Market Opener

Monday 16 July 2018

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Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	6213	-7	-0.1
NZX 50	8998	-26	-0.3
DJIA Futures	25066	62	0.3
S&P 500 Futures	2808	5	0.2
NASDAQ Futures	7410	17	0.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences a new week's trade following decidedly mixed overnight Friday commodities trade leads, amid continuing international political flux, and ahead of a swag of tier one economic indicators out of China.

China's June quarter **GDP** growth is expected **midday** AEST.

June **fixed asset investment, industrial production** and **retail sales** are also due then.

Post-ASX trade Friday, China reported a 12.7% rise in June **lending** to 1840B yuan.

In overnight Friday commodities trade, **WTI crude** swung higher and Brent continued to rally.

US gold futures turned lower.

Iron ore (China port, 62% Fe) slipped marginally. LME **copper** settled slightly higher. **Nickel** fell. **Aluminium** continued its latest decline.

The **\$A** turned higher, surpassing US74.20c after falling to US73.75c early Friday evening.

Today's moves will likely mostly prove in response to China's data deluge.

Locally today, a weekly capital city residential property price report is due pre-trade.

Elsewhere later today, the presidents of the US and Russia are due to meet in Finland. Any particularly adverse commentary could influence international markets sentiment tonight.

Japan's markets will remain closed today due to a public holiday.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	25019	95	0.4
S&P 500	2801	3	0.1
NASDAQ	7826	2	0.0
FTSE 100	7662	11	0.1
DAX 30	12541	48	0.4
Shanghai Comp	2831	-6	-0.2

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets ultimately settled higher overnight Friday, following varying degrees of vacillation.

Three major US financial stocks reported for the quarter and US data updates proved lacklustre.

In addition, US relationships with European Union allies remained in focus amid a plethora of commentary and analysis, and ahead of a northern European meeting later today between the presidents of Russia and the US.

Today's Stock Watch

Ramsay Health Care (RHC)

RHC 50%-held Ramsay Générale de Santé (RGdS) has offered €661M for European healthcare company Capio.

China – June Q **GDP**, June industrial production, fixed asset investment and retail sales **midday** AEST

The RGdS bid was unsolicited.

Emeco Holdings (EHL)

Anticipating 83% higher \$A153M FY 2018 operating EBITDA, following \$A45M June quarter operating EBITDA, an increase of 10% on the March quarter.

Planning to lodged full year results 21 August.

Fluence Corporation (FLC)

Bahamas seawater desalination plant construction and deployment contract in hand. The three-unit facility is expected to be commissioned by year's end.

Fletcher Building (FBU)

FBU has appointed Michele Kernahan as CEO building products and Peter Reidy as CEO construction, effective November.

Ms Kernahan is FBU's CEO construction and Mr Reidy is CEO of KiwiRail.

Roots Sustainable Agricultural Technologies (ROO)

Lettuce quality and growth cycle improvements achieved in a ROO pilot project in Israel.

oOh!media Ltd (OML)

\$40M raised in an $\sim 60\%$ take-up of OML's \$4.60-per-share retail entitlement offer.

The shortfall goes to under/sub-underwriters.

Together with the institutional component, OML raised \sim \$330M. OML traded at \$4.58 - \$4.76 last week.

Resources

Beadell Resources (BDR) / MACA Ltd (MLD)

CEO and MD Simon Jackson is stepping down, as is COO Peter Holmes.

BDR non-executive director Nicole Adshead-Bell has been appointed CEO and MD.

In association, BDR has awarded the mining contract for the Tucano gold project, heralding a potential \$US100M cut in life-of-mine mining costs.

The MLD contract has consequently been rescinded.

Additional anticipated cost savings and initiatives lodged this morning.

Battery Minerals (BAT)

Mozambique Montepuez graphite project Elephant deposit resource boosted 14% to 76.9Mt @ 7.3% total graphitic carbon (TGC). In addition, a new prospect has been declared following drilling 1.5km south of the Elephant deposit.

Further, infill drilling results lodged this morning for the project's Buffalo deposit, ahead of a resource update anticipated by 30 September.

Energy

Whitehaven Coal (WHC)

Full year coal sales rose 7% to 22.1Mt. June quarter sales fell 13% year-on-year.



Further, a batch of influential data out of China today, remained under consideration, amid expectations of plenty of interpretation and speculation from during ASX trade today.

In the meantime, an ongoing US investigation announced hacking charges against a dozen Russian intelligence personnel in relation to the 2016 US presidential election.

In new data releases, ${f US}$ June import prices fell 0.4% for the month following a 0.6% rise in May.

Export prices rose 0.3% against 0.6%.

An initial July University of Michigan consumer sentiment reading fell to 97.1 from 99.3, the conditions component dropping four points to 113.9.

Tonight in the US, June retail sales, May business inventories and a New York region business activity index are due.

Later today, the International Monetary Fund (**IMF**) publishes an updated world economic outlook.

Companies scheduled to report earnings or provide trading updates include Bank of America, BlackRock, Netflix and France's Total.

In overnight Friday corporate news, **JPMorgan Chase** unveiled an 18% net profit increase, to \$US8.32B, exceeding expectations, but was pushed lower.

Citigroup reported $\sim 15\%$ higher quarterly net income of \$US4.49B, supported by institutional business, but the stock fell 2%.

Wells Fargo revealed drops for both revenue and profit and pulled back 0.9%.

Over the weekend, the US administration was reported to have agreed an initial \simUS13B$ purchase of F-35 Jets from **Lockheed Martin**, but at an $\sim6\%$ discount to prices discussed in February 2017.

Some cited NATO's proposed boost to defence spending as part of the reason Lockheed settled $\sim\!6\%$ higher for the week, and one key partner, **Northrop Grumman**, $\sim\!4.5\%$.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Aug)	1241	oz	-5	-0.4
Silver (NY) (Jul)	15.8	oz	-0.2	-1.0
Gold (LON)	1242	oz	-4	-0.3
Platinum	826	oz	-13	-1.6
WTI Crude (Aug)	71.0	bbl	0.7	1.0
Brent Crude (Sep)	75.3	bbl	0.9	1.2
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	64.04	t	-0.02	-0.0
Copper (LME,3mth,PM)	6237	t	9	0.1
Nickel	13975	t	-220	-1.6
Aluminium	2031	t	-11	-0.5
Lead	2202	t	-13	-0.6
Zinc	2578	t	-3	-0.1
Tin	19795	t	145	0.7
CBT Wheat (Jul)	4.97	bshl	0.13	2.6

Commodities Commentary

Oil – reports emerged Friday that **Russia** and **Iran** were actively discussing ways Russia could support Iran's energy sector with up to \$US50B worth of investment.

A further report indicating the US administration may draw on the 'Strategic Petroleum Reserve' was deemed responsible by some for pushing prices

Pre-Open Announcements

Ausdrill Ltd (* ASL)

ASL has appointed former WA district inspector of mines, consultant and mining engineer Alexandra Atkins, and WA utility Synergy and Southern Ports chairman Robert Cole as non-executive directors.

Mr Cole is also an Iluka Resources (ASX: ILU) director and former Woodside (ASX: WPL) executive director.

Ms Atkins is also a former COO of AI and machine learning resources sector software company PETRA Data Science.

Valmec Ltd (VMX)

\$14M worth of new contracts secured in Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia.

Murray Goulburn Unit Trust (* MGC)

MGC is effectively advising shareholders to ignore MGC figures included in Saputo's business acquisition report (lodged with Canadian regulatory authorities), ahead of MGC's release of FY 2018 figures late-August.

FirstWave Cloud Technology (FCT)

FCT co-founder long-term FCT director Ted Keating retired from the FCT board Friday.

FirstWave was established in 2001.

Altium Ltd (ALU)

Planning to publish full year results immediately after ASX close 21 August and to host a teleconference 5pm AEST (that evening).

Access details lodged post-trade Friday.

Resources

Tungsten Mining (TGN)

Expecting to produce first tungsten concentrate from the Mt Mulgine project, WA by 30 September.

Energy

Viva Energy Group (* VEA)

Refiner and marketer completed its ASX listing Friday following a \$2.65B IPO at \$2.50 per share.

Opened at \$2.43 and traded at \$2.40 - \$2.47 before settling at \$2.40

64.4M shares were changed hands across 4071 transactions.

Trading commenced on a conditional and deferred settlement basis

Normal (T+2) trade is expected to commence Friday this week. 1.94B quoted shares.

VEA's parent company is Vitol.

Reports & Events

(selected scheduled)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	COE ESV WHC	Jun Q Interim Jun Q
Tomorrow	RIO SAR	Jun Q Jun Q
Wed	BHP NST	Jun Q Jun Q



from session highs in late trade.

Meanwhile, industrial action continued offshore **Norway**, and an **Iraq**i port was closed by civic action.

Friday, **China** reported a reduction in June crude imports, the second consecutive monthly increase.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig report, released overnight Friday, concluded no change in the number of operational oil rigs (863).

For the week, Brent settled 2.7% lower and WTI down 3.9%.

Gold – industry analysts expect relative \$US strength will continued to restrain gold interest this week, despite scheduled parliamentary testimony from US Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell.

Base metals – reports of increased defence spending by NATO members influenced some overnight Friday trade interest, but prices swung notably.

China's June trade statistics, revealed Friday, included a \$US41.6B surplus (\$US24.92B May), supported by an 11.3% year-on-year (12.6% May) rise in exports.

Imports rose 14.1% (26.0%).

June lending, reported post-ASX trade Friday, also rose.

Today's swag of new data out of China will likely influence tonight's trade, although an IMF world economic outlook update will also be considered.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD - USD	0.7421	-0.0000	-0.01
EUR – USD	1.1681	-0.0010	-0.09

Australian Data Today

CLgc	Cap city resdntl propty prices	13 Jul
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US Data Tonight

Retail sales	Jun
NY (State Empire) Fed business activity	Jul
Business inventories	May

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	GDP	JunQ
China	Fixed asset investment	Jun
China	Industrial production	Jun
China	Retail sales	Jun
UK	Rightmove house prices	Jul
Euro zone	Trade balance	May

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Thu	AST	AGM
	CIM	Interim
	ORE	Jun Q
	STO STO	Jun Q
	S32	Jun Q
	WPL	Jun Q
Fri	SYD	Jun

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Adriatic Metals	ADT	17 Jul
Celamin Holdings	CNL	17 Jul
First Growth Funds	FGF	17 Jul
Panoramic Resources	PAN	17 Jul

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
CCP Technologies	CT1	13 Jul
Centennial Mining	CTL	25 Jun
Crowdspark Ltd	CSK	6 Jul
Genera Biosystems	GBI	4 Jul
Vector Resources	VEC	6 Jul
WPG Resources	WPG	27 Jun

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
PL8	Today	0.5	100	5.00
MIR	26 Jul	8.5	100	3.58

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