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Market Opener

Friday, 18 September 2020

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Please see disclaimer at end of this document

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	5880	17	0.3
NZX 50	11739	-38	-0.3
DJIA Futures	27980	42	0.2
S&P 500 Futures	3368	6	0.2
NASDAQ Futures	11120	30	0.3

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens Friday trade with a national cabinet meeting focusing on Covid-19 management measures, following largely negative overnight international equities trade, and with an ASX/S&P quarterly rebalance due to be effected come Monday's open.

Post-US trade, the US president was expected to announce ~\$US13B worth of aid for the US agribusiness sector during an election campaign rally in Wisconsin.

Locally today, the PM will speak following the conclusion of the national cabinet meeting.

No major data releases are due.

AMP, **BSE** and **QUB** trade **ex-dividend** today. Please see pp3-4 for details.

In addition, two new listings are scheduled. *Please see Pre-Open Announcements*, p2.

Regionally today, **Japan** reports August **CPI** pre-ASX trade.

Japan's markets will be closed Monday and Tuesday next week due to public holidays.

In overnight commodities trade, oil settled with a further gain.

US gold futures (December) swung decisively lower.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) notably turned higher after falling for two consecutive sessions.

LME **copper** closed with a slight gain. **Nickel** fell. **Aluminium** continued lower.

The **\$A** was pushed a little beyond US73.00c after trading above US72.95c early yesterday evening.

This morning, the \$A has appreciated to ~US73.20c.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	27902	-130	-0.5
S&P 500	3357	-28	-0.8
NASDAQ	10910	-140	-1.3
FTSE 100	6050	-29	-0.5
DAX 30	13208	-47	-0.4
Shanghai Comp	3270	-13	-0.4

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets chopped and swung

Today's Stock Watch

5G Networks (5GN) / Webcentral Group (WCG)

5GN is planning to acquire all the WCG shares it does not already hold in a recommended one-for-12 bid.

WCG is terminating a scheme implementation deed (SID) with Web.com Group following the expiry of a matching or superior proposal process.

5GN and WCG are resuming from trading halts, 5GN having traded at \$1.62 - \$1.99 the five sessions prior to the halt, and WCG at 15c - 18c.

Immutep Ltd (IMM)

Reporting improving interim results from the INSIGHT-004 phase one clinical trial targeting several cancers, and also the TACTI-002 phase two study targeting squamous cell carcinoma in the head and neck and lung cancer.

Sydney Airport (SYD)

August passenger numbers dived 96.5% year-on-year. Breakdown statistics lodged this morning.

Clover Corporation (CLV)

2.5c fully franked final dividend, against 1.75c a year ago.

23.9% higher, \$2.41M full year NPAT.

15.1% higher, \$88.28M revenue.

33.18c NTA, against 27.21c.

Fonterra Shareholders Fund (FSF)

Reporting a Fonterra Co-op full year \$NZ803M NPAT.

5% higher, \$NZ20.28M revenue.

NZ5c final dividend.

\$NZ2.77 NTA, against \$NZ2.01.

Resources

BHP Group (BHP)

Reporting \$US1.5B worth of \$US notes (66.85%) and €469.77M worth of euro notes (62.64%) have been tendered in BHP's subordinated notes repurchase plan.

Carawine Resources (CWX) / Fortescue Metals Group (FMG)

The proposed WA Paterson province CWX-FMG Coolbro JV will now also include CWX's E45/5528 Elder exploration licence.

Magmatic Resources (MAG)

Planning to demerge the NSW Moorefield gold project into subsidiary Australian Gold & Copper Ltd.

Associated proposed in-specie distribution details lodged this morning.

Venus Metals Corporation (VMC) / Rox Resources (RXL)

Sovereign prospect RC drilling has delivered high-grade assays. (VMC 50%; RXL 50% gold rights)



again overnight, sentiment impacted by central bank outlook warnings, health authority concerns and a batch of underwhelming economic data releases.

Key indices mostly trended higher towards each session close, however.

Large tech stocks were again pushed lower.

Post-European trade Wednesday, **US Federal Reserve** chair Jerome Powell had highlighted expectations of a slowing economic recovery and no return to pre - Covid-19 economic conditions for some time.

Overnight, the **Bank of England** (BoE) maintained status quo at its policy meeting, but was keen to point out UK Covid-19 cases were at their highest in four months, and that the virus, and uncertainty regarding any trade agreement with the European Union (EU), threatened the UK's economic recovery from 'a deep recession'.

The BoE acknowledged better-than-feared economic progress had been achieved over the past few months, but ventured inflation would not rise from the current 0.2% to 2.0% for at least two years, and that interest rates would likely need to capped at 0.1% for five years.

For its part, the **World Health Organisation** (WHO) warned of a 'very serious situation' as the weekly (to 16 September) tally for Covid-19 cases for Europe exceeded the peak weeks recorded in March.

The WHO recognised more is now known regarding the virus, as different regions imposed or foreshadowed renewed restrictions.

Among overnight **data** releases, **euro zone** finalised August CPI figures confirmed 0.2% deflation against August 2019 and 0.4% for the month.

Meanwhile, regional July and August new car registrations were reported to have dropped 5.7% and 18.9% on a year-on-year basis.

In the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims tallied 860,000, against a revised 893,000 for the previous week and following expectations of an 830,000 increase.

The Philadelphia Fed manufacturing index declined 2.2 points to 15.0, but 13.0 had been forecast.

August housing starts dropped 5.1% for the month, following a 17.9% July jump, but almost in line with expectations.

Building permits fell 0.9%, against expectations of a 2.5% rise.

Tonight in the US, the University of Michigan's initial September consumer sentiment reading and the Conference Board August leading index are due.

Elsewhere, the UK reports retail sales.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1949.9	OZ	-20.6	-1.1
Silver (NY) (Dec)	27.10	OZ	-0.38	-1.4
Gold (LON) (16 Sep)	1962	OZ		
Platinum	931	OZ	-33	-3.5
WTI Crude (NYMEX Oct)	40.97	bbl	0.81	2.0
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Nov)	43.30	bbl	1.08	2.6

Pre-Open Announcements

EROAD Ltd (* ERD)

Fleet management technology specialist scheduled to list on the ASX **11am** AEST, as a foreign exempt listing.

ERD's home exchange is the New Zealand Stock Exchange (main board).

~68.3M quoted shares.

SRJ Technologies Group (* SRJ)

Pipe systems coupling and leak containment specialist scheduled to list on the ASX **midday** AEST, following an \$8M IPO at 50c per CDI/share.

73.999M quoted shares/CDIs.

The Reject Shop (TRS)

Director Michele Teague plans to retire from the TRS board at the 21 October AGM.

Eden Innovations (EDE)

Sports stadium marketing strategy outlined this morning.

Resources

SSR Mining (* SSR)

Completed its ASX listing yesterday following the acquisition of Alacer Gold Corp, as a foreign exempt listing.

Opened at \$30.75 and traded at \$29.65 - \$31.35 before settling at \$30.76.

21,670 shares changed hands across 27 transactions.

Trading commenced on a deferred settlement basis.

Normal T+2 trade commences 23 September (Wednesday next week).

SSR's home exchange is the Toronto Stock Exchange, Canada. SSR is also traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market.

~16.21M quoted shares.

Cape Lambert Resources (CFE)

Winance is converting a \$2.2M CFE secured loan facility, plus interest and outstanding fees, into CFE shares at 0.4c each, pending shareholder approval.

CFE has traded at 0.8c - 1.1c for the week to date.

Energy

State Gas (GAS)

Queensland Reid's Dome project Nyanda-4 CSG well gas flows have exceeded 240MMcf/d following eight weeks of dewatering.

A record rate of 310MMcf/d has been recorded over the past two days.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
East Energy Resources	EER	18 Sep
Great Northern Minerals	GNM	18 Sep



Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%)	126.59	t	0.58	0.5
Copper (LME,3mth Ind,PM)	6791	t	9	0.1
Nickel	15070	t	-135	-0.9
Aluminium	1784	t	-8	-0.5
Lead	1890	t	5	0.3
Zinc	2512	t	-16	-0.6
Tin	18075	t	-200	-1.1

Commodities Commentary

Oil – prices swung overnight on economic data, OPEC+ considerations, US output recovery expectations and Covid-19 reports, highlighting industry views of likely continued volatility.

The OPEC+ monitoring committee met overnight, reportedly agreeing to recommend member nations who had produced more than agreed amounts during May - July be permitted to compensate with cuts through to December, rather than by the end of this month.

A panel warning was reportedly delivered to the committee, regarding the demand risk from rising Covid-19 cases.

In the meantime, ex-hurricane Sally continued to damage communities as it moved along the south eastern US coast, but preparations to resume offshore production and ports activity were reported to be continuing.

Additional greater regional tropical storms remain on watch.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig count is due tonight.

The next OPEC+ monitoring committee meeting is scheduled for 19 October and official OPEC and OPEC+ meetings November 30 and 1 December

Gold – Comex futures had settled prior to US Federal Reserve commentary overnight Wednesday, so were reacting last night to this, plus comments following policy meetings from the Bank of Japan (yesterday) and Bank of England (overnight).

Liquidity bolstering appeared one major influence on trade moves.

Base metals – LME copper traded as low as \$US6676/t overnight, overall sentiment damaged by central bank warnings, WHO concerns and disappointing data, including US weekly new unemployment claims.

Some positioning is anticipated during tonight's trade, with Japan heading into a Monday and Tuesday public holiday long weekend.

China's one-year and five-year loan rates are due Monday.

LAST

CLIBBENCIES

Exchange Rates

CORRENCIES	LAST	+/-	/0		
AUD – USD	0.7319	0.0013	0.17		
EUR – USD	1.1856	0.0040	0.34		
	US Data T	onight			
Uni of Michigan consumer sentiment (prelim)			Sep		
Conference Board leading index			Aug		

Pacifico Minerals	PMY	18 Sep
Renascor Resources	RNU	18 Sep
Surefire Resources	SRN	18 Sep
Anglo Australian Resources	AAR	21 Sep
AVZ Minerals	AVZ	21 Sep
Generation Development Group	GDG	21 Sep
Lark Distilling Co	LRK	21 Sep
MetalsTech Ltd	MTC	21 Sep
Peak Minerals	PUA	21 Sep
Phoslock Environmental Technologies	PET	21 Sep
Pure Minerals	PM1	21 Sep
QuickFee Ltd	QFE	21 Sep
Alto Metals	AME	22 Sep
Frugl Group	FGL	22 Sep
Titanium Sands	TSL	22 Sep

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Ansila Energy	ANA	7 Sep
FAR Ltd	FAR	14 Sep
Faster Enterprises	FE8	2 Sep
Intiger Group	IAM	1 Sep
Kaiser Reef	KAU	17 Sep
Quantify Technology Holdings	QFY	14 Sep
Sagalio Energy	SAN	16 Sep
Velocity Property Group	VP7	7 Sep
Warrego Energy	WGO	17 Sep

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AMP	Today	10	100	0.00
BSE	Today	3.5	0	0.00
QUB	Today	2.3	100	2.17
ABC	Mon	4.75	100	1.73
BGP	Mon	8.39	0	2.15
CAR	Tue	25	100	2.29
KPG	Tue	1.33	100	3.98
MA1	Tue	1	100	1.89
PSI	Tue	5.5	100	3.14
AVA	Wed	1	0	0.00
COG	Wed	0.15	100	0.00
CAJ	Thu	0.5	100	3.85
CUP	Thu	1.25	100	2.23
EBO	Thu	32.41	95.77	2.77
GC1	Thu	2	0	1.37
LAU	Thu	0.5	100	2.94
LYL	Thu	5	100	7.04
MYE	Thu	4	100	4.40
SWK	Thu	0.3	100	4.29

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Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Japan	CPI	Aug
UK	Retail sales	Aug
Germany	PPI	Aug

Need More Information?

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VLS	Thu	1.5	100	3.87
RRL	Fri	8	100	1.44

S&P/ASX Indices Re-balance

The following changes will take place as trading opens Mon (21 September) ...

S&P/ASX20

Out: SCG, SUN In: COL, FMG

S&P/ASX100

Out: CIM, VUK In: APX, FPH

S&P/ASX200

Out: MMS, NHC, OML, ORE, SXL In: AIA, AUB, RMS, WGX, Z1P

S&P/ ASX300

Out: FAR, IGL, JHC, MYR, REG, SGF

n: ALK, CMM, DDR, DEG, EVT, REH, TPW

S&P/ASX All Australian 200

Out: HSN, JIN In: KGN, Z1P

S&P/ASX All Technology

In: BRN, DDR, EVS, M7T, NVX, SPT, SZL, WSP