

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	5694	21	0.4
NZX 50	7804	42	0.5
DJIA Futures	21975	23	0.1
S&P 500 Futures	2466	2	0.1
NASDAQ Futures	5916	6	0.1

Local Markets Commentary

Australian market trade will today be pushed and pulled by positive overnight international equities leads, and falls for key commodities prices, amid domestic reporting season.

In overnight commodities trade, **gold** futures eased. **Oil** fell. **Iron ore** (China port 62% Fe) and LME **copper** continued lower.

The **\$A** fell further, after slipping from ~US78.95c to ~US78.75c early yesterday evening.

Locally today, the Reserve Bank of Australia (**RBA**) publishes August policy meeting minutes.

July new vehicle sales are also due. Pre-trade, a weekly consumer sentiment report will be released.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	21994	135	0.6
S&P 500	2466	25	1.0
NASDAQ	6340	84	1.3
FTSE 100	7354	44	0.6
DAX 30	12165	151	1.3
Shanghai Comp	3237	29	0.9

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets opened higher overnight and never looked headed.

The \$US rose, and in the absence of new public verbal US-North Korea threats, broad interest in safe-haven investments slowed.

For its part, **China** announced bans on the imports of several North Korean products, including coal, iron and seafood.

In addition, Chinese authorities had moved to demonstrably enforce what is considered less speculative commodities futures trade from within domestic firms.

Among scant data releases, **euro zone** June industrial production was reported 0.6% lower for the month and 2.6% higher year-on-year, following a 1.3% monthly improvement and 4% annual increase in May.

In the **US**, a review of trade concerns with China was formally commenced, in particular to determine if an investigation is warranted with regards to intellectual property (IP).

Tonight in the US, July retail sales, June business inventories, a home builders' sentiment index, New York region manufacturing index and import and export prices are due.

A July CPI reading for the UK could impact FTSE trade.

RBA – August policy meeting minutes **11.30am** AEST

Today's Stock Watch

Australia & New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ)

Unaudited \$1.67B June quarter NPAT. 0.3% lower revenue. \$1.79B cash profit. \$243M worth of provisions. Expenses down 1%. 9.8% APRA CET1.

Challenger Group (CGF)

21.3% higher, \$397.6M full-year NPAT. 8.8% higher, \$1.97B revenue. 17% higher, \$70B AUM. 17.5c fully-franked final dividend, up 1c. \$4.09 NTA.

In addition, CGF is placing \$500M worth of shares a \$13.06 each with Japanese group MS & AD Insurance Group Holdings in conjunction with more formal strategic relationship plans. Details lodged this morning. CGF has traded at \$12.62 - \$13.07 over the past week.

Domino's Pizza Enterprises (DMP)

24.8% higher, \$102.9M full-year NPAT. 15.4% higher, \$1.1B revenue. 44.9c, 50%-franked final dividend. \$1.147 EPS. \$50.5M cash and equivalents.

Anticipating ~20% FY 2018 NPAT growth, given a positive start to the first quarter. Likely to open 180 - 200 new stores.

Planning to buy back up to \$A300M worth of shares, on-market, over 12 months from 29 August.

GPT Group (GPT)

28.3% higher, \$752.3M interim NPAT. 15.6% higher, \$944.8M revenue. 12.3c (previously declared) interim distribution. \$4.88 NTA. Expecting a 5% higher FY 2017 distribution.

Webcast briefing commencing 10am AEST.

FlexiGroup Ltd (FXL)

3.85c fully-franked final dividend, following 7.25c a year ago. 74% higher, \$87.4M full-year NPAT. 17% higher, \$462.8M income. 63c NTA. 23.4c EPS. \$167.3M cash and equivalents.

Anticipating \$85M - \$90M FY 2018 cash NPAT.

Teleconference commencing 10.30am AEST. Access details lodged this morning.

SG Fleet (SGF)

26.9% higher, \$59.6M full-year NPAT. 38.3% higher, \$293.2M revenue. 9.265c fully-franked final dividend, following 7.63c a year ago. 'Promising' FY 2018 commencement.

Charter Hall Retail REIT (CQR)

Full-year results expected today.

Aurizon Holdings (AZJ) / Ansell Ltd (ANN)

UBS has cancelled AZJ advice, in favour of a neutral rating. Meanwhile, Morgans has placed ANN on its 'add' list.

Resources

Alkane Resources (ALK)

Northern Molong gold-copper porphyry project diamond drilling has confirmed epithermal style gold, cross-cutting gold-copper mineralisation. Assays lodged this morning.

Energy

Santos Ltd (STO)

Expecting a \$US690M post-tax interim impairment. Details lodged this morning, including for Gladstone LNG, Cooper Basin and Indonesian assets. Planning to release results 24 August.

Companies scheduled to report earnings later today and tonight include: Home Depot, Urban Outfitters and Zhaopin.

In overnight corporate news, Chinese online specialist **JD.com** was pushed ~3.5% lower, reporting 44% higher quarterly revenue, but nonetheless a ¥496M loss.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1290	oz	-3.6	-0.3
Silver (NY) (Sep)	17.1	oz	0.0	0.0
Gold (LON)	1282	oz	-4	-0.3
Platinum	967	oz	-16	-1.7
WTI Crude (Sep)	47.6	bbl	-1.2	-2.5
Brent Crude (Aug)	50.7	bbl	-1.4	-2.6
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	74.7	t	-0.5	-0.6
Copper	6397	t	-14	-0.2
Nickel	10450	t	-210	-2.0
Aluminium	2023	t	-20	-1.0
Lead	2335	t	9	0.4
Zinc	2917	t	21	0.7
Tin	20300	t	-5	-0.0
CBT Wheat (Sep)	4.41	bshl	0.02	0.4

Commodities Commentary

Oil – China’s National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has reported domestic refineries used 500,000 fewer barrels of crude each day in July than in June, and the least amount since September 2016.

Meanwhile, the (US) EIA forecast **US** shale oil output to rise a daily 117,000bbl in September to 6.15MMbbl/d.

Overnight prices consequently traded at three-week lows.

Gold – a stronger \$US and improved risk appetite pushed prices a little lower overnight.

Base metals – China’s July industrial production (+6.4% year-on-year; 0.4% for the month), retail sales (+10.4%) and January – July fixed assets investment (+8.3%), plus Japan’s June quarter GDP (1% for the three months; 4% year-on-year) – all released yesterday – provided plenty to consider overnight.

China’s figures represented a slower pace of growth than those released from the end of June.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7853	0.0002	0.02
EUR – USD	1.1775	-0.0007	-0.06

Australian Data Today

RBA	Policy meeting minutes	Aug
ANZ/Ry Mgn	Consumer sentiment	13 Aug
ABS	New vehicle sales	Jul

US Data Tonight

Retail sales	Jul
Business inventories	Jun
NAHB sentiment	Aug
NY (Empire State) Fed manufacturing	Aug
Import & export prices	Jul

Pre-Open Announcements

Westpac Banking Corporation (WBC)

Chief information officer Dave Curran is scheduled to speak publicly at a lunch in Sydney today.

Vocus Communications (VOC)

Former Telstra (ASX: TLS) broadcast services CFO and commercial director Christine Holman has been appointed as a VOC non-executive director, effective 24 August.

Class Ltd (↓ CL1)

53.3% higher, \$7.99M full-year NPAT. 28.5% higher, \$29.2M revenue. 2c fully-franked final dividend, following 1c a year ago. 16.22c NTA.

Blue Sky Alternative (* BLA)

81% higher, \$20.6M full-year NPAT. 19% higher, \$84.4M revenue. 23c fully-franked final dividend. \$1.93 NTA.

Opthea Ltd (* OPT)

Additional positive data in hand from the Phase 1/2a clinical trial for OPT-302, a proposed age-related macular degeneration treatment.

MNF Group (* MNF)

34.2% higher, \$12.1M full-year NPAT. 18.9% higher, \$191.75M revenue. 4.5c fully-franked final dividend. 28.4c NTA.

IMF Bentham (IMF)

Proceedings are underway for one of 13 class actions funded by IMF within Australia for the purpose or recovering GST. This one regards residential units purchased within Altitude Apartments, Belconnen, ACT.

Bubs Australia (BUB)

In response to an ASX price query, BUB has pointed to partnership agreements, a quarterly activity report and investor presentation, from 8 June through 9 August. BUB added 29% yesterday, settling at 64.5c after trading at 51c – 66c intra-day. Volume was high, but not extraordinarily so compared with recent weeks. Last week, BUB traded at 45.5c - 57c.

Resources

European Lithium (EUR)

60-day extension agreed with Shandong RuiFu Lithium Co for finalising a formal off-take agreement for EUR’s Wolfsberg project spodumene concentrates.

Energy

TerraCom Ltd (TER)

Queensland Blair Athol thermal coal production underway as part of earthworks to rehabilitate prior operations. Initial sales will be as a bypass crushed thermal product. 2Mtpa anticipated by year’s end.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Melbana Energy	MAY	15 Aug
Alligator Energy	AGE	16 Aug
Berkut Minerals	BMT	16 Aug
Chapmans Ltd	CHP	16 Aug
Connexion Media	CXZ	16 Aug
Eve Investments	EVE	16 Aug

**Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight**

China	<i>FDI</i>	<i>Jul</i>
Japan	Industrial production (final)	Jun
Japan	Retail sales (final)	Jun
UK	CPI	Jul
Germany	GDP (prelim)	Jun Q

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Suspensions *(selected)*

Company	Code	Since
Anglo Australian Resources	AAR	11 Aug
Azonto Petroleum	APY	21 Jul
BKM Management	BKM	28 Jul
Capital Mining	CMY	14 Aug
LWP Technologies	LWP	14 Aug
Manalto Ltd	MTL	28 Jul
Molopo Energy	MPO	27 Jul
Northern Mining	NMI	1 Aug
Surefire Resources	SRN	1 Aug
ZipTel Ltd	ZIP	11 Aug

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Fr (%)	Yield (%)
GMA	Today	14	100	8.23
MFG	Today	47.2	100	3.32
ASW	Tomorrow	2.1	100	4.94
BEL	Tomorrow	0.5	100	8.00
CBA	Tomorrow	230	100	5.28
HFA	Tomorrow	~10.10	0	6.51
KAT	Tomorrow	0.5	75	2.74
KKT	Tomorrow	0.75	100	1.39
RMD	Tomorrow	~3.06	0	1.33
SUN	Tomorrow	40	100	5.42
FRI	Thu	3	100	7.23
GUD	Thu	25	100	3.71
IFL	Thu	27	100	4.75
JHG	Thu	~40.39	0	4.38

Reports & Events*(selected scheduled)*

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	ANZ	Trading update
	CGF	Full-year
	CQR	Full-year
	DMP	Full-year
	FXL	Full-year
	GPT	Interim
	SGF	Full-year
Tomorrow	ARB	Full-year
	AOG	Full-year
	CPU	Full-year
	CSL	Full-year
	DXS	Full-year
	FXJ	Full-year
	FBU	Full-year
	ILU	Interim
	IVC	Interim
	MIN	Full-year
	MGX	Full-year
	ORG	Full-year
	PGH	Full-year
	SEK	Full-year
	SSM	Full-year
SWM	Full-year	
SHL	Full-year	

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Thu	SGP	Full-year
	VCX	Full-year
	WFD	Full-year
	WPL	Interim
	ABC	Full-year
	ASX	Full-year
	EVN	Full-year
	IPH	Full-year
	IRE	Full-year
	MGR	Full-year
	QBE	Interim
	TTS	Full-year
	TLS	Full-year
TWE	Full-year	
Fri	WES	Full-year
	WHC	Full-year
	ABP	Full-year
	KGN	Full-year
	LNK	Full-year
	PRY	Full-year
21 Aug	SPK	Full-year
	SYD	July
	APN	Interim
	BPT	Full-year
	BSL	Full-year
	BXB	Full-year
	CDD	Full-year
	FMG	Full-year
	GMG	Full-year
	GOZ	Full-year
	GWA	Full-year
IMD	Full-year	
NHF	Full-year	