

# **BULLS vs BEARS**

MPC Markets - Weekly edition *FOUNDED BY INVESTORS, FOR INVESTORS* 



### Now comes as a podcast!



#### MPC IN THE MEDIA

A big week for MPC in the media with our CEO, Mark Gardner appearing in AusbizTV for the "Footy Special" and Channel 7 for "Your Money & Your Life"

Mark joined Philip Pepe from Shaw and Partners to go in-depth and Footy related stocks. The stocks covered were Brisbane Broncos (BBL) Catapult (CAT) Sports Entertainment Group (SEG) HitIQ (HIQ) MA Financial (MAF) Seek (SEK) Eagers Automotive (APE) Mass Group (MGH) Qantas (QAN) Transurban (TCL)





#### **TEACHING YOUR KIDS ABOUT INVESTING**

Mark also sat down with Kochie to talk about the difficult task of getting your kids interested in investing on Channel 7's, Your Money & Your Life.

Mark suggested choosing stocks that sell products your kids use or buy.

Another suggestion was the Raiz Invest Kids app so your kids can see the dividends and returns come in

#### INVESTORS GET SELECTIVE HEARING ON RATES

This week we saw US inflation rise more than expected in both producer and consumer measures. Despite this, Investors ignored the hotter-than-expected inflation and twisted the narrative to "the consumer is resilient" and bought the dip in tech stocks.





## **STOCKS**

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

#### Arafura Rare Earths (ARU)

Arafura Rare Earths Limited is pleased to announce it has secured conditional Commonwealth Government approval for a debt financing package of US\$533 million to progress its strategically important Nolans Project in the Northern Territory. The Commonwealth Government approvals are part of a broader financing package Arafura is currently progressing, which Arafura currently has indicative interest from international and commercial financiers for a further US\$550 million of senior debt facilities.

#### Liontown Resources (LTR)

Liontown Resources is pleased to announce that it has entered into a A\$550 million debt facility agreement which is designed to ensure the Company's Kathleen Valley Lithium Project is funded through first production and ramp-up to the 3Mtpa base case2. The Debt Facility provides financial certainty and sufficient time for Liontown to complete the previously announced review of Kathleen Valley's 4Mtpa expansion4, including opex and capital requirements, on which the Company will provide a market update in Q2 CY2024. In parallel, the Company is continuing to explore options for a longer-term funding solution to provide future flexibility and optionality beyond the 3Mtpa base case.

#### Treasury Wines (TWE)

Treasury Wine Estates been advised that the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) has released an interim draft determination outlining a proposed removal of the current tariffs on Australian wine imports into China. The interim draft determination is not a final determination and is subject to change by MOFCOM. TWE anticipates that MOFCOM will release a final determination in the coming weeks.

#### Clinuvel (CUV)

CLINUVEL will commence a 12 month on-market share buy-back program of up to 1,500,000 ordinary shares, approximating to 3% of its outstanding share capital. The repurchase will be executed conditional on the prevailing share price, market performance, and the Company's capital position.



## **MPC WEBINAR SERIES**

### FORTHNIGHTLY DEEP DIVE

Over the next 6 weeks, the MPC team will be releasing a series of webinars on a range of topics. Starting this week with Jonathan and Mark guiding you through the store of value trade. Covering Gold, Silver, Crypto and Real Assets



#### Store of Value Trade - Tuesday 19th of March

Explore leveraging gold, silver, and cryptocurrencies with Jonathan Tacadena in a webinar on strategic assets amid Central Banks' increasing money supply. Learn about their value, market timing, risk management, and strategies to safeguard investments in today's economy.



#### The Energy Transition - Friday 29th of March

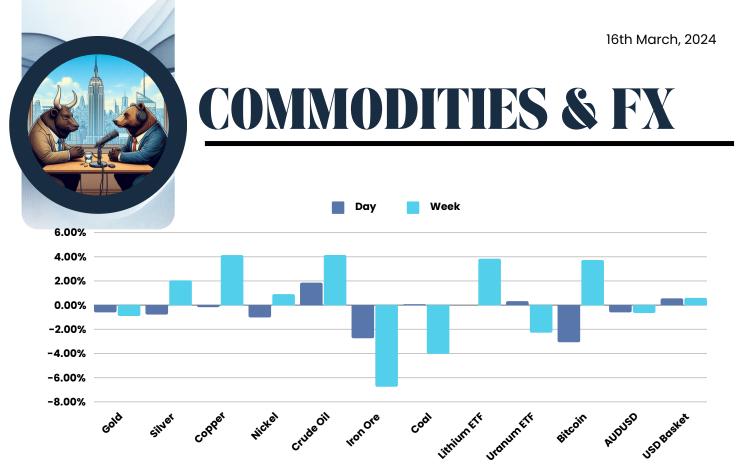
Learn about smart investing in renewable energy with expert Mark Gardner. Explore new energy sources like solar and wind, their impact, and how to navigate investments wisely. Get tips to avoid mistakes and safeguard your investments for a sustainable future.



#### Exploring AI Investments - Tuesday 16th of April

Dive into AI investing essentials in our upcoming webinar. Learn to make informed decisions, understand the AI boom, and prepare for future changes. Gain insights, practical tips, and discover actionable AI stock investments to potentially transform your portfolio.

#### **REGISTER NOW**



**Lithium -** Lithium had a volatile week, starting strong early, before falling off a cliff on Thursday. Lithium stocks had huge ranges over the week as hot money was washed around in large ranges.

**Gold –**Gold prices surged to record highs earlier this week, before swiftly consolidating and settling closer to the \$2,150 an ounce levels. Gold hit a record high of nearly \$2,200 an ounce at the beginning of the week, buoyed by persistent bets that the Federal Reserve will begin trimming interest rates by June.

**Copper -** surged to 11 month highs this week as China was forced to shut down a number of copper smelters due to an inability to source the commodity. A shortage of copper has been

**Crude Oil -** oil had a strong week, hitting fresh 4-month highs on a drawdown in US crude inventories and an attack on Russian refineries.

**Iron ore -** had a horrible week, although it wasn't a huge surprise with most analysts bewildered by the levitation act prices have performed despite a weakening

**Uranium -** Uranium spot prices have continued to drift lower to around \$84 on thin volume. it appeared as though speculative money was flushed out in Thursdays session before a bounce Friday

**Bitcoin -** BTC continues to make new highs, touching \$73k this week. Strong inflows continue on the ETFs, so expect any dips on BTC to be bought. ETH made a 3 year high but still not reached an all time high, so opportunity for it to play catch up to BTC



## **ECONOMY & POLITICS**

#### Inflation Data pushes back rate cuts

Data on Thursday showed the U.S. producer price index for final demand rose 0.6% in February above the 0.3% rise economists had forecast. That came after figures on Tuesday showed consumer prices increased strongly for a second straight month in February.

The U.S. central bank is due to meet next week and while the market is not expecting any change in interest rates, investors will be closely watching for its economic projections and comments from Fed Chair Jerome Powell.

The string of sticky inflation reports has led traders to dial back their expectations, with markets now pricing in 60% chance of the Fed cutting rates in June, compared to 74% a week earlier, according to the CME FedWatch tool.

The data highlights "the risk that the last mile on taming inflation in the U.S. might not be as easy as progress made to date,"

#### China leaves rates unchanged

China's central bank left a key policy rate unchanged while withdrawing cash from a medium-term policy loan operation on Friday, as authorities continued to prioritise currency stability amid uncertainty over the timing of expected Federal Reserve interest rate cuts.

89%, of analysts, expected the central bank to keep the borrowing cost of the one-year MLF loans unchanged.

The Fed's historic monetary tightening has bolstered the dollar and pressured the yuan over the past few years. Cutting rates before a move by the Fed or other major central banks would widen yield differentials, potentially putting more pressure on the local currency.

Investors have since ramped up their bets authorities will roll out more monetary easing measures, including a further reduction to bank reserves, to support the world's second-largest economy.



Are investors shifting from Gold to Bitcoin

#### WHAT WE ARE READING



Is NVDA an Al Bubble? Citigroup thinks "Yes"



UDS advances on hot inflation data



## TRADE OF THE WEEK

### Liontown Resources (LTR)

**Balanced Portfolio Recommendation** 

Action: Sell/Trim LTR 13th March 2024 Entry Price: \$1.02 Trim Price: \$1.53

Liontown Resources (LTR) operates as a Battery Minerals producer, targeting the Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage industries in Western Australia. Listed as ASX: LTR, the company holds an ASX100 status and concentrates on lithium exploration, aiming for global significance in battery minerals supply. Liontown controls two major lithium deposits: Kathleen Valley Lithium Project and Buldania Lithium Project. The company also explores the Toolebuc Vanadium Project in Queensland through a farm-in agreement with Olympio Resources Limited.

LTR announced a fresh \$550M debt facility which will take it beyond production. So share price popped on the news. Prudent to sell/trim position and bank some profits. Fundamentals of LTR remain positive, so will wait for a pullback to re-enter position



#### Webinar: The Store of Value Trade

Join MPC Markets on March 19th for a webinar on leveraging gold, silver, and cryptocurrencies against rising Central Bank money supplies. Learn investment strategies and risk management with Jonathan Tacadena.

<u>Sign-up for the Webinar</u>

