

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	6961	2	0.0
NZX 50	12614	-19	-0.2
DJIA Futures	33447	57	0.2
S&P 500 Futures	4098	9	0.2
NASDAQ Futures	13794	46	0.3

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens Friday trade with a material report from the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) and influential China data, each due late-morning, plus positive new material domestic data already in hand and a strengthening \$A.

In addition today, National Cabinet meets with a likely focus on the national Covid-19 vaccination, following a recommendation for the AstraZeneca vaccine not to be administered to the under-50 age group.

Locally today, the RBA publishes its half-yearly financial stability review, containing new forecasts and general outlooks 11.30am AEST.

At the same time, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reveals additional data for the previously published preliminary February building approvals report.

Pre-trade, the AiG has released a 58.7 estimate for the March services sector activity index (PSI). This, from 55.8 for February.

Post-ASX trade, the RBA reports monthly official reserve assets, plus weekly and monthly liabilities and assets.

Regionally, China's March producer prices and CPI growth are scheduled for release 11.30am AEST.

In overnight commodities trade, Brent **crude** rose slightly, but WTI fell a little.

US **gold** futures seesawed higher, settling beyond \$US1755/oz.

Qingdao **iron ore** (CFR 62% fines) turned slightly lower, declining US53c/t to \$US173.10/t.

Nymex (CFR China, 62% Fe) iron ore continued higher, approaching \$US170.50/t.

LME **copper, nickel** and **aluminium** swung to record decisive gains.

The **\$A** appreciated to ~\$US76.55c after trading at ~\$76.25c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets.

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	33504	57	0.2
S&P 500	4097	17	0.4
NASDAQ	13829	140	1.0
FTSE 100	6942	57	0.8
DAX 30	15203	26	0.2
Shanghai Comp	3483	3	0.1

Today's Stock Watch
Boral Ltd (BLD)

S&P Global Ratings has revised the outlook for BLD's reaffirmed BBB credit rating from negative to stable.

BLD has reduced net debt over the past week after selling its 50% USG Boral holding.

Universal Biosensors (UBI)

Resuming from a trading halt with an exclusive perpetual supply agreement secured with Lubris BioPharma.

This will enable UBI to use the anti-fouling coating Lubricin (PRG4) in strip-based device point-of-care products.

EROAD Ltd (ERD)

ERD has secured Ventia as a customer, with a five-year agreement for a monthly subscription of ERD Saas products. Ventia plans to install ~2500 Ehubo 2 devices in its Australian fleet and 1500 in the New Zealand fleet.

Air New Zealand (AIZ)

In consultation with 52.45% shareholder the New Zealand government, regarding international travel uncertainties, AIZ is pushing back the proposed capital raising.

De.mem Ltd (DEM)

March quarter adjusted cash receipts grew ~12% year-on-year. Additional March quarter preliminary statistics lodged pre-trade.

Family Zone (FZO)

March quarter operational highlights lodged pre-trade, including 135% year-on-year growth in contracted schools and 137% for contracted students.

Douugh Ltd (DOU)

Goodments shareholders have effectively approved DOU's offer for the company, enabling compulsory acquisition to commence.

Resources
Rio Tinto (* RIO)

Rio Plc AGM in London this evening.

Genesis Minerals (GMD)

WA eastern goldfields Ulysses gold project RC drilling has delivered a new shallow gold zone and additional high-grade and/or significant width intersections.

Assays lodged this morning.

Firefly Resources (FFR)

WA Yalgoo gold project grade control drilling has indicated extensive mineralisation at surface.

Assays for 50% of the program are in hand.



Overseas Markets Commentary

Sentiment diverged across major European, UK and US equities markets overnight, amid mixed data releases and a plethora of commentary on optimal international economic recovery support and likely scenarios.

Key US indices settled at session highs, the S&P 500 settling at a new record peak, supported by large tech/communications stocks.

Speaking at an International Monetary Fund (IMF) virtual seminar **US Federal Reserve** chair Jerome Powell said the bank feared dour employment outlooks for select sectors, low-income workers, minority groups and women, promoting people support policies to avoid an adverse impact on long-term economic recovery from the effects of Covid-19.

Further, the bank expected any significant price rises during a removal of Covid-10 containment restrictions to prove temporary.

Earlier, **European Central Bank** (ECB) March policy meeting minutes also included concerns regarding jobs and business prospects when support schemes ended, and fears Covid-19 containment restrictions could continue into the second half of 2021.

ECB governing council members also recognized the likely positive impact of new US fiscal stimulus.

Among overnight **data** releases, **euro zone** February producer prices were calculated 0.5% higher for the month, following a 1.7% March increase and expectations of a new 0.4% rise.

Against February 2020, prices were 1.5% higher.

A March construction PMI indicated a return to expansion mode, with a 50.1 reading from a contractionary 45 for February.

Germany's February factory orders were reported 1.2% higher for the month, following a 0.8% January rise and forecasts for a 0.9% new increase.

The national construction PMI also rose but remained in contraction mode, with a 47.5 estimate from 41.0 for February.

Meanwhile, a 10-year bond auction in France produced a 0.00% yield from -0.07%.

The **UK's** March construction PMI jumped to a robust 61.7 from 53.3.

In the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims tallied 744,000, following 728,000 the previous week and against expectations of 675,000.

Tonight in the **US**, March producer prices and final February wholesale inventories are due.

Elsewhere, the **Bank of England** publishes a quarterly bulletin.

Meanwhile, the IMF and World Bank Spring meetings continue.

Commodities				
COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Jun)	1758.2	oz	16.6	1.0
Silver (NY) (May)	25.53	oz	0.28	1.1
Gold (LON) (7 Apr)	1738	oz		
Platinum	1225	oz	4	0.3
WTI Crude (NYMEX May)	59.60	bbl	-0.17	-0.3

Pre-Open Announcements

Electro Optic Systems Holdings (* EOS)

Heralding the use of a Guide Star laser to enable high-speed adaptive optics to form laser beams to track and move space debris at lower altitudes and faster speeds.

Details lodged pre-trade.

Kazia Therapeutics (KZA)

KZA paxalisib phase II study data for glioblastoma (brain cancer) is being presented in poster format at the American Association of Cancer Research annual meeting 10 – 15 April and also 17 – 21 May.

Delorean Corporation (* DEL)

Renewable generation specialist scheduled to list on the ASX midday AEST Monday, following a \$A14M IPO at 20c per share.

One operational project in suburban Perth, WA. Several under development across Australia and one planned for New Zealand.

~179.08M quoted shares.

Resources

Jindalee Resources (* JRL)

Resuming from a trading halt with a combined indicated and inferred resource for the McDermitt lithium project estimated at 1.43Bt @ 1320ppm Li, for 10.1Mt of lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE; 1000ppm Li cutoff).

JRL says this makes the McDermitt deposit the largest (contained) lithium deposit in the US.

Mineralisation remains open and further drilling is planned.

Exploration target rang also lodged post-trade yesterday.

Kore Potash (KP2)

Chasing \$US11M in support of the Republic of Congo Sintoukola potash project, \$US5.5M via an unconditional placement and a total \$US5.5M from a conditional placement plus subscriptions.

Shares will be issue at 1.1p (A2c) each.

KP2 conducted a bookbuild overnight.

A shareholders' meeting is scheduled for 5 May.

KP2 holds 97.5% of the Sintoukola project.

KP2 traded at 3.1c – 5.3c over the five trading sessions immediately prior to calling a trading halt pre-trade yesterday.

Trading Halts		
Company	Code	Resuming
Apollo Minerals	AON	9 Apr
Conico Ltd	CNJ	9 Apr
Cullen Resources	CUL	9 Apr
BlackEarth Minerals	BEM	12 Apr



Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jun)	63.20	bbbl	0.04	0.1
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%)	170.45	t	1.21	0.7
Copper (LME Ind)	9009	t	95	1.1
Nickel	16820	t	183	1.1
Aluminium	2285	t	22	1.0
Lead	1982	t	-13	-0.7
Zinc	2863	t	29	1.0
Tin	25795	t	105	0.4

Commodities Commentary

Oil – overnight prices appeared pushed and pulled by supply-demand commentary, central bank likely timeframes for economic recovery from the effects of Covid-19, and a falling \$US.

A media report included an increase in oil and gas condensate production for Russia for the first six days of April, to 10.52MMbbl/d from a March mean estimate of 10.25MMbbl/d.

In addition, Russia's government was reported to be considering a draft document estimating Covid-19 market impacts could extend to 2023-24.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig count is due tonight.

Gold – declining \$US indices and US 10-year bond yields favoured overnight gold interest. The \$US traded up to ~0.5% lower.

In addition, ECB policy meeting minutes contained views Covid-19 containment restrictions could continue to impact business activity during the second half of 2021.

Safe-haven interest was further supported when weekly US new unemployment claims came in higher than both the previous week and forecast tallies.

Base metals – overnight LME trade was supported by a weakening \$US and concerns for copper supply given Chile's Covid-19 – related border closures.

Copper concentrate treatment charges were reported yet lower.

China's March producer prices and CPI growth, expected today, could influence end-of-week trade.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7657	0.0020	0.26
EUR – USD	1.1918	0.0044	0.37

Australian Data Today

AiG	PSI	Mar
RBA	Financial stability review (biannual)	Apr
ABS	Building approvals (additional data; final)	Feb
RBA	Official reserve assets (4.30pm AEST)	Mar
RBA	Liabilities and assets (4.30pm AEST)	Mar

US Data Tonight

PPI	Mar
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Dreadnought Resources	DRE	12 Apr
Greenland Minerals	GGG	12 Apr
Kore Potash	KP2	12 Apr
Maximus Resources	MXR	12 Apr
Otto Energy	OEL	12 Apr
ResApp Health	RAP	12 Apr
Woomera Mining	WML	12 Apr

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Tubi Ltd	2BE	8 Apr
Advanced Human Imaging	AHI	1 Apr
Candy Club Holdings	CLB	8 Apr
Story-I Ltd	SRY	24 Mar
Strickland Metals	STK	8 Apr
Syntonic Ltd	SYT	25 Mar

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
BKW	Mon	21	100	2.88
CLX	Mon	2	100	0.00
FGX	Wed	2.6	100	4.03
WLE	Wed	3.5	100	4.15
D2O	Thu	3	100	2.12
CCL	Fri (16 Apr)	18	100	0.67
EAS	Fri	1.5	100	3.64
IMA	19 Apr	2	0	0.00
NHC	19 Apr	4	100	4.27
SOL	21 Apr	26	100	1.84
ACF	22 Apr	0.75	100	2.76
MFF	23 Apr	3	100	2.05
CDM	29 Apr	2	100	3.77



Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	Producer prices	Mar
China	CPI	Mar
UK	Trade balance	Mar
UK	BoE quarterly bulletin	Apr
Germany	Trade balance	Feb
Germany	Industrial production	Feb

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