

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	6490	4	0.1
NZX 50	12787	42	0.3
DJIA Futures	29865	455	1.6
S&P 500 Futures	3623	41	1.1
NASDAQ Futures	12005	72	0.6

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade with a new \$A appreciation and the Australian Securities Exchange maintaining technical issues have been rectified such that normal trade can resume today.

Trade also commences with overnight comments in hand from the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) governor, ahead of the release of RBA policy meeting minutes and two public appearances by RBA officials today, key data out of the US tonight, and further public addresses from several national and regional central bank heads.

Overnight international equities trade proved largely positive, buoyed by the second potential Covid-19 vaccine developer in a week announcing reassuring early results from ongoing late-stage trialling.

Since yesterday's ASX trade, **RBA** governor Philip Lowe has spoken publicly on Covid, *Our Changing Economy and Policy*, outlining his reasons for predicting Australia's GDP would not return to pre-Covid-19 levels until at least late next year.

Dr Lowe also ventured the policy shift to prioritising job creation rather than inflation control was likely to remain for a few years.

Locally today, the RBA publishes the **minutes** of its 3 November policy meeting **11.30am** AEDT.

In addition today, RBA assistant governor financial markets Christopher Kent was scheduled to speak at the Australian Securitisation forum from 9.30am AEDT.

RBA deputy governor Guy Debelle is listed, as chair of the Global FX Committee, as a panel member for an *Evolution of FX Benchmarks* webinar, **5pm** AEDT.

Also today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases a weekly **jobs and wages** report.

A weekly **consumer sentiment** reading is due pre-trade.

In overnight commodities trade, **oil** swung to a decisive gain.

US **gold** futures (Dec) settled higher for a third consecutive session, but this time just slightly so.

LME **copper** and **aluminium** rallied. **Nickel** continued to decline modestly.

The **\$A** approached US73.20c after trading above 73.00c early yesterday evening.

* Mineral exploration listing – on ASX open – NMR *

* Fashion retail listing - on ASX open – UNI *

Today's Stock Watch

Uniti Group (UWL) / OptiComm Ltd (OPC)

UWL is acquiring superfast retail broadband services specialist Harbour ISP.

Consideration comprises \$9.25M cash plus 1M UWL options, exercisable at \$1.54 each.

UWL has traded at \$1.385 - \$1.60 the past five full trading sessions.

REA Group (REA)

REA has appointed Jennifer Lambert as an independent non-executive director, effective 1 December.

Ms Lambert is a director of Mission Australia, BlueScope Steel (ASX: BSL) and NEXTDC (ASX: NXT).

Afterpay Ltd (APT)

CEO and MD Anthony Eisen will be joined by fellow APT co-founder Nick Molnar as co-CEO and MD.

Today's AGM materials lodged pre-trade.

Dough Ltd (DOU)

Neobank financial wellness app launched in the US.

Weebit Nano (WBT)

Agreement reached with development partner CEA-Leti to boost ReRAM, embedded memory module and standalone memory selector activities. Details lodged pre-trade.

PointsBet Holdings (PBH)

Fifth online sportsbook operational in the US, this one in Colorado. Today's AGM materials lodged pre-trade.

SRG Global (SRG)

New contracts and a contract variation recently secured with a total value of \$55M. Details lodged this morning.

iCollege Ltd (ICT)

ICT has signed a non-binding Lol with Aegis Aged Care to provide infection control training to Aegis' ~3000 staff.

Conditions necessary to achieving a potential binding commitment lodged post-(normal) trade yesterday.

Universal Store Holdings (* UNI)

Casual youth fashion retailer was unable to complete its ASX listing yesterday, following a \$147.8M IPO at \$3.80 per share.

The stock will open within its alphabetic grouping on ASX open today.

Once underway, trading will be on a conditional and deferred settlement basis. Normal (T+2) trade was originally expected to commence tomorrow. 73.196M quoted shares.

**Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	29950	471	1.6
S&P 500	3626	42	1.2
NASDAQ	11924	95	0.8
FTSE 100	6421	105	1.7
DAX 30	13139	62	0.5
Shanghai Comp	3347	36	1.1

Overseas Markets Commentary

Overnight gains and some new record peaks across major European and US equities markets were largely supported by positive news from a developer of a potential Covid-19 vaccine, as diagnoses figures in the US continued to concern.

Moderna announced that early data from late-stage trialling of its Covid-19 **vaccine** candidate indicated 94.5% effectiveness, with no major safety issues noted.

Moreover, the vaccine remained stable in standard refrigerated storage for up to a month and appeared to retain stability for up to six months at -20C.

In addition, earlier yesterday, a batch of October data releases out of **China**, including industrial production and fixed asset investment, bolstered views of continuing economic recovery in China.

A 21.4% jump in annualised GDP growth for **Japan** also proved encouraging.

Meanwhile, a scheduled **European Union** (EU) summit, scheduled to commence Thursday, pressured **UK-EU** negotiators seeking to agree trade terms for when the UK's transition period for its separation from the EU expires at year's end.

This week's negotiations commenced in Brussels overnight, with the UK maintaining it would not compromise 'sovereignty' and the taking 'back control of our laws, our trade, and our waters'.

In the meantime, the UK PM confirmed he was in isolation, but continuing in his role, following recent contact with a person who had since tested positive for Covid-19.

Also overnight, Hungary and Poland made good on threats, blocking a €1.1 trillion **EU budget** for 2021 - 2027, which includes €750B worth of Covid-19 support funding, and was agreed by a majority of ambassadors four months ago.

The issue is the condition that recipient nations must be deemed to be adhering to democratic measures as outlined in the EU founding treaty.

Both Hungary and Poland are subject to current investigations for violations of what has been dubbed the EU's 'rule of law'.

Early yesterday evening (AEDT) **Reserve Bank of Australia** governor Philip Lowe promoted more risk taking among businesses and households, to best progress economic recovery from the impacts of Covid-19.

Dr Lowe also again confirmed RBA policy was aligning more with the health of the jobs market than with inflation control, in line with a similar recent policy push by the US Federal Reserve and reiterated by at least one Fed regional president overnight.

Pre-Open Announcements**Kelly Partners Group Holdings (KPG)**

KPG has appointed former MERIDIAN Risk Solutions and AustRe Brokers director Paul Butler to assist in building a KPG insurance broking business.

Mr Butler also founded THB Australia and New Zealand.

In addition, KPG is planning to promote alternative investment opportunities under a 10-year agreement with 'a senior director of a major Australian financial institution'.

Hearts & Minds Investments (HM1)

Selling the stocks that presented at last year's Sohn HM1 leaders' conference in order to purchase the stocks represented at the conference held late last week.

HM1 lodged the list of stocks that will comprise the renewed conference portfolio post-(normal) trade yesterday.

Resources**Mako Gold (** MKG)**

Heralding Tchaga prospect RC drilling, which has confirmed additional shallow, high-grade gold.

Assays lodged this morning.

A second rig is expected early next month, to test three regional prospects.

Native Minerals Resources Holdings (* NMR)

Minerals explorer was unable to complete its ASX listing as scheduled (**11am** AEDT) yesterday following a \$5.4M IPO at 20c per share.

The stock will open within its alphabetic grouping on ASX open today.

28.71M quoted shares.

Pathfinder Resources (PF1)

Recently ASX-listed PF1 says it will defend a \$US693,000 claim for purported services delivered by Airguide International.

PF1 included the disputed claim in the company's pre-listing prospectus and supplementary prospectus.

Jadar Resources (JDR)

JDR says the proposed acquisition of the Granite Belt project from two companies in liquidation (MRV Metals and Moreton Resources) appears to have been thwarted by receivership, but that the company is reserving all rights.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
AusCann Group Holdings	AC8	17 Nov
Byrah Resources	BYH	17 Nov
CannPal Animal Therapeutics	CP1	17 Nov
Crowd Media Holdings	CM8	17 Nov
Elixinol Global	EXL	17 Nov



In **Germany**, the **Bundesbank's** (central bank) monthly report included expectations of domestic stagnation or renewed GDP contraction for the December quarter, given the recent regional surge in Covid-19 cases and the associated reinstatement of containment measures.

Among other overnight central bank commentary, **European Central Bank** (ECB) president Christine Lagarde promoted the possibility of a euro zone e-currency within two-four years.

Overnight data releases were scant, but featured a surprise reading for the New York Fed State Empire manufacturing index - this falling to 6.3 from 10.5, following expectations of a significant improvement, to as high as 15.

Tonight in the **US**, October retail sales and industrial production are due, together with September business inventories and a home builders' housing market index.

Elsewhere, **Bank of England** (BoE) governor Andrew Bailey is scheduled to speak publicly, as is Ms Lagarde and five US Federal Reserve regional presidents.

Investors are keen for indications of any additional policy moves before the end of the year, the ECB almost guaranteeing change in comments from earlier this month.

Companies listed to report earnings later today and tonight include: Autohome, easyJet, Home Depot, Imperial Brands, Kohl's and Walmart.

NB: US markets will not trade Thursday next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1887.8	oz	1.6	0.1
Silver (NY) (Dec)	24.802	oz	0.03	0.1
Gold (LON) (13 Nov)	1891	oz		
Platinum	922	oz	38	4.3
WTI Crude (NYMEX Dec)	41.34	bbl	1.21	3.0
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jan)	43.82	bbl	1.04	2.4
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%) (13 Nov)	120.8	t		
Copper (LME,3mth Ind,PM)	7102	t	119	1.7
Nickel	15850	t	-44	-0.3
Aluminium	1952	t	19	1.0
Lead	1902	t	8	0.4
Zinc	2675	t	45	1.7
Tin	18710	t	310	1.7

Commodities Commentary

Oil – an overnight media report quoted **OPEC+** sources as confirming the 30 November and 1 December OPEC and OPEC+ meetings would likely push back the scheduled 2MMbbl/d easing of production curbs, and that this would be for three – six months. A joint technical committee met overnight and the joint ministerial monitoring committee meets tonight, meaning policy recommendations will firm.

Overnight sentiment was also supported by positive potential Covid-19 **vaccine** news from Moderna.

Further, **China's** October industrial production and fixed asset investment updates, released yesterday, again pointed to

Land & Homes Group	LHM	17 Nov
Mayur Resources	MRL	17 Nov
Tempest Minerals	TEM	17 Nov
Oneworld Healthcare	ONE	18 Nov
Poseidon Nickel	POS	18 Nov
Red Mountain Mining	RMX	18 Nov
RPM Automotive Group	RPM	18 Nov
Xstate Resources	XST	18 Nov
Nexus Minerals	NXM	19 Nov
Essential Metals	ESS	20 Nov
Hot Chili	HCH	20 Nov

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Emerge Gaming	EM1	30 Oct
Fremont Petroleum Corporation	FPL	3 Nov
New Energy Minerals	NXE	16 Nov
Resource Generation	RES	26 Oct
Suvo Strategic Minerals	SUV	13 Nov
Triple Energy	TNP	28 Oct

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
IAP	Thu	4.39	0	6.00
WAM	Thu	7.75	100	3.33
SOL	Fri	35	100	0.90
AMC	23 Nov	16.55	0	4.17
GNC	25 Nov	7	100	0.00
OFX	25 Nov	0.81	0	3.90

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	APT	AGM
	LEP	AGM
	MYE	AGM
	NHC	AGM
	PDN	AGM
	PAN	AGM
	PLS	AGM
	PBH	AGM
	REA	AGM
	RMC	AGM
	WSP	Strategy tele (9.30am)
Tomorrow	A2M	AGM
	ALG	AGM
	CMW	AGM



economic recovery in China.

In particular, production figures revealed record daily crude use by refineries.

Overnight, **US** agency the EIA predicted US shale output (from major formations) would likely fall a daily 139,000bbl during December, to 7.51MMbbl/d.

Gold – overnight prices were pushed and pulled by a surprise weak regional business activity index in the US, positive news regarding a potential Covid-19 vaccine and stricter Covid-19 containment measures reinstated in Michigan and Washington.

Central bank commentary also abounded, and this will continue tonight.

Base metals – overnight LME trade appeared mostly buoyed by new data out of China, but also encouraging GDP growth for Japan, and a new positive report from a Covid-19 vaccine developer.

Copper traded at 29-month peaks and **aluminium** at its highest in almost two years.

In production news, Lundin's Candelaria copper operation in Chile remained impacted by industrial action.

The BHP-owned Spence copper operation in Chile had over the weekend announced a unionised worker contract agreement through to November 2023.

China's October industrial production, retail sales, fixed assets investment and house price updates, released yesterday, again proved mixed against forecasts.

Industrial production rose 6.9% year-on-year, the same rate of increase as reported for September, and against expectations of a new 6.3% gain.

Retail sales grew 4.3% year-on-year, against 3.3% for September, but following forecasts of a 4.6% subsequent increase.

January – October **fixed asset investment** rose 1.8% following 0.8% recorded for January – September and against expectations of a new 1.5% rise.

The October **house price index** came in at a 4.3% year-on-year increase following September's 4.6% and forecasts of a 4.4% gain.

China also reported a 6.4% rise in January - October foreign direct investment (**FDI**), following a 5.2% January – September increase.

China's production figures notably showed a 9.7% year-on-year jump in aluminium output, this attributed mostly to improved prices.

Also yesterday, **Japan** reported 5% September quarter GDP growth, and a 21.4% jump in annualised GDP.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7317	-0.0003	-0.04
EUR – USD	1.1856	0.0004	0.04

Australian Data Today

ANZ/RoyMgn	Consumer sentiment	15 Nov
RBA	Policy meeting minutes	3 Nov
ABS	Payroll jobs & wages	31 Oct

FWD	AGM
HPI	AGM
IGO	AGM
KAI	AGM
LIC	AGM
PGH	AGM
RED	AGM
RDY	AGM
SVW	AGM

Thu

ALU	AGM
AMA	AGM
ARF	AGM
AVN	AGM
AVZ	AGM
BSL	AGM
FZO	AGM
GMG	AGM
GOZ	AGM
IPH	AGM
LSF	AGM
MLD	AGM
MIN	AGM
MGR	AGM
NET	AGM
PNR	AGM
PAR	AGM
QHL	AGM
SEK	AGM
SXY	AGM
TSO	AGM
VRT	AGM
WSA	AGM
ZNO	AGM

Fri

AX1	AGM
CLV	AGM
CNI	AGM
CMM	AGM
JLG	AGM
KGN	AGM
LLC	AGM
LNK	AGM
ORI	Full year
PTM	AGM
SLR	AGM
SO4	AGM
SPL	AGM
TNT	AGM
WGX	AGM



US Data Tonight

Retail sales	Oct
Industrial production	Oct
Business inventories	Sep
NAHB housing market index	Nov

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