



BULLS vs BEARS

MPC Markets – Weekly edition

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MPC IN THE MEDIA

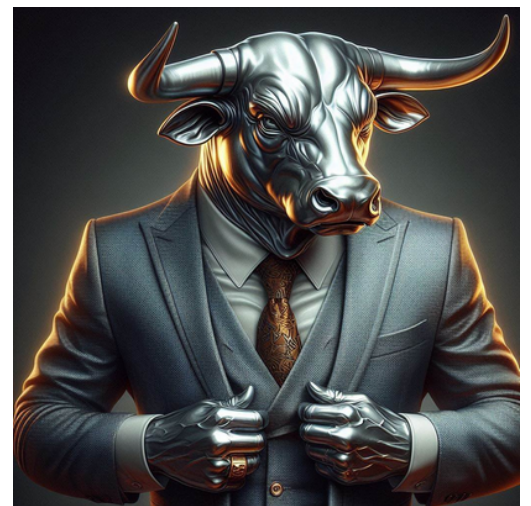
Jonathan Joined Ausbiz for the Trade to delve into the impact of geopolitical tensions on commodities and opportunities currently forming in equities. Jonathan observes that current economic and political scenarios contribute to a supportive environment for gold prices.

Mark Joined Adam Dawes to go in-depth and stock specific on 'the call.' Pilbara (PLS) IDP Education (IDP) Flight Centre (FLT) Aussie Broadband (ABB) Coles (COL) Fisher & Paykel (FPH) Auckland Airport (AIA) Life360 (360) Weebit Nano (WBT) The Lottery Corp (TLC) Stock of the day: GQG Partners (GQG)



SILVER BULLS PLAY CATCH UP

Silver is gearing up to potentially outperform gold, with its strong correlation and a notable 8% gain in March, surpassing gold's 7%. Although silver currently trails gold in year-to-date performance, historical patterns and the high gold-to-silver ratio suggest a potential catch-up. Improved investor sentiment towards silver, coupled with its structural advantages in industrial applications like electric vehicles and solar energy, support its promising outlook. The increase in electric car sales and commitments to green energy are particularly positive for silver's demand. As silver crosses a critical resistance level, indicating a rally, the focus is on whether it will outpace gold this year.





STOCKS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Austal (ASB)

The Austal share price is up 11% to \$2.44. Investors have been buying this shipbuilder's shares after it received and rejected a takeover offer from South Korean chaebol, Hanwha. It made an unsolicited, conditional, and non-binding indicative proposal to acquire Austal by way of a scheme of arrangement for \$2.825 cash per share. This represented a 28.4% premium to where the Austal share price ended last week. However, Austal is concerned that it would not be able to obtain the relevant regulatory approvals in Australia and the USA to enable it to proceed.

Winsome Resources (WRI)

Some clever lateral thinking from hard rock lithium miner, Winsome resources, in buying a diamond mine and processing facility. The Renard acquisition will open road and rail access year-round to the growing critical mineral and electric vehicle battery supply chain hub in nearby Bécancour and major ports on the St Lawrence Seaway. This move leverages Renard's existing permits and Quebec site, accelerating and potentially de-risking Winsome's lithium aspirations. Over \$900 million was invested in the asset, which has a capacity of 2.2 million tonnes per year."

Mesoblast (MSB)

The Mesoblast share price is up 67% to 93 cents. This is despite there being no news out of the biotechnology company this morning. Though, it is worth highlighting that the company's shares on Wall Street rocketed higher overnight. So, this gain appears to be in response to that. Investors have been fighting to get hold of Mesoblast's shares since the US FDA gave one of its stem cell therapies a big boost last week. Its shares are now up over 150% in the space of a week.

Elders Limited (ELD)

Was upgraded by both UBS and Macquarie Bank this week with MacBank citing higher forecasts based on a more positive view on both the seasonal outlook and livestock prices. Above average rainfall at the end of 2023 on the east coast of Australia is expected to result in a strong winter plant over April to June.

Also, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the US is suggesting a 62% probability of La Nina conditions emerging later in the year, providing the analyst with confidence for the 2024/25 season.

Livestock prices have rebounded from depressed levels, and Macquarie expects strong demand for Australian beef (particularly out of the US as slaughter rates decline) will underpin prices over FY24/25.



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 – Available on Demand

Explore leveraging gold, silver, and crypto with Mark and Jonathan 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 – Available on Demand

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.



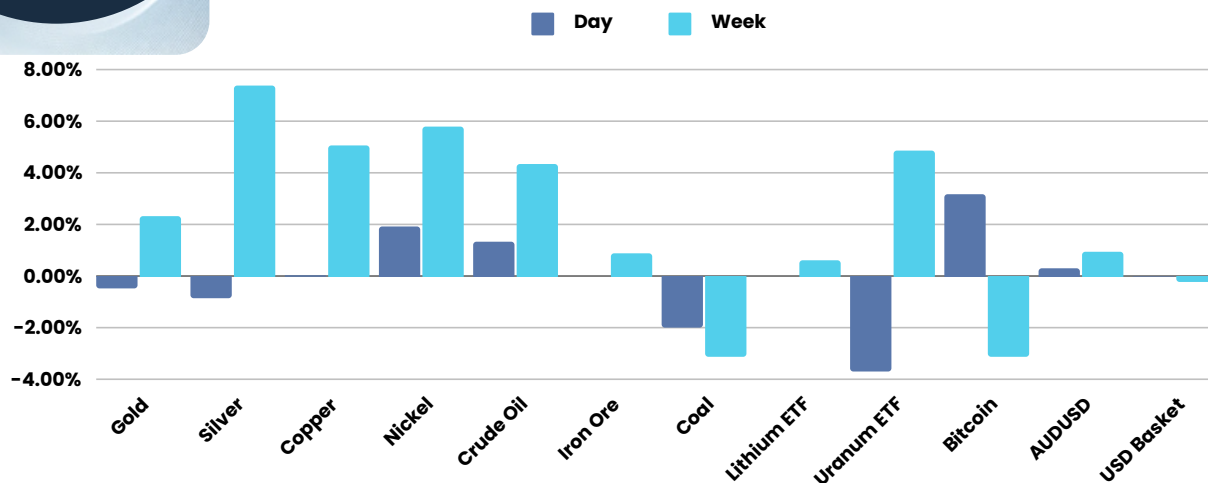
Exploring AI Investments – Tuesday 16th of April

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.

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COMMODITIES & FX



Lithium - Lithium was mainly range bound this week. Lithium stocks were mixed

Gold - Gold prices made another high above \$2300 but has pulled back, to be just under that level. Gold has surged 15% since the start of March

Silver - Silver made a new 52 week high above \$27 an ounce and also retreated overnight. Silver has gained 8% for the week

Copper - Copper made a new 52 week high above \$4.20 pound and also retraced slightly overnight. Copper has risen about 6% since mid march

Crude Oil - Crude continues its strong run and is above \$86 a barrel. Continued geopolitical concerns are keeping prices bid

Iron ore - Iron has fallen under \$100 and this has weighed on the large miners today

Uranium - Uranium spot prices have been range bound this week but a few Uranium stocks have had unexpected rallies

Bitcoin - BTC volatile as always but unable to make a new high above \$70k. It did drop as low as \$64k during the week



ECONOMY & POLITICS

Yellen Attends meetings in China on excess production threat

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen on Friday launched four days of talks with senior Chinese officials expected to focus heavily on spillovers from China's excess manufacturing capacity and an increasingly challenging business climate for U.S. firms.

Yellen and other Biden administration officials are growing increasingly concerned about China's overproduction of electric vehicles, solar panels, semiconductors and other goods that are flooding into global markets in the face of a demand slump at home. She plans to argue that this is not healthy for China and is hurting producers in other countries.

Yellen told Wang that she will emphasise the need for a "level playing field" for U.S. workers and firms, and that Washington and Beijing must maintain open and direct communications on areas where they disagree

Fed Kashkari questions rate cut bets

Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank President Neel Kashkari said on Thursday that at the U.S. central bank's meeting last month he penciled in two interest rate cuts this year but if inflation continues to stall, none may be required by year end.

"If we continue to see inflation moving sideways, then that would make me question whether we need to do those rate cuts at all," Kashkari said during an interview with Pensions & Investments. "There's a lot of momentum in the economy right now."

Kashkari added that if inflation continued to come in stronger than hoped, he anticipates the Fed would hold its benchmark policy rate at the current 5.25%-5.50% range for a longer period of time.

If that still did not work, further rate increases are "not off the table, but they are also not a likely scenario given what we know right now," Kashkari said.

WHAT WE ARE READING



[Copper prices hit 14-mth highs on China optimism, tight supply outlook](#)



[Bank of Japan hints at near-term rate hike, pushing yields higher](#)



[Fed's Kashkari says 2024 rate cuts under threat if inflation continues to stall](#)



TRADE OF THE WEEK

Hillgrove Resources (HGO)

Alpha Recommendation

Entry Price: 7.4c
 Stop: Raised to 6.3c
 Target: 10.5c

Hillgrove produced the first copper from its Kanmantoo mine in February 2024, making a rare pure play copper producer listed on the ASX. The company's stage one mine plan includes

- All in sustaining cost of A\$8051 a tonne (approx US\$2.4/lb)
- Copper production of 44,000 tonnes per annum
- Mine life of four years

HGO raised \$10m at 6c in February so that should be a natural floor on the stock price. With production starting this quarter the next quarterly could be a good catalyst for the share price. HGO was trading near 10c earlier this year, so that seems like a natural target for the share price. Spot copper is trading near 52 week highs will be the background thematic behind this position.



Webinar: Exploring the A.I. Investment Landscape

Join us for an informative webinar designed to simplify AI investing for you. In this session, we'll dive into the essentials of making informed investment decisions within the AI market

Plus, as an exclusive bonus for attendees, we'll reveal 3 actionable AI stock investments

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