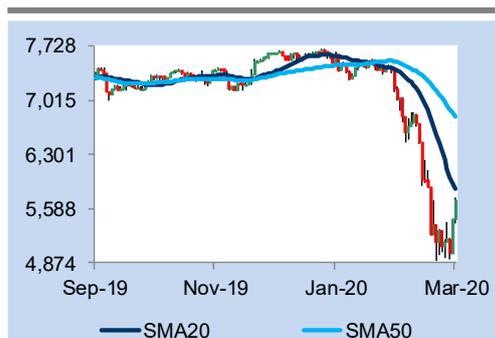


Key Global Indices

[Click here to open an account](#)

	Last Close	1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg		Last Close	1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg
FTSE 100	5,688.2	↑ 4.4%	12.0%	-20.5%	-21.0%	S&P 500	2,475.6	↑ 1.2%	3.2%	-23.3%	-12.2%
FTSE 250	14,819.9	↑ 4.6%	13.9%	-29.8%	-21.6%	DJIA	21,200.6	↑ 2.4%	6.5%	-24.2%	-17.4%
DJSTOXX 50	2,668.4	↑ 3.0%	12.0%	-20.7%	-13.9%	Nasdaq	7,384.3	↓ -0.5%	5.6%	-19.9%	-4.0%
FTSEurofirst 300	1,235.8	↑ 3.3%	12.7%	-23.0%	-16.8%	Nikkei 225*	18,966.5	↓ -3.0%	16.9%	-16.4%	-8.8%
German DAX 30	9,874.3	↑ 1.8%	17.0%	-24.2%	-13.5%	Shanghai Composite*	2,776.6	↓ -0.2%	-5.0%	-8.2%	-7.2%
France CAC 40	4,432.3	↑ 4.5%	18.0%	-23.5%	-16.5%	DJIA at London close	21,229.6		*Time - GMT	4:30	

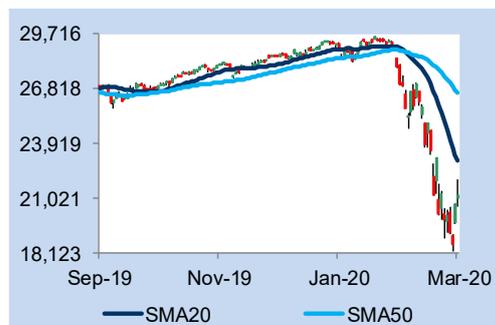
FTSE 100



UK Market Snapshot

UK markets finished on a stronger footing yesterday, driven by gains in banking and financial sector stocks. SSP Group soared 23.1%, after the travel-food company launched an emergency issue of shares worth £200.0 million as it laid off staff and cut spending to combat the Covid-19 crisis. Persimmon surged 15.3%, after announcing that it has started an orderly shutdown of its construction sites with only essential work taking place. Morgan Sindall Group jumped 10.9%. The construction group withdrew its financial guidance and warned on profits as the coronavirus pandemic was disrupting operations. DCC rose 2.5%, following a deal to acquire US-based healthcare firm, Amerilab for \$85.0 million. On the contrary, Rentokil Initial plummeted 8.2%, after the pest control company scrapped its dividend payments and withdrew its financial outlook for 2020. The FTSE 100 climbed 4.4%, to close at 5,688.2, while the FTSE 250 jumped 4.6%, to end at 14,819.9.

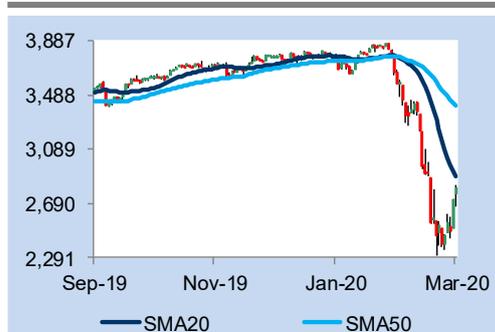
DJIA



US Market Snapshot

US markets closed mostly higher yesterday, after the US Congress agreed to a massive stimulus bill to combat the economic slowdown from the coronavirus pandemic. Boeing surged 24.3%, following reports that the company is planning to restart the production of its 737 Max aircraft by May. Winnebago Industries rallied 21.1%, after the recreational vehicle maker reported better than expected revenue in the second quarter. Occidental Petroleum soared 11.9%, after announcing its plans to slash its capital expenditure for 2020 and lowered its annual production guidance. NIKE jumped 9.2%, after its third quarter revenue and profit came in above market expectations. On the flipside, Target dropped 9.5%, after the retailer withdrew its 2020 financial guidance due to rising uncertainty from the coronavirus outbreak. The S&P 500 gained 1.2%, to settle at 2,475.6. The DJIA rose 2.4%, to settle at 21,200.6, while the NASDAQ shed 0.5%, to close at 7,384.3.

DJ Euro STOXX50



Europe Market Snapshot

European markets finished in positive territory yesterday, supported by gains in banking and healthcare sector stocks. Zalando climbed 6.7%. The German online fashion retailer warned that shutdowns due to the Covid-19 pandemic were hurting demand for its products. Credit Suisse Group advanced 5.9%, after the lender suspended its CHF1.5 billion buyback programme due to economic uncertainty caused by the coronavirus outbreak and revealed that its profitability has maintained a strong improvement in the first quarter. Renault rose 1.9%. The French carmaker halted its production activities at industrial sites in Latin America. Capgemini added 0.8%, after announcing a deal to acquire an independent MuleSoft consultancy firm, WhiteSky Labs. The FTSEurofirst 300 index advanced 3.3%, to settle at 1,235.8. The German DAX Xetra rose 1.8%, to settle at 9,874.3, while the French CAC-40 jumped 4.5%, to close at 4,432.3

Asia Market Snapshot

Markets in Asia are trading mostly higher this morning. In Japan, Marubeni has tumbled 5.3%, after the company forecasted an annual net loss. Meanwhile, Nissan Chemical, Nippon Suisan Kaisha and Oji Holdings have advanced 3.6%, 4.7% and 5.2%, respectively. In Hong Kong, China Mobile, Wharf Real Estate Investment and AAC Technologies Holdings have climbed 1.7%, 3.5% and 6.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, Hang Seng Bank, China Resources Land and CITIC have dropped 1.8%, 1.9% and 2.8%, respectively. In South Korea, LG Electronics, Hana Financial Group and Coway have gained 5.4%, 6.4% and 9.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, Samsung SDI, NCSOFT and Samsung Life Insurance have declined 2.1%, 2.6% and 3.7%, respectively. The Nikkei 225 index is trading 3% lower at 18,966.5. The Hang Seng index is trading marginally higher at 23,527.8, while the Kospi index is trading 1.1% higher at 1,723.9.

Contents

Key Corporate Releases	2
Commodity, Currency & Bitcoin	3
Sector Performers & Key Economic News	4
Share Tips, Bids & Rumours and Newspaper Summary	5-8

Key Corporate Releases Today

[Click here to open an account](#)

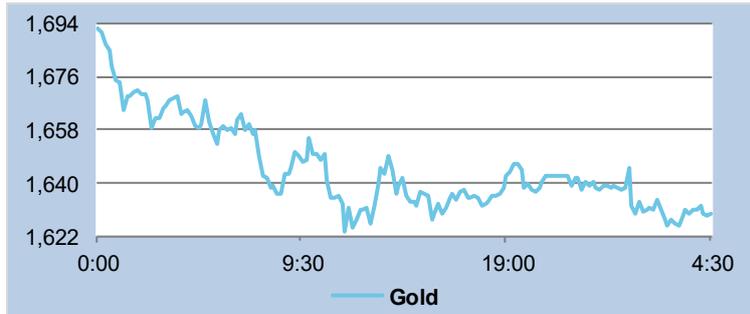
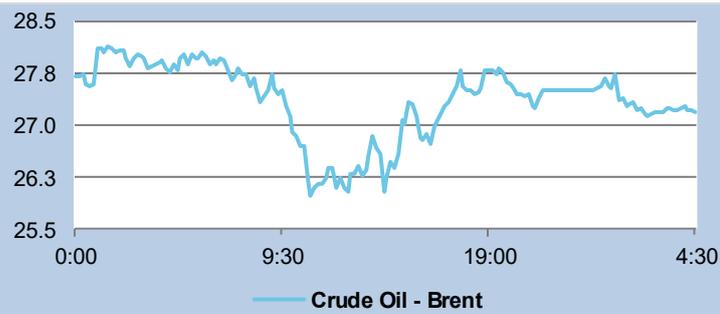
UK

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus	
			Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)
Hilton Food Group Plc	Final	GBP	0.44	1,777.14
EnQuest Plc	Final	USD	0.11	1,562.40
NMCN Plc	Final	GBP	57.20	348.00
Lamprell Plc	Final	USD	(0.24)	276.00
Secure Trust Bank Plc	Final	GBP	1.75	170.00
Arbutnot Banking Group Plc	Final	GBP	0.45	76.70
Ebiquity Plc	Final	GBP	0.04	69.85
Churchill China Plc	Final	GBP	0.78	67.20
Alfa Financial Software Holdings Plc	Final	GBP	0.03	63.00
Regional REIT Ltd	Final	GBP	-	55.10
IGas Energy Plc	Final	GBP	0.04	41.30
Cenkos Securities Plc	Final	GBP	-	27.00
Elecosoft Plc	Final	GBP	0.04	25.95
Venture Life Group Plc	Final	GBP	0.02	20.20
Impact Healthcare Reit Plc	Final	GBP	0.04	19.80
Sigma Capital Group Plc	Final	GBP	0.13	15.50
Journeo Plc	Final	GBP	(0.11)	11.80
Surgical Innovations Group Plc	Final	GBP	-	10.60
DigitalBox Plc	Final	GBP	0.01	2.30
RIT Capital Partners Plc/Fund	Final	GBP	-	-
BBGI SICAV S.A	Final	GBP	-	-
JPMorgan Smaller Companies Investment Trust PLC	Interim	GBP	-	-
Bigblu Broadband Plc	Final	GBP	0.01	-
Tern Plc	Final	GBP	-	-
Bluebird Merchant Ventures Ltd	Interim	USD	-	-
Biome Technologies Plc	Final	GBP	-	-

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

Commodity, Currency and Bitcoin

[Click here to open an account](#)



Commodity

- At 0430GMT today, Brent crude oil one month futures contract is trading 0.73% or \$0.20 lower at \$27.19 per barrel. Yesterday, the contract climbed 0.88% or \$0.24, to settle at \$27.39 per barrel, after the Energy Information Administration reported that the US crude oil inventories rose less than expected by 1.6 million barrels in the week ended 20 March 2020.
- At 0430GMT today, Gold futures contract is trading 0.23% or \$3.70 lower at \$1629.70 per ounce. Yesterday, the contract declined 1.65% or \$27.40, to settle at \$1633.40 per ounce, as fears over rising coronavirus cases across the globe was overshadowed by hopes of a \$2.0 trillion US government stimulus package to counter the economic impact of the pandemic.



Currency

- At 0430GMT today, the EUR is trading 0.28% higher against the USD at \$1.0912, ahead of the German consumer confidence index data for April, slated to be released in a few hours. Additionally, investors await the US fourth quarter GDP and weekly jobless claims data, scheduled to be released later today. Yesterday, the EUR strengthened 0.87% versus the USD, to close at \$1.0882. On the data front, German business climate index dropped to its lowest level since July 2009 in March, while the business expectations index fell in the same month. In other economic news, the US durable goods orders unexpectedly rose in February.
- At 0430GMT today, the GBP is trading 0.2% lower against the USD at \$1.1854, ahead of the Bank of England's (BoE) interest rate decision, along with the UK retail sales data for February, scheduled later in the day. Yesterday, the GBP strengthened 0.99% versus the USD, to close at \$1.1878. On the data front, British consumer prices advanced in February.



Bitcoin

- At 0430GMT today, BTC is trading 1.67% higher against the USD at \$6708.95. Yesterday, BTC declined 2.28% against the USD to close at \$6598.56. In major news, the International Blockchain Monetary Reserve (IBMR) has raised around \$3.5 million as an investment seed into the ARCC Currency Reserve. In a key development, cryptocurrency service provider, Metal Pay has joined hands with TRON to enable instant purchase of TRX token in the US.

To start trading Bitcoin Click [Here](#)



Partners
with



Highly competitive and efficient international money transfers. Corporates sending multiple millions or private clients buying overseas properties, by using cutting edge technology we process your payments at very low rates and pass those savings on to you.

Can Currencyflo cut your cost? Call **020 3963 4960** or for more information www.currencyflo.com

Corporate

[Open Account](#)

Private

[Open Account](#)

FTSE All Share Index- Performance

[Click here to open an account](#)

UK Top Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Automobiles & Parts	3316.38	373.73	12.7%	-21.7%	-47.2%
Oil Equipment & Services	3742.93	391.45	11.7%	-52.2%	-64.9%
Life Insurance	5425.38	535.73	11.0%	-29.8%	-27.3%
Food Producers	6197.67	563.13	10.0%	-20.1%	-13.1%
Electricity	7401.72	581.39	8.5%	-19.4%	1.1%

UK Worst Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Fixed Line Telecommunications	1582.33	-7.40	-0.5%	-11.0%	-38.8%

Key Economic News

UK CPI climbed in February

In the UK, the consumer price index (CPI) climbed 0.40% on a MoM basis in February. The CPI had fallen 0.30% in the previous month.

German Ifo business expectations index dropped in March

In German, the final Ifo business expectations index fell to a level of 79.70 in March, compared to a level of 93.40 in the prior month.

German Ifo current assessment index dropped in March

In Germany, the final Ifo current assessment index dropped to a level of 93.00 in March. The index had registered a reading of 98.90 in the previous month.

German Ifo business climate index dropped in March

In Germany, the final Ifo business climate index registered a drop to a level of 86.10 in March, compared to a reading of 96.10 in the prior month.

US durable goods orders unexpectedly rose in February

In the US, the preliminary durable goods orders recorded a rise of 1.20% on a MoM basis in February, more than market expectations for a drop of 0.80%. Durable goods orders had registered a drop of 0.20% in the previous month.

Share Tips, Bids and Rumours

[Click here to open an account](#)

- [The Times \(Tempus share tips\)](#): "Hold" SSP; "Sell" NMC Health.
- [The Times](#): Airport and railway caterer SSP has raised more than £200 million of equity from institutions as part of a £300 million funding package to ensure its survival.
- [The Times](#): Silence Therapeutics has joined hands with Astrazeneca to discover, develop and commercialise treatments for cardiovascular, renal, metabolic and respiratory diseases.
- [The Guardian \(Comment\)](#): Coronavirus pandemic has delivered the fastest, deepest economic shock in history.
- [The Daily Telegraph \(Comment\)](#): The boardroom must share the financial pain of employees.

Newspaper Summary

The Times

Banks urged to scrap billion-pound payouts: Doubts have been raised about whether Barclays will pay a promised £1.03 billion dividend next week, as the chancellor and the governor of the Bank of England made plain that they expected banks to conserve cash and play their part in lending to struggling firms.

Jobless rate to hit 6% but 900,000 will stay in work: Government measures to protect workers and businesses hit by the coronavirus pandemic will save almost 900,000 jobs, assuming that there is a recession as deep as the 2008 financial crisis, a leading consultancy has claimed.

Drop of more than half in house sales: Housing transactions are expected to drop by as much as 60% in the next three months.

Biggest fall in retail sales for a decade, says the CBI: The retail industry is facing its biggest sales fall for more than a decade, even though the coronavirus outbreak has led to more demand for groceries, the CBI has said.

High demand fails to avert Facebook advertising hit: Soaring demand for Facebook's social media services will not be enough to offset a slump in digital advertising, the company has warned.

Staffline welcomes VAT holiday lifeline: A provider of warehouse and delivery workers for big grocers such as Sainsbury's and Tesco said that it had been given a lifeline by the government's VAT holiday.

SSP raises £200 million to survive 'most pessimistic scenario': An airport and railway caterer has raised more than £200 million of equity from institutions as part of a

£300 million funding package to ensure its survival.

Halfords braces for sales fall of quarter: Keeping the wheels turning for the cars and bikes used by the Ministry of Defence and NHS workers has meant that Halfords can stay open, but it is still bracing for sales to fall by a quarter.

Wetherspoons head Tim Martin backs down on refusing to pay staff: The Chairman of JD Wetherspoons has done a U-turn by agreeing to carry on paying staff only a day after suggesting that some of his employees should get a job at Tesco instead.

Rentokil exterminates its dividend: Hopes that Rentokil Initial, a specialist in keeping workplaces clean and safe, would be immune to the Covid-19 crisis have proved misplaced.

Student housing firm Unite Group takes rental hit: The nation's biggest provider of student housing has said that it will waive rents for students who return home for the final term of the academic year.

Get set for Max return, says Boeing: Boeing is to fire up its 737 Max production line by May as it seeks to return the aircraft to service by the middle of the year.

Silence is golden after 'impressive' Astrazeneca deal: An Anglo-German biotechnology company has struck a deal with Astrazeneca that could be worth up to \$4.2 billion.

The Independent

London city airport to shut until May as world goes into coronavirus lockdown: London City airport, which largely serves business travellers, is to shut down and not re-open until May at the earliest. The airport in the capital's docklands experienced its

busiest-ever year in 2019 and expected record numbers of passengers this year – with an average of more than 16,000 travellers per day.

Coronavirus: U.K. telecoms companies join forces to manage surge in internet usage during lockdown: Britain's largest telecoms companies have come together to help the public manage a surge in internet and mobile phone usage as millions have been forced to stay at home during the nationwide lockdown in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Financial Times

Vedanta presses on with plan to double oil production: Indian tycoon Anil Agarwal is pushing ahead with an aggressive oil and gas expansion programme, undeterred by a crash in prices and concern about debt levels at his company Vedanta Resources.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Faltering ethanol refiners switch to hand sanitiser: U.S. corn ethanol refineries, facing a catastrophic loss of fuel demand because of coronavirus, are repurposing some products for hand sanitiser to restock supplies depleted by the outbreak.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Chevron announces spending cuts and halts buyback programme: U.S. oil group Chevron is to make sweeping cuts to its spending plans for this year and will abandon its \$5 billion share-buyback programme, saying the move would protect its dividend in the face of collapsing oil prices and the coronavirus hit to global crude demand.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Coronavirus could wipe out U.S. bank profits, says S&P: The coronavirus crisis

[Click here to open an account](#)

could wipe out a full year of U.S. banking profits and push the sector into the red for the first time in more than a decade, analysts at rating agency S&P Global Ratings warned.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Blackstone's refusal to waive rents comes under fire: Blackstone has been accused of putting thousands of small businesses in the U.K. at risk of collapse after refusing to waive rents for tenants forced to shut owing to the coronavirus lockdown.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Fed taps BlackRock to manage bond purchases: The U.S. Federal Reserve tapped a division of BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, to manage billions of dollars in bond and mortgage-backed security purchases as the U.S. central bank works to cushion the economic and financial fallout from the coronavirus pandemic.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Bill Ackman makes \$2.6 billion in credit market rout: Billionaire investor Bill Ackman has cashed in \$2.6 billion from bets that companies would struggle to pay their debts, less than a week after warning the American people that "hell is coming" as a result of coronavirus.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Credit Suisse cuts Thiam's bonus after spying scandal: Credit Suisse has slashed the bonus of its former Chief Executive Tidjane Thiam for his role in a corporate spying scandal that damaged the Swiss lender's reputation.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

HK tycoons go private as coronavirus hits markets: Hong Kong's tycoons are looking to take some of the city's most storied companies back into private hands after the coronavirus outbreak and a local political crisis pummelled stock market valuations.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

More Reits warn they are unable to meet cash calls: Upheaval in the U.S. mortgage market ricocheted through the investment world, with two more real estate investment trusts warning that they could not meet margin calls from their lenders.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Dyson to produce 15,000 ventilators 'in weeks': Dyson plans to manufacture 15,000 medical ventilators designed from scratch, following a call from the Prime Minister for British industry to supply the National Health Service with equipment to fight coronavirus.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Ford downgrades plunge its \$36 billion of debt into junk market: Downgrades by Moody's and S&P Global stripped Ford of its investment-grade credit rating, a week after the carmaker shuttered most global plants, sent \$36 billion of its debt tumbling into the junk bond market.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

JPI Media suspends print production of free newspapers: JPI Media is to temporarily stop printing a dozen of its newspaper titles as local and regional news groups suffer the consequences of the coronavirus outbreak, with a sharp decrease in advertising spending forcing them to make drastic cuts.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Accountancy firms plead for rules respite because of coronavirus: Top accountancy firms are calling for temporary respite from rules including mandatory audit firm rotation, physical inventory counting, and accounts filing deadlines, arguing that the coronavirus outbreak had created "unprecedented challenges".

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Wetherspoon and Sports Direct demand clarity on coronavirus payments: Tim Martin, Chairman of the pub chain Wetherspoon, has said he will not pay employees beyond this Friday unless the government offers a firm date for payments to employers through its coronavirus job retention scheme.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Amazon and Flipkart suspend all services in India amid lockdown confusion: India's biggest ecommerce businesses Amazon and Walmart-owned Flipkart were forced to suspend all services in the country, amid mass confusion over the details of its strict 21-day coronavirus lockdown.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

U.K. high street chains refuse to pay rent: Fashion chain Primark is among the

U.K. businesses refusing to pay quarterly rent and has asked landlords for help weathering the downturn caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Virgin Media to recruit 500 call-centre staff in U.K.: Virgin Media will employ 500 new call-centre staff in the U.K. to deal with the impact of coronavirus in countries including India and the Philippines where offshore workers handle customer service calls.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Qantas secures A\$1 billion in funds despite credit crunch: Qantas Airways has raised A\$1.05 billion (\$633 million) to bolster its balance sheet, one of the first successful private debt raisings by an airline since countries around the globe began shutting their borders against coronavirus, forcing the industry to ground thousands of aircraft.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Lex:

U.S. stimulus: the signal and the noise: When companies are raising capital, pay attention to what they are telling you.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Hand sanitisers: clean business: Wartime edict of 'repurposing' factories is back with a vengeance.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Activist investors: buyer remorse: The fly-by-night profiteers of the popular imagination can be forces for good too.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Lombard:

Sunak on the money in refusing airlines carte blanche: Rishi Sunak has resisted the urge to extend his hand to airlines. Quite right. These are the same companies that squealed when the government toyed with bailing out Flybe in January.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

The Daily Telegraph

Banks told to help save struggling companies from collapse: Rishi Sunak has urged banks to do more to save struggling companies from collapse, firing warning shots at a sector that is on the

[Click here to open an account](#)

frontline of the financial response to the pandemic.

Bus industry closes in on Government rescue deal: The Government is set to offer the bus industry a bespoke wage deal, allowing critical services to continue during the coronavirus lockdown.

Hit to economy grows as construction sites shut down: The hit to the U.K. economy from coronavirus is intensifying as a growing number of construction firms order sites to be shut down to protect workers - putting £30 billion of output at risk.

Army of 'hidden' workers in the grey economy risk spreading virus: Chancellor Rishi Sunak is frantically working on a solution to save the U.K.'s five million self-employed workers - many of whom are faced with the choice between obeying a lockdown and earning a living - from financial penury.

The Questor Column:

Questor: let's forget coronavirus gloom for a moment and look for some shares to buy: Recent columns have had of necessity a gloomy feel. Last week we were forced to take the drastic step of scanning our selections for any whose survival had been put in doubt by the coronavirus crisis. But we must remember this won't last forever and businesses and the stock market, as well as our own long-term savings plans, still have a future. So today we switch from thinking about what must be sold to looking for purchases. In particular we will look back at stocks recommended in the past whose share prices we feel have been unduly punished and that, if bought today, might recover enough to counteract some of the damage done to other parts of our portfolios. It's striking how well certain stocks built around strong, long-established brands have held up. The firms endure through good times and bad because their products have an appeal that spans generations. Questor has three in mind: Diageo, Rémy Cointreau and Manchester United. It's hard to imagine these companies not continuing to enjoy loyal support from their legions of customers all over the world in 20 or more years' time. Their share prices have fallen by 7%, 23.4% and 34.6% respectively since our tips. Two other French stocks make it into our list. Dassault Systèmes makes extraordinary software that helps

businesses in a wide variety of industries design and prototype their products. Customers tend to be loyal because switching to other systems would be fraught with problems, and the company has a strong long-term culture from the founding family. The shares have lost 1.9% since our tip. Française des Jeux runs the French national lottery and remains part owned by the state. The shares are 4.7% lower than when we tipped them but this strikes us as a highly defensive business. You might not expect to see Next feature here but we have often written about its well thought-out long-term plan to become steadily more online-focused while maintaining its high street presence at a level that is both profitable and able to support its digital operations. People will buy clothes one way or another during and after the crisis. The shares have lost 23.2% since our first tip and much more relative to recent highs. There's anecdotal evidence that people are rushing to buy puppies as a reason to go out during the lockdown and much more solid long-term proof that pet owners would rather go without themselves than cut spending on their animals. Pets at Home is of course a retailer but the share price fall of 20.1% since our tip last month looks overdone. Hargreaves Lansdown has suffered heavily because its income is broadly a percentage of the value of its clients' stock market holdings, which has of course fallen heavily. But the firm facilitates long-term savings for more than a million people and that need will not go away. In time, we believe, markets will rise and with them Hargreaves' income. The firm has great technology and service, innovates constantly and is conservatively run. The shares are 4.2% down. Bioventix is another business based on proprietary technology, in this case for antibodies used when blood samples are tested for various diseases. Once its products are approved they enjoy an effective monopoly. This has not stopped the shares from falling by 10.3% since we made them our "Aim tip of the year" in January. RWS has long been a Questor favourite: its expertise in translating patents would be almost impossible to replicate. It has a long record of making successful acquisitions. Such quality is reflected in the shares' performance: they are 54.2% higher than when we tipped them. However, the price is 30.7% below a recent peak and we say buy. Craneware produces software that helps hospitals run their operations more

efficiently, something that every health service is striving for at present. The shares are 6.8% ahead of where we tipped them but 58.7% below their peak in June last year.

Daily Mail

U.K. pharma shares climb as junior market-listed firms lead the fight against coronavirus: Britain's science and pharmaceuticals expertise was out in full force as a clutch of junior market-listed firms made strides in fighting coronavirus. Novacyt and Yourgene surged after inking a manufacturing deal that will help Novacyt step up production of tests for the disease.

Global stocks surge again: Footsie rallies 4.5% after U.S. agrees \$2 trillion rescue package: Stock markets continued their exuberant upswing after weeks of catastrophic losses for investors.

Sports Direct head Mike Ashley pressured by MPs over factory worker's safety: Sports Direct has been pressured by MPs to explain what it is doing to protect its workers from coronavirus.

The Scottish Herald

Home builder closes sites to stay on "right side of history": Springfield Properties has scrapped payment of its interim dividend and is closing down all of its building sites, offices and kit factory until further notice.

Metering company suspends routine fieldwork: Smart Metering Systems, the Glasgow-based company that installs and manages smart meters, is halting all but emergency field work as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

Glasgow factoring firm acquires property rival: A Glasgow-based factoring firm has completed the five-figure acquisition of an Aberdeen rival.

Jobs go as Remnant Kings falls into administration: The economic fall-out from the coronavirus crisis has helped tip a famous name in Scottish retailing into administration.

The Scotsman

Coronavirus: Ramsdens pulls down shutters on all U.K. sites: Ramsdens, which is best known for its pawnbroking activities and moved into Scotland in 2009,

[Click here to open an account](#)

has closed all its 161 stores in the U.K. until further notice due to Covid-19.

£1.5 million boost for tidal power pioneer Atlantis' MeyGen project: Sustainable energy specialist Simec Atlantis Energy, which has offices in Edinburgh's Fountainbridge, has announced that its flagship MeyGen project has been awarded £1.5 million to fund the ongoing expansion of what it says is the world's largest tidal stream power project.

Edinburgh manufacturer offers free product loans to help Scottish businesses cope with coronavirus downturn: Edinburgh manufacturer Vert Technologies is offering its products on free, short-term loan to small Scottish businesses struggling during the Covid-19-triggered downturn.

Aberdeen firm SEM goes for global push with launch of Omani joint venture: An Aberdeen-headquartered company that develops technologies for water and waste

remediation is eyeing further global growth after launching a Middle East arm.

Dundee alloy manufacturer invests in apprentices and secures Chinese growth with R&D tax rebates: A technology and equipment supplier in Dundee is upskilling staff and gearing up for international growth after securing tax rebates on its research and development (R&D) investment.

Risk Warning & Disclaimer

CFD and Spread betting Risk Warning

All trading involves risk. Spread bets and CFDs are complex instruments and come with a high risk of losing money rapidly due to leverage. **68% of retail investor accounts lose money when trading spread bets and CFDs with this provider.** You should consider whether you understand how spread bets and CFDs work, and whether you can afford to take the high risk of losing your money. Professional clients can lose more than they deposit.

Shares Risk Warning

The value of stocks and shares, and the income from them, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount you originally invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance.

If you are unsure about dealing in shares and other equity investments, you should contact your financial adviser as these types of investments may not be suitable for everyone.

Disclaimer

Any research has been produced by an independent third party provider. Further details can be provided on request. Any report has been prepared using information available from public sources, which are believed to be reliable as at the date of this report. However, Guardian Stockbrokers, its employees and its independent third party provider make no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this report. This report should therefore not be relied on as accurate or complete. The facts and opinions on this report are subject to change without notice. Guardian Stockbrokers, its employees and its independent third party provider have no obligation to modify or update this report in the event that any information on this report becomes inaccurate.

Any report is prepared for informational purpose only, with no recommendation or solicitation to buy or to sell. The background of any individual or other investor has not been considered in providing this report. Individuals and other investors should seek independent financial advice which considers their specific risks, objectives and specific constraints, and make their own informed decisions. Individuals and other investors should note that investing in shares carries a degree of risk and the value of investments can go up or down. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Investments should be made with regard to an investor's total portfolio. Guardian Stockbrokers, its independent third party provider and its employees make no representation or guarantee with regard to any investment noted on this report, and shall therefore not be liable with regard to any loss.