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# **Market Opener**

Wednesday, 9 September 2020

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#### Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	5888	-98	-1.6
NZX 50	11757	-139	-1.2
DJIA Futures	27374	-151	-0.6
S&P 500 Futures	3318	-18	-0.5
NASDAQ Futures	11023	-37	-0.3

#### **Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market opens mid-week trade with further key regional and domestic data due by late morning, following decidedly negative overnight trade across US equities markets and amid growing US-China and Australia-China tensions.

**Regionally** today, **China** is expected to release August **producer prices** and **CPI** at **11.30am** AEST.

**Locally** today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases **July** business, housing and personal **lending** figures, also at **11.30am** AEST.

Westpac and the Melbourne Institute publish their monthly consumer sentiment report at 10.30am AEST.

Stocks trading **ex-dividend** today include **ADH**, **BXB** and **NEC**. *Please see p3 for details*.

In overnight commodities trade, oil tumbled.

US gold futures (December) were pushed higher.

**Iron ore** (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) extended last week's gains, trading above \$US128.00/t.

LME **copper** and other key base metals fell. **Aluminium** settled essentially flat, however.

The **\$A** approached US72.90c after falling to US72.60c early yesterday evening.

Earlier this morning, the \$A dropped below US72.05c.

#### **Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	27501	-632	-2.3
S&P 500	3332	-95	-2.8
NASDAQ	11848	-465	-4.1
FTSE 100	5930	-7	-0.1
DAX 30	12968	-132	-1.0
Shanghai Comp	3316	24	0.7

#### **Overseas Markets Commentary**

Major European equities markets headed lower in early trade overnight, but began to trend higher in the last two hours of trade, even while key US indices dropped on opening.

US markets traded for the first time this week, tech stocks again propelled lower.

Several nations revealed growing daily Covid-19 diagnoses and

#### China - PPI & CPI - 11.30am AEST

# **Today's Stock Watch**

# PharmAust Ltd (PAA)

Monepantel and monepantel sulfone have again demonstrated activity against SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19 causative agent) during in vitro tests. Details lodged this morning. PAA is planning a phase one clinical trial in humans.

### Recce Pharmaceuticals (RCE)

In response to a media article, RCE is keen to point out its 327 compound has been chosen as a candidate for a CSIRO and Doherty Institute antiviral screening program in relation to SARS-CoV-2 (responsible for Covid-19) research, as announced in July, but not the 529 compound, and that the screening constitutes a fee-for-service program.

During yesterday's ASX trade, RCE announced the RECCE 327 and RECCE 529 compounds had demonstrated some concentration-dependent reduction efficacy in in vitro trials conducted by Path BioAnalytics and the University of Tennessee Health Centre, and also some toxicity-related positive indications in a separate study.

RCE appreciated 10.17% yesterday to settle at \$1.625 after trading as high as \$1.875 intra-session.

#### FBR Ltd (FBR)

FBR has used its Hadrian X brick-paying robot to complete wall construction for a commercial and community centre in southern suburban Perth, Western Australia.

Details, including laying speeds and conditions, lodged this morning.

The construction represents the completion of a building pilot program agreement secured with Archistruct.

#### Imugene Ltd (IMU)

Underwriter agreement secured which will deliver IMU \$5.7M from options not exercised prior to 30 November.

#### Marley Spoon (MMM)

\$A3.3M better off following the exercise of CDI warrants.

# Resources

#### Australian Vanadium (AVL)

MoU secured with Enerox, which manufactures the CellCube vanadium redox flow battery. The MoU targets AVL Gabanintha vanadium project off-take agreements.

Further, AVL subsidiary VSUN Energy has secured a value added reseller agreement with Enerox, to supply and install CellCube products and services in Australia.

#### Gold Road Resources (GOR)

\$32.18M interim NPAT, following a \$17.08M net loss a year ago. \$135.12M sales revenue. \$73.6M cash and equivalents.



the UK revealed plans to reintroduce social gathering restrictions.

Yesterday, the US president repeated his wish to 'decouple' the US from China, or at least to further increase tariffs, so as to break US reliance on China.

US stocks were trading for the first time since weekend US Pentagon comments suggesting a ban on a key China chip manufacturer could be appropriate.

For its part, China accused the US of bullying the republic's tech companies, at the same time launching guidelines for technology firms, these including not using technologies to illegally acquire foreign citizen information or to conduct large-scale surveillance Meanwhile, the British pound kept falling against the \$US, trading at ~two-week lows.

The ICE \$US index traded at four-week highs.

UK parliamentarians publicly debated proposed new legislation covering trade arrangements, some arguing it risked breaching the UK-European Union (EU) withdrawal agreement, destroying trust in the UK, and likely leaving the UK without an EU trade agreement come 31 December.

In overnight data releases, the euro zone's final June quarter GDP reading came in as an 11.8% drop for the three months and 14.7% tumble year-on-year, against expectations of 12.1% and 15% declines.

March quarter GDP had fallen 3.7% and 3.2% respectively.

**Germany**'s July trade figures included a €19.2B trade surplus following €15.6B at the end of June, but against expectations of €22B.

Exports rose 4.7% following a 14.9% June jump.

Imports were 1.1% higher, against a 7% June increase.

Meanwhile in **Italy**, July retail sales were reported 2.2% lower for the month and down 7.2% against July 2019, undershooting expectations for a monthly 5.1% improvement and 0.2% year-on-year decline.

June retail sales had bounced 10.2% for the month.

In the  ${\bf US}$ , a NFIB small business optimism index rose 1.4 points to 100.2.

The IBD/TIPP economic optimism index slipped 1.8 points to 45.0.

July consumer credit was calculated \$US12.25B higher for the month, following an \$US11.4B June rise.

**Tonight** in the US, a July job opportunities report and weekly mortgage applications are due.

Elsewhere, Germany conducts a 10-year bond auction.

# **Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1943.2	ΟZ	8.9	0.5
Silver (NY) (Dec)	26.991	ΟZ	0.28	1.0
Gold (LON) (7 Sep)	1928	OZ		
Platinum	897	OZ	-5	-0.6
WTI Crude (NYMEX Oct)	36.76	bbl	-3.01	-7.6
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Nov)	39.78	bbl	-2.23	-5.3
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%)	128.03	t	0.5	0.4

# **Pre-Open Announcements**

# **QBE Insurance Group (QBE)**

Confirming the payment arrangements for recent CEO Pat Regan who finished with QBE yesterday.

### Sigma Healthcare (SIG)

Full year results anticipated tomorrow.

### MyFiziq Ltd (MYQ)

First binding term sheet secured to supply CompleteScan to the insurance, telehealth, corporate wellness and wearables market. The agreed terms are with WellteQ.

# **Cromwell Property Group (CMW)**

CMW has appointed Spotless Group and Auswide Bank (ASX: ABA) chair John Humphry as an independent non-executive director.

Mr Humphry is also a Lynas Corporation (ASX: LYC) director.

### Monash IVF Group (MVF)

MVF has appointed Catherine West as an independent non-executive director, effective yesterday.

Ms West is Sydney Breast Cancer Foundation VP and a NIDA Foundation and Nine Entertainment (ASX: NEC) director.

#### The A2 Milk Company (A2M)

Investor forum presentation lodged this morning.

#### **Energy**

# Energy Resources of Australia (ERA) / Rio Tinto (RIO)

ERA has appointed Shanelle English as legal counsel and company secretary following the resignation of company secretary James O'Connell.

#### **Trading Halts**

Company	Code	Resuming
Astro Resources	ARO	9 Sep
Carnaby Resources	CNB	9 Sep
Maximus Resources	MXR	9 Sep
Mayur Resources	MRL	9 Sep
PointsBet Holdings	PBH	9 Sep
Rent.com.au Ltd	RNT	9 Sep
Emerge Gaming	EM1	10 Sep
Los Cerros	LCL	10 Sep
MGC Pharmaceuticals	MXC	10 Sep
Minbos Resources	MNB	10 Sep
Oakdale Resources	OAR	10 Sep
Renegade Exploration	RNX	10 Sep
Secos Group	SES	10 Sep
Twenty Seven Co	TSC	11 Sep
Barra Resources	BAR	14 Sep
Change Financial	CCA	14 Sep



Copper (LME,3mth Ind,PM)	6705	t	-86	-1.3
Nickel	14848	t	-294	-1.9
Aluminium	1795	t	-0.5	-0.0
Lead	1917	t	-51	-2.6
Zinc	2424	t	-78	-3.1
Tin	18046	t	-284	-1.6

## **Commodities Commentary**

*Oil* – \$US strength, WTI trading for the first time since Saudi Arabia revealed price cuts for October light crude sales to Asia and since China reported lower August crude imports, plus reports of growing Covid-19 cases out of several nations including India, Spain and the UK, combined to destroy overnight trade sentiment.

Brent crude settled notably below \$US40/bbl.

**Gold** – prices swung overnight, recovering from session lows as US equities trade deteriorated amid geopolitical tensions.

The ICE \$US index was recorded 0.7% higher on settlement, against an earlier 0.8% gain.

**Base metals** – a stronger \$US, some underwhelming key data releases, US-China and UK-EU argy-bargy damaged overnight trade sentiment.

Among output news, Indonesia was reported to have exported 11.6% more tin (6158.7t) during August than for August 2019.

**China**'s August producer prices and CPI, due today, is expected to influence some of tonight's LME trade.

#### **Exchange Rates**

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7205	-0.0071	-0.98
EUR – USD	1.1763	-0.0052	-0.44

# **Australian Data Today**

Wstpc/MInst	Consumer sentiment	Sep
ABS	Lending to businesses & individuals	Jul

#### **US Data Tonight**

JOLTS job openings	Jul
MBA mortgage applications	4 Sep

#### Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	PPI	Aug
China	СРІ	Aug
Japan	Machine tool orders	Aug

#### **Need More Information?**

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Jindalee Resources	JRL	14 Sep
3da.eeeeeee	V.1.2	oop
Suspensions	(select)	
Company	Code	Since
Ansila Energy	ANA	7 Sep
Faster Enterprises	FE8	2 Sep
Intiger Group	IAM	1 Sep
Local Planning Energy Holdings	LPE	8 Sep
thedocyard Ltd	TDY	18 Aug
Velocity Property Group	VP7	7 Sep

#### **Ex-Dividends**

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
ADH	Today	11	100	2.45
AFG	Today	4.7	100	2.95
AX1	Today	4	100	5.79
BWX	Today	2.6	100	0.85
BXB	Today	12.54	30	2.57
NEC	Today	2	100	5.92
PCG	Today	4	100	3.33
RHP	Today	2	100	1.16
SSG	Today	2.7	100	2.94
ANG	Tomorrow	0.3	100	1.33
BAF	Tomorrow	3	100	5.68
CGO	Tomorrow	1.25	100	2.27
CSL	Tomorrow	148.1	0	1/02
EAS	Tomorrow	2.5	100	4.67
FRI	Tomorrow	1	100	3.17
GDG	Tomorrow	1	0	2.35
GNE	Tomorrow	7.65	0	5.67
IGO	Tomorrow	5	0	3.10
LBL	Tomorrow	0.6	100	2.00
MND	Tomorrow	13	100	4.08
PME	Tomorrow	6	100	0.41
RWC	Tomorrow	2.5	20	2.44
S32	Tomorrow	1.38	100	2.63
SHJ	Tomorrow	2.75	0	4.88
SRV	Tomorrow	9	0	4.35
TGG	Tomorrow	3.5	100	1.67
VTG	Tomorrow	2.4	100	3.60
ALI	Fri	4.5	100	1.35
CWY	Fri	2.1	100	1.57
GRR	Fri	1	100	7.41
SEQ	Fri	0.4	100	0.00
VEE	Fri	0.23	0	1.24



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