

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	6182	20	0.3
NZX 50	9409	22	0.2
DJIA Futures	25783	48	0.2
S&P 500 Futures	2818	4	0.1
NASDAQ Futures	7284	16	0.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade on largely positive overnight international equities leads, ahead of influential data out of China and with the UK House of Commons having voted to never leave the European Union (EU) without an agreed deal.

Regionally, **China** is expected to update this year's industrial production, retail sales and fixed asset investment **1pm** AEDT.

Locally, the Melbourne Institute publishes its monthly consumer inflation expectations report, 11am AEDT.

A swag of stocks also trades **ex-dividend** today. Please see pp3-4 for a comprehensive list.

In overnight commodities trade, **oil** rallied.

US **gold** futures (April) sharply extended Tuesday's move higher.

LME **copper** settled essentially flat. **Nickel** and **aluminium** continued higher.

The **\$A** was pushed higher, to ~US70.90c, after falling below US70.55c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	25703	148	0.6
S&P 500	2811	19	0.7
NASDAQ	7643	52	0.7
FTSE 100	7159	8	0.1
DAX 30	11572	48	0.4
Shanghai Comp	3027	-33	-1.1

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets mostly opened higher overnight and largely never looked like forfeiting broad gains.

The FTSE proved a notable exception, the UK government announcing 87% (by value) of imports would not attract tariffs, as opposed to the current 80%, should the UK leave the **European Union** (EU) without a deal in place.

Subsequently however, parliament's House of Commons voted (321 – 278) for the UK never to withdraw from the EU unless governing arrangements had been agreed.

This propelled the British pound higher.

China – industrial production, retail sales and fixed asset investment - 1pm AEDT

Today's Stock Watch

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)

CBA says it is progressing the implementation of royal commission recommendations, and this morning has lodged an update related to the group's mortgage broking and wealth management businesses.

Total customer refunds provisions or completed payments now total \$610M.

Costs related to remediation and general CBA process improvements have reached \$650M.

\$200M wealth management indemnity provision allocated for remediation and related costs.

Stockland (SGP)

Selling two Brisbane centres for a combined \$143M.

Completions are anticipated by 30 June.

Kogan.com Ltd (KOG)

Launching Kogan Marketplace, with 100,000 products.

Ramsay Health Care (RHC)

Presentation delivered in the UK overnight lodged pre-trade.

Resources

Syrah Resources (SYR)

Anticipating producing a total 45,000t of graphite from the Mozambique Balama project during the March quarter. This against 45,000t – 50,000t guidance.

Expecting to sell up to 50,000t at \$US460/t - \$US470/t (weighted average), against \$US500/t - \$US600/t guidance.

Anticipating holding \$US55M - \$US57M cash and equivalents at 31 March, against ~\$US57M guidance.

Planning to publish the company's March quarter activities report and the 2018 annual report 29 March.

Triton Minerals (TON)

TON Mozambique Ancuabe project MoU secured with Qingdao Jinhui Graphite Co. The MoU covers a potential up to 10% direct project investment, plus debt and/or equipment financing facilities support.

In addition, Qingdao Jinhui proposes to purchase up to 15,000tpa of Ancuabe graphite concentrate.

Further, TON and Qingdao Jinhui plan to jointly investigate optimal value-added processing in order to supply Ancuabe graphite to flame retardant, refractories and battery markets in China.

Targeting a binding agreement within six months.



A vote is now anticipated on pushing back the proposed 29 March UK-EU separation date.

In the meantime, the UK chancellor presented the annual budget and delivered Spring forecasts that appeared largely overshadowed, due to the extent of UK-EU uncertainty.

In overnight data releases, **euro zone** industrial production improved 1.4% during January, after dropping 0.9% in December.

Year-on-year however, January output was 1.1% lower, although December's represented a 4.2% slide.

In the **US**, February producer prices rose just 0.1% for the month, buoyed by higher petrol costs, following a 0.1% fall in January. Year-on-year, February prices came in 1.9% higher.

January durable goods orders were reported 0.4% higher, against a 1.3% December rise.

January construction spending surprised on the upside, increasing by 1.3%, after falling in November and December 2018.

Tonight in the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims are due, together with February import and export prices and January new home sales.

Elsewhere, a final February CPI reading is due for Germany.

Companies scheduled to report earnings or provide an update include: Adobe, Audi, Broadcom, Dell Technologies, Dollar General, Lufthansa, Oracle, PZ Cussons, Revlon and RWE.

In overnight corporate news, **Brookfield Asset Management** revealed a \$US4.7B purchase of 62% of **Oaktree Capital**, pushing Oaktree more than 12% higher.

US and Canada decisions to also ground **Boeing** 737 Max 8 craft pushed Boeing yet lower, the DJIA consequently dropping suddenly.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1309.3	oz	11.2	0.9
Silver (NY) (May)	15.46	oz	0.04	0.3
Gold (LON)	1297	oz		
Platinum	841	oz	8	1.0
WTI Crude (Apr)	58.26	bbl	1.39	2.4
Brent Crude (May)	67.55	bbl	0.88	1.3
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	85.25	t		
Copper (LME,3mth,PM)	6472	t	3	0.0
Nickel	13190	t	70	0.5
Aluminium	1905	t	27	1.5
Lead	2122	t	36	1.7
Zinc	2839	t	1	0.0
Tin	21150	t	-160	-0.8
CBT Wheat (May)	4.47	bshl	-0.06	-1.4

Commodities Commentary

Oil – a US weekly petroleum inventories, published overnight, included falls for weekly production, stored crude and petrol stocks, delivering an ultimate price rally.

Crude stocks fell by 3.9MMbbl and petrol by 4.6MMbbl.

Pre-Open Announcements

PharmAust (* PAA)

Early results from PAA Monepantel tablets used in a Phase 1 clinical trial with nine dogs indicate the tablets can boost serum levels considered sufficient to suppress tumour advancement

Austal Ltd (* ASB)

High-speed, 550-passenger catamaran completed and delivered to Brave Line under ASB's first commercial contract secured with a company in Taiwan.

The vessel was constructed at ASB's Cebu, Philippines shipyard.

Propertylink Group (PLG)

ESR last week closed its PLG takeover having gained 98.0%.

PLG has subsequently appointed ESR Australia CEO and former Goodman Group (ASX: GMG) greater China MD Philip Pearce as an executive director.

Mr Pearce is also a non-executive director of Singapore-listed ESR REIT.

Synlait Milk (SM1)

Planning to lodge interim results 8.30am AEDT 20 March (Wednesday next week), and to host a webcast teleconference commencing 8am AEDT.

Oliver's Real Food (OLI)

Liquidations finalised for the Albury, Coomera, Dubbo West and Horsham subsidiaries.

Rationale, relating to costs containment, lodged post-trade yesterday.

Alexium Group (AJX)

Specialty chemicals conference presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

AJX presented overnight in New York city.

Quickstep Holdings (QHL)

8.5c-per-share SPP underway and expected to remain open through 27 March (Wednesday week).

QHL has traded at 8.3c – 8.7c the past five trading sessions.

Resources

Bellevue Gold (* BGL)

Heralding Bellevue gold project Viago and Tribune drilling results.

High-grade mineralisation remains open.

Assays lodged this morning.

Four drill rigs in operation.

Anticipating a resource upgrade by 30 June.

\$A27M cash.

VRX Silica (* VRX) / Metalicity Ltd (MCT)

MCT's option to acquire 40% of VRX's far-eastern WA Biranup project, plus a farm-in and JV over the balance of the project, has lapsed following MCT's decision not to proceed.



Domestic production eased a daily 100,000bbl to 12MMbbl/d, although net imports rose slightly, by 2000bbl/d.

Data is again expected to be the prime price influencer tonight, with a monthly OPEC report due this evening, in addition to influential figures out of China today.

Tomorrow night, the International Energy Agency's (IEA) monthly report is scheduled for release, together with a weekly US petroleum drilling rig count.

In the meantime, a US official has claimed that US sanctions have denied Iran \$US10B worth of revenue since November, reducing Iranian crude exports by a daily 1.5MMbbl. Six-month sanction exemptions remain in place for several nations, including India.

Gold – a weaker \$US, following a lower-than-anticipated February US PPI, helped support overnight gold sentiment, pushing Comex futures prices beyond \$US1300/oz again.

In addition, the UK House of Commons voted never to leave the European Union (EU) without agreed arrangements, extending uncertainty regarding ultimate UK-EU relations.

Base metals – recycled reports of the disruption to South 32, MMG and Glencore zinc transport to Townsville's export facilities from February flooding initially added to inventory-against-demand concerns overnight.

In producer news, Rusal confirmed a second line at the Boguchansk, Siberia aluminium smelter was expected to be operating by the end of March.

China is due to report February industrial production, retail sales and fixed asset investment today. These figures are expected to influence at least some of tonight's trade, and appeared to constrain some overnight trade, despite a softer \$US.

Yesterday, **Japan** reported a 2.9% year-on-year drop in January machinery orders, following a 0.9% December rise. For the month, orders tumbled 5.4% after pulling back 0.3% during December.

February producer prices came in 0.2% higher for the month however, after a 0.6% January fall.

Year-on-year, prices were 0.8% higher.

A January tertiary industry index rose 0.4%, following a 0.5% December fall.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7096	0.0000	0.00
EUR – USD	1.1335	0.0006	0.05

Australian Data Today

Melb Institute	Consumer inflation expectations	Mar
ABS	Industrial disputes	Dec Q

US Data Tonight

New home sales	Jan
Import, export prices	Feb
Initial jobless claims	9 Mar

Energy

Metgasco Ltd (MEL) / Byron Energy (BYE)

SM74 drilling has been pushed back to late April – early May due to rig availability.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Novatti Group	NOV	14 Mar
Alara Resources	AUQ	15 Mar
Blackham Resources	BLK	15 Mar
Environmental Clean Technologies	ECT	15 Mar
Metminco Ltd	MNC	15 Mar
Pensana Metals	PM8	15 Mar
Zip Co	Z1P	15 Mar

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Carnegie Clean Energy	CCE	1 Mar
Elk Petroleum	ELK	1 Mar
IOT Group	IOT	13 Mar
LandMark White	LMW	19 Feb
Medigard Ltd	MGZ	8 Mar
Niuminco Group	NIU	21 Feb
Reva Medical	RVA	20 Feb
Serpentine Technologies	S3R	6 Mar
Shree Minerals	SHH	20 Feb
Threat Protect Australia	TPS	11 Mar

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AIZ	Today	10.55	0	8.35
ALF	Today	2	100	4.30
AMA	Today	0.5	100	2.62
CGO	Today	0.25	100	3.70
DTL	Today	3.6	100	6.05
DWS	Today	4	100	7.76
EBO	Today	29.43	95.77	2.82
EMB	Today	20	100	4.15
GEM	Today	8	100	3.82
GRR	Today	1	100	7.55
HGH	Today	3.35	0	2.46
LAU	Today	1	100	5.00
LBL	Today	0.5	100	2.25
LGD	Today	0.85	100	5.00
MEQ	Today	3.04	0	0.00
MWY	Today	9	100	4.50
NTD	Today	1.25	100	7.24

**Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight**

China	Industrial production	Jan-Feb
China	Fixed asset investment	Jan-Feb
China	Retail sales	Jan-Feb
Germany	CPI (final)	Feb

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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PL8	Today	0.5	100	5.94
RDH	Today	2	100	1.47
REX	Today	4	100	10.81
SPK	Today	11.56	0	5.52
TGG	Today	2	100	5.06
TGR	Today	9	25	3.36
URB	Today	1.75	100	1.79
GC1	Tomorrow	1	100	4.62
GDG	Tomorrow	1	0	3.33
HLS	Tomorrow	3.8	100	3.47
MIN	Tomorrow	13	100	3.39
TRS	Tomorrow	10	100	7.78
AQZ	Mon	6.8	100	4.75
BWR	Mon	5	0	6.58
CNU	Mon	9.07	0	3.83
FFI	Mon	10	100	4.91
IBC	Mon	1.8	100	5.25
ONT	Mon	12.5	100	3.97
PSQ	Mon	2.3	100	4.98
SHM	Mon	3	100	10.14
SLK	Mon	6.5	100	3.73
TNK	Mon	6.5	100	3.61