MARKETS TODAY

Life's a gas



Good morning

The T.Rex 1971 classic is doubtless before most readers' time but not this one unfortunately, growing up with the first (and still the best) U.K. glam-rockers.

Oil (and gas) has been the big overnight mover, with crude oil prices off between 4% and 5% (WTI - \$2.40 as we write and Brent off \$1.93). This is all the result of an unexpected large build in oil and gas inventories reported by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). Crude oil inventories rose by 3.3 million barrels against an expected draw of 3.25 million and gas inventories by 3.32 million against an expected 50k run-down. This breaks the nine week streak of falling inventories and so prior evidence that OPEC and selected non-OPEC production cuts were having some impact in reducing excess stockpiles. In markets, the biggest impact has been seen via a jump in the USD/CAD exchange rate, with CAD and JPY vying for bottom spot in the G10 scorecard, both currently about 0.3% lower.

Elsewhere in FX, the AUD is still atop the 24-hour leader board, building slightly on yesterday's post-GDP gains to a high of 0.7566 (but back to around 0.7550 currently). GBP has also done well overnight, with the bookmakers (and latest polls of polls) suggesting that the Conservatives will be returned in today's General Election with an increased majority (of perhaps 50-60 seats versus 12 in the outgoing parliament).

EUR saw some intra-day volatility following a Bloomberg report that the ECB's draft projections now show CPI inflation at roughly 1.5% in 2017, 2018 and 2019, down from the previous projections near1.6-1.7%. This saw EUR fall 60 pips to 1.1210, before a recovery, aided by a Reuters report that predictions for economic growth were likely to be revised up by about 0.1 percentage point and that forecast changes were likely to be small. EUR is back up to around 1.1260.

US treasury yields are a bit firmer despite sharply lower oil (10s +2.5bps to 2.175%), US equities have closed slightly higher, precious metals have given back a small amount of recent strong gains while industrial metal prices and softs are mostly higher.

Coming Up

It's been a long time arriving and Thursday has a long way to go. Ahead of the ECB, Comey testimony (though we already know what he plans to say) and the UK General Election, we have a couple of known events to help while away the day during our time zone, notably Australia's trade data for April and China's for May.

Australia's trade report is expected to see a markedly lower trade surplus (NAB +A\$1bn, consensus +A\$2bn, down from A\$3.1bn). Queensland coal loadings were hit hard in April. Gold exports are also likely to fall with the Newcrest Cadia mine closed for remediation work since the 14 April earthquake.

China trade balance is seen recording a surplus of \$48bn up from \$38bn in April, with exports +7.2% in y/y terms down from 8.0% and imports 8.3% down from 11.9%.

Former FBI director Comey's inquisition may now turn out to be the least interesting event for markets. The pre-release of his prepared testimony overnight suggests that while he will confirm that the President leant on him to end the enquiry into National Security Advisor Michael Flynn he stops short of suggesting the President may have obstructed justice (the impeachable offence). The broader Russian probe will run and run however and this particular millstone around the neck of the Trump administration looks unlikely to be lifted anytime soon.

As for the ECB, there is a widespread consensus it will tweak its language to suggest that risks to the growth outlook are balanced. But there doesn't appear to be a consensus that the Council will remove reference to *or lower* in the sentence that currently reads, "The Governing Council continues to expect the key ECB interest rates to remain at present or lower levels for an extended period of time, and well past the horizon of the net asset purchases". So if reference to *or lower* is removed we'd expect the Euro to get at least a small lift, though confirmation of lower inflation forecast over the 2-3 year forecast horizon will temper expectations for a rapid retreat from current policy settings next year.

For the UK election, exit polls are likely to flash up from 7am AEST Fri day as soon as the polls close, but a clear idea of the result will probably not be available at least until midday out time (3am UK time) and quite possibly not till much later if the result is not clear cut. The rule of thumb seems to be that if the Conservatives retain power, the bigger the majority the better for Sterling, but with anything close to the current slender 12 seat majority viewed as negative given how far the pound rallied after the election was called, in anticipation of a bigger Conservative majority (i.e. enough to silence the extreme anti-EU faction of the party that are viewed as tying PM May's negotiating hands). A much improved majority (say 50+ seats) will likely see at least a temporary boost for the pound.

This note doesn't allow space for a detailed discussion of the implications of a result other than these two above, but suffice to say we doubt it would be pretty for either business confidence or the pound, except if it were to generate the tangible prospect of a second referendum.

Overnight

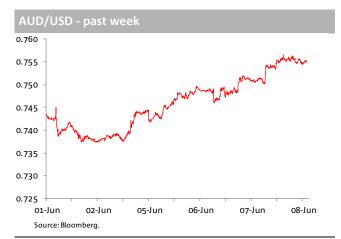
On global stock markets, the S&P 500 was +0.16%. Bond markets saw US 10-years +2.78bp to 2.17%. In commodities, Brent crude oil -3.81% to \$48.21, gold-0.6% to \$1,286, iron ore -1.1% to \$55.43, steam coal +1.9% to \$78.45, met. coal +0.0% to \$143.00. AUD is at 0.7551 and the range since yesterday 5pm Sydney time is 0.75 to 0.7566.

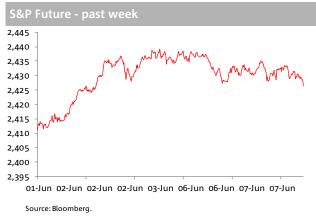
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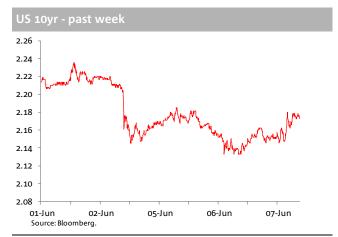
Ray Attrill, Head of FX Strategy

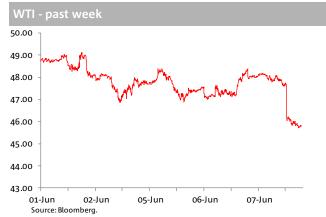
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Markets









Foreign Exchange									
				ve 24hr es (**)		Other FX			
	Last	% chge	Low	High		Last	% chge		
AUD	0.7551	0.6	0.7500	0.7566	HKD	7.7950	0.0		
NZD	0.7195	0.2	0.7170	0.7207	CNY	6.7957	0.0		
EUR	1.1259	-0.2	1.1204	1.1282	SGD	1.3821	0.2		
GBP	1.2962	0.4	1.2888	1.2968	IDR	13,303	0.0		
JPY	109.84	0.4	109.12	109.88	THB	34.03	0.2		
CAD	1.3509	0.4	1.3427	1.3526	KRW	1,124	0.6		
AUD/EUR	0.6706	0.8	0.6653	0.6746	TWD	30.10	0.0		
AUD/JPY	82.94	1.0	82.07	82.95	PHP	49.49	-0.1		
AUD/GBP	0.5826	0.2	0.5812	0.5862	CHF	0.96	0.2		
AUD/NZD	1.0495	0.4	1.0435	1.0517	SEK	8.69	0.3		
AUD/CNH	5.1347	0.5	5.0703	5.1261					

			Inte	rest Rate					
Indicative Swap Rates				Benc	Benchmark 10 Year Bonds				
	Cash	3mth	2Yr	10Yr		Last	chge	Sprd	
USD	1.00	1.22	1.52	2.13	USD 10	2.17	2.78		
AUD	1.50	1.74	1.79	2.66	AUD 10	2.38	1.00	0.21	
NZD	1.75	1.96	2.19	3.15	NZD 10	2.71	-0.10	0.54	
EUR	0.00	-0.33	-0.17	0.76	CAD 10	1.41	1.60	-0.76	
GBP	0.25	0.29	0.51	1.09	EUR 10	0.27	1.70	-1.90	
JPY	-0.04	-0.01	0.04	0.23	GBP 10	1.00	1.70	-1.17	
CAD	0.50	0.89	1.04	1.71	JPY 10	0.05	0.50	-2.13	

Equities								
Major Indices								
	Last	% day	% y/y					
Dow	21,174	0.18	18.0					
S&P 500	2,433	0.16	15.2					
Nasdaq	6,297	0.36	26.9					
VIX	10.39	-0.57	-26.0					
FTSE	7,479	-0.6	19.0					
DAX	12,672	-0.1	23.2					
CAC 40	5,266	-0.1	17.6					
Nikkei	19,985	0.0	18.7					
Shanghai	3,140	1.2	7.3					
Hang Seng	25,974	-0.1	22.0					
ASX 200	5,667	0.0	5.5					

	Last	Chge*
Australia		
3 mth bill	98.27	1.00
3 Yr bond	97.8	3.00
10 Yr bond	97.57	1.00
3/10 sprd	0.23	2.00
SPI	5657.0	10.0

Outside let Fortonia

Commodities*					
	Last	% day			
Oil (Brent)	48.21	-3.8			
Oil (WTI)	45.81	-4.9			
Oil (Tapis)	49.91	1.3			
Gold	1286.10	-0.6			
CRB	175.61	-1.4			
GS Metals	310.9	0.0			
Aluminium	1898.5	0.2			
Copper	5599.3	0.1			
Nickel	8764.5	-0.7			
Zinc	2430.8	-0.6			
Ch. steel	2952.0	0.4			
Iron ore	55.4	-1.1			
St. Coal	78.5	1.9			
Met.coal	143.0	0.0			
Wheat Chic.	459.3	2.0			
Sugar	14.1	1.1			
Cotton	75.8	-0.3			
Coffee	125.8	0.2			
Prob. of 25b	ps hike/cu	t at next meeting			
	bps	%			
RBA	-0.8	-3.0%			
FED	22	88.4%			

Please note the high/low FX rates are only an indication. Please refer to your National Dealer for confirmation.

* All near futures contracts, except CRB. G5 Metals is Goldman Sachs industrial metals index. Metals prices are CME. Emissions: ICE Dec contracts, Euros
** These are indicative ranges over the past 24 hours; please confirm rates with your NAB dealer

Last is around 6:30am Sydney

Source: Bloomberg

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CALENDAR

	Economic Indicator	Period	Forecast	Consensus	Actual	Previous	GMT	AEST
ursday	, 8 June 2017 ANZ Truckometer Heavy MoM	May				-1.8	23.00	8.00
	RICS House Price Balance	May		20		22.0	0.10	9.10
	GDP SA QoQ/YoY	1Q F		0.6/2.4		0.5/2.2	0.50	9.50
	BoP Current Account Adjusted	Apr		1624.4		1731.2	0.50	9.50
	Trade Balance	Apr	1000	1950 336		3107 262.3	2.30 4.20	11.30 13.20
	Trade Balance CNY Trade Balance	May May		47.8		38.1	4.40	13.40
,	Foreign Direct Investment YoY CNY	May	To be released 8-18 June	.,		-4.3	5.40	14.40
	Eco Watchers Survey Current/Outlook SA	May		48.5/49.3		48.1/48.8	6.00	15.00
	Industrial Production SA MoM/YoY	Apr		0.5/2.1		-0.4/1.9	7.00	16.00
	ECB Deposit Facility Rate/Asset Purchase Target	Jun 8		0.3/4.5		-0.3/3.9	12.45	21.45
	Housing Starts	May		201 0.3/4.5		214.1 -0.3/3.9	13.15 13.30	22.15 22.30
	New Housing Price Index MoM/YoY ECB President Mario Draghi Holds Press Conference	Apr		0.3/4.5		-0.3/3.9	13.30	22.30
	Initial Jobless Claims	Jun 3		240		248.0	13.30	22.30
	Ex-FBI Director Comey testifies before Senate Intelligence		ee				15.00	0.00
	BoC Financial Stability Review (Poloz/Wilkins press conf	erence 45 r	mins later)				15.30	0.30
lay, 9	June 2017 General election (voting ends 22.00 London time; 7am A	FDT)						
	CPI/PPI YoY	May		1.5/5.7		1.2/6.4	2.30	11.30
	Home Loans # MoM/Investment lending \$ MoM	Apr	-0.8	-1/		-0.5/0.8	2.30	11.30
	Tertiary Industry Index MoM	Apr		0.5		-0.2	5.30	14.30
	Current Account Balance	Apr		24.5		30.2	7.00	16.00
	Labor Costs SA QoQ/YoY	1Q Anr		0.7/.0.3		1.5/3.0	7.00 9.30	16.00 18.30
	Industrial Production MoM/YoY Construction Output SA MoM/YoY	Apr Apr		0.7/-0.3 0.4/-0.3		-0.5/1.4 -0.7/2.4	9.30	18.30
	Trade Balance	Apr		-3450		-4900	9.30	18.30
	BoE/TNS Inflation Next 12 Mths	May				2.9	9.30	18.30
	NIESR GDP Estimate	May				0.2	13.00	22.00
	Net Change in Employment/Unemployment Rate	May		15/6.6		3.2/6.5	13.30	22.30
	Capacity Utilization Rate	1Q		83.5		82.2	13.30	22.30
urdav	Wholesale Trade Sales/Inventories MoM . 10 June 2017	Apr		/-0.3		0.0/-0.3	15.00	0.00
nday,	New Yuan Loans/Aggregate Financing CNY	May	For release 10-15 Juni	1000/1200		1100.0/1390.0	9.00	18.00
nuay,	12 June 2017 REINZ House Sales YoY	May	10-14 June release			-31.0		
	Card Spending Retail MoM/YoY	May		/		1.1/0.5	23.45	8.45
	Machine Orders MoM/YoY	Apr		/		1.4/-0.7	0.50	9.50
	PPI MoM/YoY	May		/		0.2/2.1	0.50	9.50
	Machine Tool Orders YoY	May P Jun 2				34.7 58.5	7.00 15.00	16.00 0.00
	Bloomberg Nanos Confidence Monthly Budget Statement	May				182.4	19.00	4.00
esday,	13 June 2017							
	BSI Large All/Manufacturing Industry QoQ	2Q		/,		1.3/1.1	0.50	9.50
	NAB Business Conditions/Confidence CPI MoM/YoY	May May		,		14.0/13.0 0.5/2.7	2.30 9.30	11.30 18.30
	CPI Core YoY	May		/		2.4	9.30	18.30
	PPI Input NSA MoM/YoY	May		/		0.1/16.6	9.30	18.30
	PPI Output NSA MoM/YoY	May		,		0.4/3.6	9.30	18.30
	PPI Output Core NSA MoM/YoY	May		/		0.5/2.8	9.30	18.30
	House Price Index YoY	Apr				4.1	9.30	18.30
	ZEW Survey Current Situation/Expectations	Jun		/		83.9/20.6	10.00	19.00
	ZEW Survey Expectations NFIB Small Business Optimism	Jun May				35.1 104.5	10.00 11.00	19.00 20.00
	PPI Final Demand MoM/YoY	May		0/		0.5/2.5	13.30	22.30
	PPI Ex Food and Energy MoM/YoY	May		0.2/		0.4/1.9	13.30	22.30
	PPI Ex Food, Energy, Trade MoM/YoY	May		<i>i</i>		0.7/2.1	13.30	22.30
dnesd	ay, 14 June 2017 Food Prices MoM	May				-0.8	23.45	8.45
	BoP Current Account Balance NZD/% of GDP YTD	May 1Q		/		-0.8 -2.3/-2.7	23.45	8.45
	ANZ Roy Morgan Weekly Consumer Confidence Index	Jun 4		•		112.2	0.30	9.30
	Westpac Consumer Conf Index/MoM	Jun		/		98.0/-1.1	1.30	10.30
	Retail Sales YoY/YTD YoY	May		10.8/10.3		10.7/10.2	3.00	12.00
	Industrial Production YoY/YTD YoY	May		6.5/6.7		6.5/6.7	3.00	12.00
	Fixed Assets Ex Rural YTD YoY Industrial Production MoM/YoY	May Apr F		8.8 /		8.9	3.00 5.30	12.00 14.30
	CPI EU Harmonized MoM/YoY	May F		/		4.0/5.7 -0.2/1.4	7.00	16.00
	Jobless Claims Change	May		,		19.4	9.30	18.30
	Average Weekly Earnings/ex bonus 3M/YoY	Apr		/		2.4/2.1	9.30	18.30
	Employment Change/Unemployment rate 3M/3M	Apr		/		122.0/4.6	9.30	18.30
	Industrial Production SA MoM/YoY	Apr		/,		-0.1/1.9	10.00	19.00
	Employment QoQ/YoY	1Q May		0.1/		0.3/1.1	10.00 13.30	19.00 22.30
	CPI MoM/YoY CPI Ex Food and Energy MoM/YoY	May May		0.1/ 0.2/		0.2/2.2 0.1/1.9	13.30	22.30
	Real Avg Weekly/Hourly Earnings YoY	May		/		0.3/0.4	13.30	22.30
	Retail Sales Advance MoM	May		0.1		0.4	13.30	22.30
	Retail Sales Ex Auto and Gas/Control Group	May		/		0.3/0.2	13.30	22.30
	Business Inventories FOMC Rate Decision (Lower/Upper Bound)	Apr Jun 14		0.2 1/1.25		0.2 0.75/1.00	15.00 19.00	0.00 4.00
comir tralia	ng Central Bank Interest Rate Announcements RBA	6-Jun	1.50%	1.50%		1.50%		
ope E		8-Jun	-0.4%	-0.4%		-0.4%		
BOE		15-Jun	0.25%	0.25%		0.25%		
- 1	al Reserve	15-Jun	0.75-1.00%	0.75-1.00%		0.75-1.00%		
an, Bo	oJ and, RBNZ	16-Jun 22-Jun	-0.1% 1.75%	-0.1% 1.75%		-0.1% 1.75%		

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