

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	6057	-11	-0.2
NZX 50	11907	72	0.6
DJIA Futures	27922	63	0.2
S&P 500 Futures	3399	6	0.2
NASDAQ Futures	11587	25	0.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences a new week's trade with mixed overnight Friday international equities and commodities trade leads, a batch of influential domestic stocks reporting earnings or trading ex-dividend, and simmering geopolitical issues.

China-US relations remain firmly in focus, with no new date for trade talks to commence, following the previous weekend's last-minute public cancellation of a virtual high-level meeting.

Meanwhile, over this past weekend the US president was reported to have reiterated claims the US need not do business with China, and that this would be considered given select circumstances.

The comments appeared to build on similar from the treasury secretary mid-year, and from the US administration earlier this month.

US relations with **Iran** and its supporters also continue fluid.

Yesterday, Venezuela's president publicly thanked Iran for its support during the US sanctions on the company's petroleum sector, indicating ongoing mutual support, declaring the situation 'a war' and describing a suggestion that considering purchasing missiles from Iran as a 'good idea'.

Earlier yesterday, the president declared a major disaster in California due to fires.

Locally today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes the results of June surveying regarding the impacts of Covid-19 on households, **11.30am** AEST.

Another batch of high-profile stocks, including **AZJ, ANZ, EVN** and **WPL**, trade **ex-dividend** today. *Please see p3 for details.*

In overnight Friday commodities trade, **oil** picked up the pace of Thursday's fall.

US **gold** futures (December) ultimately added just US50c for the session.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) continued higher with a slight gain, approaching \$US122.80/t.

LME **copper** and **aluminium** extended Thursday's declines. **Nickel** turned higher.

The **\$A** slipped to ~US71.60c after trading at ~US71.80c early Friday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
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Today's Stock Watch
AMP Ltd (AMP)

AMP chair David Murray has resigned from the AMP board, effective immediately. In association, Boe Pahari is stepping down as AMP Capital CEO, also effective immediately, and will resume AMP Capital infrastructure equity business duties. Further, AMP Capital Holdings chair and AMP director John Fraser has resigned his positions. AMP director Debra Hazelton has been appointed to take over from Mr Murray.

Afterpay Ltd (APT)

APT subsidiary Clearpay (Europe) plans to outlay a minimum €50M the balance of Pagantis and PMT Technology.

Super Retail Group (SUL)

20.9% lower, \$110.2M full year NPAT. 4.2% higher, \$2.83B revenue. 19.5c fully franked final dividend.

Boral Ltd (BLD)

Will not pay a final dividend. Anticipating \$A1.346B worth of FY20 impairments. Planning to lodge results early Friday.

nib Holdings (NHF)

40% lower, \$90.1M full year NPAT. 2% higher, \$2.52B revenue. 4c fully franked final dividend.

G8 Education (GEM)

\$239.07M interim net loss. 28% lower, \$309.03M revenue.

Austal Ltd (ASB)

45% higher, \$88.978M full year NPAT. 12.7% higher, \$2.09B revenue. 5c final dividend. \$2.04 NTA, against \$1.73.

Reliance Worldwide Corporation (RWC)

32.7% lower, \$89.4M full year NPAT.

5.3% higher, \$1.16B revenue.

Identii Ltd (ID8)

Five-year agreement secured with Mastercard, including licensing ID8's Overlay+ to Mastercard.

Kazia Therapeutics (KZA)

US FDA orphan drug designation in hand for KZA's pazalisib.

MyFiziq Ltd (MYQ)

MYQ's Bearn app is live on Google Play and Apple App stores. 25M users have pre-registered for Bearn-combined apps.

Resources
Fortescue Metals Group (FMG)

\$A1.00 fully franked final dividend, against A84c a year ago.

49% higher, \$US4.73B full year NPAT. 29% higher, \$US12.82B revenue. \$US4.30 NTA, against \$US3.44.

St Barbara (SBM)

11% lower, \$128M full year NPAT.

4c fully franked final dividend.



Dow Jones	27930	191	0.7
S&P 500	3397	12	0.3
NASDAQ	11312	47	0.4
FTSE 100	6002	-11	-0.2
DAX 30	12765	-65	-0.5
Shanghai Comp	3381	17	0.5

Overseas Markets Commentary

Vacillating sentiment variously featured across major European and US equities markets overnight Friday, but key US indices second-half trade proved sufficiently positive to produce near-session high settlements.

Comments out of European Union (EU) – UK talks regarding arrangements once the transition period for the UK's separation from the EU ends 31 December again highlighted little progress on any bilateral trade accord.

Wrangling continued over the cut in US postal services and whether this was related to any push to influence how many people will vote, and what the likely outcomes will be, in November's presidential election.

Over the weekend, the US House of Representatives subsequently voted to provide \$US25B to the national postal service, but the legislation needs to also be approved in the Senate and ultimately the president.

Among overnight Friday **data** releases, the **euro zone's** initial August PMIs disappointed, coming in at 51.7 for manufacturing and 50.1 for the services sector, following 51.8 and 54.7 respectively at the end of July, and against forecasts of 52.6 and 54.0.

A consumer confidence reading improved by just 0.3 to -14.7.

Germany's initial August manufacturing PMI represented a two-point rise to 53.0, against expectations of 52.2 and following 51.0 for July.

The services sector PMI dropped to 50.8 from 55.6 however, against forecasts of 55.0.

In the **UK**, July retail sales were estimated 3.6% higher for the month, flowing a 13.9% June bounce.

Against July 2019, sales were up 1.4%.

Public sector borrowing tallied £25.9B during July, following £28.8B for June.

Preliminary August manufacturing and services sector PMI estimates exceeded expectations and also July readings, calculated decidedly expansionary, at 55.3 and 60.1 respectively.

These, from 53.3 and 56.5 respectively for July and following forecasts of 53.4 and 57.2.

In the **US**, July existing home sales rose 24.7% for the month, following a 20.2% June bounce, and expectations of a new 10.2% gain.

Markit's initial August PMIs also surpassed expectations, the manufacturing sector index coming in at 53.6 from 50.9 for July and against expectations of 52.0.

The services sector PMI, which holds an ~67% sway over US GDP calculations, improved from the contraction-expansion 50 cut-off to 54.8, following forecasts for 51.5.

Tonight in the **US**, the Chicago Fed national activity index is due.

Pre-Open Announcements

archTIS Ltd (** AR9)

Three-month information security services contract secured, in conjunction with KPMG, with an Australian Government agency.

AR9 is contributing resources worth up to \$400,000.

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (** CBA)

Confirming class action initiated in the Federal Court of Australia regarding CommInsure life insurance policy recommendations.

Infomedia Ltd (** IFM)

15% higher, \$18.56M full year NPAT.

12% higher, \$94.62M revenue.

2.15c, 70%-franked final dividend.

26.15c NTA, against 2.40c.

Chorus Ltd (** CNU)

\$NZ52M full year NPAT, against \$NZ53M for FY19.

\$NZ959M operating revenue, against \$NZ970M.

NZ14c fully franked final dividend.

A webcast was scheduled to commence 8am AEST.

Living Cell Technologies (LCT)

Mourning the passing of LCT founder and director Sir Robert Elliott.

SRG Global (SRG)

Company secretary Paul Hegarty has resigned, effective Friday.

Resources

Ramelius Resources (** RMS)

\$A113.42M full year NPAT, against \$21.83M a year ago.

31% higher, \$460.57M revenue.

1c fully franked final dividend.

Regis Resources (* RRL)

Reserves and resources update lodged this morning.

Comet Resources (* CRL)

Heralding metallurgical test work using graphite from the Springdale project, WA.

Statistics include up to 96.9% total carbon and 92.5% recovery.

Magnis Energy Technologies (MNS)

MNS has terminated the employment of CEO Frank Houllis.

Executive chair Frank Pullas and executive director James Dack are overseeing MNS operations.

Energy

Senex Energy (** SXY)

\$51.4M full year net loss, against a \$3.3M FY19 profit.

28% higher, \$120.3M revenue. 21c NTA, against 24c.



Meanwhile, the annual economic convention usually hosted by the US Federal Reserve Kansas City division will be going ahead this week, but online, across Thursday and Friday.

Chair Jerome Powell's opening speech will include comments on a policy framework review, commenced ~ two years ago.

In addition, the US Republicans host their national convention this week, ahead of the November US presidential election.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1947	oz	0.5	0.1
Silver (NY) (Sep)	26.877	oz	-0.424	-1.5
Gold (LON) (20 Aug)	1927	oz		
Platinum	916	oz	2	0.2
WTI Crude (NYMEX Oct)	42.34	bbl	-0.48	-1.1
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Oct)	44.35	bbl	-0.55	-1.2
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%)	122.79	t	0.32	0.3
Copper (LME,3mth Ind,PM)	6484	t	-123	-1.9
Nickel	14725	t	125	0.9
Aluminium	1764	t	-22	-1.3
Lead	1966	t	-22	-1.1
Zinc	2451	t	-30	-1.2
Tin	17650	t	80	0.5

Commodities Commentary

Oil – a weekly US petroleum drill rig report, published overnight Friday, included a surprise 11-rig jump in the operational oil rigs tally.

Global economic recovery, and hence fuel demand, remained in focus with the release of underwhelming PMI figures for **Japan** and the **euro zone**.

In addition, the **US** Department of Transportation revealed the tally of miles driven during June fell 13% short of the June 2019 total.

In **India**, July crude imports were reported at their least since March 2010.

In the meantime, a ceasefire announced in **Libya's** capital Tripoli, prompted the national oil company to predict oil exports would be enabled again from ports that had remained shut down for months.

Over the weekend, companies operating in the **Gulf of Mexico** began shutting operations on warnings issued for two approaching tropical storms, with 13% of potential daily output estimated shut-in by the end of Saturday, and 58% by earlier this morning. One storm has been declared a hurricane.

Gold – an early \$US jump constrained overnight gold sentiment, the ICE \$US index ultimately reducing to a 0.5% gain.

Data releases that could influence some sentiment this week include June quarter GDP second readings for Germany and the US.

Base metals – early overnight LME trade appeared impacted by euro zone PMIs that undershot expectations and a strengthening \$US.

Meanwhile, LME-warehoused *copper* was reported at 103,475t, a 13-year low.

The International Lead & Zinc Study Group (ILZSG) reported a

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Lithium Australia	LIT	24 Aug
Tempus Resources	TMR	24 Aug
Cobre Ltd	CBE	25 Aug
Six Sigma Metals	SI6	25 Aug
Alice Queen	AQX	26 Aug
Kingwest Resources	KWR	26 Aug
Exopharm Ltd	EX1	28 Aug

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Altura Mining	AJM	12 Aug
DomaCom Ltd	DCL	21 Aug
Ragnar Metals	RAG	7 Aug
STEMify Ltd	SF1	6 Aug
Syntonic Ltd	SYT	4 Aug
thedocyard Ltd	TDY	18 Aug

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AZJ	Today	13.7	70	5.60
ANZ	Today	25	100	4.35
EVN	Today	9	100	2.23
PNI	Today	8.5	100	2.95
VG1	Today	1.5	100	0.54
WPL	Today	36.53	100	6.75
CCL	Tomorrow	9	0	4.93
DMP	Tomorrow	52.6	100	1.41
IVC	Tomorrow	5.5	100	4.01
IPH	Tomorrow	15	100	3.56
MIN	Tomorrow	77	100	1.91
NWL	Tomorrow	7.8	100	0.98
RKN	Tomorrow	3	100	6.37
STO	Tomorrow	2.9	100	2.85
WES	Tomorrow	95	100	3.14
AGL	Tomorrow	51	80	7.17
CEN	Wed	20.18	0	6.13
PAI	Wed	3	100	3.54
QVE	Wed	2.2	100	5.21
TLS	Wed	8	100	3.28

Reports & Events

(selected)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	AYS	Full year



sizeable reduction in the world's *lead* surplus during June, from 45,300t to 16,300t.

Further, the *zinc* surplus was reported to have dropped from 19,000t to 2,000t.

Over the weekend, the Democratic Republic of Congo was reported to have awarded a waiver, the term yet to be decided, for a *copper* export ban. In addition, indefinite waivers for export bans on *cobalt*, *tantalum*, *tin* and *tungsten* were awarded.

Also over the weekend, Brazilian authorities revealed the seizure of ~70,000t of manganese destined for export to China, claiming the manganese, worth ~\$US10M, had been illegally mined.

Friday, **Japan** reported 0.3% annual July CPI growth and 0.2% for the month. August PMIs were initially estimated at 46.6 for the manufacturing sector and 45.0 for services, against 45.2 and 45.4 respectively at the end of July.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7167	0.0010	0.14
EUR – USD	1.1804	0.0006	0.05

Australian Data Today

ABS	Covid-19 household impacts	Jun
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US Data Tonight

Chicago Fed national activity index	Jul
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Need More Information?

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AUB	Full year
CNU	Full year
FMG	Full year
GEM	Interim
IFM	Full year
ISD	Full year (w/cast 10am)
MVF	Full year
NHF	Full year (w/cast 10am)
OML	Full year (w/cast 10am)
RWC	Full year
SBM	Full year
SXY	Full year (tele 10am)
SSG	Full year (tele 11am)
SUL	Full year

Tomorrow		
AWC		Full year
ALD		Full year
ANN		Full year
BIN		Full year
BKL		Full year
CPT		AGM (11am)
HUB		Full year
MOZ		Full year (tele 11am)
OSH		Interim
PPE		Full year (tele midday)
PRN		Full year (tele 9am AEST)
QUB		Full year
RHP		Full year (tele 9am)
SCG		Interim
SPK		Interim
SGP		Full year
SWM		Full year