

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	6471	5	0.1
NZX 50	11045	-20	-0.2
DJIA Futures	28884	83	0.3
S&P 500 Futures	3605	4	0.1
NASDAQ Futures	11004	-32	-0.3

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences this week's and a new quarter's trade with an overnight Friday \$A drop to ~US64.0c, four Australian States and or territories observing public holidays, and material domestic data due ahead of a Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) policy meeting tomorrow.

US equities markets fell overnight Friday.

Since overnight Friday trade, various developments, and commentary surrounding these, have kept geopolitical relations fluid. These have included:

- China's warning that it viewed the US - Pacific island nations co-operative declaration delivered at the conclusion of a Washington-hosted summit as 'bloc confrontation' on the part of the US.
- North Korea reported on Saturday to have conducted a fourth round of missile tests for the past week;
- Several nations, including Australia, initiating further action against Russia following its declared annexation of four additional regions in Ukraine;
- An irregular build-up of Russian bomber aircraft reported near Finland, days after a convoy of Russian and Chinese warships was reported in the Bering Sea near Alaska;
- Russian gas supplier Gazprom declaring it would not supply gas to Italy's Eni over the weekend;
- Moldova reporting Gazprom had cut gas supply by 30% on Saturday;
- Norway confirming first gas flow through a pipeline connecting Norway to Poland Saturday morning;
- Commercial gas supply from Greece to Bulgaria also declared;
- A presidential election vote in Brazil which will require a second round of polling late October if no candidate wins at least 50% of votes; and
- Burkina Faso's military leader has stood down, following a late-week coup.

Locally today, the Melbourne Institute publishes its monthly inflation gauge report at 11am AEDT.

Also today, the final S&P Global September manufacturing PMI has been released pre-trade, ahead of the traditionally more influential reading from the AiG this week.

Lower-than-normal trade volumes are expected due to the number of people observing public holidays and no new market leads out of China.

Regionally today, third quarter Tankan indices and a finalised

Daylight saving commenced in the ACT, New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria early **yesterday**.

From today, ASX trade consequently commences local time in:

Western Australia at 7am;
Queensland at 9am; and the
Northern Territory at 8.30am.

ASX today – normal trade & settlements

Public holidays – ACT, New South Wales, Queensland & South Australia

Today's Stock Watch

The a2 Milk Company (A2M)

Exclusive import and distribution arrangements renewed for five years with China National Agriculture Development Group Co's (CNADC) China State Farm Agribusiness Holding Shanghai Co. Another CNADC subsidiary holds 25% of Mataura Valley Milk in a JV with A2M.

Vicinity Centres (VCX)

Former Galileo Funds Management (acquired by Centro Properties) chief investment officer Georgina Lynch has been nominated as an independent non-executive VCX director.

Infomedia Ltd (IFM)

IFM has closed the virtual data room to would-be suitors Solera Holdings and a consortium due to no binding proposals received following the indicative \$1.70-per-share acquisition proposals received in September.

IFM says it remains open to proposals.

The company is promising a strategy update at an investor day planned before year's end.

Resources

Monger Gold (MMG)

Exercising an option to acquire six prospects hosting the Brisk lithium project, James Bay district, Quebec.

Consideration comprises \$C100,000 cash, one million MMG shares at 20c each and four million deferred consideration shares. MMG will also pay a 3% net smelter royalty on all minerals, but retains an option to buy back 1% of the royalty.

MMG has also committed to \$C750,000 worth of exploration by 31 December at the latest. MMG traded at 37.5c – 48c last week, gaining more than 8% both Thursday and Friday.

Argosy Minerals (AGY)

Argentina Rincon lithium project plant commissioning is producing primary lithium product.

With commissioning 81% complete, AGY anticipates steady-state lithium carbonate production during the next quarter.



September PMI manufacturing estimate are due for **Japan** this morning.

Over the weekend, **South Korea** reported September trade figures, these including a \$US3.7B trade deficit against expectations of a \$US10.5B gap.

Imports were reported 18.6% higher year-on-year, but exports had grown by just 2.8%.

Meanwhile, **China's markets will be closed this week for National Day holidays.**

In overnight Friday commodities trade, **oil** extended Thursday's turn lower.

US **gold** futures settled slightly higher.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) dropped below \$US95.5/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** turned slightly lower. **Nickel** dropped by more than 5%. **Aluminium** also swung lower.

The **\$A** tumbled to ~US64.05c after trading at ~US65.15c early Friday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	28726	-500	-1.7
S&P 500	3586	-55	-1.5
NASDAQ	10576	-162	-1.5
FTSE 100	6894	12	0.2
DAX 30	12114	139	1.2
Shanghai Comp	3024	-17	-0.6

Overseas Markets Commentary

Trade across major European, UK and US equities markets diverged overnight Friday, key US indices settling just off session lows, amid data releases which pointed to little likely short-term let up in the pace of international interest rate hikes.

Hurricane Ian and its damage also impacted US sentiment and geopolitical developments continued to spell broad uncertainty heading into the northern hemisphere winter.

In addition overnight Friday, European Union (EU) energy ministers agreed several measures to optimise winter energy supply and security, these including caps some energy supply prices and levying 'windfall' taxes on fossil fuel supply company profits.

Meanwhile, UK financial stability fears were underscored. Following further promotion by the UK PM and chancellor of controversial mini-budget measures, including £US45B worth of planned tax cuts, UK pension schemes were reported to be significantly reducing bond and equities holdings in favour of cash.

Among geopolitical developments, Russia's presidents berated Western policies while affirming Russia would defend, 'using all the means at our disposal' four regions in south east Ukraine declared to now be Russian.

In overnight Friday data releases, the **euro zone** September preliminary CPI reading represented 1.2% inflation growth for the month, against expectations of a 1.0% increase following 0.6% August growth.

On an annualised basis, the September estimate equated to a 10%

Pre-Open Announcements

Family Zone (FZO)

FZO is acquiring student wellbeing specialist Educator Impact. Details lodged in presentation format this morning.

Jumbo Interactive (JIN)

Despite delays beyond initial expectations, JIN is anticipating imminent UK Gambling Commission approval for the proposed StarVale Group acquisition.

Jin has settled lower eight of the past nine trading sessions, closing out last week at \$12.02.

Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield (URW)

URW has completed the sale of the Lille, France Villeneuve 2 shopping centre.

In addition, URW has appointed former Groupe ADP investor relations and financial communications head Audrey Arnoux as investor relations director.

Volpara Health Technologies (VHT)

VHT has appointed CEO Teri Thomas as MD.

Delorean Corporation (DEL)

Expecting a financing arrangement announcement for the proposed bioenergy infrastructure project by month's end.

Adrad Holdings (* AHL)

Automotive radiator, air conditioning and other parts manufacturer completed a successful ASX listing Friday, following a \$22M IPO at \$1.50 per share.

Opened at \$1.52 and traded at \$1.45 - \$1.635 before settling at 143.5c.

~1.33M shares changed hands across 648 transactions.

~80.65M shares.

Glenn Davis non-executive chair.

AHL cofounder Gary Washington executive director.

Former Codan (ASX: CDA) MD and CEO Donald McGurk non-executive director.

Adcore Holdings held 61.15% of AHL on listing.

LGI Ltd (* LGI)

Landfill biogas recovery specialist and **renewable energy** producer scheduled to list on the ASX 10.30am AEDT **tomorrow**, following an ~\$25M IPO at \$1.50 per share.

~88.26M quoted shares.

Producing renewable energy at nine sites in NSW and Queensland.

Former Cleanaway (ASX: CWY) CEO and MD Vik Bansal non-executive chair.

Shriro Holdings (ASX: SHM) chair Abigail Cheadle non-executive director.

Resources

West African Resources (* WAF)

Burkina Faso Sanbrado gold operations continuing as normal, remaining unaffected by coup activity.

inflation rate, pointing to another sizeable interest rate push from the European Central Bank (ECB) come 27 October.

The euro zone's August unemployment rate in the meantime was calculated flat at 6.6%.

Germany's unemployment rate for September also came in flat, at 5.5%.

In the **UK**, the final June quarter GDP reading pleased on the upside, growing by 0.2% for the three months, rather than backpedalling by 0.1% as initially estimated.

March quarter GDP growth had been recorded at 0.8% however, hence the new quarter's growth represented a significant slowing.

On an annualised basis June quarter GDP came in at 4.4% growth.

In the meantime, the Bank of England estimated a £1.077B increase in consumer credit during August, essentially in line with expectations, following a £1.482B July rise.

In the **US**, August personal income and spending rose 0.3% and 0.5 respectively for the month, following forecasts for 0.2% increases for both.

The September Chicago PMI fell to a contractionary 45.7 from the expansion-mode 52.2 recorded for August. Economists had anticipated little change.

The final University of Michigan September consumer confidence reading came in at 58.6 from 58.2, but the initial estimate had been 59.5.

Tonight in the US, the ISM's manufacturing PMI for September and August construction spending are due, together with a final S&P Global September manufacturing PMI.

Elsewhere, finalised September manufacturing PMIs are due for the UK and euro zone.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1672	oz	3.40	0.1
Silver (NY) (Dec)	19.04	oz	0.33	0.8
Platinum	859	oz	-5	-0.6
WTI Crude (NYMEX Nov)	79.49	bbbl	-1.74	-2.1
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Nov)	87.96	bbbl	-0.53	-0.6
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	95.30	t	-3.12	-3.3
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	7550	t	-10	-0.1
Nickel	21134	t	-1201	-5.4
Aluminium	2169	t	-28	-1.3
Lead	1907	t	31	1.6
Zinc	2960	t	25	0.8
Tin	20584	t	41	0.2

Commodities Commentary

Oil – reports OPEC+ was considering cutting output at this week's meetings, by an estimated 500,000bbbl/d – 1MMbbbl/d, from November continued to buoy early overnight Friday trade.

Interest rate and recession concerns ultimately impacted September quarter closing prices however.

In addition, the \$US turned higher again intra-session, and a media report estimated September OPEC output (~29.81MMlb) at its most in a month since 2020.

Further, China demand speculation was fuelled by September PMI

Panoramic Resources (* PAN)

Heralding results from ongoing WA Savannah nickel project underground resource definition drilling.

Assays lodged this morning for the region above the 900 fault.

Sheffield Resources (* SFX)

SFX has secured \$US110M of production linked facility finance, essentially completing finance requirements for the WA Kimberley region Thunderbird mineral sands project.

In addition, SFX has awarded the Thunderbird mining services contract to Piacentini & Son.

The contract covers nine years with a possible five-year extension.

Encounter Resources (* ENR) / BHP Group (BHP)

BHP is set to commence Northern Territory Elliott Copper project drilling under a \$25M exploration earn-in agreement with project holder ENR.

An initial twin diamond drill rig program is expected to be completed by the end of November.

Future Metals (FME)

£500,000 7p-per-share placement completed in the UK.

Details lodged this morning.

FME traded at 10c – 12c on the ASX last week.

Lucapa Diamond Company (LOM)

Further \$A3.1M loan repayment tranche in hand.

Black Rock Mining (BKT)

Founding and non-executive BKT director Gabriel Chiappini has retired from the BKT board.

BKT settled lower each session last week, closing out the week at 15c.

Hot Chili (HCH)

30 June resources and reserves update lodged post-trade Friday.

TerraCom Ltd (TER)

Audited full year results lodged post-trade Friday.

Energy

Yancoal Australia (* YAL)

Planning to pre-pay \$US1B worth of debt tomorrow, across a syndicated facility and unsecured loans.

YAL says it is paying with available cash and that the pre-payments will reduce finance costs by \$US207M.

Frontier Energy (FHE)

FHE has appointed former Subsea 7 subsidiary Xodus Group hydrogen head Sam Lee Mohan as MD.

MC Mining (MCM)

Audited full year results lodged post-trade Friday.

Basin Energy (* BSN)

Canada Athabasca Basin-focused uranium explorer scheduled to list on the ASX midday AEDT tomorrow, following a \$9M IPO at 20c per share.



estimates released Friday, the NBS services sector reading and Caixin manufacturing estimate each falling.

The official manufacturing PMI rose however and indicated a return to expansion mode.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig report, released overnight Friday, included two additional operational oil rigs and one fewer gas rig in operation.

Brent crude November futures expired on settlement overnight Friday, the December delivery contract falling \$US2.07/bbl for the session to close at \$US85.11/bbl.

Despite trading at ~nine-month lows during the week, Brent settled 2% higher for the week and WTI up 1%, the first overall weekly gains in the past five weeks.

September quarter losses were calculated at 23% and 25% respectively, however.

Gold – the \$US ultimately rose overnight Friday, constraining gold price gains, but commentators were quick to point out gold had recently generally held its own as a safe-haven asset against several other key currencies.

This week, material data releases, some central bank activity (including a Reserve Bank of Australia policy meeting tomorrow) and commentary, and geopolitical developments are expected to push and pull sentiment. US GDP speculation will increase at least in part on the release of a services sector activity update from the ISM.

Base metals – overnight Friday base metals trade considerations included new data from China, smelter cuts, end-of-quarter and **China** pre-holiday positioning and a turn higher for the \$US during second-half European trade.

China's official September PMI readings, reported Friday, together with a September manufacturing PMI for China from Caixin, came in mixed.

The official (NBS) manufacturing PMI (50.1 from 49.4) represented a return to expansion mode, against forecasts for continuing contraction (49.8).

The services sector reading however, fell two points to 50.6, approaching the cut-off between expansion and contraction and defying predictions of a 0.2-point improvement to 52.8.

Caixin's 48.1 September manufacturing PMI for China indicated ongoing contraction, moreover representing a 1.4-point fall against expectations of a 0.3-point improvement.

China's markets are closed this week due to National Day holidays.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6423	0.0020	0.31
EUR – USD	0.9807	0.0005	0.05

Australian Data Today

Melbourne Institute	Inflation gauge	Sep
S&P Global	Manufacturing PMI (final)	Sep

~49.6M quoted shares.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Danakali Ltd	DNK	3 Oct
Infinity Lithium	INF	3 Oct
Fiji Kava	FIJ	3 Oct
QEM Ltd	QEM	3 Oct
Red 5	RED	3 Oct
Widgie Nickel	WIN	3 Oct
Core Lithium	CXO	4 Oct
Kinetiko Energy	KKO	4 Oct
My Rewards International	MRI	4 Oct
Paradigm Biopharmaceuticals	PAR	4 Oct
Vanadium Resources	VR8	4 Oct

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Cann Global	CGB	23 Sep
Doriemus Plc	DOR	8 Sep
Seafarms Group	SFG	30 Sep
Terramin Australia	TZN	14 Sep
Toro Energy	TOE	28 Sep
Yandal Resources	YRL	29 Sep

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
IPC	Today	6.25	100	4.11
LCE	Today	1.4	100	2.72
MOT	Today	1.25	0	6.79
MXT	Today	1.05	0	4.97
WAR	Today	2	100	1.02
NBI	Tomorrow	0.71	0	7.14
SGM	Tomorrow	50	50	5.31
WAX	Tomorrow	5	100	7.11
WMI	Tomorrow	5	100	5.92
CAM	Wed	1.28	100	6.27
NCC	Wed	3.75	50	9.26
RIC	Wed	4	100	2.65
X64	Wed	5	0	3.13
ANG	Thu	0.3	100	0.62
ARB	Thu	32	100	2.81
BIS	Thu	9	100	6.05
N1H	Thu	0.23	0	0.00
WCG	Thu	0.5	20	0.00
COS	Fri	1	100	3.15
MFF	Fri	4	100	2.92



US Data Tonight

ISM manufacturing	Sep
Construction spending	Aug
S&P Global manufacturing PMI (final)	Sep

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Japan	Tankan indices (incl large manufacturing)	Q3
Japan	Manufacturing PMI (final)	Sep
UK	Manufacturing PMI (final)	Sep
Germany	Manufacturing PMI (final)	Sep
Euro zone	Manufacturing PMI (final)	Sep

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Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Tomorrow	AFI	AGM
	AMH	AGM

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