

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDST)	5919	22	0.4
NZX 50	8294	10	0.1
DJIA Futures	24790	-5	-0.0
S&P 500 Futures	2723	0	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	6925	0	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade on negative commodities leads, ahead of influential regional and domestic data, and as a plethora of large-cap and high-profile stocks trades ex-dividend.

Locally today, January **trade** figures are due **11.30am** AEDST. Exports are of particular interest following yesterday's December quarter GDP growth release, impacted by exports.

ASX, BHP, BRG, QBE and **S32** represent just a few of a significant number of large-cap companies trading **ex-dividend** today. Please see **p3** for detailed information.

Regionally, **China** is expected to release February trade balance **2pm** AEDST. Foreign direct investment (FDI) is also anticipated anytime from today.

A final December quarter **GDP** reading is due out of **Japan 10.50am** AEDST.

In overnight commodities trade, US **gold** futures, **oil** and LME **copper** and **nickel** swung lower.

Iron ore (China port, 62% Fe) recorded a fourth consecutive fall.

The **\$A** appreciated to ~US78.20c after falling to US78.0c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	24801	-83	-0.3
S&P 500	2727	-1	-0.1
NASDAQ	7397	25	0.3
FTSE 100	7158	11	0.2
DAX 30	12245	131	1.1
Shanghai Comp	3272	-18	-0.6

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets headed lower on opening overnight, but reduced risk sentiment appeared to turn, attributed by some to some positive US economic indicators.

The DAX trended higher from early trade, and the S&P 500 and the NASDAQ notably gained upward traction in second-half trade.

Among new data releases, the **euro zone's** final December quarter GDP reading confirmed 0.6% growth for the quarter, and 2.7% year-on-year. The respective September quarter figures were reported as 0.7% and 2.7%.

European Council president Donald Tusk in the meantime recommended negotiators be wary of the UK's preferred position on trade following its

Australia – January trade balance **11.30am** AEDST

China – February trade balance **2pm** AEDST

Today's Stock Watch

Westpac Banking Corporation (WBC) / Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)

Bank of America-Merrill Lynch (BAML) has cancelled a WBC buy recommendation, replacing it with an underperform assessment. BAML in the meantime has placed a buy on CBA, for which it had previously assigned an underperform rating.

Sims Metal Management (SGM)

Acquiring Yorkshire UK-headquartered metal recycler Morley Waste Traders and Lord and Midgley for an undisclosed amount.

Transurban Group (TCL)

TCL says it is able to continue with construction works for the West Gate tunnel, Melbourne under an agreement between TCL and the Government of Victoria covering scenarios such as the reissue of a planning approval.

The planning scheme may be amended or an alternative established after one house of parliament voted yesterday to revoke a specific planning scheme amendment.

Resources

Northern Star Resources (NST) / Westgold Resources (WGX)

NST is planning to pay 9.5M shares plus \$A20M cash for WGX's WA goldfields South Kalgoorlie gold project. A 1 April settlement is anticipated.

Clean TeQ Holdings (CLQ)

Conducting a minimum \$150M underwritten institutional placement at \$1.15 per share, to support fast-tracking the development of the Sunrise nickel-cobalt-scandium project, NSW. An SPP will follow.

CLQ is targeting first production almost one year earlier than initially anticipated. CLQ has traded at \$1.185 - \$1.33 this week before calling a trading this morning.

Energy

Caltex Australia (CTX)

Former Adelaide Brighton (ASX: ABC) CEO and MD Mark Chellew has been appointed as a CTX independent non-executive director, effective 2 April.

Mr Chellew chairs Cleanaway Waste Management (ASX: CWY) and is a Virgin Australia (ASX: VAH) and Infigen Energy (ASX: IFN) director.

CTX trades ex-dividend (61c) Monday.

Global Energy Ventures (GEV)

HoA secured with the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) for the proposed NIGC supply of 6.85M cu m of natural gas to the Port of Chabahar, Iran. GEV is planning to compress the gas at the port and to deliver the CNG (equivalent of 1.5Mtpa of LNG) to India's west coast.

Carnarvon Petroleum (CVN)

The Phoenix South-3 drill rig is expected to arrive by the end of the month and drilling to commence early-April. CVN and Quadrant Energy (JV operator) are targeting gas and condensate just 560m from the Phoenix South-2 find. CVN 20%.

separation from the European Union.

In the **US**, a private sector February new employment tally came in at 235,000, following forecasts of an additional 200,000 jobs.

A \$US56.6B trade deficit reported for the end of January, represented a 5% increase for the month and the highest deficit since October 2008. The value of exports declined 1.3% to \$US200.9B, in part due to aircraft deliveries falling by \$US1.8B.

The Federal Reserve's region-by-region economic update 'beige book report' indicated wages were moving higher, albeit moderately, even following initial greater benefits announced by business following the introduction of corporate tax cuts.

Tonight in the US, weekly new unemployment claims and a monthly jobs layoff report are due, ahead of monthly employment statistics tomorrow night.

Elsewhere, the **European Central Bank** (ECB) holds a policy meeting and post-meeting media conference.

Domino's Pizza and Premier Oil are among companies due to report full year earnings later today and tonight.

BHP Billiton and Standard Chartered are scheduled to trade ex-dividend on the FTSE 100.

In overnight corporate news, **Rolls-Royce** reported 6% higher, £15B full-year revenue and 25% pre-tax profit growth to ~£1.1B. The stock subsequently rallied.

In the US, retailer **Abercrombie & Fitch** also pleased with its December quarter report, the stock appreciating more than 10%.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1328	oz	-7.6	-0.6
Silver (NY) (Mar)	16.5	oz	-0.3	-1.6
Gold (LON)	1329	oz	-2	-0.2
Platinum	951	oz	-17	-1.7
WTI Crude (Apr)	61.2	bbl	-1.5	-2.3
Brent Crude (Apr)	64.3	bbl	-1.5	-2.2
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	75.8	t	-0.3	-0.3
Copper	6950	t	-54	-0.8
Nickel	13590	t	-90	-0.7
Aluminium	2097	t	-50	-2.3
Lead	2375	t	-63	-2.6
Zinc	3260	t	-42	-1.3
Tin	21375	t	-55	-0.3
CBT Wheat (May)	4.99	bshl	-8	-1.6

Commodities Commentary

Oil – a strengthening \$US combined with supply fears to push prices lower overnight.

A weekly US government agency domestic petroleum inventories report, published overnight, revealed crude stocks increased by 2.4MMbbl, and that production rose to a record daily 10.37MMbbl.

Gold – a higher \$US index, supported by a better-than-anticipated US private sector jobs report, and wage increases reported in the US Fed's 'beige book', outweighed any safe-haven interest, pushing gold prices lower overnight.

Prices continued lower in post-settlement electronic trade.

European Central Bank statements following a

Pre-Open Announcements

Tegel Group Holdings (TGH)

Weaker-than-anticipated business in Australia, plus New Zealand ex-cyclone Gita damage have forced TGH to lower expected FY 2018 NPAT to \$NZ25M - \$NZ27M, following \$NZ34.2M for FY 2017. Underlying EBITDA is anticipated at \$NZ70M - \$NZ72M, against FY 2017's \$NZ75.6M.

Clime Capital (CAM) / Clime Investment Management (CIW)

Geoff Wilson has resigned as a CAM director, effective yesterday.

In association, CAM portfolio manager and CIW head Anthony Golowenko has been appointed to the CAM board.

Cromwell Property Group (CMW)

Settlement of the \$84M sale of the Kelvin Grove urban village seven-storey office tower is anticipated 6 April, now that all sale conditions have been met.

Xero Ltd (XRO)

Chairman's letter lodged post-trade yesterday, including a quote from founder Rod Drury, who is retiring from the CEO role, but remaining with XRO as a non-executive director.

TV2U International (TV2)

Brazil and Indonesia updates lodged this morning.

Resources

Saturn Metals (* STN)

Explorer scheduled to list 2pm AEDST tomorrow following a \$7M IPO at 20c per share.

Peel Mining (ASX: PEX) holds 36.36%; Hampton Hill Mining (ASX: HHM) 2.27%; Washington H Soul Pattinson (ASX: SOL) 2.00%
35M shares.

Energy

Helios Energy (HE8)

US Quinn Creek 141 JV oil well testing is scheduled to commence 15 March (Thursday next week).

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Australian Whisky Holdings	AWY	8 Mar
Egan Street Resources	EGA	8 Mar
Universal Coal	UNV	8 Mar
Bid Energy	BID	9 Mar
Immuron Ltd	IMC	9 Mar
Magnis Resources	MNS	9 Mar
Perpetual Resources	PEC	9 Mar
Think Childcare	TNK	9 Mar
5G Networks	5GN	12 Mar
Clean TeQ Holdings	CLQ	12 Mar
Race Oncology	RAC	12 Mar

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Austex Oil	AOK	19 Feb
Big Un	BIG	21 Feb
Department 13 International	D13	5 Mar



policy meeting could swing currencies tonight, and hence influence gold trade.

Base metals – caution prevailed overnight, *aluminium* in particular impacted by trade uncertainty.

Warehouse stocks reportedly mostly affected *zinc* sentiment.

China's February trade figures, scheduled for release today are likely to prove a major factor in tonight's trade. CPI and producer prices follow tomorrow.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7819	-0.0007	-0.09
EUR – USD	1.2412	0.0001	0.01

Australian Data Today

ABS	Trade balance	Jan
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US Data Tonight

Initial jobless claims	3 Mar
Challenger job cuts	Feb

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	Trade balance	Feb
<i>China</i>	<i>FDI</i>	Feb
Japan	GDP (final)	Dec Q
Japan	Bank lending	Feb
Japan	Eco watcher survey (4pm AEDST)	Mar
Germany	Trade balance	Jan
Germany	Factory orders	Jan
Euro zone	ECB policy meeting statements	Mar

Need More Information?

Contact your State One Stockbroking advisor on 08 9288 3388 or 1300 651 898, or by email, advice@stateone.com.au.

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Greatcell Solar	GSL	1 Mar
Netlinkz Ltd	NET	1 Mar
Raven Energy	REL	7 Mar
Tianmei Beverage Group	TB8	21 Feb
Total Face Group	TFG	19 Feb
Wangle Technologies	WGL	6 Mar
Zyber Holdings	ZYB	16 Feb

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Fr (%)	Yield (%)
AIZ	Today	10.31	0	6.52
ASX	Today	107.2	100	3.56
BFG	Today	5.5	100	8.67
BHP	Today	69.44	100	4.16
BPT	Today	1	100	1.56
BRG	Today	16.5	60	2.58
BST	Today	1.25	100	3.02
DGH	Today	2.25	100	4.02
FXL	Today	3.85	100	4.43
GCS	Today	2	100	3.75
GEM	Today	10	100	7.97
GLB	Today	5	83	8.00
JIN	Today	7.5	100	3.25
KME	Today	1	0	4.62
LIC	Today	2	100	0.78
MAI	Today	0.5	100	1.95
MVF	Today	3.4	100	6.53
MYO	Today	5.75	0	3.69
PME	Today	2.5	100	0.59
PNI	Today	4.6	100	2.15
QBE	Today	4	30	2.64
QMS	Today	1	100	2.24
RRL	Today	8	100	3.49
RWC	Today	3.5	100	1.57
S32	Today	9.27	92.19	4.02
SDA	Today	4.8	100	1.34
SFC	Today	15	100	2.24
SNZ	Today	5.62	0	1.65
SRV	Today	13	7.50	5.13
TME	Today	8.44	0	4.33
VEE	Today	0.38	100	3.38
VLW	Today	8	100	7.37
OZL	Tomorrow	148	100	2.05
VGL	Tomorrow	1.37	0	0.97
WTC	Tomorrow	1.05	100	0.22
APO	Mon	12.5	100	4.42
CTX	Mon	61	100	3.61
ICS	Mon	2.5	0	4.64
IGO	Mon	1	100	9.40
LOV	Mon	13	100	2.32
NCC	Mon	3.75	100	5.22



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