

1.6% lower, \$7.23B ordinary activities revenue.

Shopping Centres Australasia Property Group (SCP)

320.2% higher, \$432.4M interim NPAT.

25.2% higher, \$172.8M revenue.

30.4% higher, \$94.3M funds from operations.

Charter Hall Long WALE REIT (CLW)

196.9% higher, \$589.56M interim NPAT.

46% higher, \$108.95M revenue.

GUD Holdings (GUD)

Planning to report interim results post-ASX trade.

GUD traded as high as \$12.78 yesterday after closing out 2021 at \$11.37.

Good Drinks Australia (GDA)

Unaudited 15% higher, \$32.7M interim revenue.

Essentially flat, \$6.2M EBITDA.

Link Administration Holdings (LNK)

Exclusive potential acquisition of LNK's banking and credit management business under negotiation with LC Financial Holdings, following due diligence and with Pepper European Servicing having withdrawn their interest in a potential purchase.

Platinum Asset Management (PTM)

\$22.463B FUM at 31 January from \$22.006B at 31 December 2021.

Resources
Panoramic Resources (PAN)

Reporting strong mineralisation encountered during resource definition drilling within Savannah North.

Assays lodged pre-trade.

Cooper Metals (CPM)

Heralding Mount Isa East copper-gold project King Solomon infill rock chip sampling results.

Details lodged this morning.

regarding likely US central bank policy change timelines, earnings season implications and unresolved geopolitical tensions.

French president Emmanuel Macron met with **Russia's** president Vladimir Putin in Moscow, Mr Macron espousing 'building trust' and avoiding military conflict.

Meanwhile, **European Central Bank** (ECB) president Christine Lagarde, who had warned late last week of regional economic risks from any Russia-Ukraine fallout, insisted no major ECB monetary policy tightening would be needed to tame regional inflation, and offered 'any adjustment to our policy will be gradual'.

Ms Lagarde repeated that net asset purchases would conclude ahead of any rate increase.

Among overnight **data** releases, the Sentix February investor confidence index for the **euro zone** rose to 16.6 from 14.9. Economists had forecast an improvement to 15.2.

Germany's December industrial production surprised on the downside, falling 0.3% against expectations of a 0.6% rise following November's 0.3% increase.

In the **UK**, the BBA estimated the mean January mortgage rate at 3.69% from 3.63% for December.

A January house price index indicated prices were 9.7% higher than for January 2021.

In the **US**, December consumer credit change was reported at \$US18.9B against November's \$US38.82B. Forecasters had anticipated \$US19.4B.

Tonight in the **US**, December trade figures, small business and economic optimism indices and a December quarter household debt and credit report are due.

Companies listed to report earnings or provide trading updates later today or tonight include: Alibaba, BNP Paribas, BP, DuPont, Harley-Davidson, KKR, Kobe Steel, Lyft, Nissan Motor, Pfizer, Softbank and Sysco Co.

In overnight corporate news, **Peloton** was pushed higher on reports **Amazon** and **Nike** were considering potential offers for the fitness equipment specialist.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1821.8	oz	13	0.8
Silver (NY) (Mar)	23.02		0.55	2.4
Gold (LON) (4 Feb)	1805	oz		
Platinum	1018	oz	-5	-0.5
WTI Crude (NYMEX Mar)	91.32	bbbl	-0.99	-1.3
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Apr)	92.69	bbbl	-0.58	-0.6
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	150.11	t	4.66	3.2
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (4 Feb)	9835	t		
Nickel	22926	t		
Aluminium	3070	t		
Lead	2185	t		
Zinc	3608	t		
Tin	43006	t		

Pre-Open Announcements

Nanosonics Ltd (* NAN)

The NAN and GE Healthcare sales model for North America has been revised until the current agreement ends in June. Details lodged this morning.

Nearmap Ltd (* NEA)

NEA has appointed digital strategy and marketing specialist Helen Souness as an independent non-executive director, effective 1 March.

Meanwhile, Tracey Horton has stepped down from the NEA board.

Sparc Technologies (SPN) / Fortescue Metals Group (FMG)

SPN webinar scheduled for 11.15am AEDT **tomorrow**, focusing on the planned green hydrogen partnership with FMG.

Ansarada Ltd (AND)

~7.49M shares are due for release from mandatory escrow Monday next week (14 February). ~2.62M of these shares will remain under voluntary escrow until 10 days after AND's full year FY22 results.

AND has traded higher the past four sessions, settling at \$2.55 yesterday.

Resources

WA1 Resources (* WA1)

Mineral exploration company scheduled to list on the ASX **midday** AEDT, following a \$4.5M IPO at 20c per share. 26.85M quoted shares.

Two IOCG-prospective exploration projects and one prospective for Ni-Cu-PGE mineralisation.

Former Talisman Mining (ASX: TLM) MD and previous Jubilee Mines CFO and company secretary Gary Lethridge is WA1's non-executive chair.

Talisman Mining (* TLM)

NSW Kaolin Shaft gold and zinc prospect RC drilling underway. Regulatory approvals in hand for three additional drill programs across copper-gold targets.

Thomson Resources (* TMZ)

Texas District initial metallurgical test work results lodged this morning.

Emerald Resources (EMR)

The Takeovers Panel has declared unacceptable circumstances regarding Bullseye Mining for which EMR is conducting a recommended off-market takeover offer.

Among other panel orders, Bullseye must provide additional disclosure and EMR must extend its bid, at the same time offering Bullseye Mining shareholders the opportunity to withdraw acceptances to date.



Commodities Commentary

Oil – supply and demand views remained in focus overnight, but amid reports the US administration was looking at ways to lower energy prices in order to temper inflation, both Brent and WTI crude settled lower.

Intra-session however, Brent had traded as high as \$US94/bbl and WTI at \$US92.73/bbl.

Following the US restoration of some Iran sanctions waivers, announced late Friday, **Iran** reiterated there would be no progress in talks unless sanctions were removed.

Talks are expected to resume later today in Vienna. The discussions remain ‘indirect’ as Iran continues to refuse to meet with US diplomats.

Gold – US equities sentiment ultimately declined overnight, the \$US rose a little, and US 10-year bond yields were quoted at ~1.92%, pushing and pulling overnight gold prices.

Some safe-haven interest was reported from Russia-Ukraine uncertainty and Comex futures subsequently settled with a decided gain.

Base metals – an energy costs warning from major European copper smelter Aurubis, emissions-related production curbs in China in association with the Winter Olympics, potential Russia-Ukraine impacts on aluminium supply from Russia and low international inventory stocks supported LME aluminium prices in particular overnight.

Three-month contract prices reportedly reached four-month highs, with physical market premiums at ~\$US460/t - \$US760/t.

Also overnight, with **China’s** markets resuming following a week-long holiday season yesterday, LME trade interest and volumes increased.

Yesterday, Caixin released its January services PMI for China, this falling to 51.4 from 53.1. Forecasters had anticipated a fall to 51.0.

Meanwhile, the US Geological Survey (USGS) estimated international production of rare earth elements (REE) rose by 17% during 2021, to 280,000t.

The USGS calculated China’s output at 168,000t, 20% more than for 2020. The next largest national producer was the US, with 43,000t. Australia was fourth on the producers’ list, with 22,000t.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7124	0.0034	0.48
EUR – USD	1.1442	0.0003	0.03

Australian Data Today

NAB	Business confidence (incl conditions & outlook)	Jan
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US Data Today & Tonight

Trade balance	Dec
NFIB small business optimism	Jan

Frontier Resources (FNT)

Pleading ignorance in response to an ASX price and volume query but noting rare earths project exploration and funding progress achieved by WA Gascoyne neighbour Hastings Technology Metals (ASX: HAS).

FNT settled at 2.3c Friday week ago (28 January) but closed out last week at 3.2c, and traded as high as 4c yesterday, before settling at 3.8c.

~131.1M shares were traded Friday and ~138.8M shares yesterday.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Nimy Resources	NIM	8 Feb
Calima Energy	CE1	9 Feb
The GO2 People	GO2	9 Feb
iCandy Interactive	ICI	9 Feb
Rectifier Technologies	RFT	9 Feb
Syrah Resources	SYR	9 Feb
Triangle Energy Global	TEG	9 Feb
WA Kaolin	WAK	9 Feb
White Energy Company	WEC	9 Feb

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Cassius Mining	CMD	27 Jan
Comet Resources	CRL	31 Jan
Cradle Resources	CXX	13 Jan
Structural Monitoring Systems	SMN	27 Jan

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AFI	Tomorrow	10	100	2.81
EZL	Tomorrow	2.5	100	8.44
FSI	Tomorrow	4.5	100	3.75
RMD	Tomorrow	4.15	0	0.45
VUK	Thu	1.86	0	0.00
BKI	Fri	4	100	1.79
JHG	Fri	US38	0	tbc

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	AIZ	Dec
	CLW	Interim
	GUD	Interim (w/cast 5pm)



IBD/TIPP economic optimism	Feb
Household debt & credit	Dec Q
Vehicle sales (11am AEDT)	Jan

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Japan	Household spending	Dec
Japan	Average cash earnings	Dec
Japan	Bank lending	Dec
Japan	Eco watchers survey (4pm AEDT)	Jan
UK	BRC retail sales monitor (11am AEDT)	Jan

Need More Information?

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	MQG	Operational update (w/cast 10am)
	SCP	Interim
	SUN	Interim
Tomorrow	BTI	Interim
	BAP	Interim
	BWP	Interim
	CBA	Interim (w/cast 11am)
	IEL	Interim
	MP1	Interim
	MIN	Interim
	TPW	Interim
Thu	AGL	Interim
	AMP	Full year
	ASX	Interim
	CIM	Full year
	DOW	Interim
	MGR	Interim
	NAB	Dec Q
	URW	Full year
	VUL	Interim (w/cast tele 9am)
Fri	BBN	Interim
	IAG	Interim (w/cast 10am)
	TLS	Interim
	UMG	AGM