

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	7842	50	0.6
NZX 50	11545	19	0.2
DJIA Futures	40085	46	0.1
S&P 500 Futures	5339	6	0.1
NASDAQ Futures	18722	31	0.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade with the \$A at ~US67.00c, material domestic and regional economic data due, a Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) assistant governor speaking publicly, and a further smattering of domestic earnings reports, ahead of financial stability reports for the UK and euro zone tonight.

US equities markets rallied in unison overnight, adding 0.9% - 1.4%.

Locally today, **RBA** assistant governor (economic) Sarah Hunter was scheduled to deliver an address on **Housing Market Cycles and Fundamentals** at a conference in Hobart **from 9.40am AEST**. A question and answer session follows this address.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases April **workforce** statistics, including jobs, wages and the unemployment rate, at **11.30am AEST**.

At the same time, the RBA reports April foreign exchange transactions and holdings of official reserve assets.

Regionally today, **Japan** is listed to report **March quarter GDP** at **9.50am AEST**.

This afternoon, Japan hosts a 20-year government bond auction.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** reversed direction again, settling a minimum 0.5% higher for the session.

US **gold** (Comex) futures picked up the pace of Tuesday's turn higher, to approach \$US2395/oz.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) declined for a second consecutive session, falling beneath \$US116.5/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper**, **nickel** and **aluminium** rallied by ~1% - ~2%.

The **\$A** was propelled to ~US66.95c after hovering around US66.45c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	39908	350	0.9
S&P 500	5308	61	1.2
NASDAQ	16742	231	1.4
FTSE 100	8446	18	0.2
DAX 30	18869	153	0.8
Shanghai Composite	3120	-26	-0.8

Today's Stock Watch
Graincorp Ltd (GNC)

14c interim and 10c special dividends, each fully franked, the same as for a year ago.

75.1% lower, \$A49.6M interim NPAT.

25.5% lower, \$3.38B revenue.

\$6.38 NTA from \$6.53 at 30 September 2023.

Incitec Pivot (IPL)

4.3c interim and 10.2c special dividends, each unfranked, from 10c, 60%-franked a year ago.

\$A148.3M interim net loss, from an ~\$354M net profit.

19.4% lower, \$246B revenue.

\$1.39 NTA from \$1.58.

Meanwhile the planned cash sale of IPL's fertilisers business has reached the advanced negotiations stage with PT Pupuk Kalimantan Timur.

Aristocrat Leisure (ALL)

36c fully franked interim dividend from 30c a year ago.

8.9% higher, \$A711.3M interim NPAT.

6.1% higher, \$3.27B revenue. \$365.8M net debt.

Fonterra Shareholders' Fund (FSF)

Looking at divesting some consumer business.

Also reporting that FSF global markets CEO Judith Swales has resigned, effective 31 July.

oOh!media Ltd (OML)

Today's AGM materials, together with a comprehensive trading update, lodged this morning.

Cromwell Property Group (CMW)

Selling the Cromwell Polish Retail Fund (CPRF) for €285M (\$A465M) to Star Capital Finance.

Resources
Patriot Battery Metals (PMT)

Heralding Quebec Corvette project CV5 core assay results. Assays lodged this morning and more pending.

Sun Silver (SS1)

Silver and gold explorer completed a stellar ASX listing yesterday, following a \$13M IPO at 20c per share.

Opened at 50c and traded at a day one low of 37.5c before settling at 42.5c.

~18.57M shares changed hands across 1814 transactions.

69.679M quoted shares.

Holds the Maverick Springs silver-gold project in Nevada, US.

James Bay Minerals (ASX: JBY) non-executive chair Gerard O'Donovan is SS1's executive director.



Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and UK equities markets were dragged higher intra-session overnight by US data-driven optimism, although the FTSE 100 subsequently resumed fluctuations.

US equities markets jumped on opening and following a little early caution continued to push higher, towards record settlements for all major indices.

US sentiment appeared mostly buoyed by a better-than-feared CPI inflation update, sufficient to push the \$US index to a five-week low and buoy rate-sensitive sectors.

Earlier yesterday, Argentina's central bank cut the benchmark interest rate to 40% from 50%, citing an inflation rate fall to 8.8% from 11%.

In overnight **economic data** releases, the **euro zone's** second March quarter GDP estimate confirmed 0.3% growth for the three months, following 0.1% December and September quarter 2023 pullbacks.

Against the March quarter 2023, GDP was up 0.4% following the December quarter's 0.1% annualised increase.

A third and final estimate is due 7 June.

Industrial production rose by 0.6% during March, against consensus for a 0.5% increase following a 1.0% February rise (revised from an initial 0.8% estimate).

Against March 2023, output was down 1.0% against February's 6.3% annualised drop.

Meanwhile, the **European Commission's Spring forecasts** included 1.0% 2024 GDP growth for the European Union (EU) and 0.8% for the euro zone.

The 2025 GDP growth predictions were set at 1.6% and 1.4% respectively.

2024 inflation growth forecasts came in at 2.7% for the EU and 2.5% for the euro zone.

Further projected falls in 2025 placed the respective rates at 2.2% and 2.1%.

All forecasts were accompanied however, by a warning of 'increased uncertainty amid geopolitical tensions'.

March international trade figures for **Russia** included an 18% drop in imports against a 2% rise in exports.

In the **US**, the April CPI estimate represented 0.3% inflation growth for the month, against expectations for 0.4% following the March 0.4% increase.

Against April 2023, inflation was running at 3.4% rather than the 3.5% annualised rate for March.

April retail sales proved the more surprising however, calculated flat for the month, against consensus for a 0.4% rise following a 0.6% increase for March.

Against April 2023, sales were up 3.0%, against March's 3.8% annualised growth.

The New York Fed manufacturing index declined to -15.6 from -14.3, against expectations for an improvement to -10.0.

March business inventories fell by 0.1%, in line with expectations following a 0.3% February rise.

A housing market index defied expectations of no change,

Pre-Open Announcements

Atomo Diagnostics (AT1)

Heralding HIV self-testing funding announced in the Australian Government's 2024-2025 budget.

Immutep Ltd (IMM)

Encouraging safety, efficacy and pharmacodynamics results returned from the safety lead-in phase of the AIPAC-003 phase II/III trial of IMM's eftilagimod alpha (efti) given in combination with paclitaxel for the treatment of metastatic breast cancer.

Efti was tested at a higher dose (90mg, rather than 30mg). A patient who achieved a complete response to the combination treatment had failed to respond to other treatments.

A randomised phase II portion of the trial, involving up to 58 patients, is underway.

Ainsworth Game Technology (AGI)

AGI and AGI chief technology officer David Bollesen have agreed on Mr Bollesen leaving the company, effective immediately.

Tourism Holdings (THL)

Chief operating officer USA Gordon Hewston has resigned, effective early July.

Duxton Water (D2O)

April update lodged post-trade yesterday.

Resources

Catalyst Metals (CYL)

Recent Trident drilling results have prompted CYL to assess potential for a small open pit operation.

Details lodged this morning.

Minbos Resources (MNB)

London investment forum presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

Emerald Resources (EMR)

500,000 new shares issued in response to the exercise by a key employee of 500,000 options due to expire 30 July 2025.

The options were exercised at 67c each.

EMR has traded at \$3.46 - \$3.67 for the week to date.

Killi Resources (KLI)

2.75M shares issued on the conversion of 2.75M class A performance rights.

KLI traded at 3.3c – 4.6c yesterday, after resuming from a trading halt revealing it was forming a JV over the West Tanami gold project with Gold Fields and conducting an associated 3.8c-per-share placement.

The company closed at 4.2c, down 2.33% for the session, after adding 38.71% Friday last week, immediately prior to calling the halt.



dropping to 45 from 51.

Meanwhile, weekly mortgage applications had been reported 0.5% higher following a 2.6% climb the previous week.

The MBA estimated a 7.08 % mean average 30-year mortgage rate from 7.18%.

Also overnight, a 10-year UK green gilt auction produced a 4.072% yield from 4.091%.

Germany hosted a 30-year bond offer, which resulted in no change from the previous 2.62% yield.

Tonight in the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims are anticipated, together with April import and export prices, the Philadelphia Fed May manufacturing index, April industrial production, and April housing starts and building permits.

Elsewhere, the Bank of England (BoE) and European Central Bank (ECB) each release financial stability review reports.

Also tonight, the president of Germany's central bank is scheduled to speak publicly.

Companies listed to report earnings later today or tonight include: Applied Materials, Baidu, Deere & Co, JD.com, Siemens, Take-Two Interactive and Walmart.

BP, GSK, Shell, Tesco and Unilever trade ex-dividend on the FTSE 100.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Jun)	2394.9	oz	35	1.5
Silver (COMEX 5000 Jul)	29.73	oz	1.03	3.6
Platinum	1065	oz	29	2.8
WTI Crude (NYMEX Jun)	78.63	bbbl	0.61	0.8
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jul)	82.75	bbbl	0.37	0.5
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	116.3	t	-0.35	-0.3
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	10223	t	103	1.0
Nickel	19504	t	409	2.1
Aluminium	2601	t	47	1.8
Lead	2274	t	10	0.5
Zinc	2978	t	-28	-0.9
Tin	33416	t	40	0.1

Commodities Commentary

Oil – overnight price gains were supported by US demand indications and expectations of further improved demand after a US CPI reading helped soothe interest rate angst.

A monthly International Energy Agency (IEA) oil report, published overnight, included a lower 2024 crude demand forecast than the previous prediction, however. The IEA's new growth forecast came in at 1.1MMbbl/d, 140,000/d fewer barrels than the March projection.

Also overnight, a weekly US petroleum inventories report, released by US government agency the EIA, included a 2.51MMbbl fall for stored crude and 235,000bbl decline in petrol stocks.

Overnight Tuesday post-US trade, the American Petroleum Institute (API) had published a weekly report which had included an ~3.1MMbbl draw on US crude stocks last week.

Gold – prices were pushed to three-week peaks overnight,

Pantoro Ltd (PNR)

Pleading ignorance in response to an ASX query regarding how a national newspaper was able to publish information regarding PNR's latest fundraiser on the day that PNR called the trading halt and before PNR had lodged a fundraiser announcement with the ASX.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Impact Minerals	IPT	17 May
Loyal Lithium	LLI	17 May
Maronan Metals	MMA	16 May
Power Minerals	PNN	17 May

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Cosmos Exploration	C1X	15 May
Nexion Group	NNG	26 Apr
Openn Negotiation (in admin)	OPN	3 May
Orexplore Technologies	OXT	13 May

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
ASG	Today	10	100	7.36
DDR	Today	11	100	4.21
EZZ	Today	1.5	100	1.85
PL8	Today	0.55	100	5.48
PTL	Today	18	0	18.67
TWD	Today	11	100	5.37
WMI	Tomorrow	5.25	100	3.61
WLE	Mon	4.6	100	6.50
AMC	Tue	19.32	0	4.84
ATM	Tue	4.83	0	2.86
ORI	23 May	19	0	2.31

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	ALL	Interim (webcast 10.30am)
	ALX	AGM
	FDV	AGM
	GNC	Interim
	IPL	Interim
	OML	AGM
Mon	ELD	Interim (w/cast tele 10am & 6pm Tue 21 May)



following a \$US fall accompanying a better-than-feared US CPI reading.

Base metals – overnight LME base metals trade was generally buoyed by a weaker \$US.

Comex May and June delivery copper contracts reached \$US5/lb intra-session.

April updates for China’s fixed asset investment, industrial production, retail sales and home prices are anticipated tomorrow and could produce some caution tonight.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6699	0.0054	0.82
EUR – USD	1.0890	0.0067	0.62

Australian Data Today

ABS	Workforce (incl jobs, wages, unemplmnt rate, partcptn)	Apr
RBA	Forex transactions; official reserve assets holdings	Apr

US Data Tonight

Initial jobless claims	11 May
Import & export prices	Apr
Philadelphia Fed manufacturing	May
Industrial production	Apr
Building permits	Apr
Housing starts	Apr

Other Overseas Data Today and Tonight

Japan	GDP	Mar Q
Japan	Industrial production (final)	Mar
UK	BoE financial stability report	May
Euro zone	ECB financial stability review	May

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	GTK	Interim (webcast 8.30am)
	MLX	AGM
Tue	MMI	AGM
	VEA	AGM
	VGL	AGM
Wed	APE	AGM
	PLT	Full year
	TLX	AGM
	WEB	Full year
23 May	GQG	AGM
	GOR	AGM
	KAR	AGM
	NUF	Interim (w/cast tele 10am)
	RSG	AGM
	SMR	AGM
	SSR	AGM
	VNT	AGM
	XAM	AGM
	XRO	Full year

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