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Market Opener

Monday, 14 February 2022

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Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7075	-33	-0.5
NZX 50	12060	-114	-0.9
DJIA Futures	34627	0	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	4410	0	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	14241	0	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens a new week's trade with an escalation of warnings regarding Russia's Ukraine intentions and several large-cap domestic stocks reporting earnings, amid a continued domestic focus on 2022 parliamentary elections and Covid-19 impacts.

US equities markets fell further overnight Friday.

Since overnight Friday trade:

- discussions between the US and Russian presidents, regarding Russia's military presence on the Ukraine border were reported to have achieved no agreement;
- Germany's chancellor announced discussions in the Ukraine capital Kyiv today and in Moscow tomorrow;
- Australia evacuated personnel from its embassy in Kyiv;
- the US administration confirmed it had bolstered its presence at a UAE air base with several F-22 fighter jets; and
- the US FDA authorised the use of the Eli Lilly-developed Covid-19 antiviral bebtelovimab for emergency use in those at high risk of suffering severe symptoms and already experiencing mild to moderate symptoms.

Locally today, earnings season begins to warm further.

Stocks trading **ex-dividend** today include **DDR**, **SCG** and **SUN**. Please see p4 for a detailed ex-dividends list.

Regionally today, no major economic indicators are expected during ASX trade.

In overnight Friday commodities trade, Brent **crude** swung sharply higher. WTI extended Thursday's gain, settling with an even steeper increase than Brent's.

US **gold** futures settled modestly higher.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned moderately lower, but remained above \$US150.5/t.

LME (3mth evening) copper, nickel and aluminium dropped.

The \$A declined to ~US72.30c after trading at ~US71.35c early Friday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	34738	-504	-1.4
S&P 500	4419	-85	-1.9
NASDAQ	13791	-394	-2.8
FTSE 100	7661	-11	-0.2

Today's Stock Watch

Aurizon Holdings (AZJ)

10.5c, 95%-franked interim dividend from 14.4c, 70%-franked a year ago. 4% lower, \$256.9M interim NPAT. 1% higher, \$1.515B revenue.

Boral Ltd (BLD)

7c special dividend. Nil interim dividend.

513.7% higher, \$A1.024B interim NPAT.

12% lower, \$2.38B total operations revenue.

JB Hi-Fi (JBH)

\$1.63 fully franked interim dividend from \$1.80 a year ago.

9.4% lower, \$287.9M interim NPAT.

1.6% lower, \$4.86B revenue. \$3.39 NTA from \$2.22.

GPT Group (GPT)

9.9c interim distribution (six months to 31 December).

767.4% higher, \$1.42B full year NPAT.

720.6% higher, \$1.97B income. \$6.09 NTA from \$5.57.

Bendigo & Adelaide Bank (BEN)

26.5c fully franked interim dividend from 23.5c a year ago.

31.7% higher, \$321.3M interim NPAT.

8.5% higher, \$965.1M revenue.

Cash earnings rose 18.7% to \$260.7M.

Praemium Ltd (PPS)

\$3.67M interim total comprehensive net loss from a \$2.49M net profit a year ago. 21% higher, \$30.36M revenue.

\$19.38M cash and equivalents.

Carsales.com Ltd (CAR)

25.5c fully franked interim dividend from 25c a year ago.

22.2% higher, \$A74.62M interim NPAT.

21.6% higher, \$241.86M continuing operations revenue.

Sky City Entertainment Group (SKC)

\$NZ33.7M interim net loss against a \$NZ77.9M net profit a year ago.

35.6% lower, \$NZ289.8M continuing operations revenue.

Resources

Peak Rare Earths (PEK)

Appian Pinnacle Holdco subsidiary Shenghe Resources (Singapore) is paying A99c per share to gain 19.9% of PEK. PEK traded at 70c – 80c last week, settling at 79.5c Friday.

Energy

Beach Energy (BPT)

Flat, 1c fully franked interim dividend.

66% higher, \$A212.9M interim NPAT.

10% higher, \$797.4M revenue. \$1.38 NTA from \$1.24.



DAX 30	15425	-65	-0.4
Shanghai Comp	3463	-23	-0.7

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European, UK and US equities markets traded variously lower overnight Friday.

Inflation concerns and ramped-up warnings regarding potential Russia-Ukraine military conflict, including advice for US, UK and western European citizens to leave Ukraine, appeared to weigh the most.

Among overnight Friday **data** releases, the **UK** December quarter **GDP** estimate represented 1.0% growth for the three months and 6.5% year-on-year growth, roughly in line with forecasts.

The December GDP reading indicated a 0.2% pullback for the month, but this was also expected.

2021 GDP growth came in at 7.5% following a 9.4% plunge for 2020. Annual 7.55 GDP growth had not been recorded in the UK since 1942.

The NIESR January GDP tracker estimate indicated 0.9% growth, almost as anticipated.

Meanwhile, December quarter industrial production rose 0.3% for the month following a 0.7% November increase.

Against December 2020, output was up 0.4%.

Germany's final January CPI reading confirmed 0.4% inflation for the month and a 4.9% annualised inflation rate.

In the **US**, the University of Michigan's first February 61.7 consumer sentiment estimate undershot expectations, representing a 5.5-point fall from January's 67.2 rather than the forecast 0.3-point increase.

Tonight in the **US**, a January consumer inflation expectations report is anticipated.

In addition, a media appearance is scheduled for a Federal Reserve regional president who promoted multiple 2022 rate increases Thursday this past week.

Elsewhere, **European Central Bank** (ECB) president Christine Lagarde is scheduled to speak publicly.

Companies listed to report earnings or provide trading updates later today or tonight include: Advance Auto Parts, Avis Budget, Dai-ichi Life, DBS Group, Kirin Holdings, Michelin and Toshiba Corp.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1842.1	OZ	4.70	0.3
Silver (NY) (Mar)	23.37	OZ	-0.15	-0.6
Gold (LON)	1831	OZ	-4	-0.2
Platinum	1023	OZ	-3	-0.3
WTI Crude (NYMEX Mar)	93.10	bbl	3.22	3.6
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Apr)	94.44	bbl	3.03	3.3
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	150.87	t	-0.70	-0.5
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	9856	t	-391	-3.8
Nickel	23006	t	-460	-2.0
Aluminium	3136	t	-110	-3.4
Lead	2278	t	1	0.0

Pre-Open Announcements

Westpac Banking Corporation (* WBC)

\$A3.5B off-market share buy-back completed, pushing CET1 down ~0.79%.

WBC repurchased ~167.5M shares, representing 4.6% of the group's issued capital.

Application scale-back details also lodged this morning.

CSL Ltd (* CSL)

CSL has completed its \$A750M SPP at \$A253.57 per share.

Valid applications were lodged by 56,180 individual shareholders, for a combined \$A942.675M worth of shares.

CSL traded at \$247.50 - \$259.41 last week, settling at \$248.50 Friday.

Monadelphous Group (* MND)

MND has secured new resources and energy sector contracts and extensions worth a combined \$400M.

Contact Energy (CEN)

Flat NZ14c interim dividend.

72% higher, \$NZ134M interim NPAT.

Audinate Group (AD8)

\$2.15M interim net loss following a \$1.21M loss a year ago. 31.6% higher, \$20.226M revenue.

Opthea Ltd (OPT)

Data from OPT's phase 2b clinical trial of OPT-302 administered in combination with ranibizumab wo patients suffering polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy were presented at an Angiogenesis, exudation and degermation virtual conference over the weekend.

Magellan Financial Group (MFG)

Adviser and broker webinar lodged post-trade Friday, together with a unitholder letter and global strategy update.

MFG settled at \$18.11 Friday after trading as low as \$16.14 Monday after the announcement of chair and chief investment officer Hamish Douglass's medical leave of absence and consequent new appointments to Mr Douglass's MFG positions. MFG had closed out the previous week at \$18.51.

The group has pushed back its interim results announcement from Thursday this week to Friday.

Firebrick Pharma (FRE)

Recently ASX-listed FRE is reporting a \$1.54M interim net loss following a \$979,275 loss a year ago.

Revenue came in at \$3.37M following nil revenue previously. 3.44c NTA from 2.36c.

FRE listed on the ASX 28 January after conducting an IPO at 20c. The company traded at 45c - 65c across its debut session, and has since traded at 46c - 75c, settling at 50c Friday.

My Rewards International (MRI)

Employee and consumer rewards specialist completed its ASX listing Friday, following a \$5M IPO at 20c per share.



Zinc	3626	t	-76	-2.1
Tin	43529	t	-648	-1.5

Commodities Commentary

Oil – the International Energy Agency's (IEA) monthly oil market report, published overnight Friday, maintained international oil supply and demand would likely proved balanced for the March quarter, with a return to a surplus unlikely in the near-term.

Surplus supply could return during the second half of 2022 if not during the June quarter, the IEA offered.

In addition, the IEA noted that Saudi Arabia and the UAE could effectively end price volatility by boosting supply.

If the OPEC+ production curbs were removed altogether, the IEA estimated global supply could be boosted immediately by ~4.3MMbbl/d, with the UAE and Saudi Arabia sitting on the most spare output capacity.

IEA forecasts included a 3.2MMbbl/d increase in demand for 2022 (800,000bbl/d higher than the previous prediction), to a record 100.6MMbbl/d.

Overnight Friday settlements ensured an eighth consecutive weekly rise for both Brent and the WTI, prices reaching new seven-year highs intra-session.

A US warning regarding Russia's potential Ukraine intentions pushed WTI as much as 5% higher.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig report, also published overnight Friday, included a jump in the number of operational oil rigs from 497 to 516. This represented the largest weekly increase since February 2018.

Gold – prices were pushed to ~two-month peaks overnight Friday by increased safe-haven demand.

The \$US strengthened (ICE \$US index + $^{\sim}0.29\%$; 0.5% post-settlement), however and US 10-year bond yields eased (to $^{\sim}1.9\%$) also due to demand, keeping gold interest fluid.

Base metals – an early rise for the \$US, to the highest in eight days, plus a general risk-off mood, constrained overnight Friday LME sentiment and prompted some profit-taking.

In addition, inventories quoted for Shanghai Futures Exchangeregistered warehouses were notably higher than those released prior to the Lunar New Year- Spring Festival holiday season.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7131	0.0000	-0.01
EUR – USD	1.1342	-0.0008	-0.07

US Data Today & Tonight

Consumer inflation expectations

Jan

Opened at 11.5c, the company's day one low, and traded as high as 14.5c before settling at 13c.

~4.4M shares changed hands across 187 transactions. 130.34M quoted shares.

Resources

Alvo Minerals (* ALV)

Central Brazil copper-zinc VMS Palma project C3 prospect diamond drilling has delivered significant VMS mineralised intersections.

Assays lodged pre-trade.

The results are from the first seven holes completed of a 10,000m campaign.

Results are pending from an additional five holes.

Two drill rigs operational.

American Rare Earths (* ARR)

Heralding partnerships secured with US-headquartered research organisations.

Details, including potential outcomes, lodged this morning.

Quantum Graphite (QGL)

Details of a QGL-Sunlands Co JV submission to the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) lodged post-trade Friday.

The JV's submission relates to the AEMO's draft Integrated Systems Plan.

Emerald Resources (EMR)

EMR has extended the period of its unconditional, recommended offer for Bullseye Mining to 4 March.

EMR held 55.87% of EMR Friday.

OM Holdings (OMH)

OMH 75% subsidiary OM Sarawak has secured a MoA with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) for OM Sarawak personnel to organise, manage and teach the ninth module of the UNIMAS faculty of engineering's Certificate of Manufacturing Technology (Smelting).

This module will be taught at the OM Sarawak Samalaju Industrial Park facility.

SensOre Ltd (S3N)

Precious and battery mineral explorer, and services and technology provider completed its ASX listing Friday, following a \$7.48M IPO at 85c per share.

Opened at 84.5c and traded at 70c – 85c before settling at 73c. ~124,000 shares change hands across 66 transactions. 20.899M quoted shares.

Energy

Buru Energy (* BRU)

BRU's Ungani JV partner ROC is suspending the Ungani 8 well following another stuck pipe incident in the side-track Ungani8HST1.

Drill rig Ensign 963 is subsequently being removed from the Canning Basin.



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Allegiance Coal (AHQ)

Mourning the passing of non-executive director Malcolm Carson.

Mr Carson was appointed an AHQ director in August 2016.

Key Petroleum (KEY)

Planning to commence a 12-month on-market buy-back 28 February.

KEY has not set a purchase tally limit.

The company has ~1.968B shares on issue.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
88 Energy	88E	14 Feb
Ozz Resources	OZZ	14 Feb
RareX Ltd	REE	14 Feb
Taruga Minerals	TAR	14 Feb
Traka Resources	TKL	14 Feb
Valor Resources	VAL	14 Feb
K-TIG Ltd	KTG	15 Feb
Peregrine Gold	PGD	15 Feb
Rafaella Resources	RFR	15 Feb

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Cassius Mining	CMD	27 Jan
Comet Resources	CRL	31 Jan
Locality Planning Energy Holdings	LPE	10 Feb
Structural Monitoring Systems	SMN	27 Jan

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
DDR	Today	15	100	2.58
QVE	Today	1.2	100	4.39
SCG	Today	7.25	0	4.65
SUN	Today	23	100	5.49
CPU	Tomorrow	24	40	2.01
CBA	Wed	175	100	3.55
KOV	Thu	25	100	4.35
KPG	Thu	0.36	100	0.92
ARG	Fri	16	100	2.74
GUD	Fri	17	100	4.32

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Mon	AZJ BPT	Interim Interim (w/cast 10am)



	BEN	Interim
	BLD	Interim
	CAR	Interim (tele 9.30am)
	CEN	Interim (w/cast 8am)
	FID	Interim
	GPT	Interim
	JBH	Interim
	PPS	Interim (w/cast 9.30am)
	SKC	Interim (tele 10am)
		, ,
Tomorrow	ABY	Interim (tele 10.30am)
	ANN	Interim (tele 10am)
	ВНР	Interim
	DXS	Interim
	ELO	Interim (w/cast 9.30am)
	GWA	Interim
	SEK	Interim
	SWM	Interim (w/cast tele 9am)
	SGM	Interim (w/cast 9.15am)
	30141	meerin (w/cast 3.15am)
Wed	BFG	Interim
vvcu	BRG	Interim (tele 9am)
	CTD	Interim (w/cast tele 9.30am)
	CSL	Interim (w/cast tele 9.50am)
	EHL	Interim (w/cast 11am)
	EVN	Interim
	FBU	Interim
	FMG	Interim
	NEA	Interim
	ORA	Interim
	RBL	Interim
	STO	Interim
		Interim
	TWE	
	VCX	Interim
Thu	ADD	Interim (/as : 40)
Thu	ABP	Interim (w/cast 10am)
	CGF	Interim
	CWY	Interim (w/cast tele 9.30am)
	CDA	Interim
	CWN	Interim
	DTL	Interim (w/cast tele 11.30am)
	DHG	Interim (w/cast 10.30am)
	EGG	Interim (w/cast tele 9.30am)
	GMG	Interim
	GOZ	Interim
	GNC	AGM
	IRE	Interim
	MVF	Interim
	NCM	Interim
	NWH	Interim (tele 10am)
	ORG	Interim



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	RIC	Interim (tele 10am)
	S32	Interim
	SGR	Interim
	TAH	Interim
	TLS	Interim
	TCL	Interim
	VUK	AGM (8pm)
	WES	Interim (w/cast 1pm)
	WHC	Interim
	WPL	Full year
Fri	ING	Interim (w/cast 10am)
	MFG	Interim (webinar 11am)
	MYS	Interim
	QBE	Full year