

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7233	49	0.7
NZX 50	11519	13	0.1
DJIA Futures	34017	519	1.6
S&P 500 Futures	3992	56	1.4
NASDAQ Futures	11712	142	1.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade with the \$A at ~US67.45c, material domestic economic reports due this morning, and new data in hand from China, ahead of a US CPI reading and other key international economic and financial releases tonight.

US equities markets turned decisively higher overnight.

Locally today, Westpac and the Melbourne Institute are scheduled to release their December **consumer sentiment** report at 10.30am AEDT.

The NAB's report from the November **business conditions and outlook** survey is due 11.30am AEDT.

At the same time, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is scheduled to release a **business turnover** indicator report for October.

Regionally post-ASX trade yesterday, **China** reported 1210B yuan worth of **new lending** for November against expectations for 1420B worth. October's new lending had been reported at 615.2B yuan.

No major regional economic releases are expected today.

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

US **gold** futures fell beneath \$US1800/oz.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) seesawed lower to trade below \$US109.50/t.

Coal (ICE-GC Newcastle) declined modestly, but remained above \$US401/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** was reported 1.9% lower at 1700 GMT. **Nickel** was reportedly slightly down at the same time.

Aluminium had reportedly dropped by greater than 2.5%.

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 11.30am AEDT.

The **\$A** fell to ~US67.50c after trading at ~US67.65c - ~US67.95c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	34005	529	1.6
S&P 500	3991	56	1.4
NASDAQ	11144	139	1.3
FTSE 100	7446	-31	-0.4
DAX 30	14307	-64	-0.5

*** Vanadium exploration listing – 12.30pm AEDT – RVT ***

Today's Stock Watch
Mayfield Childcare (MFD)

MFD is granting due diligence to Busy Bees Early Learning Australia following receipt of a \$1.35 cash-per-share indicative takeover proposal from Busy Bee. Busy Bee's proposal competes with a \$1.28-per-share indicative offer for MFD from Genius Education Holdings. MFD traded at \$1.225 - \$1.28 last week. Resuming from a trading halt this morning.

CSL Ltd (CSL)

CSL has appointed CSL COO Paul McKenzie as CEO and MD, effective 6 March 2023. Dr McKenzie takes over from Paul Perreault who is seeking to retire after 25 years with CSL, 10 of these as CEO. Mr Perreault will remain a CSL strategic adviser before officially retiring 6 September 2023. Dr McKenzie is joining the CSL board immediately.

Zip Co (ZIP)

Planning to offer a cash incentive for 2028 noteholders who convert notes to ZIP shares at \$A12.0576 per share. Details lodged post-trade yesterday.

ZIP has traded at 67.5c – 74.5c over the past five sessions.

Fonterra Shareholders Fund (FSF)

FSF and Nestlé have opted to sell the Dairy Partners America Brazil JV to Lactalis for ~\$NZ210M.

Pending regulatory approvals, completion is anticipated by mid-2023. FSF 51%; Nestlé 49%.

Resources
Mincor Resources (MCR)

Resuming from a trading halt with firm commitments from a book-build for a fully underwritten \$55M institutional placement at (the targeted) \$1.39 per share. A SPP, at the same price, is scheduled for 21 December – 20 January. MCR traded at \$1.555 - \$1.72 over the five trading sessions immediately prior to the halt.

Critical Resources (CRR)

Canada Mavis Lake lithium project drilling has extended the determined strike length by 550m to 1300m. New assays lodged. Assays pending for a further 26 holes.

Dreadnought Resources (DRE)

Heralding Mangaroon REE-Nb-Ti-P project drilling results. Anticipating a Yin resource by month's end.

WA1 Resources (WA1)

West Arunta tantalum and REE project P2 high-grade 1m assays lodged this morning, following the release of composite assays late October.



Shanghai Comp 3179 -28 -0.9

Overseas Markets Commentary

Choppy trade featured across major European and UK equities markets overnight but, following some early caution, US equities sentiment picked up and never appeared threatened during second-half trade.

Corporate announcements, including Microsoft's plan to acquire 4% of the London Stock Exchange Group, were cited for broad US gains.

Central bank activity conjecture and key new data releases for the week remained in focus, however, amid plenty of varied commentary regarding 2023 inflation and economic growth prospects.

For her part, over the weekend, US treasury secretary Janet Yellen reiterated potential recession risk for 2023, but also asserted US price pressures would ease significantly.

Earlier yesterday, Japan's November producer prices were reported 9.3% higher than for November 2021 after appreciating 0.6% for the month.

Later yesterday, China released November new lending figures which undershot forecasts but well exceeded October lending.

Among overnight data releases, UK October GDP growth was estimated at 0.5% following a 0.6% September pullback.

On an annualised basis, October GDP was up 1.5%.

Average GDP change over the three months to 31 October came in as a 0.3% decline, however.

The NIESR GDP tracker estimated a 0.3% GDP decline for November.

UK October trade figures included a £1.785B deficit against expectations for a £3.2B shortfall.

The UK's October industrial production, in the meantime, was calculated flat for the month and 2.4% lower than output for October 2021.

In the US, a November consumer inflation expectations survey concluded a likely 5.2% rate against the 5.9% anticipated by participants in the October survey.

The October treasury budget statement included a \$US249B deficit, contrasting with forecasts for a \$US95B shortfall. September's deficit had been recorded at \$US88B.

A 10-year US note auction in the meantime delivered a 3.625% yield from 4.14%.

Tonight in the US, the **Federal Reserve** commences a two-day policy meeting from which outcomes will be known early Thursday AEDT.

US November **CPI** growth, due for release tonight, is even more keenly anticipated, given the Fed meeting.

Economic optimism and separate small business optimism indices are also expected tonight.

In addition, a US 30-year bond offer is scheduled.

Elsewhere, the **Bank of England** (BoE) releases a financial stability report. BoE governor Andrew Bailey is scheduled to host a press conference following the release.

Further, the UK hosts a 10-year treasury gilt auction tonight.

Pre-Open Announcements

Contact Energy (CEN)

CEN has been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific Index (DJSI Asia-Pacific).

Suncorp Group (SUN) / Australia & New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ)

The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission's (ACCC) public consideration of ANZ's application in support of its proposed acquisition of Suncorp Bank is underway.

The ACCC has set an 18 January 2023 closing date for public submissions in relation to the ANZ application and plans to release a determination 12 June.

AMP Ltd (AMP)

AMP will receive an additional \$A25.5M for the sale of the group's global equities and fixed income business as announced late March.

This is due to finalising purchase price adjustments and an earn-out payment and boosts the sale value to \$A88.5M.

Opthea Ltd (OPT)

Featuring in an MST Access *Ask the Expert* conference call scheduled to commence 10.30am AEDT tomorrow.

Links, including for submitting questions, lodged pre-trade.

Avita Medical (AVH)

AGM presentation and chairman's script lodged post-trade yesterday.

AVH's AGM was scheduled for overnight.

Resources

Richmond Vanadium Technology (* RVT) / Horizon Minerals (HRZ)

Explorer RVT is scheduled to list on the ASX **12.30pm** AEDT, following a \$25M IPO at 40c per share.

~86.2M quoted shares. HRZ holds 8.94%.

HRZ announced the planned demerger of the north west Queensland Richmond – Julia Creek oxide vanadium project with JV partner Richmond Vanadium Technology Pty Ltd November last year.

St Barbara (* SBM) / Genesis Minerals (* GMD)

SBM and GMD have agreed a merger scheme of arrangement under which SBM will acquire GMD and the new entity be known as Hoover House. Consideration comprises 2.0338 SBM shares for each GMD share.

In association, SBM will demerge its Atlantic and Simberi projects, together with other assets including ASX-listed company investments, to a new company, Phoenician Metals, and work to list Phoenician on the ASX.

Also in association, GMD is raising \$A275M at \$A1.20 per share to fund the planned SBM-GMD merged entity Hoover House.

Hoover House will likely hold ~20% of Phoenician Metals.

**Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Feb)	1792.3	oz	-18.4	-1.0
Silver (COMEX 5000 Mar)	23.40	oz	-0.31	-1.3
Platinum	998	oz	-26	-2.5
WTI Crude (NYMEX Jan)	73.17	bbl	2.15	3.0
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Feb)	77.99	bbl	1.89	2.5
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	109.47	t	-1.01	-0.9
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (9 Dec)	8544	t	-0.25	0.0
Nickel	29453	t	-297	-1.0
Aluminium	2482	t	-22	-0.9
Lead	2195	t	-17	-0.8
Zinc	3240	t	5	0.2
Tin	24313	t	-312	-1.3
Coal (ICE-GC Newcastle; IRESS)	401	t	-1.5	-0.4
Wheat (CBT Mar; IRESS)	754.5	t	20	2.8

Commodities Commentary

Oil – supply and demand scenarios ultimately pushed prices higher overnight.

Operators maintained the restart for the Keystone pipeline, which usually delivers heavy crude from Canada to refineries in the mid-west and gulf coast regions of the US, but which was shut down last week due to a significant spill, remained uncertain.

Elsewhere, China announced a further easing of Covid containment restrictions, bolstering hopes for increased crude demand. Commentators also pointed out rising case numbers and a reported bolstering of medical facility capacity within China, however.

Meanwhile, any current impacts and future implications for a price cap on seaborne Russian crude continued to be claimed by most industry watchers, Russia and other OPEC+ members as also remaining undetermined.

OPEC's monthly market report is anticipated **tonight**.

The International Energy Agency's (IEA) monthly oil market report is listed for release overnight tomorrow night.

Gold – the commencement of a two-day US Federal Reserve policy meeting could introduce some caution to tonight's trade, pending interpretations of the release, also tonight, of US November CPI growth.

Meanwhile, prices were pushed lower overnight, this attributed to relative \$US strength, and some short-term trader profit-taking following last week's Comex futures moves beyond \$US1800/oz.

Base metals – new data out of China and Japan, reports metals processing facilities in China were choosing to maintain Covid management measures in order to preserve worker numbers, and the wait for interest rate announcements from a trio of major central banks this week and inflation updates, including for the US tonight, pushed and pulled overnight base metals trade sentiment.

China reported better-than-anticipated November lending post-ASX trade yesterday.

Earlier, Japan's November producer prices exceeded expectations, indicating greater-than-anticipated inflationary pressures.

SBM and GMD trading halts called pre-trade yesterday. Meanwhile, GMD has extended its takeover offer for Dacian Gold (ASX: DCN) a further five weeks to 16 January 2023.

Helix Resources (HLX)

A diamond rig failure has prompted the HLX NSW Canbelego JV partners to commence double-shift drilling on a twin hole.

Drilling completion for this hole is targeted by the Christmas period shut down.

On-site work is expected to resume 9 January, by which time the JV partners hope the rig-under-repair is again operational.

Sandfire Resources (SFR)

Reporting a 66% initial take-up for the recent \$4.30-per-share entitlement offer.

4.4M shortfall shares will go to underwriters.

The ~\$A55M from the retail offer will boost the total institutional-plus-retail entitlement offer proceeds to \$A200M.

SFR has traded at \$5.24 - \$5.67 over the past five sessions.

TNG Ltd (TNG)

In conjunction with the Northern Territory Mount Peake vanadium-titanium-iron project review, TNG has put on hold its water extraction licence application.

TNG first submitted a Mount Peake water extraction licence application in April 2021.

Additional details lodged post-trade yesterday.

White Energy Company (WEC)

Proposing to purchase the Northern Territory Tindal and south east Queensland Maranoa multi-mineral projects by acquiring the projects' owner Fiddlers Creek Mining Company. Consideration comprises 4M WEC shares and up to \$4M in milestone payments.

Copper Strike (CSE)

Suspended from quotation after the ASX determined CSE's operation were inadequate to warrant continued quotation.

CSE traded as high as 16.5c yesterday before settling 14.81% higher for the session, at 15.5c.

This, despite CSE warning of the pending suspension in a 1 December announcement.

CSE was first notified of the ASX's concern in November, prompting CSE to submit a request for a six-month extension of the 12 December deadline by which to demonstrate sufficient operational activity.

Energy**Alligator Energy (AGE)**

Samphire uranium project community briefing presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Coppermoly Ltd	COY	13 Dec



Also yesterday, Japan's October year-on-year machine tool orders well undershot expectations, dropping 7.8% following forecasts for a 1.5% improvement. The BSI large manufacturing index also soundly underwhelmed with a 3.6% fall against an anticipated rise.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6746	-0.0034	-0.50
EUR – USD	1.0537	0.0021	0.22

Australian Data Today

NAB	Business survey (incl conditions & outlook)	Nov
Melb Institute	Consumer sentiment	Dec
ABS	Business turnover indicator	Oct

US Data Tonight

CPI		Nov
NFIB small business optimism		Nov
IBD/TIPP economic optimism		Dec

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

UK	BoE financial stability report	Dec
UK	Unemployment claims	Nov
UK	October unemployment	Oct
UK	Average earnings	Oct Q
Germany	CPI (final)	Nov
Germany	ZEW economic sentiment; conditions	Dec
Euro zone	ZEW economic sentiment	Dec

Need More Information?

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Lefroy Exploration	LEX	13 Dec
Mincor Resources	MCR	13 Dec
DW8 Ltd	DW8DD	14 Dec
Frugl Group	FGL	14 Dec
Genesis Minerals	GMD	14 Dec
Genmin Ltd	GEN	14 Dec
Investigator Resources	IVR	14 Dec
Pursuit Minerals	PUR	14 Dec
St Barbara	SBM	14 Dec
Terrain Minerals	TMX	14 Dec
The Food Revolution Group	FOD	15 Dec

Suspensions *(selected)*

Company	Code	Since
Copper Strike	CSE	13 Dec
Meteoric Resources	MEI	12 Dec
Security Matters	SMX	12 Dec

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
FZR	Tomorrow	0.5	100	0.00
PL8	Thu	0.55	100	5.42
MTS	20 Dec	11.5	100	4.99
GLE	28 Dec	2.14	0	0.00
CHC	29 Dec	20.84	45	3.16
CIP	29 Dec	4	0	5.30
CMW	29 Dec	1.38	0	9.19
COF	29 Dec	3.52	0	9.95
GDF	29 Dec	1.8	0	5.16
GDI	29 Dec	2.5	0	10.06
HPI	29 Dec	9.2	0	5.82
MGR	29 Dec	5.2	0	4.57
RCT	29 Dec	22.37	0	9.55
RFF	29 Dec	2.93	0	4.87
RGN	29 Dec	7.5	0	5.59
TCL	29 Dec	26.5	0	2.97

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Tomorrow	ORI	AGM
	WBC	AGM
Thu	ANZ	AGM
	ELD	AGM
Fri	NAB	AGM



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