

WEALTH PARTNERS



# Highlights of the week

- Former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has been appointed as Australia's ambassador to the USA.
- Qantas has seen domestic freight volumes increase by 75% from pre-COVID levels.
- Argentina has won their third World Cup, beating France in the final on penalties. Croatia placed third after defeating Morocco 2-1.

#### **Market Action**

Sector	Returns % (excluding distributions)			
	23-Dec-22	15-Dec-22	Change (%)	
S&P/ASX 200	7107.7	7209.7	-1.4%	
All Ordinaries	7287.8	7395.4	-1.5%	
Small Ordinaries	2805.0	2859.6	-1.9%	
S&P 500	3878.4	3995.2	-2.9%	
NASDAQ	10709.4	11170.9	-4.1%	
FTSE 100	7497.3	7495.9	0.0%	
Hang Seng	19679.2	19673.5	0.0%	
Nikkei	26507.9	28156.2	-5.9%	

<sup>\*</sup>US, UK and European prices refer to the previous day's close

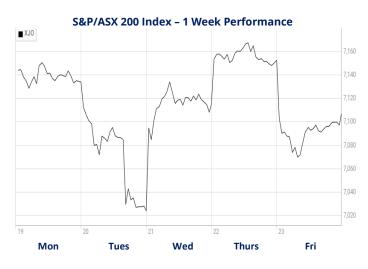
US markets dropped this week as resilient economic data showed potential for further tightening by the Federal Reserve. The S&P 500 and the NASDAQ fell -2.9% and -4.1% respectively as investors sold off Technology shares and moved to more defensive stocks. The FTSE 100 and Hang Seng remained flat over the course of this week.

#### S&P/ASX 200 - Top five of the week

ASX Cod	e Company	Closing Price	Change*
NHC	New Hope Corp.	\$6.54	7.7%
NHF	NIB Holdings	\$7.72	7.1%
CRN	Coronado Global	\$2.03	5.2%
ORG	Origin Energy	\$7.70	4.3%
DEG	De Grey Mining	\$1.27	4.1%

Prices as at 3.00PM on 23/12/2022

Coal Producers New Hope Corporation and Coronado Global gained 7.7% and 5.2% respectively, recovering from news of legislation to cap the black coal price at \$125/T. Origin Energy rebounded 4.3% after announcing that its potential takeover bidder, a Brookfield led consortium, was on track to complete due diligence and would extend its exclusivity. De Grey Mining rose 4.1% after reaching an agreement with the Kariyarra people for mining to take place at its Tier 1 Hemi Project which also included providing employment and training opportunities. NIB Holdings gained 7.1% despite no significant news being released.



The Nikkei crashed -5.9% after a surprise turn in monetary policy by the Bank of Japan as it increased its 10-year government bond yield variance band to 0.5%. Japan's core inflation hit 3.7%, a 40year high. The S&P/ASX 200 fell -1.4%, led by the Consumer Discretionary and Information Technology sectors.

# S&P/ASX 200 - Bottom five of the week

ASX Code	Company	Closing Price	Change*
SGR	Star Entertainment	\$1.92	-24.3%
LTR	Liontown Resources	\$1.23	-22.5%
IMU	Imugene	\$0.15	-16.0%
NVX	Novonix	\$1.57	-14.7%
SQ2	Block Inc.	\$90.35	-12.2%

Star Entertainment crashed -24.3% after the NSW Government announced increases to casino duty tax rates. The new rates are expected to commence on 1 July 2023 and come after multiple fines and suspended licenses against its casinos in multiple states. Liontown Resources has fallen -22.5% despite announcing a Power Purchase Agreement for the Kathleen Valley Lithium Project. Novonix lost -14.7% after downgrading its production guidance at its Riverside Facility. Block Inc. fell -12.2% as a tech sell-off occurred when markets become concerned of further interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve. Imugene fell-16% despite no significant news being released by the company.



### **Upcoming Dividend Dates**

ASX Code	Company	Estimated Dividend Ex-date	Dividend Per Share (\$)	Franking (%)
ABP	Abacus Property Group	29/12/2022	\$0.09	0%
APA	APA Group	29/12/2022	\$0.26	0%
ARF	Arena REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.04	0%
BWP	BWP Trust	29/12/2022	\$0.09	0%
СНС	Charter Hall Group	29/12/2022	\$0.21	45%
CIP	Centuria Industrial REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.04	0%
CLW	Charter Hall Long Wale REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.07	0%
CMW	Cromwell Group	29/12/2022	\$0.01	0%
CQE	Charter Hall Social Infrastructure REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.04	0%
CQR	Charter Hall Retail REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.13	0%
GMG	Goodman Group	29/12/2022	\$0.15	0%
HDN	Homeco Daily Needs REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.02	0%
MGR	Mirvac Group	29/12/2022	\$0.05	0%
NSR	National Storage REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.06	0%
RGN	Region Group	29/12/2022	\$0.08	0%
SGP	Stockland	29/12/2022	\$0.12	0%
TCL	Transurban Group	29/12/2022	\$0.27	0%
WPR	Waypoint REIT	29/12/2022	\$0.04	0%

## Topic of the week

The Department of Industry, Science and Resources has released their quarterly Resources and Energy Report. The report provides an overview of Australia's mining sector exports and outlines forecasts for each commodity. Australia's mining sector accounts for around 70% of Australia's exports and almost 14% of Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). For the December quarter, mining exports rose 8% from September and 5% compared to December 2021 levels. Exports are expected to continue to increase over the next two years, as producers recover from COVID-19 and weatherrelated disruptions. Over the year ended December 31, export prices rose by 10%, led by energy commodities which benefitted from sanctions on Russian fossil fuels. The increase in volumes and prices saw a record \$422 billion in exports for Financial Year 2022 (FY22) with FY23 expected to surpass the record again at an estimated \$459 billion. However, with the increasing pessimism over global economic growth due to record inflation and slowing global consumption, exports and commodity prices are expected to fall in FY24 to \$391 billion.

Iron ore prices fell during the December quarter as the world's demand slowed due to reduced industrial activity especially from

China which China faced COVID-19 outbreaks. Iron ore exports are expected to rise by 2.5% and 2.7% respectively in FY23 and FY24 but prices are forecasted to slide to around US\$75/T by 2024.

Coal, Gas and Oil exports are expected to reach \$76 billion, \$90 billion, and \$15.4 billion respectively for FY23 due to the high prices caused by the global energy crisis and supply chain issues. The prices of all 3 commodities are anticipated to slide in FY24 but remain high historically.

Australia is currently the world's largest exporter of lithium, producing 46% of the world's total lithium production in 2021. As a major component of rechargeable batteries for electric vehicles, lithium demand continues to grow. Until lithium supply catches up to demand, the price is expected to increase from US\$2,700/T to US\$4,000/T in 2023 with Australian exports to reach \$16.1 billion in FY23 from the \$4.9 billion of FY22.

The report also provides outlooks for gold and all the base metals and can be found on the Department of Industry, Science and Resources website



### **Home Loan Rates**

Lender	Owner Occupier (Variable)	Owner Occupier (2 Year Fixed)	Owner Occupier (5 Year Fixed)	Investor (Variable)	Investor (2 Year Fixed)	Investor (5 Year Fixed)
CBA	4.87%	6.14%	6.64%	5.12%	6.24%	6.74%
NAB	4.99%	6.04%	6.64%	5.49%	6.14%	6.79%
Macquarie	4.79%	5.25%	5.55%	5.04%	5.45%	5.75%

<sup>\*</sup>Based on a 25-year, \$450,000 loan with principal and interest repayments and a Loan-to-Value ratio of 70%.

## What to expect for the week ahead

- The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) will report on Australia's international reserves and foreign currency liquidity.
- China will post their latest manufacturing and services purchasing managers' index readings.
- Apt Wealth Partners wishes you all the best for the Festive Season!



The information provided in this publication does not constitute financial product advice. The information is of a general nature only and does not take into account your individual objectives, financial situation or needs. It should not be used, relied upon, or treated as a substitute for specific professional advice. Apt Wealth Partners (AFSL and ACL 436121 ABN 49 159 583 847) and Apt Wealth Home Loans (powered by Smartline ACL 385325) recommends that you obtain professional advice before making any decision in relation to your particular requirements or circumstances.









