

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7214	-45	-0.6
NZX 50	11724	-78	-0.7
DJIA Futures	33162	-617	-1.8
S&P 500 Futures	4006	-70	-1.7
NASDAQ Futures	12097	-270	-2.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences mid-week trade with a plethora of high-profile domestic stocks reporting earnings, another batch, including a major bank, trading ex-dividend, material domestic economic reports due by late morning, and outcomes from a regional central bank policy meeting due middle of the day.

This, ahead of the release of US Federal Reserve policy meeting minutes tonight.

US equities markets traded for the first time this week overnight, falling in concert.

Locally today, Westpac and the Melbourne Institute release their January **leading index** report at **11am AEDT**.

At **11.30am**, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes the December quarter **wage price index**.

At the same time, the ABS is due to report December quarter **construction work** done.

High-profile stocks trading **ex-dividend** today include **AGL, CBA, DHG, NWL, and SGF**. Please see p4 for a detailed ex-dividends list.

Also today, PM Anthony Albanese is scheduled to address the National Press Club.

Regionally today, the **Reserve Bank of New Zealand** is convening a policy meeting from which outcomes are due **midday AEDT**.

Pre-trade, New Zealand has released January **international trade** statistics, these including a \$NZ1.954B deficit. Economists had anticipated a \$NZ1.2B shortfall.

In **Japan**, a Tankan **manufacturers' sentiment** index is expected as the ASX opens.

Meanwhile, *Japan's markets will be closed tomorrow due to a public holiday.*

In overnight **commodities** trade, Brent and WTI **crude** settled variously lower.

US **gold** futures recorded a moderate fall.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) was pushed beyond \$US126.0/t.

LME **copper** was reported 0.3% higher for the day at 1704 GMT, and **nickel** up 0.6%. **Aluminium** was also reported to have gained a further 0.3%.

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 ~US68.55c after trading at ~US68.80c - ~US68.90c

Today's Stock Watch

Woolworths Group (WOW)

46c fully franked interim dividend from 39c a year ago. 88.1% lower \$\$845M interim NPAT. 4.0% higher, \$33.169B revenue. 44c NTA from 21.2c.

WiseTech Global (WTC)

6.6c fully franked interim dividend from 4.75c a year ago. 41% higher, \$109.0M interim NPAT. 35% higher, \$378.2M revenue.

Flight Centre (FLT)

\$19.78M interim net loss from a \$194.18M loss a year ago. 217.3% higher, \$1.0B revenue.

Worley Ltd (WOR)

Flat, 25c interim dividend. \$99M interim net loss from a \$79M net profit a year ago. 16% higher, \$5.39B income. Ongoing business portfolio review.

Lovisa Holdings (LOV)

38c fully franked interim dividend from 37c a year ago. 31.9% higher, \$A47.72M interim NPAT. 44.8% higher, \$315.48M revenue. 78c NTA from 55c.

Domino's Pizza Enterprises (DMP)

67.4c, 60%-franked interim dividend from 88.4c, 70%-franked a year ago. 28.3% lower, \$63.9M interim NPAT. 4.3% lower, \$1.15B revenue. Lower than anticipated H2 sales growth. Expecting 4.2% FY23 sales growth.

Scentre Group (SCG)

66.1% lower, \$300.6M full year NPAT. 7.8% higher, \$2.46B revenue.

National Storage REIT (NSR)

5.5c interim dividend (already declared) from 4.6c a year ago. 33% lower, \$182.34M interim NPAT. 23% higher, \$162.47M revenue. \$2.44 NTA from \$2.09.

Resources

Rio Tinto (RIO)

Full year results anticipated later today.

OZ Minerals (OZL)

\$207.3M full year NPAT from \$530.7M a year ago. \$1.92B revenue from \$2.096B. Retaining FY23 guidance.

St Barbara (SBM)

\$A407.11M interim net loss from a \$13.91M profit a year ago. Essentially flat \$352.04M revenue. 84c NTA from \$1.58 at 30 June 2022. Reserves and resources update also lodged.

Energy

Santos Ltd (STO)

US15.2c final dividend from US7.6c a year ago. 221% higher, \$US2.46B full year NPAT. 65% higher, \$US7.79B revenue.



early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	33130	-697	-2.1
S&P 500	3997	-82	-2.0
NASDAQ	11492	-295	-2.5
FTSE 100	7978	-37	-0.5
DAX 30	15398	-80	-0.5
Shanghai Comp	3307	16	0.5

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European, UK and US equities markets sentiment proved frail from opening trade overnight.

US equities markets were reacting for the first time to events and reports since overnight Friday trade.

Large tech and communications stocks proved out of favour, this attributed mostly to growing expectations the US Federal Reserve could move interest rates higher more aggressively than had been expected earlier this year.

Earlier yesterday, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) released the minutes of its 7 February policy meeting, these revealing a push for a 0.5% interest rate increase rather than the ultimately approved 0.25%.

In addition, board members appeared to agree that a more than meagre amount of outlook uncertainty remained.

Among overnight economic data releases, February **euro zone** initial PMI estimates came in mixed, the manufacturing PMI falling further into contraction territory and undershooting expectations, and the services PMI rising 2.2-points to a better-than-anticipated expansion-mode 52.3.

A ZEW economic sentiment index in the jumped to 29.7 from 16.7, following forecasts for 18.5.

Euro zone January new domestic vehicle registrations were reported 11.3% higher than for January 2022.

Germany's preliminary February manufacturing PMI fell further (0.8-point) into contraction territory, rather than improving by a forecast 0.9.

The services index rose by 0.6 to 51.3 against expectations of reaching 51.5.

The ZEW economic sentiment index for Germany was estimated 11.2 points higher for the month, at 29.7. Forecasters had anticipated a 4.6-point increase.

The current conditions component index improved, albeit to -45.1 from -58.6.

In the **UK**, public sector finances surprised on the downside, net borrowing estimated at £6.2B against forecasts for £2.2B.

Initial February PMI estimates for the UK improved from January's readings, the manufacturing index rising by 2.2 but to a remaining contraction-mode 49.2.

The services index jumped into expansion territory, from 48.7 to 53.3, following forecasts for a slighter improvement to a remaining contractionary 49.3.

Pre-Open Announcements

Jaxsta Ltd (** JXT)

Proposing to acquire music industry social network Vampr. Details lodged this morning.

Steadfast Group (* SDF)

Webcast teleconference scheduled to commence **10.30am** AEDT.

6c fully franked interim dividend, from 5.2c a year ago. 19% lower, \$84.7M interim NPAT.

18% higher, \$546.2M revenue.

2c NTA from 1c at 30 June 2022.

Underlying NPAT rose 18.2% to \$90.2M.

Upgrading full year underlying NPAT guidance from \$190M - \$202M to \$198M - \$208M.

In addition, Anne O'Driscoll has retired from the SDF board.

Ms O'Driscoll was appointed as an SDF non-executive director 1 July 2013.

Challenger Group (CGF)

Considering a new capital notes offer that may include a reinvestment offer for some capital notes 2 holders.

Additional details lodged post-trade yesterday.

Macquarie Telecom Group (MAQ)

133% higher, \$A8.54M interim NPAT.

16% higher, \$172.525M income.

\$6.24 NTA from \$5.33.

\$21.425M cash and equivalents.

Anticipating \$102M - \$104M FY23 EBITDA.

Expecting \$63M - \$67M depreciation.

Kip McGrath Education Centres (KME)

Flat, 1c interim dividend.

29.0% lower, \$652M interim NPAT.

9.2% higher, \$12.398M revenue.

Investor update also lodged in presentation format post-trade yesterday.

Silex Systems (SLX)

\$8.74M interim net loss from a \$4.46M loss a year ago.

77.9% higher, \$3.78M revenue.

34.21M cash and equivalents plus term deposits.

Operational update also lodged post-trade yesterday.

LGI Ltd (LGI)

~16.23M shares are due to be released from voluntary escrow 1 March (Wednesday next week).

Resources

Perseus Mining (** PRU)

Reporting a record interim NPAT.

International Graphite (* IG6)

97.6% TGC concentrate produced during initial flotation tests using Springdale project graphite samples.



The CBI industrial trends orders index for February was reported at -16 from -17, following forecasts for a stronger improvement to -12.

In the **US**, January existing home sales fell 0.7% for the month against predictions for a 1.4% rise following a 2.2% December drop.

S&P Global's preliminary US February PMI readings indicated improvements for both the manufacturing and services sectors.

The manufacturing PMI undershot expectations however, coming in at 47.8, following forecasts for 49.0. The January reading had been finalised at 46.9.

The services PMI indicated a return to expansion, estimated at 50.5 from 46.8 for January. Economists had anticipated a remaining contractionary 48.9.

Canada reported January inflation running at 0.5% for the month and 5.9% on an annualised basis. Canada had recorded 0.6% deflation for December, but a 6.3% annualised inflation rate.

Among debt offerings, Japan hosted a 20-year bond auction which delivered a 1.306% yield from 1.341%.

Tonight in the US, the minutes of the Federal Reserve's 31 January – 1 February policy meeting are keenly anticipated.

Weekly mortgage applications and 30-year mortgage rates are also due.

Elsewhere, Germany releases a finalised January CPI reading.

In addition, Germany is scheduled to host a 10-year bond auction.

Companies listed to report earnings later today or tonight include: Baidu, Danone, eBay, Lloyds Banking, Lundin Mining, NVIDIA, Petrobras, Pioneer Natural Resources, Rio Tinto and TJX Companies.

In overnight corporate news, US retailers **Home Depot** and **Walmart** provided less-than-rosy 2023 outlooks.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Apr)	1842.5	oz	-7.70	-0.4
Silver (COMEX 5000 Mar)	21.89	oz	0.18	0.8
Platinum	943	oz	17	1.8
WTI Crude (NYMEX Mar)	76.16	bbbl	-0.18	-0.2
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Apr)	83.05	bbbl	-1.02	-1.2
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	126.34	t	1.40	1.1
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (20Feb)	9144	t	157	1.7
Nickel	26932	t	1139	4.4
Aluminium	2458	t	70	2.9
Lead	2156	t	91	4.4
Zinc	3129	t	71	2.3
Tin	26695	t	839	3.2
Coal (ICE-GC Newcastle; IRESS)	209	t	3.35	1.6
Wheat (CBT Mar; IRESS)	762.75	t	-13	-1.7

Commodities Commentary

Oil – swinging overnight trade appeared to react mostly to economic data releases on both sides of the Atlantic, a stronger \$US and economic growth prospects commentary.

The WTI crude March delivery contract expired on settlement

The project is located near Hopetoun, southern Western Australia.

Red 5 (* RED)

Trading halt called pre-trade yesterday.

RED has been conducting an \$A80M two-tranche share placement and also an \$A8M - \$A10M SPP, each at 13.5c per share.

RED traded at 17c – 19.5c over the five sessions immediately prior to calling the halt.

Tivan Ltd (TVN)

TVN will present at Investor Showcase events in Sydney and Melbourne today and tomorrow respectively, at the invitation of the Northern Territory Government.

Presentation access link lodged post-trade yesterday.

Lunnon Metals (LM8)

LM8 has appointed LM8 CFO Hayden Bartrop also as company secretary, taking over from Jessamyn Lyons.

Mr Bartrop commenced with LM8 in January.

Ms Lyons has been providing company secretary services to LM8 via her corporate services firm Everest Corporate.

Minbos Resources (MNB)

Planning to change MNB's financial year end from 30 June to 31 December.

Energy

Energy Resources of Australia (* ERA) / Rio Tinto (RIO)

\$160.55M ERA full year net loss from a \$650.21M FY21 net loss.

81% lower, \$35.555M uranium sales revenue.

72% lower, \$55.309M continuing operations revenue.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Agua Resources	AGR	22 Feb
FYI Resources	FYI	22 Feb
Norwest Minerals	NWM	22 Feb
Tyranna Resources	TYX	22 Feb
Wellfully Ltd	WFL	22 Feb
AuKing Mining	AKN	23 Feb
Charger Metals	CHR	23 Feb
Cogstate Ltd	CGS	23 Feb
Cokal Ltd	CKA	23 Feb
Cyprium Metals	CYM	23 Feb
Earlypay Ltd	EPY	23 Feb
Koba Resources	KOB	23 Feb
Queensland Pacific Metals	QPM	23 Feb
Red 5	RED	23 Feb
Talga Group	TLG	23 Feb



overnight. The April contract fell 19c for the session, closing at \$US76.27/bbl.

Gold – US 10-year treasury yields at three-month peaks and a turn higher for the \$US damaged overnight gold sentiment.

Not apparently so for this month's demand out of India and China, however, as relatively low prices were reportedly bolstering buying.

US Federal Reserve policy meeting minutes are expected to swing some trade tonight.

Base metals – overnight trade appeared largely influenced again by China demand commentary and currency moves, together with inventory updates.

Copper reportedly swung lower in early trade.

LME-registered warehouse stocks for *aluminium* were reported twice as high than for earlier in the month.

Some better-than-forecast overnight PMI estimates bolstered some demand views, but also increased fears interest rates would travel higher for longer.

Yesterday, Japan's initial February manufacturing PMI estimate represented a further (1.5-point) fall into contraction-mode, defying expectations of an improvement that would have edged the index into expansion territory.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6855	-0.0040	-0.58
EUR – USD	1.0648	-0.0021	-0.20

Australian Data Today

Westpac/MelbInstitute	Leading index	Jan
ABS	Wage price index	Dec Q
ABS	Construction work done	Dec Q

US Data Tonight

US Federal Reserve policy meeting minutes	31 Jan–1 Feb
MBA mortgage applications & rates	17 Feb

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

New Zealand	RBNZ policy meeting outcomes	22 Feb
New Zealand	Trade balance	Jan
Japan	Tankan index	Feb
Germany	Ifo business climate	Feb
Germany	CPI (final)	Jan
Euro zone	Ifo business climate	Feb
Russia	Producer prices	Jan

Need More Information?

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Suspensions *(selected)*

Company	Code	Since
BPH Energy	BPH	14 Feb
M8 Sustainable	M8S	13 Feb
Mandrake Resources	MAN	21 Feb
<i>Openpay Group (rcvrs & mgrs)</i>	OPY	3 Feb
Province Resources	PRL	21 Feb
Purifloh Ltd	PO3	15 Feb
Seafarms Group	SFG	14 Feb
Truscott Mining Corp	TRM	20 Feb
VIP Gloves	VIP	7 Feb
Wellfully Ltd	WFL	22Feb

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AGL	Today	8	0	3.74
CBA	Today	210	100	2.07
DHG	Today	2	100	1.96
ECP	Today	2.2	100	4.41
GQG	Today	1.89	0	5.17
NWL	Today	11	100	1.46
SGF	Today	8.91	100	6.33
AUI	Tomorrow	17	100	3.61
CDA	Tomorrow	9	100	4.94
CUI	Tomorrow	7	100	3.17
EGG	Tomorrow	6.5	100	5.76
GWA	Tomorrow	6	100	4.36
IRE	Tomorrow	30	0	5.13
JBH	Tomorrow	197	100	6.89
PAI	Tomorrow	2.5	100	5.21
PMC	Tomorrow	3	100	4.32
VG1	Tomorrow	4.5	100	5.52
WHC	Tomorrow	32	100	6.49

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	AUB	Interim
	AEF	Interim (w/cast 10am)
	CHL	Interim (tele 10am)
	CWP	Interim (w/cast midday)
	DMP	Interim
	EBO	Interim
	EHL	Interim (w/cast tele 11am)
	ERA	Full year (w/cast 10am)
	FLT	Interim
	HSN	Interim (tele 10am)
	LOV	Interim



MMS	Interim
NSR	Interim
NZM	Full year (w/cast tele 9am)
OZL	Full year
PRU	Interim
RDY	Interim (tele 10.30am)
REH	Interim (w/cast 9.30am)
RIO	Full year (tele 4.30pm)
RFF	Interim (webinar 11am)
SBM	Interim
STO	Full year
SCG	Full year
SLR	Interim
SSM	Interim
SPK	Interim (tele 8am)
SDF	Interim
SLC	Interim (w/cast tele 10.30am)
TNE	AGM
WGN	Interim
WTC	Interim
WOW	Interim
WOR	Interim
Tomorrow	
AHL	Interim
ART	Interim
AIZ	Interim (w/cast tele 8am)
APA	Interim (w/cast 10am)
ALX	Full year (w/cast 11am)
AIA	Interim (w/cast 9am)
AVG	Interim (webinar tele 3.30pm)
BGA	Interim
BKL	Interim (w/cast 10.30am)
BVS	Interim (w/cast tele 9.30am)
CWY	Interim
CVW	Full year (w/cast tele 10am)
EQT	Interim (webinar 10.30am)
FWD	Interim (tele 11.30am)
GTK	AGM
HGH	Interim (w/cast 8.30am)
HMC	Interim (w/cast tele 10.30am)
IEL	Interim
IFL	Interim
KLS	Interim
MPL	Interim
MRM	Interim (w/cast tele 11am)
MYS	Interim (tele 1pm)
NAN	Interim (tele 11am)
NEC	Interim
OBL	Interim (w/cast 10am)
PPC	Interim (w/cast tele 1pm)
PPM	Full year (w/cast 10am)



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PPT	Interim (w/cast tele 11.30am)
PNV	Interim (w/cast 2pm)
QAL	Interim (w/cast tele 10am)
QAN	Interim
QUB	Interim (tele 10.30am)
RHC	Interim
SHJ	Interim (tele 11.30am)
SKT	Interim (w/cast tele 8.30am)
SIQ	Full year (tele 9am)
SGR	Interim
THL	Interim
TLC	Interim
TRS	Interim (tele 9.30am)
UNI	Interim (webinar 11am)
ZIP	Interim