Markets Today



Hard Day's Night

Local market's finished up on Tuesday in a distinctly 'risk-off' frame of mind, and that sentiment has extended throughout the European and US sessions. US stocks have just closed with indices averaging losses of 1%, Treasury yields are back at their lowest levels in over a month and 10yr Bunds have dipped back below 10bp (0.098%) for the first time since 20 April 2014 when they hit their record low of 0.074%. European stocks again underperformed the US, the Eurostoxx 50 down 2.43%.

There is no obvious catalyst for the sell-off, rather we'd gauge that stock investors are retreating back into their shells ahead of the US first quarter earnings seasons that kicks off in earnest next Monday (Alcoa) and where the consensus is for earnings of S&P500 companies to be on average 7.6% lower than the same quarter of 2015.

In currencies USD/JPY has traded back below ¥110 for the first time since 31 October 2014. This was the day, recall, when the BoJ surprised markets by raising the quantum of its QQE programme from ¥Y70tn to ¥80tn and which proved to be the inspiration for the run up to above ¥120. The pressure is now on for them to do something similar on 28 April, amid deepening scepticism that they can succeed and bearing in mind that EUR/USD is currently trading some 4% stronger than the day before the ECB launched its cocktail of additional easing measures on 10 March.

BoJ Governor Kuroda hinted at more easing to come in parliamentary comments yesterday, but he made no impression on markets in doing so. Neither – more than momentarily – did Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga who told the press he was watching FX level movements with a 'sense of urgency'.

Market moves have come largely despite not because of incomings economic data, though downward revisions to Eurozone PMIs relative to the 'flash' estimates did resonate somewhat in Europe. The non-manufacturing ISM report didn't show quite the uplift of its manufacturing sector brethren from last Friday, but at 54.2 (up from 53.4) it just exceeded expectations. The JOLTs (job openings) report was a little softer than expected but remains an extremely elevated levels, while the 'quit rate' – beloved by Janet Yellen – rose to 2.1% from 2.0%. Against this, a wider than expected January trade deficit – in real as well as nominal terms – has the Atlanta Fed downgrading its "GDPNow' estimate of first quarter growth to 0.4% from 0.7% last Friday.

AUD/USD is the worst performing G10 currency of the past 24 hours followed by GBP and where Brexit concerns do appear to be moving back to the fore (alongside expectations for a soft Q1 UK GD outcome following latest PMI data).

The RBA's low level expression of concern about the currency in yesterday's post meeting statement (that "an appreciating exchange rate could complicate the adjustment under way in the economy") produced a small bounce in AUD/USD, from around 0.7575 to 0.7625. But the market's sense of their emphasis on upcoming inflation data to help the RBA gauge the outlook for inflation was seen to imply a somewhat greater willingness to cut rates in response to low inflation than previously. This quickly took AUD back down. A jump back higher in the VIX has done the rest (o/n low of 0.7510).

AUD/NZD meanwhile has dropped back below 1.11 after the last Global Dairy Trade auction produced an average winning price up 2.1% on last time and while there was no formal poll the result looked to be a touch better than the whisper numbers heading into the auction.

Coming Up

March FOMC meeting minutes are the main draw in the coming 24-hours. Risk is that they don't come across as dovishly as the post-meeting statement or Fed chair Yellen's subsequent speech, in so far as they should reflect the spectrum of views presented to the meeting and which as we've learned from several FOMC members' subsequent remarks, don't quite reflect the chair's interpretation of gradualism.

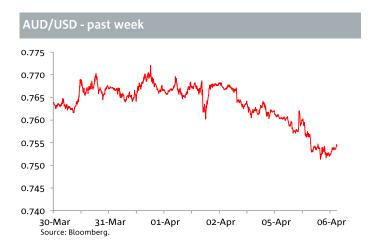
Ahead of the minutes, we get China's Caixin service sector PMI today (11:45 AEDT) and which was last at 51.2 (the official version, recall, improved to 53.8 from 52.7 when published last Friday).

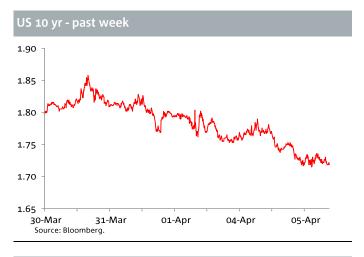
We also have a speech from RBA assistant governor Chris Kent – on Economic Forecasting at the RBA – but not until 17:40 AEDT.

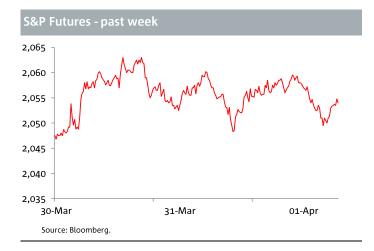
Overnight

On global stock markets, the S&P 500 was -1.00%. Bond markets saw US 10-years -4.35bp to 1.72%. On commodity markets, Brent crude oil +0.66% to \$37.94, gold+1.1% to \$1,231, iron ore -0.1% to \$54.75. AUD is at 0.7536 and the range was 0.751 to 0.7632.

Markets







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33.00	
30-Mar 3 Source: Bloombe	Mar 01-Apr 04-Apr 05-Apr

Foreign Exchange										
			Other FX							
	Last	% chge	Low	High		Last	% chge			
AUD	0.7542	0.0	0.7541	0.7546	HKD	7.7569	0.0			
NZD	0.6806	0.0	0.6804	0.6811	CNY	6.4771	-0.1			
EUR	1.1385	0.0	1.1384	1.1386	SGD	1.3564	0.0			
GBP	1.4161	0.0	1.4159	1.4163	IDR	13,222	0.2			
JPY	110.31	0.0	110.2900	110.3500	THB	35.30	0.0			
CAD	1.3139	0.0	1.3136	1.3140	KRW	1,155	0.8			
AUD/EUR	0.6625	0.0			TWD	32.38	0.2			
AUD/JPY	83.20	-0.1			PHP	46.24	0.1			
AUD/GBP	0.5326	0.0			CHF	0.96	0.0			
AUD/NZD	1.1083	0.0			SEK	8.13	0.0			
AUD/CNY	4.8784	-1.1								

Major Indices								
	Last	% day	% y/y					
Dow	17,603	-0.8	-0.9					
S&P 500	2,045	-1.0	-1.1					
Nasdaq	4,844	-1.0	-0.9					
VIX	15	+9.2	5.1					
FTSE	6,091	-1.2	-10.9					
DAX	9,563	-2.6	-20.1					
CAC 40	4,250	-0.8	-16.2					
Nikkei	15,733	-2.4	-18.9					
Shanghai	3,053	+1.4	-21.0					
Hang Seng	20,177	-1.6	-20.2					
ASX 200	4,924	-1.4	-16.5					

Commodities*							
	Last	% day					
Oil (Brent)	38.28	1.6					
Oil (WTI)	36.56	2.4					
Oil (Tapis)	38.48	-3.0					
Gold	1228.40	0.9					
CRB	165.22	-0.3					
GS Metals	256.0	-0.5					
Aluminium	1505	-1.1					
Copper	4792	0.3					
Nickel	8447	1.4					
Zinc	1805	-2.3					
Ch. steel	2198	0.8					
Iron ore	54.8	-0.1					
Coal	50.2	0.3					
Wheat Chic.	480.8	-0.1					
Sugar	14.64	0.0					
Cotton	58.90	-0.1					
Coffee	120.9	-1.5					
* clsd = market holiday							
CO ₂ Emissions - Euros							
	Last	% day					

Jun-2016

Dec-2016

Jun-2017

Interest Rates									
Indicative Swap Rates					Benchmark 10 Year Bonds				
	Cash	3mth	2Yr	10Yr		Last	chge	Sprd	
USD	0.50	0.63	0.84	1.60	USD 10	1.72	-0.04		
AUD	2.00	2.27	2.06	2.56	AUD 10	2.45	-0.01	0.73	
NZD	2.25	2.34	2.17	2.94	NZD 10	2.86	0.00	1.14	
EUR	0.00	0.06	-0.15	0.50	CAD 10	1.17	-0.06	-0.55	
GBP	0.50	0.59	0.76	1.37	EUR 10	0.10	-0.03	-1.62	
JPY	-0.01	0.00	-0.12	0.14	GBP 10	1.38	-0.05	-0.35	
CAD	0.50	1.17	0.86	1.43	JPY 10	-0.05	0.02	-1.77	

Overnight Futures						
	Last	Chge				
Australia						
3 mth bill	97.83	0.01				
3 Yr bond	98.18	0.02				
10 Yr bond	97.57	0.03				
3/10 sprd	0.61	-0.01				
SPI	-18.0	-0.4				

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. GS Metals is Goldman Sachs industrial metals index. Metals prices are CME. Emissions: ICE Dec contracts, Euros

 $\hbox{** These are indicative ranges over the past 24 hours; please confirm rates with your NAB dealer}\\$

Last is around 6:30am Sydney

Source: Bloomberg

5.23

5.24

5.28

-1.7

-1.7

-1.7

Calendar

Victor V	Country	Economic Indicator	Period	Forecast	Consensus	Actual	Previous	GMT	AEST
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15				ik of Australia	54.75		53.4		
150 160			Widi		34.73		22.4		
March Marc									
No. Main M									1111
Apr			Mar				1.6	22.00	8.00
1985 1965 Royals ageals in Balles	AU						46.1	23.30	9.30
Aug. Goodge Reemes, 340m	US							0.00	
EC. C. C	JN	BoJ's Kuroda speaks at BoJ's branch manager's meeting						0.30	10.30
CE CES Contandio papels at EU Parliament in Bousels 170 17	AU	Foreign Reserves, \$Abn	Mar				61.2	6.30	16.30
Conting Part Part	EC	ECB and Its Watchers Conference						6.30	16.30
C.	EC	ECB's Constancio speak at EU Parliament in Brussels							17.00
C. Cife Despit attends meeting of Portugues Presidents Country Part Part			Mar		3196		3202.3	-	
Column C									21.30
15									
15 Sommary Constant Company 1,245 1,365 3,50 3									
15 Consumer Credit Feb 149 149 150					270				
Findly A By April 2016 Foreign of 12 Apr									
City Foodsy Direct missment Not For release \$12 Apr			Feb		14.9		10.5	19.00	5.00
19. 19.							1.0		
No. Crown accounts Feb			Volckor				1.0	21.20	7.20
19.5 Fed's George Speales in York, Nebraska 19.01 19.0									
UK Michagn production MoM/YoY Feb 0.1/0 3,3/0.2 8,30									
UK trade balance			Feb		0.1/0		0.3/0.2		
CAS Employment/Unemployment rate									
150 Wholesale Inventroires/sales MoM Feb 0.2/0.2 0.3/1.2 0.00 0.0									
15 Fed's George Speaks in York, Nebraska Feb 1571.9 1492.44 141.0 22.55 1.50 18 18 18 18 18 18 18									
Monday 14 April 2005 18 port 2005 18 port 2005 18 port					5.2/ 5.2		ر.د بر		
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Feb	JN				40.5				
Feb	JN	Eco Watchers Survey Outlook	Mar		48.3		48.2	5.00	16.00
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