

**Markets**

<b>SFE 200 Futures</b> (9.30am AEDT)	7385	4	0.1
<b>NZX 50</b>	11749	-22	-0.2
<b>DJIA Futures</b>	37553	-220	-0.6
<b>S&amp;P 500 Futures</b>	4799	-15	-0.3
<b>NASDAQ Futures</b>	16967	-3	0.0

**Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market commences mid-week trade with the \$A at ~US65.85c, a batch of influential economic data due out of China early afternoon, and further material international economic reports scheduled for release tonight.

US equities markets traded for the first time this week overnight and fell in concert.

**Locally** today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases a payroll jobs report for the week ending 9 December at 11.30am AEDT.

**Regionally** today, China is scheduled to report December quarter **GDP growth, 2023 fixed asset investment, plus December industrial production and retail sales**, each at 1pm AEDT.

In addition, China's statistics office (NBS) hosts a press conference at that time.

China's December **house price index** is anticipated at **12.30pm** AEDT.

Japan's Tankan January **manufacturing** index is due as the ASX opens.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** settled mixed, Brent crude up slightly and WTI down modestly.

US **gold** (Comex) futures fell by ~1.0%, settling slightly above \$US2030.0/oz.

**Iron ore** (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) recorded a slight decline, falling beneath \$US137/t.

US **copper** (Comex) futures added US3c/lb to close at \$US3.77/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** dropped to ~US65.85c after trading at ~US66.05c - ~US66.20c early yesterday evening.

**Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
<b>Dow Jones</b>	37361	-232	-0.6
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	4766	-18	-0.4
<b>NASDAQ</b>	14944	-28	-0.2
<b>FTSE 100</b>	7558	-37	-0.5
<b>DAX 30</b>	16572	-51	-0.3
<b>Shanghai Composite</b>	2894	8	0.3

**Today's Stock Watch**
**The Lottery Corporation (TLC) / Westpac Banking Corporation (WBC)**

TLC has appointed TLC non-executive Doug McTaggart as chair, effective 1 March.

Dr McTaggart takes over from Steven Gregg who was appointed WBC chairman-elect and in the meantime, as a director, October 2023.

**Praemium Ltd (PPS)**

\$48.3B FUA at 31 December, up 12% year-on-year.

Additional figures plus commentary lodged this morning.

**Resources**
**AIC Mines (A1M)**

Initial Queensland Pyramid gold project drilling across three prospects has delivered gold, silver and base metals intersections, described by A1M as 'encouraging'.

**Evolution Mining (EVN)**

Produced 161,073oz of gold at a \$A1618/oz AISC during the December quarter.

Copper output tallied 13,594t.

\$191M cash at bank at 31 December.

Meanwhile, EVN COO Bob Fulker has resigned, effective 31 March.

Exploration update also lodged this morning.

**SSR Mining (SSR)**

Produced 211,100oz of gold equivalent (Au eq) during the December quarter, pushing full year output to ~706,900oz.

Breakdown statistics lodged pre-trade.

Promising long-term production guidance 13 February.

Planning to lodge full year financial results 21 February.

**Winsome Resources (WR1)**

Quebec, Canada Adina lithium project drilling has delivered several significant-width and high-grade intersections, some at shallow depths.

Five drill rigs on site. Resource update anticipated by 30 June.

**Energy**
**Haranga Resources (HAR)**

Senegal Saraya uranium permit Mandankoly prospect geochemical exploration has returned additional anomalies. Ongoing auger drilling.

**Basin Energy (BSN)**

Exploration update lodged this morning, confirming new exploration programs for BSN's Athabasca uranium projects, Canada.



## Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European, UK and US equities markets opened lower overnight, weak sentiment featuring through to respective settlements, amid fresh inflation updates and associated central bank commentary and speculation.

US equities markets were reacting to events and reports since overnight Friday trade, plus earnings reports and news for large-cap stocks including Apple, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley.

In addition, the chip manufacturing sector benefited from an analyst's positive potential earnings assessment.

Further, a US Federal Reserve governor warned current inflation indications did not translate, in his view, into any opportunity for near-term interest rate cuts.

In geopolitical developments, Middle East tensions rose and relationships clouded further, with Iran and Iraq trading allegations and veiled threats.

Pakistan also accused Iran of 'unprovoked' attacks within Pakistan.

The US military reportedly in the meantime conducted a new anti-missile offensive within Yemen.

Earlier yesterday, Japan's November producer prices were reported 0.3% higher for the month, against expectations for no change.

Against November 2022, prices were flat following a 0.3% annualised October increase.

A five-year government bond auction in Japan notably produced a 0.197% yield from 0.325%.

In overnight economic **data** releases, **Germany's** final December CPI reading was confirmed as representing 0.1% inflation for the month following 0.4% deflation for November.

Against December 2022, the inflation rate was running at 3.7% from November's annualised 3.2%.

The ZEW January economic sentiment index for Germany came in at 15.2 from 12.8, defying expectations for a decline to 12.0.

The current conditions component index however, was calculated at -77.3 from -77.1.

**Euro zone** consumer inflation expectations for the 12 months from November fell to 3.2% from 4.0% nominated during October's survey.

The new level represented the least expected since February 2022.

The ZEW euro zone economic sentiment index for January slipped to 22.7 from 23.0.

In the **UK**, unemployment claims rose by 11,700 in December following a 600,000 November increase.

Average weekly earnings (excluding bonuses) rose 6.6% during the three months to 30 November, against 7.2% for the three months to 31 October.

Also in the UK, a 10-year index-linked treasury gilt auction resulted in a **0.423%** yield from **0.724%**.

**Canada** reported 0.3% December deflation for the month, but annualised 3.4% inflation growth. This followed 0.1% inflation for November and 3.1% year-on-year growth.

In the **US**, the New York Fed (Empire State) manufacturing index

## Pre-Open Announcements

### Bapcor Ltd (BAP)

BAP CFO Stefan Camphausen has resigned, but will remain with BAP for a transition period.

### Meridian Energy (MEZ)

December operational statistics lodged pre-trade, highlighting year-on-year sales growth across the residential, agriculture, corporate and small, medium and large business segments.

### Resources

#### TG Metals (TG6)

Final 2023 drilling results in hand.

Assays and commentary lodged this morning.

2024 drilling underway at the WA Lake Johnston lithium-nickel-gold project Burmeister lithium prospect.

One RC and one diamond drill core rig on site.

#### Zenith Minerals (ZNC)

In response to an ASX query, ZNC confirms ZNC's media adviser forwarded a draft announcement, provided to the adviser by ZNC on a confidential and embargoed basis on Friday 12 January, to *The Australian Financial Review*, before the announcement had been released to the ASX.

The announcement, of a strategic review of ZNC lithium assets was lodged with the ASX pre-trade Monday this week.

Meanwhile, ZNC settled 10.71% higher on 12 January and 6.45% Monday.

#### Lincoln Minerals (LML)

31M fully paid shares are due for release from voluntary escrow tomorrow.

### Energy

#### Energy Resources of Australia (ERA)

In response to an ASX price query, the ERA is the latest uranium company to point to the recent appreciation in uranium (U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>) spot prices over the past week.

ERA closed out last week at 4.4c but traded as high as 6.3c Monday before settling with a 34.09% gain for the session.

Yesterday, ERA traded at a peak 7.8c before closing at 7.1c, representing a 20.34% gain for the session on an 11.548M share turnover.

4.1M shares had changed hands Monday.

#### Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Australian Pacific Coal	AQC	17 Jan
Cosmo Metals	CMO	17 Jan
Energy Transition Minerals	ETM	19 Jan
Lykos Metals	LYK	17 Jan



tumbled to -43.7 from -14.5, against expectations for an improvement to -5.0. The new reading was the lowest since May 2020.

**Tonight** in the **US**, a wave of economic reports is due, including the Federal Reserve's district-by-district economic roundup known as the beige book, December retail sales, industrial production and import prices, plus November business inventories. A home builders' industry market index is also expected, together with weekly mortgage applications.

In addition, the US conducts a 20-year bond auction and four Federal Reserve officials are scheduled to speak publicly.

Elsewhere, the UK and euro zone release CPI inflation updates, and European Central Bank (ECB) president Christine Lagarde is scheduled to speak publicly. Germany hosts a 30-year bond auction and the UK a 10-year treasury gilt auction.

Also tonight, further and varied commentary is anticipated out of the World Economic Forum.

Companies scheduled to report earnings later today or tonight include: Alcoa, Charles Schwab Corp, Prologis, Kinder Morgan and US Bancorp, together with additional regional US banks.

In overnight corporate news, **Goldman Sachs** reported an ~50% quarterly profit increase, but its lowest annual profit in four years.

**Morgan Stanley's** December quarter profit fell.

**Apple** revealed it was offering discounted prices in China. The group was also reported to have supplied more smartphones in 2023 than Samsung.

### Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
<b>Gold</b> (COMEX 100 Feb)	2030.2	oz	-21.4	-1.1
<b>Silver</b> (COMEX 5000 Mar)	23.09	oz	-0.24	-1.0
<b>Platinum</b> (NYMEX Apr)	904	oz	-18	-2.0
<b>WTI Crude</b> (NYMEX Feb)	72.40	bbl	-0.28	-0.4
<b>Brent Crude</b> (ICE EUR Mar)	78.29	bbl	0.14	0.2
<b>Iron Ore</b> (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	136.75	t	-0.47	-0.3
<b>Copper</b> (LME 3mth Evening) (15Jan)	8382	t	39	0.5
<b>Nickel</b>	16222	t	-136	-0.8
<b>Aluminium</b>	2204	t	-18	-0.8
<b>Lead</b>	2110	t	17	0.8
<b>Zinc</b>	2559	t	43	1.7
<b>Tin</b>	24781	t	133	0.5

### Commodities Commentary

**Oil** – overnight trade was pushed and pulled by oil supply security concerns, demand speculation based on international economic commentary and near-term US weather forecasts, and the \$US at four-week peaks.

OPEC's monthly market report is anticipated tonight, ahead of the International Energy Agency's (IEA) oil report overnight tomorrow. Weekly US petroleum inventories, as calculated by government agency the EIA, are also expected overnight tomorrow.

**Gold** – overnight prices dropped on early \$US strength, this outweighing any safe-haven interest.

**Base metals** – trade sentiment was bruised early overnight on \$US

MetalsTech Ltd	MTC	18 Jan
PhosCo Ltd	PHO	18 Jan
Rex Minerals	RXM	18 Jan

### Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Galena Mining	G1A	11 Jan
Gathid Ltd	GTH	4 Jan
Icon Energy	ICN	9 Jan
Laramide Resources	LAM	15 Jan

### Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
PL8	Tomorrow	0.55	100	5.50
SEC	Tomorrow	4.65	100	4.63
KPG	Fri	0.44	100	0.97
5GN	24 Jan	2	0	0.00

### Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
<b>Today</b>	<b>EVN</b>	Dec Q
	<b>MEZ</b>	Dec
	<b>PPS</b>	Dec Q
	<b>SSR</b>	Dec Q
<b>Tomorrow</b>	YAL	Dec Q (post-ASX trade; w/cast 11am Fri)
<b>Mon</b>	DJW	Interim
	LYC	Dec Q (w/cast 10am)
<b>Tue</b>	SMR	Dec Q (tele 11am)
<b>24 Jan</b>	AFI	Interim (webinar 3.30pm)
	PRU	Dec Q (webinar 9am)
<b>25 Jan</b>	RRL	Dec Q (w/cast tele 11am)
<b>30 Jan</b>	ALX	Dec Q
	MP1	Dec Q (w/cast 10.30am)
	WOA	Dec Q
<b>31 Jan</b>	CIA	Dec Q (w/cast tele 1am 1 Feb)
	PAC	FUM 31 Dec
	PBH	Dec Q (w/cast tele 10.30am)
	SLR	Dec Q (tele 11am)



strength, but a media report indicating pending further stimulus in China supported select positive demand outlooks.

China's December quarter **GDP** reading is scheduled for release today, together with 2023 fixed asset investment, plus December industrial production, retail sales and residential property prices.

### Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
<b>AUD – USD</b>	0.6584	-0.0029	<b>-0.44</b>
<b>EUR – USD</b>	1.0876	-0.0042	<b>-0.38</b>

### Australian Data Today

ABS	Payroll jobs	9 Dec
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### US Data Tonight

Fed Reserve beige book	Dec-Jan
Retail sales	Dec
Industrial production	Dec
Import prices	Dec
Business inventories	Nov
NAHB housing market index	Jan
MBA mortgage applications; 30-year rates	12 Jan

### Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

<b>Japan</b>	Tankan manufacturing index	Jan
<b>UK</b>	CPI inflation	Dec
UK	PPI	Dec
<b>Euro zone</b>	CPI inflation (final)	Dec

### Need More Information?

Contact your State One Stockbroking advisor on 08 9288 3388 or 1300 651 898, or by email, [advice@stateone.com.au](mailto:advice@stateone.com.au)

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