

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	7440	-22	-0.3
NZX 50	11900	-32	-0.3
DJIA Futures	34238	19	0.1
S&P 500 Futures	4409	0	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	13998	-2	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade with a key domestic economic report due late morning, new data in hand for China and an overnight fall in international equities sentiment, ahead of influential data out of the US tonight.

Locally today, the NAB monthly **business confidence and conditions** survey report is scheduled for release **11.30am AEST**.

At the same time, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reports on Covid household impacts and also provides details of February international arrivals and departures.

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

Regionally today, inflation scenarios remain in focus, with **Japan** due to report March **producer prices** just prior to the ASX open.

March bank lending is also expected at the same time.

Post-ASX trade yesterday, **China** reported March **new lending** at 3130B yuan, following 1230B yuan for February. Forecasters had anticipated 1290B yuan worth of new loans.

In overnight commodities trade, **oil** dropped, both Brent crude and WTI trading below \$US100/bbl.

US **gold** futures settled slightly higher.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned to record a gain, trading beyond \$US155.5/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper**, **nickel** and **aluminium** fell early.

The **\$A** was pushed below US74.20c, after falling to US74.35c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	34308	-413	-1.2
S&P 500	4413	-76	-1.7
NASDAQ	13412	-299	-2.2
FTSE 100	7618	-51	-0.7
DAX 30	14193	-91	-0.6
Shanghai Comp	3167	-85	-2.6

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European, UK and US equities markets fell early overnight, with little to buoy sentiment.

Investors navigated through a cocktail of considerations including

The **ASX** will be **closed Friday** this week and **Monday** next week (18 April), due to **Easter**

Settlements

Tomorrow's trades settle **Tuesday** next week (19 April)

Thursday's settle **Wednesday** next week (20 April)

Today's Stock Watch
Pendal Group (PDL)

Commencing an up to \$100M on-market share buy-back following the 10 May release of interim results.

\$A124.9B FUM at 31 March, from \$A135.7B at 31 December 2021. Breakdown figures lodged pre-trade.

Michael Hill International (MHJ)

All store sales rose 11.1% year-on-year during the March quarter, to \$A131.6M.

Same store sales rose 4.8% to \$A88.1M.

Year-to-date figures and breakdowns also lodged post-trade yesterday.

Dotz Nano (DTZ)

Collaboration agreement secured with NASDAQ-listed Orgenesis's subsidiary Theracell Labs.

Theracell Labs plans to purchase a minimum \$US5M worth of DTZ-tagged disposable bioprocessing consumables, pending conditions yet to be finalised.

DTZ and Theracell also propose to jointly develop bio-imaging products.

Additional details lodged this morning.

Resources
Lynas Rare Earths (LYC)

Produced 4945t of rare earth oxides (REO) during the March quarter, against 4209t a year earlier.

NdPr output reached 1687t, against 1359t.

Sales revenue tallied \$A327.7M.

The average REO selling price was \$A64.7/kg, from \$A54.0/kg for the December quarter and \$A35.5/kg for the March quarter 2021.

Green Technology Metals (GT1) / Ardiden Ltd (ADV)

Ontario, Canada Seymour JV lithium project North Aubry deposit phase one step-out drilling has delivered additional significant width, high-grade intersections.

Anticipating a resource upgrade.

Assays lodged this morning.

GT1 has recently exercised a right to gain an additional 29% of the Seymour, Root and Wisa JV projects, taking its holding to 80%.

inflationary pressures, fears for China's economy, concerns at a potential significant further escalation of attacks in Ukraine conflict and the impacts on geopolitical relations and commodities supply and prices.

Yesterday, China's key manufacturing city Guangzhou restricted arrivals and departures amid attempts to control a local Covid outbreak, as restrictions continued, albeit eased, across Shanghai, and also in Jilin province.

In the meantime, China's authorities bemoaned a US warning against China travel, stating it included 'groundless accusations' regarding Covid containment measures.

Also yesterday, China reported March inflation figures, the CPI stalling for the month, following some forecasts for slight deflation, and producer prices calculated 8.3% higher than for March 2021.

The CPI figure represented 1.5% annualised inflation.

Overnight, Austria's chancellor reported his meeting with Russia's president in Moscow had been direct but that he walked away feeling pessimistic regarding any near-term end to Russia's war on Ukraine.

For its part, credit ratings agency S&P declared Russia had defaulted on foreign debt, having moved to pay bondholder payments in roubles and not \$US. Despite a 30-day grace period to convert the payments into \$US, S&P issued a 'selective default' notice against Russia.

Meanwhile in Pakistan, the parliament voted in a new president after previous incumbent Imran Khan was removed in a contentious no-confidence vote. ~100 parliamentarians who supported Mr Khan were reported to have resigned.

This, as France moved towards a national election with current president Emmanuel Macron facing Marine Le Pen, a declared far-right nationalist, for the leadership position, and facing a 24 April run-off vote prior to the general election.

Among overnight **data** releases, the **UK's** February trade statistics included a £9.261B deficit, following predictions for an £11.25B shortfall. January's deficit was reported at £12.838B.

February GDP growth was estimated at 0.1%, following 0.8% for January and against forecasts for a 0.5% increase.

Growth for the three months to the end of February was reported at 1.0%.

The NIESR GDP tracker for March also suggested 1.0% growth.

February industrial production surprised on the downside, falling 0.6% for the month, against forecasts for a 0.5% rise, following a 0.7% increase.

Against February 2021, output was up 1.6%.

Russia reported March foreign reserves at \$US606B, from \$US617B for February.

In the **US**, a March consumer inflation expectations report determined consumers had anticipated 6.6% inflation growth, against 6.0% reported in February. Forecasters had anticipated a mean average expectation of 6.2%.

Tonight in the US, the March CPI is keenly anticipated, together with a small business optimism index, general economic optimism index and treasury's March budget statement.

In addition, US Federal Reserve governor Lael Brainard is expected

Pre-Open Announcements

Southern Cross Electrical Engineering (* SXE)

~\$50M worth of new contracts recently secured for WA Pilbara region iron ore projects.

Details lodged this morning.

RAM Essential Services Property Fund (REP)

REP has appointed Matthew Strotton as lead portfolio manager. Mr Strotton joined the RAM group earlier this year.

He will work with Will Gray and two portfolio managers, before Mr Gray leaves during the second half of the year to focus on private investments.

In addition to these changes, Adam Thompson, formerly a HealthCare Australia senior development executive, has joined the REP teams.

REP says Messrs Gray and Strotton have each recently purchased REP stapled securities on-market.

Resources

Belararox Ltd (* BRX)

Initial NSW Belara multi-mineral project diamond drilling has intersected visible copper and zinc sulphides.

BRX says drilling was conducted 200m up-dip from deeper historic drill intersections, confirming continuity of massive sulphides closer to surface.

Haranga Resources (HAR)

HAR has appointed Michael Davy as nominee non-executive chair, and Kyla Garic as company secretary, following the respective resignations of Peter Youd and Nerida Schmidt.

Flinders Mines (FMS)

FMS largest shareholder TIO (NZ) board nominee Evan Davies has resigned as an FMS director.

Firetail Resources (* FTL) / Gascoyne Resources (GCY)

Mineral exploration company FTL, formed by the demerger of joint GCY and (the former) Firefly Resources copper gold and lithium exploration assets, is scheduled to list on the ASX midday AEST **tomorrow**, following an \$8.125M IPO at 25c per share.

~61.78M quoted shares.

GCY acquired Firefly Resources under an agreed scheme of arrangement, initially announced June 2021 and implemented November 2021.

GCY holds 8.36% of FTL.

Energy

Triangle Energy (* TEG) / Key Petroleum (* KEY)

Oil and gas prospective reserves lodged pre-trade for the JV L7 permit. TEG and KEY each 50%.



to speak at a jobs summit.

Further, treasury conducts a \$US34B 10-year note auction.

Louis Vuitton is among companies scheduled to report earnings later today or tonight.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Jun)	1948.2	oz	2.60	0.1
Silver (NY) (May)	24.99	oz	0.17	0.7
Gold (LON)	1941	oz	8 Apr	
Platinum	977	oz	0	0.0
WTI Crude (NYMEX May)	94.29	bbl	-3.97	-4.0
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jun)	99.48	bbl	-4.30	-4.2
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	155.94	t	1.73	1.1
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	10202	t	-124	-1.2
Nickel	32484	t	-1374	-4.1
Aluminium	3248	t	-125	-3.7
Lead	2381	t	-13	-0.6
Zinc	4288	t	38	0.9
Tin	43359	t	-336	-0.8

Commodities Commentary

Oil – global economic growth fears and a continuing strong \$US pushed prices lower overnight.

In talks with European Commission (EC) officials, OPEC members reportedly claimed proposed European Union (EU) sanctions against Russian oil would create a significant oil price shock.

Further, OPEC reportedly indicated it would not lift production levels to alleviate any impacts from sanctions.

OPEC's monthly report scheduled for release tonight.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) is expected to publish its monthly market report overnight tomorrow.

Gold – prices moved higher early, but profit-taking, a move yet higher for the \$US index to two-year highs, falling oil prices and rising bond yields, pushed prices off session highs and dampened sentiment.

Nonetheless, concerns at global economic prospects and inflation pressures supported ultimate sessional gains, albeit slight.

Tonight's US March inflation update is likely to influence some sentiment.

Base metals – interpretations of China's economic status influenced some overnight trade, with new material data in hand and more anticipated tomorrow. In addition, a yet stronger \$US damaged some buying sentiment.

Aluminium was reported to have traded at the lowest prices in three weeks intra-session.

Nickel and **copper** were also reported to have fallen early.

China's March **producer prices** and **CPI** growth, reported yesterday, varied against expectations.

Producer prices were estimated 8.3% higher year-on-year, following forecasts for 8.0%.

The CPI remained flat, following predictions for a 0.1% pullback.

China's March trade figures are expected tomorrow, these expected to attract more interpretation than usual in light of recent significant Covid containment measures, impacting

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Cobre Ltd	CBE	12 Apr
Fatfish Group	FFG	12 Apr
Krakatoa Resources	KTA	12 Apr
Ragnar Metals	RAG	12 Apr
Aldoro Resources	ARN	13 Apr
Mithril Resources	MTH	13 Apr
Propell Holdings	PHL	13 Apr
Scorpion Minerals	SCN	13 Apr
Sunstone Metals	STM	13 Apr

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Pathfinder Resources	PF1	8 Apr
Sprintex Ltd	SIX	29 Mar
Thomson Resources	TMZ	11 Apr

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
DUR	Today	0.5	100	3.95
SVW	Today	23	100	1.10
D2O	Tomorrow	3.2	100	3.94
FGX	Tomorrow	3	100	4.04
WLE	Tomorrow	4	100	4.34
DVR	Thu	1.5	100	3.92
NHC	Thu	30	100	2.87

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	LYC	Mar Q
Tomorrow	ILU	AGM (11.30am)
Thu	BOQ WFL	Interim (audio w/cast 10am) Webinar, Q&A (11.30am)



workforces including across the manufacturing, financial and retail sectors and at ports.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7417	-0.0030	-0.40
EUR – USD	1.0881	-0.0012	-0.11

Australian Data Today

NAB	Business confidence	Mar
ABS	Household impacts of Covid	Mar
ABS	Overseas arrivals & departures	Feb

US Data Today & Tonight

CPI		Mar
NFIB small business optimism		Mar
IBD/TIPP economic optimism		Apr
Budget statement		Mar

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Japan	Producer prices	Mar
Japan	Bank lending	Mar
Japan	Machine tool orders (4pm AEST)	Mar
UK	Unemployment claims	Mar
UK	Average earnings	Feb
UK	ILO unemployment	Feb
Germany	CPI (final)	Mar
Germany	ZEW conditions	Apr
Euro zone	ZEW economic sentiment	Apr

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