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Market Opener

Monday, 31 August 2020

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Please see disclaimer at end of this document

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	6004	-40	-0.7
NZX 50	12097	3	0.0
DJIA Futures	28702	91	0.3
S&P 500 Futures	3515	10	0.3
NASDAQ Futures	12034	42	0.4

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens a new week's trade on the last day of August with influential regional and domestic data due late morning, and a batch of large-cap stocks trading ex-dividend, amid a Monday public holiday weekend for UK markets, including the London Metals Exchange, and racial unrest in the US colouring presidential campaigning.

Regionally today, **China** is expected to announce official (NBS) August PMIs **11am** AEST.

Locally today, key data due for release ahead of a Reserve Bank of Australia (**RBA**) policy meeting tomorrow includes a financial aggregates update from the RBA, in turn including July **private sector credit**, at **11.30am** AEST.

At the same time, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) will publish a June quarter **business indicators** report, including inventories, profits and wages.

The ABS will also release results from August surveying of Covid-19 impacts on **households**.

In addition today, the Melbourne Institute's monthly **inflation gauge** report is anticipated 11am.

Being the last day of August, a plethora of stocks is expected to lodge **earnings**.

Several large-cap stocks trade **ex-dividend**, including **ANN**, **AWC**, **BIN** and **FMG**. *Please see pp4-5 for details*.

In overnight Friday commodities trade, **oil** extended Thursday's falls, but just slightly so.

US gold futures (December) swung decidedly higher.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned barely higher, by UC6c/t, to close just below \$US122.40/t.

LME copper and other key base metals rallied in unison.

The **\$A** rose to ~\$US73.65c after trading at US73.15c early Friday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	28654	162	0.6
S&P 500	3508	23	0.7
NASDAQ	11696	70	0.6
FTSE 100	5964	-36	-0.6
DAX 30	13033	-63	-0.5
Shanghai Comp	3404	54	1.6

Today's Stock Watch

IOOF Holdings (IFL) / National Australia Bank (NAB)

IFL is reportedly planning to outlay up to \$1.5B for NAB's MLC division. IFL called a trading halt pre-trade Friday, extending the halt this morning until 3 September (Wednesday).

IFL \$146.96M full year NPAT reported pre-trade.

oOh!media Ltd (OML)

OML has appointed Nova entertainment CEO Cathy O'Connor as MD and CEO, effective early 2021.

Ms O'Connor will take over from Brendon Cook who earlier this year flagged his intention to retire from OML.

MNF Group (MNF)

MNF has appointed former Australia and UK finance sector executive Gail Pemberton AO as an independent non-executive director.

Downer EDI (DOW)

\$320M network restoration and other field operations contract secured with NBN Co, across the NT, SA and WA.

Openpay Group (OPY)

\$36.596M full year net loss, following a \$14.683M FY19 net loss. 66% higher, \$18.253M revenue.

Sealink Travel Group (SLK)

4.5c fully franked final dividend against 8.5c a year ago. \$13.5M full year net loss, against a \$21.5M FY19 NPAT. 150.7% higher, \$623.7M revenue. 5c NTA, against \$1.06.

Sezzle Inc (SZL)

\$8.18M full year net loss, following a \$4.75M FY19 net loss. 384% higher, \$20.78M income.

Splitit Payments (SPT)

\$US8.98M interim net loss, following a \$US3.84M net loss a year ago. 220% higher, \$US2.55M revenue.

Immutep Ltd (IMM)

IMM and Monash University have secured a \$A671,427 Australian Research Council (ARC) grant, supporting lymphocyte activation gene-3 (LAG-3) research for an additional three years.

Resources

Lithium Australia (LIT)

A LIT-DLG Energy (Shanghai) 50:50 JV has secured approval to install Soluna battery energy storage systems in Australia.

Energy

Strike Energy (STX)

STX and CSBP plan to convert a gas supply option to a 100PJ off-take agreement at 25TJ/day for ~11 years, pending a West Erregulla project final investment decision (FID).



Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European equities markets fell early in overnight Friday trade, sentiment continuing to vacillate throughout.

Key US indices opened positive, and variously meandered and chopped before trending higher during second half trade.

Friday, **Japan**'s PM revealed he would resign from Friday evening, citing a troublesome medical condition.

This sparked speculation regarding the likely status of trade relations and potential policy change under a new leader.

The yen strengthened against the \$US, as did the British pound.

In the US, the government Democrats leader repeated opposition to Republican and US administrative proposals for new Covid-19 fiscal support legislation.

Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey meanwhile addressed the US Fed economic forum, promoting policy easing in the face of international crises, including robust early moves.

In overnight Friday **data** releases, a **euro zone** economic sentiment index improved to 87.7 from 82.4.

In **Germany**, July import prices were calculated 4.6% lower than for July 2019, and 0.3% higher for the month, following a respective 5.1% fall and 0.6% gain reported for June.

A GfK consumer confidence reading came in at -1.8, from -0.2, this after forecasts of +2.5.

Meanwhile, **France** confirmed, in a final reading, a 13.8% drop in June quarter GDP, following a 5.9% March quarter decline.

Preliminary August CPI readings indicated 0.1% deflation for the month but 0.2% annual growth, following 0.4% and 0.8% inflation growth respectively reported for July.

In the **US**, July personal income and spending encouraged, income rising 0.4%, but spending by 1.9%.

For June, income had dropped 1% and spending had jumped 6.2%.

July wholesale inventories were reported 0.1% lower for the month, following a 1.3% June fall.

The University of Michigan's final consumer confidence reading for August came in at 74.1, from the initial 72.8 estimate and 72.5 at the end of July.

The Chicago PMI in the meantime slipped to 51.2 from 51.9.

Tonight in the **US**, the Dallas Fed manufacturing index is due.

Elsewhere, a finalised June quarter GDP is due from Italy and initial August CPI reading for Germany.

Meanwhile, Zoom is scheduled to report earnings.

UK markets, including the LME, will be **closed tonight** due to a public holiday.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1974.9	oz	43.3	2.2
Silver (NY) (Dec)	27.79	OZ	0.59	2.2
Gold (LON)	1957	OZ		
Platinum	924	OZ	6	0.6
WTI Crude (NYMEX Oct)	42.97	bbl	-0.07	-0.2

Pre-Open Announcements

Forbidden Foods (* FFF)

Health foods manufacturer scheduled to list on the ASX **11am** AEST, following a \$6M IPO at 20c per share. 45.29M quoted shares.

Recce Pharmaceuticals (RCE)

RCE has appointed executive director marketing and business development James Graham as CEO, effective immediately. \$4.32M full year net loss also reported post-trade Friday, following a \$2.79M FY19 net loss and increased R&D activity. 67% higher, \$1.15M revenue.

PointsBet Holdings (PBH)

A new contract plus full year results helped push PBH 86.7% higher for the session Friday.

PBH closed out the week at \$14.00 after trading as high as \$16.40 during Friday's session, and after settling for the previous week at \$6.80.

Buddy Technologies (BUD)

Positive announcements regarding July results and positive laboratory testing of an anti-bacterial smart pushed BUD to close at 9.2c Friday after closing out the previous week at 4.3c.

Quickstep Holdings (QHL)

QHL traded as high as 9.4c Friday after lodging full year results and announcing the retirement of chairman Tony Quick.

Non-executive QHL director Patrick Largier has been appointed to take over from Mr Quick.

QHL full year NPAT rose 44.5% to \$3.89M. Continuing operations revenue grew 12.3% to \$82.25M.

Apollo Tourism & Leisure (* ATL)

\$61.23M full year NPAT.

0.7% higher, \$366.75M revenue.

17.53c NTA, against 44.79c.

AML3D Ltd (* AL3)

\$3.09M full year net loss, following a \$680,836 FY19 net loss. 700% higher, \$288,516 revenue.

Southern Cross Electrical Engineering (SXE)

14% lower, \$10.87M full year NPAT.

8% higher, \$415.10M revenue.

3c fully franked final dividend.

34.2c NTA, against 31.6c.

Swick Mining Services (SWK)

0.6c fully franked final dividend, against 0.3c a year ago.

\$A6.13M full year net loss.

5% higher, \$149.64M revenue.

23.3c NTA, against 31.3c.

Equity Trustees (RF1)

650% higher, \$43.59M full year NPAT.

1044% higher, \$92.88M revenue (total investment income).

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Brent Crude (ICE EUR Oct)	45.05	bbl	-0.04	-0.1
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%)	122.39	t	0.06	0.0
Copper (LME,3mth Ind,PM)	6669	t	54	0.8
Nickel	15340	t	215	1.4
Aluminium	1801	t	23	1.3
Lead	1974	t	-7	-0.4
Zinc	2512	t	21	0.8
Tin	17850	t	40	0.2

Commodities Commentary

Oil – US Gulf of Mexico petroleum industry storm damage was largely assessed as minor, both onshore and offshore, overnight Friday, despite deadly community disruptions.

Operators reported mobilising activity, but offline offshore crude production remained estimated at 84%.

Refinery margin commentators in the meantime pointed to likely near-term soft refinery crude demand.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig report, released overnight Friday, included three fewer active oil rigs.

Gold – prices were pushed higher overnight Friday, as global trading relationships and general international economic wellbeing returned to the forefront, in part due to the resignation, and associated comments and currency moves, of Japan's PM.

Some trade was also attributed to early \$US weakness and basement-buying.

US presidential election and Covid-19 developments, together with key international data from today through the end of the week, are expected to produce trade swings this week.

Base metals — overnight Friday LME trade appeared influenced by an early \$US decline, some end-of-month positioning due to a public holiday weekend in the UK meaning the LME will be closed tonight, and reactions to the US Federal Reserve's policy changes announced overnight Thursday.

Copper traded at ~26-month highs, as the LME inventories tally was estimated at its least since December 2005.

In operator news, Freeport-McMoran announced it would ease some restrictions at the Grasberg, Indonesia copper-gold operation, prompting workers to agree to end protests which had included blockades.

Also in Indonesia, Weda Bay nickel processing was reported to have resumed from Thursday following flood disruptions.

China's official (NBS) August **PMIs** are due **today**, and will influence some trade, but not on the LME until tomorrow night, by which time a Caixin-calculated manufacturing PMI will also be in hand for China.

The **LME** will not trade **tonight**, due to a UK public holiday.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7364	-0.0003	-0.04
EUR – USD	1.1910	0.0006	0.05

Nova Eye Medical (EYE, formerly Ellex Medical Lasers)

\$A35.65M full year NPAT.

\$10.33M net loss from continuing operations.

21% lower, \$12.77M continuing operations revenue.

61.5c NTA, against 31.6c.

Nuheara Ltd (NUH)

\$11.69M full year net loss. 1% lower, \$4.44M revenue.

PainChek Ltd (PCK)

\$12.39M full year net loss. 302% higher, \$249,000 revenue.

DroneShield Ltd (DRO)

\$1.17M interim net loss. 45% higher, \$3.59M revenue.

Elsight Ltd (ELS)

\$US1.81M interim net loss, following a \$US1.60M net loss a year earlier. 59% lower, \$US352.29M revenue.

Weebit Nano (WBT)

Operations review and chairman and CEO update added to the company's annual report and lodged post-trade Friday, following last Wednesday's full year results release.

WBT closed out the week at 62c after settling the previous week at 34.5c.

Emeco Holdings (EHL)

The retail component of EHL's 85c-per-share entitlement offer opens today and is scheduled to continue until COB 15 September.

The institutional component delivered ~\$111M.

EHL traded at 86c - 94.5c last week.

Resources

Rio Tinto (RIO)

Anticipating delivering a definitive resources and reserves estimate for the Mongolia Oyu Tolgoi project by year's end. Initial underground sustainable production is targeted for October 2022 – June 2023.

Meanwhile, Turquoise Hill Resources has published a project technical report to comply with listing obligations in Canada.

Rumble Resources (* RTR) / Ramelius Resources (RMS)

RTR is exercising an option to acquire 100% of the WA Yalgoo field Western Queen gold project from RMS.

Details lodged this morning.

Metals X (MLX)

\$80.34M full year net loss, following a \$116.97M FY19 net loss. 30% lower, \$143.45M revenue. 6c NTA, against 15c. \$14.095M cash and equivalents.

Wiluna Mining (WMX)

\$14.25M full year NPAT, following a \$73.16M FY19 net loss. 24% higher, \$126.56M. \$1.284 NTA, against 1.8c and following a 100:1 consolidation.

Energy

Cooper Energy (* COE)

\$86.03M full year net loss, following a \$12.05M FY19 net loss.



Australian Data Today

RBA	Financial aggregates (incl private sector credit)	Jul
ABS	Business inventories (profits, inventories, wages)	JunQ
ABS	Covid-19 household impacts	Aug

US Data Tonight

Dallas Fed manufacturing

Aug

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	NBS PMIs	Aug
Japan	Industrial production (prelim)	Jul
Japan	Retail sales	Jul
Japan	Consumer confidence (3pm AEST)	Aug
Italy	GDP (final)	Jun Q
Germany	CPI (prelim)	Aug

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3% higher, \$78.14M revenue.

Reserves and resources also lodged this morning.

Paladin Energy (PDN)

\$US79.87M full year net loss, following a \$US30.345M FY19 net loss. Nil revenue, against \$US21.49M. Flat US4c NTA.

Key Petroleum (* KEY)

Non-executive chair Rex Turkington is retiring from the KEY board, effective today.

KEY has appointed non-executive director Geoff Baker to take over from Mr Turkington.

In addition, KEY MD Kane Marshall retired from KEY Friday. Exploration manager Ric Jason is interim CEO.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Canyon Resources	CAY	31 Aug
Great Northern Minerals	GNM	31 Aug
RBR Group	RBR	31 Aug
Thomson Resources	TMZ	31 Aug
Cannindah Resources	CAE	1 Sep
Golden Mile Resources	G88	1 Sep
Intiger Group	IAM	1 Sep
Orocobre Ltd	ORE	1 Sep
Peako Ltd	PKO	1 Sep
Faster Enterprises	FE8	2 Sep
IOOF Holdings	IFL	3 Sep
Magnetic Resources	MAU	3 Sep
Southern Gold	SAU	3 Sep

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Altura Mining	AJM	12 Aug
DomaCom Ltd	DCL	21 Aug
Ragnar Metals	RAG	7 Aug
thedocyard Ltd	TDY	18 Aug

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
ADA	Today	1.5	0	1.37
ANN	Today	39.36	0	0.83
AWC	Today	3.9	100	7.51
BIN	Today	1.5	100	1.83
EGH	Today	0.55	0	3.92
FMG	Today	100	100	5.30
MOT	Today	0.85	0	8.65
MXT	Today	0.88	0	5.21
NAC	Today	1.2	100	5.59
NSC	Today	1	100	5.93



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PGG	Today	0.71	0	3.93
PMC	Today	3	100	2.22
VGI	Today	5	100	4.32
AEF	Tomorrow	3.5	100	1.15
APX	Tomorrow	4.5	50	0.26
ASH	Tomorrow	2.7	100	0.00
CIN	Tomorrow	56	100	5.22
FWD	Tomorrow	12	100	0.00
KSL	Tomorrow	3.4	0	8.71
LNK	Tomorrow	3.5	50	4.63
MGX	Tomorrow	3	100	5.10
NBI	Tomorrow	0.7	0	6.02
OBL	Tomorrow	4	100	0.67
RMS	Tomorrow	2	100	0.51
SDF	Tomorrow	6	100	0.99
SIQ	Tomorrow	17	100	7.23
SUL	Tomorrow	19.5	100	1.99
WOR	Tomorrow	25	0	2.64
WOW	Tomorrow	48	100	2.59

Reports & Events

(selected)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	COE	Full year (w/cast 9am AEST)
	IFL	Full year
	SLK	Full year
	SPT	Interim
	SWK	Full year
	TGP	Full year
Tomorrow	EVN	Investor day (w/cast from 8.30am AEST)