

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7458	13	0.2
NZX 50	11752	-17	-0.1
DJIA Futures	37936	173	0.5
S&P 500 Futures	4820	28	0.6
NASDAQ Futures	16945	115	0.7

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade with key domestic data due late morning and a regional rates decision due later today, ahead of a US CPI update tonight.

US equities markets settled higher in unison overnight.

Locally today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes November **international trade** statistics at **11.30am** AEDT.

At the same time, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) releases a report outlining **lending to business** during November.

Regionally today, the **Bank of Korea** is convening a **monetary policy meeting** from which **outcomes** are scheduled to be announced at **midday** AEDT.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** ultimately turned ~1% lower.

US **gold** (Comex) futures continued their decline, closing beneath \$US2030/oz.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) dropped below \$US138.5/t.

US (Dec) **copper** futures gained US2c/lb, to \$US3.78/lb.

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** remained within a narrow range after trading at ~US67c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	37696	171	0.5
S&P 500	4783	27	0.6
NASDAQ	14970	112	0.8
FTSE 100	7652	-32	-0.4
DAX 30	16690	1	0.0
Shanghai Composite	2878	-16	-0.5

Overseas Markets Commentary

Marked choppy trade featured across major European and UK equities markets, but key US indices sentiment proved better supported, amid a wave of central bank commentary.

Ahead of a US inflation update tonight, at least two **US Federal Reserve** district presidents indicated further rate increases were either unlikely or minimal.

Large US tech/communications stocks in particular appeared to

Today's Stock Watch

Pinnacle Investments (PNI)

Anticipating \$12.3M worth of (post-tax) performance fees for the six months to 31 December.

Anticipating a \$3.7M return for principal investments, against \$3.8M a year earlier.

Half-year accounts will also include a \$3.4M OpenInvest write-down.

Planning to lodge interim results post-ASX trade 1 February and to comment on these 2 February.

Avita Medical (AVH)

Estimated \$14.1M December quarter commercial revenue, up 50% year-on-year.

Anticipating 46% full year (2023) commercial revenue growth. \$89.1M cash, equivalents and marketable securities.

Full year 2024 guidance also lodged this morning.

In addition, AVH has secured an exclusive five-year US distribution agreement with Stedical Scientific, covering the commercialisation of PermeaDerm.

Worley Ltd (WOR)

Refuting claims of corrupt and illegal practices in Ecuador during 2011 – 2017.

Resources

Alumina Ltd (AWC)

AWC's price has continued to benefit from Tuesday's announcement of the closure of one of three AWAC JV refineries in WA.

AWC and JV partner Alcoa revealed the decision was reached on comparative economic viability.

AWC traded 7.69% higher Tuesday, closing at 90.5c, before trading as high as \$1.155 yesterday and settling 17.35% higher for the session, at \$1.15.

Greater than 71M shares have changed hands over the two sessions.

Energy

Strike Energy (STX) / Triangle Energy (TEG) / New Zealand Oil & Gas (NZO)

Onshore North Perth Basin Block L7 and EP 437 3D seismic surveying has boosted Bookara 'best estimate' prospective resources to 36MMbbl.

Additional statistics plus plans lodged this morning.

TEG 50%; STX and NZO 25% each on a TEG farm-out.



benefit.

In addition, a Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co quarterly report, released yesterday, supported other chip manufacturers, seemingly on better-than-anticipated revenue.

In the meantime, a **European Central Bank** (ECB) economic bulletin, due tonight, was preceded by ECB vice president Luis de Guindos's confirmation the bank was of the view the bloc was likely in recession through the December quarter and that economic growth was expected to remain weak for some time.

Bank of England (BoE) governor Andrew Bailey and BoE colleagues met with a UK treasury committee, the governor citing Middle East conflict when warning of 'global shock' threat to economies, including the UK.

Mr Bailey confirmed monitoring of Red Sea oil security, appearing concerned at the potential for stronger inflationary pressure.

Earlier yesterday, Australia's annualised November inflation growth came in at 4.3%, the least recorded since January 2022, just 0.1% higher than consensus and 0.6% lower than the year-on-year reading for October

Among scant overnight economic **data** releases, **US** November wholesale inventories were reported 0.2% lower for the month, in line with expectations following a 0.3% October decline.

Weekly mortgage applications rose by 9.9% following the previous week's 10.7% drop.

The mean average 30-year mortgage rate, as calculated by the MBA, came in at 6.81% from 6.76% for the previous week.

Meanwhile, a 10-year US note auction had delivered 4.024% from 4.296%.

A 10-year bond auction in Germany earlier had resulted in a 2.19% yield from 2.45%.

Earlier, a 10-year government bond offer in Japan produced a 0.596% yield from 0.697%.

Tonight in the US, a **December CPI** inflation update is keenly anticipated, together with weekly new unemployment claims.

In addition, the December budget statement is due.

Elsewhere, the **European Central Bank** (ECB) releases an economic bulletin.

*The US is heading towards a **Monday** public holiday weekend when markets will be closed.*

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Feb)	2027.8	oz	-5.20	-0.3
Silver (COMEX 5000 Mar)	23.07	oz	-0.02	-0.1
Platinum (NYMEX Apr)	929	oz	-14	-1.5
WTI Crude (NYMEX Feb)	71.37	bbl	-0.87	-1.2
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Mar)	76.80	bbl	-0.79	-1.0
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	138.16	t	-2.36	-1.7
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (9 Jan)	8376	t	-80	-1.0
Nickel	16314	t	-24	-0.2
Aluminium	2253	t	13	0.6
Lead	2053	t	-11	-0.6
Zinc	2507	t	-6	-0.2
Tin	24245	t	-265	-1.1

Pre-Open Announcements

Compumedics Ltd (CMP)

Anticipating record \$26M 1H FY24 revenue, representing 35% year-on-year growth.

Additional statistics lodged this morning.

Vinyl Group (VNL)

Anticipating \$9.5M calendar 2023 revenue.

December quarter operational and financial statistics lodged (for the former Jaxsta) pre-trade.

Adrad Holdings (AHL)

AHL has appointed Blue Lake Milling CEO Kevin Boyle as CEO, effective 8 April.

Mr Boyle is a former COO of Quickstep Holdings (ASX: QHL).

Resources

Kalamazoo Resources (KZR)

KZR has appointed KZR exploration manager Luke Mortimer as CEO, effective today.

KZR founder and recent CEO Luke Reinehr is continuing as KZR executive chair.

29Metals Ltd (29M)

Pleading ignorance in response to an ASX price query.

29M closed out last week at 59c, but traded as high as 80.5c yesterday, before settling at 70c, up 22.8% for the session.

Santana Minerals (SMI)

Also pleading ignorance in response to an ASX price query, other than to point to an investor presentation released pre-trade Monday in association with briefings held in New Zealand this week.

SMI closed out last week at 98c, and Monday at 99c, but traded as high as \$1.31 yesterday, settling with a 14.57% gain for the session, at \$1.14.

Infini Resources (* I88)

Lithium- and uranium-focused explorer scheduled to list on the ASX 1pm AEDT **Monday**, following a \$5.5M IPO at 20c per share.

~35.4M quoted shares.

Robert Martin non-executive chair; David Pevcic executive director.

Targeting eight exploration projects in Western Australia and Canada.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Bounty Oil & Gas	BUY	12 Jan
Galena Mining	G1A	11 Jan
MTM Critical Metals	MTM	12 Jan
NickelX Ltd	NKL	11 Jan

**Commodities Commentary**

Oil – vacillations continued overnight, trade considerations including demand indications, economic growth predictions, and Red Sea shipping security.

Prices were initially pushed ~1.0% higher with the US and UK reporting greater than 20 defence responses to drones and missiles overnight Tuesday (AEDT).

Prices turned lower however, following a weekly US petroleum inventories report published by US government agency the EIA, which included an unexpected rise in US crude stocks last week.

Overnight Tuesday, post-US trade, the American Petroleum Institute had published a weekly report, this including an estimated 5.215MMbbl draw on US crude stocks last week, against consensus for a 1.2MMbbl decline.

Last night's EIA report however, estimated a 1.338MMbbl rise for stored crude, an 8.029MMbbl climb for petrol stocks and a 6.528MMbbl increase for distillate inventories.

Exports of crude and crude products had fallen for the week, underscoring international economic growth, and hence crude demand, fears.

These had been highlighted overnight by the European Central Bank (ECB), following a weak outlook report from the World Bank earlier in the week.

Gold – overnight trade appeared influenced in part by this week's rise in US 10-year bond yields and caution ahead of a US CPI update tonight.

The \$US index was slightly lower during gold trade.

Base metals – overnight trade was again pushed and pulled by select inventory updates, economic outlook commentary and currency moves, including a euro appreciation against the \$US.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6700	-0.0006	-0.09
EUR – USD	1.0971	0.0039	0.36

Australian Data Today

ABS	International trade	Nov
RBA	Lending to business	Nov

US Data Tonight

CPI inflation	Dec
Initial jobless claims	6 Jan
Treasury budget statement	Dec

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Japan	Leading economic index (prelim)	Nov
Euro zone	ECB economic bulletin	Jan

Rincon Resources	RCR	12 Jan
Yandal Resources	YRL	12 Jan

Suspensions *(selected)*

Company	Code	Since
CZR Resources	CZR	2 Jan
Gathid Ltd	GTH	4 Jan
Icon Energy	ICN	9 Jan

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
A2B	Tomorrow	60	100	2.35
5GN	24 Jan	2	0	0.00

Reports & Events*(selected; all times AEDT)*

When	Company	Report/Event
17 Jan	RIO	Dec Q
22 Jan	DJW	Interim
24 Jan	AFI	Interim (webinar 3.30pm)
30 Jan	ALX	Dec Q
	MP1	Dec Q (w/cast 10.30am)
	WOA	Dec Q
31 Jan	PAC	FUM 31 Dec
	SLR	Dec Q (tele 11am)



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