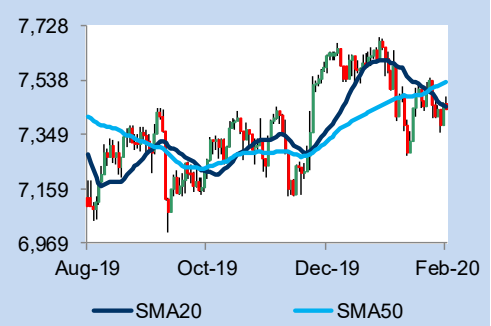
Key Global Indices

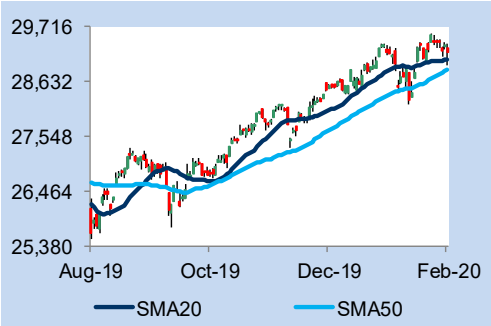
	Last Close		1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg
FTSE 100	7,436.6	⇩	-0.3%	-0.2%	-2.3%	2.9%
FTSE 250	21,866.7	⇧	0.1%	0.9%	0.6%	13.9%
DJSTOXX 50	3,507.4	⇩	-0.9%	-0.3%	1.2%	16.1%
FTSEurofirst 300	1,676.9	⇩	-0.8%	-0.2%	1.3%	14.7%
German DAX 30	13,664.0	⇩	-0.9%	-0.6%	0.8%	19.8%
France CAC 40	6,062.3	⇩	-0.8%	-0.5%	0.3%	16.7%

	Last Close		1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg
S&P 500	3,373.2	⇩	-0.4%	-0.02%	1.6%	21.1%
DJIA	29,220.0	⇩	-0.4%	-0.7%	0.1%	12.6%
Nasdaq	9,751.0	⇩	-0.7%	0.4%	4.1%	30.2%
Nikkei 225*	23,470.6	⇩	-0.04%	-1.5%	-1.6%	9.6%
Shanghai Composite*	3,044.1	⇧	0.5%	3.5%	-0.7%	9.7%
DJIA at London close	29,072.7				*Time - GMT	4:30

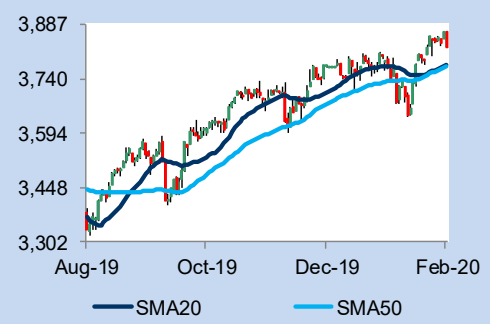
FTSE 100



DJIA



DJ Euro STOXX50



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Share Tips, Bids & Rumours and Newspaper Summary	5-8

UK Market Snapshot

UK markets finished mixed yesterday, with the FTSE 100 index recording losses, amid rising concerns over the economic effects of the coronavirus outbreak globally. Meggitt declined 4.0%, after a top broker lowered its target price on the stock to 520.0p from 550.0p. On the flipside, Smith & Nephew surged 7.3%, after the medical equipment manufacturing giant reported a rise in its revenue for the full year. BAE Systems advanced 2.6%, after the defence company posted a jump in its profit for the full year, citing strong performance recorded in both the UK and Saudi Arabian markets. Anglo American added 1.7%, after the miner reported better than expected results for the full year. Lloyds Banking Group gained 1.4%. The lender reported a slump in its annual pretax profit, due to significant rise in payment protection insurance provisions. The FTSE 100 declined 0.3%, to close at 7,436.6, while the FTSE 250 rose 0.1%, to end at 21,866.7.

US Market Snapshot

US markets closed lower yesterday, weighed down by losses in technology and industrial sector stocks. ViacomCBS tanked 17.9%, after the company reported a lower than anticipated revenue and earnings for the fourth quarter. Six Flags Entertainment plummeted 16.1%, after the company swung to a loss in the fourth quarter and lowered its annual earnings outlook. Hormel Foods tumbled 6.0%, after the company's first quarter earnings fell short of analysts' estimates and also announced the acquisition of smoked meats supplier, Sadler's Smokehouse for an undisclosed amount. Morgan Stanley declined 4.6%, after the investment bank agreed to acquire online broker, E*TRADE Financial, up 21.8%, in an all-stock deal for $13.0 billion. On the contrary, Zillow Group rallied 16.8%, after its fourth quarter revenue came in above market expectations. The S&P 500 slipped 0.4%, to settle at 3,373.2. The DJIA fell 0.4%, to settle at 29,220.0, while the NASDAQ shed 0.7%, to close at 9,751.0.

Europe Market Snapshot

European markets finished in negative territory yesterday, led by losses in banking and technology sector stocks. Elekta plunged 7.1%, after the Swedish medical equipment maker's third quarter operating profit fell short of market consensus. AXA tumbled 3.9%. The French insurer reported a rise in its net profit for the full year, citing strong performance in all business operations. Telefonica dropped 3.8%, after the Spanish telecommunications company swung to a net loss in the fourth quarter. Air France-KLM declined 3.5%, after the European network carrier reported a drop in its annual operating income, amid a decline in passenger and higher fuel costs as well as intensifying concerns over the spread of the coronavirus across Asia. On the contrary, UBS Group gained 0.9%, after the Swiss lender announced the appointment of its new Chief Executive Officer, Ralph Hamers. The FTSEurofirst 300 index slipped 0.8%, to settle at 1,676.9. The German DAX Xetra fell 0.9%, to settle at 13,664.0, while the French CAC-40 shed 0.8%, to close at 6,062.3.

Asia Market Snapshot

Markets in Asia are trading lower this morning, amid escalating worries over the economic impact of the ongoing coronavirus outbreak. In Japan, Oji Holdings and Chiyoda have eased 4.2% and 5.5%, respectively. Meanwhile, Z Holdings and SUMCO have advanced 4.5% and 5.7%, respectively. In Hong Kong, CITIC and Sands China have dropped 2.2% and 2.5%, respectively. Meanwhile, HSBC Holdings and Bank of Communications have risen 0.2% and 0.3%, respectively. In South Korea, LG Uplus and Hanmi Science have shed 2.1% and 2.3%, respectively. Moreover, Woori Financial Group and SK Hynix have lost 1.1% and 1.4%, respectively. The Nikkei 225 index is trading marginally lower at 23,470.6. The Hang Seng index is trading 0.7% down at 27,408.8, while the Kospi index is trading 1.2% lower at 2,169.6.

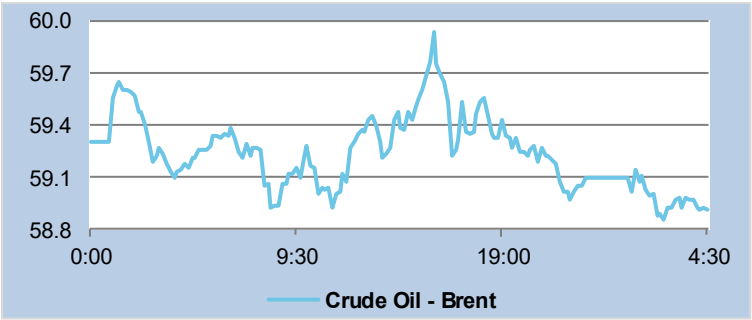
Key Corporate Releases Today

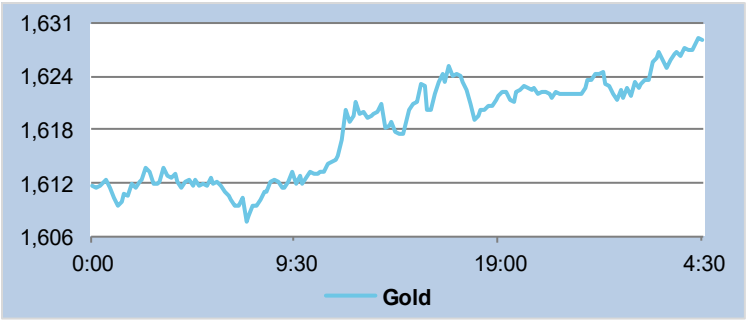
UK

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus Estimated EPS	Full Year Consensus Estimated Revenue (Mn)
Pearson Plc	Final	GBP	0.57	3,944.08
SDX Energy Plc	Final	GBP	(0.01)	48.50
Diverse Income Trust Plc/ The	Interim	GBP	-	-
Henderson Opportunities Trust Plc	Final	GBP	-	-
Cambria Africa Plc	Final	GBP	-	-
Holders Technology Plc	Final	GBP	-	-

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

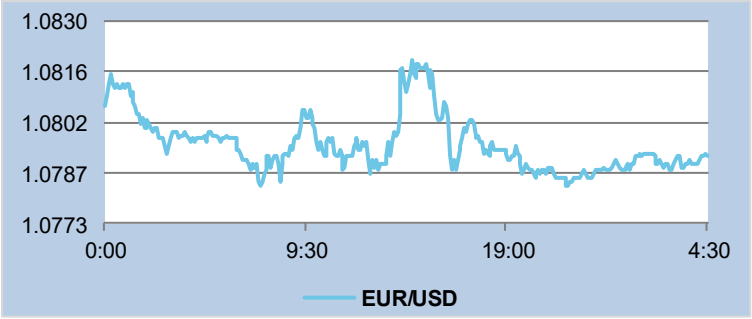
Commodity, Currency and Bitcoin

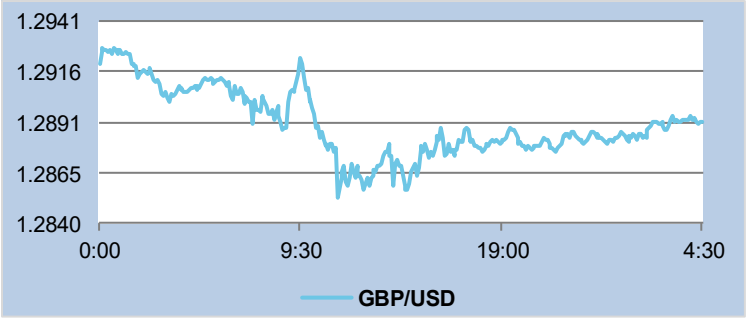




Commodity

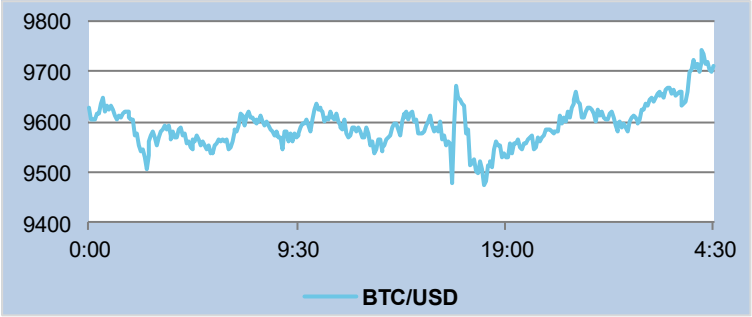
- At 0430GMT today, Brent crude oil one-month futures contract is trading 0.61% or $0.36 lower at $58.95 per barrel, ahead of the weekly US oil rig count data by Baker Hughes, scheduled to be released later today. Yesterday, the contract climbed 0.32% or $0.19, to settle at $59.31 per barrel, amid rising crude supply disruptions and demand worries in Venezuela and Libya. Meanwhile, the Energy Information Administration reported that the US crude oil inventories fell by 0.4 million barrels in the week ended 14 February 2020.
- At 0430GMT today, Gold futures contract is trading 0.74% or $12.00 higher at $1628.60 per ounce. Yesterday, the contract climbed 0.57% or $9.10, to settle at $1616.60 per ounce, as rise in the number of new coronavirus cases in South Korea fuelled concerns over the global economic impact of the outbreak, thus prompting investors to seek shelter in the safe haven commodity.





Currency

- At 0430GMT today, the EUR is trading 0.06% higher against the USD at $1.0792, ahead of the ahead of the manufacturing and services PMI data across the Euro-zone for February, slated to be released later today. Additionally, investors await the US manufacturing and services PMI data for February, scheduled later today. Yesterday, the EUR weakened 0.19% versus the USD, to close at $1.0785, after the German consumer confidence index dropped in March. However, losses were limited, after the Euro-zone consumer confidence index surprisingly rose in February. In other economic news, the US Philadelphia Fed manufacturing index declined in February.
- At 0430GMT today, the GBP is trading 0.07% higher against the USD at $1.2891, ahead of the UK manufacturing and services PMI data for February, due in a few hours. Yesterday, the GBP weakened 0.29% versus the USD, to close at $1.2882, amid uncertainties surrounding the post-Brexit trade negotiations. On the data front, the UK retail sales advanced in January.



Bitcoin

- At 0430GMT today, BTC is trading 1.05% higher against the USD at $9711.36. Yesterday, BTC declined 0.02% against the USD to close at $9610.56. In major news, the Central Bank of Brazil has revealed its plan to introduce an instant payments solution, PIX, in November 2020, which will allow its users to perform transactions using QR code technology. According to media sources, the US-based financial firm, Paxos, has recently unveiled its blockchain-based settlement platform, Paxos Settlement Service.

To start trading Bitcoin Click Here

FTSE All Share Index- Performance

UK Top Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Health Care Equipment & Services	8526.99	413.90	5.1%	0.0%	25.8%
Oil Equipment & Services	8342.57	240.12	3.0%	3.6%	-23.1%
Industrial Transportation	2249.54	47.86	2.2%	-4.3%	-2.7%
Forestry & Paper	19098.35	292.70	1.6%	5.5%	-10.0%
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	8933.87	89.74	1.0%	4.1%	27.9%

UK Worst Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Software & Computer Services	2189.85	-39.78	-1.8%	-4.0%	6.9%
Tobacco	34874.08	-557.41	-1.6%	-4.4%	1.9%
Personal Goods	39117.09	-457.66	-1.2%	1.0%	6.6%
Nonlife Insurance	3287.63	-35.38	-1.1%	2.7%	1.1%
Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology	17204.77	-176.97	-1.0%	-6.2%	14.0%

Key Economic News

UK retail sales advanced in January

In the UK, retail sales recorded a rise of 0.90% on a MoM basis in January. In the previous month, the retail sales had fallen by a revised 0.50%.

Euro-zone consumer confidence index surprisingly advanced in February

In the Euro-zone, the flash consumer confidence index unexpectedly rose to a level of -6.60 in February. The index had recorded to a level of -8.10 in the previous month.

German consumer confidence index eased in March

In Germany, the consumer confidence index eased to a level of 9.80 in March, in line with market expectations. The index had recorded to a level of 9.90 in the prior month.

US Philadelphia Fed manufacturing index fell in February

In the US, Philadelphia Fed manufacturing index registered a drop to a level of 11.00 in February, compared to market expectations of a fall to a level of 12.00. In the prior month, index had registered to a reading of 17.00.

Japanese national CPI rose as expected in January

In Japan, the national consumer price index (CPI) climbed 0.70% on a YoY basis in January, meeting market expectations. The national CPI had climbed 0.80% in the prior month.

Japanese manufacturing PMI unexpectedly slid in February

In Japan, the flash manufacturing PMI registered an unexpected drop to a level of 47.60 in February. Manufacturing PMI had registered to a reading of 48.80 in the prior month.

Share Tips, Bids and Rumours

- The Times (Tempus share tips): "Avoid" gold; "Buy" palladium.
- Daily Mail: Smith & Nephew investors shrugged off warnings about the impact of coronavirus as revenues surged at the hip-and-knee replacement specialist.
- Daily Mail: Private equity company Sycamore Brands will buy 55% of the high-end lingerie brand Victoria's Secret for about £407 million, while the rest is kept by owner L Brands.
- The Daily Telegraph (Comment): Dominoes falling' in global shipping as coronavirus continues to grip China's economy.
- The Daily Telegraph (Comment): Abolishing U.K.'s 'factory tax' would help get productivity moving again.

Newspaper Summary

The Times

Shell rejects 'arms race' with BP over carbon cuts: Royal Dutch Shell will not "get into an arms race" with BP over carbon targets, a senior executive has said, in a sign that Europe's biggest oil group will not rush to match its rival's "net zero" pledge.

Shoppers banish Brexit blues with jump in retail spending: Shoppers headed back to the high street last month to drive up retail sales by 0.9%, providing further evidence of a post-election recovery in consumer confidence.

Sirius deal is best hope for region, says Anglo American Chief Mark Cutifani: Anglo American has insisted that its £405 million bid for Sirius Minerals is "fair and reasonable" after a hedge fund joined small shareholders in pushing for a higher offer.

De Beers polishes its PR campaign to end rough spell: De Beers raised its marketing spending to the highest in a decade last year in an attempt to bolster demand and counter a slump in profit.

Royal Mail strike looms as union rebuffs 6% pay offer: A new pay offer by Royal Mail to postal workers was dismissed as a stunt by its trade union last night, which said it was an attempt to derail a ballot that could lead to the first national strike in a decade.

European Central Bank upbeat but still wary on eurozone growth: Eurozone ratesetters turned more confident last month on signs of improving growth and an easing in trade tensions between the U.S. and China.

Sir Ridley Scott's big screen pitch is high and mighty: Sir Ridley Scott, the director of films such as Alien and Gladiator, has teamed up with a company looking to transform a corner of central London into a giant media space.

£1 billion of homes being built in Oxford Street: Developers will test the appetite for city centre living to the maximum by turning Oxford Street in London into a residential area.

Flotation of Arriva by Deutsche Bahn runs into delays: Deutsche Bahn, the German rail operator, is delaying plans for an initial public offering of Arriva, its passenger transport business. The flotation had been planned for the first half of this year.

Rathbones shrugs off withdrawals: The Bank of Mum and Dad contributed to customers of Rathbone Brothers pulling £600 million from the wealth manager's funds last year.

Restaurant Group cools over fears of slowdown: It has been a while since investors last heard from the Restaurant Group. To be exact, there has been radio silence from the Wagamama owner since the beginning of September.

Dixons reduces bonus levels: Dixons Carphone said that shareholders had raised concerns about bonus payments and the number of shares in its 2019 long-term plan.

Recruiter's head quits post after turbulent year: The Chief Executive of Staffline has resigned after a tumultuous year for the recruitment business that has involved four profit warnings and a review of its accounts.

The Independent

Barclays scraps 'Big Brother' tracking software after backlash from staff and campaigners: Barclays has scrapped a "Big Brother style" system that monitored employees' computers, tracking their working habits and how long they spent on breaks.

U.K. factory output falls for fifth month in a row: Hopes that a "Boris bounce" seen on the high street would seep into Britain's factories were dented by a report showing that manufacturing activity remained weak in the three months to February.

Lloyds profits tumble thanks to latest £2.5 billion bill for PPI: Lloyds Banking Group has warned of a hit to 2020 results amid tough competition in the mortgage market as it revealed that a mammoth payment protection insurance bill sent annual profits tumbling.

90% of Google adverts for ISAs and bonds may be scams, search giant told: Up to 90% of adverts on Google for investment ISAs and bonds could be scams, the search giant has been warned – as it emerged that questionable sites have been taken down only to reappear again within hours.

Financial Times

Petrobras says it is two years away from making renewables push: Petrobras has said it is at least two years away from making a serious push into renewable energy, putting Brazil's state-owned oil company at odds with the direction of many other majors as they grapple with concern over climate change.

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Bill Gates-backed fund leads $20 million investment into lithium start-up: The Bill Gates-backed Breakthrough Energy Ventures fund has led a $20 million investment into a start-up promising a more efficient way to extract lithium for batteries.

To Read More Click Here

De Beers posts lowest earnings under Anglo American control: De Beers has reported its worst set of earnings since miner Anglo American bought it in 2012, as the diamond market struggles with weaker Chinese demand and a glut of stones.

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7-Eleven owner in talks to buy Speedway for $22 billion: Japan's Seven & i Holdings is in exclusive talks to acquire Marathon Petroleum's Speedway petrol station chain for about $22 billion in an ambitious effort to grow in the U.S., according to a person with knowledge of the discussions.

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Global LNG demand to double by 2040, Shell predicts: Global demand for liquefied natural gas is expected to double to 700m tonnes by 2040 as energy consumption, particularly in Asia, rises and the world shifts away from dirtier burning fuels, Royal Dutch Shell said.

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Anglo American Chief defends rescue bid for Sirius Minerals: Anglo American's Chief Executive has defended its rescue bid for Sirius Minerals as pressure intensifies on the miner to increase its £524 million offer for the U.K. group.

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HSBC narrows external search for Chief to UniCredit head: HSBC has identified Jean Pierre Mustier, the head of Italian lender UniCredit, as the leading external contender to become its next Chief Executive, said two people familiar with the matter.

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UBS names ING's Ralph Hamers as next Chief: UBS has appointed ING head Ralph Hamers as its next Chief Executive, replacing Sergio Ermotti, in a surprise move that elevates the Dutchman into one of the most powerful roles in global finance.

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Morgan Stanley agrees $13 billion deal to buy ETrade: Morgan Stanley has become the latest elite Wall Street bank to turn to Main Street for its future growth, adding stock trading millennials to its customer base with the $13 billion acquisition of online trading platform ETrade.

To Read More Click Here

Julius Baer rebuked over anti-money laundering shortcomings: Julius Baer has been banned from carrying out large acquisitions in a set of tough sanctions imposed on the private bank by the Swiss markets regulator for falling "significantly short" in the fight against money laundering.

To Read More Click Here

Elliott reveals stake in Dutch insurer NN Group: Activist hedge fund Elliott Management has revealed a stake in Dutch insurer NN Group, as it continues to build its presence in Europe.

To Read More Click Here

Ping An warns of coronavirus hit to life insurance: Coronavirus has caused a decline in life insurance business for Chinese insurer Ping An but a tenfold increase in registrations for its online health consultation service.

To Read More Click Here

JPMorgan and Goldman throw weight behind exchange start-up: JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs and Jane Street Capital have joined rival Wall Street firms in backing Members Exchange, a new stock-trading venue that aims to shake up the U.S. equity market.

To Read More Click Here

Swiss Re profits hurt by storms and wildfires: Big payouts in the U.S. and a string of expensive natural catastrophes have hit profits at Swiss Re, the reinsurance group.

To Read More Click Here

Axa replaces head of specialist commercial insurance business XL: Axa has replaced the head of Axa XL, its specialist commercial insurance business, and warned that earnings from the unit will be €200 million lower than expected this year.

To Read More Click Here

GAM waives bonuses for executives after dismal year: GAM has waived bonuses for its senior leadership following a torrid year for the Swiss fund house, which is attempting to move on from a high-profile scandal involving a former star portfolio manager.

To Read More Click Here

Vanguard unveils charges on low-cost pension: Investment options for savers wanting to manage their own retirement pots have widened with the launch of a new low-cost personal pension from Vanguard, one of the world's largest asset managers.

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Smith & Nephew full-year sales surpass $5 billion for first time: Smith & Nephew said revenues have surpassed $5 billion for the first time, and it envisages sales increasing this year by up to 4.5%, yet the group faces "additional uncertainty" from the coronavirus outbreak sweeping through Asia.

To Read More Click Here

Serco wins contract to run immigration detention centres: The Home Office has awarded Serco a £200 million contract to run two immigration removal centres which were at the centre of an abuse scandal that prompted scrutiny of the use of private providers in the U.K. border regime.

To Read More Click Here

Recruiter Hays hit by slowdown in German market: Recruitment company Hays has reported an 18% drop in profits as a global slowdown and one-off events including strikes in France and the U.K. election continue to weigh on the hiring market.

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BAE to halve pension deficit with £1 billion injection: BAE Systems is taking steps to more than halve the deficit of its £20 billion pension fund with a £1 billion injection as it forecasts further growth in earnings and cash this year on the back of a strong order book.

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Schneider Electric warns of €300 million hit from coronavirus: Schneider Electric, the French electrical equipment group, has warned that coronavirus has already inflicted a €300 million hit to its revenues this quarter.

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Boeing asks to give up tax break to avert EU tariffs: Boeing has asked for a $100

million a year tax break from Washington state to be suspended in a bid to stop the EU from imposing billions of dollars in retaliatory tariffs this summer, when it is hoping to bring its troubled 737 Max back into service.

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ViacomCBS shares plunge after unexpected loss: ViacomCBS shares plunged after the newly recombined television and film company swung to a loss in its first earnings report after a long-awaited merger.

To Read More Click Here

Victoria's Secret goes private as Les Wexner steps down: Les Wexner will step down from his leadership roles at L Brands after agreeing a deal with private equity firm Sycamore Partners to take lingerie brand Victoria's Secret private.

To Read More Click Here

Diageo agrees $5 million SEC fine over hidden sales: Diageo has been fined $5 million by the U.S. securities regulator after "materially misleading" investors about demand for its drinks by concealing sales of unwanted stock to distributors.

To Read More Click Here

Uber returns to service in Colombia: Three weeks after it ceased operations in Colombia after failing to reach an agreement with authorities about how it should be regulated, the ride-hailing company Uber is back.

To Read More Click Here

Google moves U.K. user data to ward off Brexit risks: Google has announced it will move all its data about British users of its services, including Gmail, YouTube and the Android Play store, from Ireland to the U.S., as it seeks to avoid legal risks after Brexit.

To Read More Click Here

Coronavirus: Apple supplier Foxconn warns over revenue hit: Apple supplier Foxconn Technology Group expects its full-year revenue to suffer from the disruption to China-based manufacturing by the coronavirus epidemic.

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T-Mobile and Sprint agree new deal terms: T-Mobile has renegotiated the takeover terms of its more than $70 billion purchase of smaller rival Sprint, paving the way for the consolidation of the third and fourth-largest players in U.S. telecommunications after a hard-fought legal battle.

To Read More Click Here

Telefónica reports fourth quarter loss amid Latin American overhaul: Telefónica posted a net loss for the fourth quarter, as restructuring costs and impairments from Mexico and Argentina underscored the challenges the company faces as its overhauls its business and reorients its strategy in Latin America.

To Read More Click Here

Maersk warns of coronavirus blow to earnings: AP Moller-Maersk said that the coronavirus would hit its earnings this year as the world's largest container shipping company warned of a "very, very weak February and weak March" due to the deadly epidemic.

To Read More Click Here

Lex:

Morgan Stanley/ETrade: hoi polloi ahoy: Wall Street 'white shoe' bank goes for a walk down main street.

To Read More Click Here

Moneysupermarket: compare the markup: The U.K. price comparison website has lost nearly a fifth of its market value since July.

To Read More Click Here

UBS/Ralph Hamers: the surprise party: Swiss lender does not need a new strategy but must pursue the old one more crisply.

To Read More Click Here

Lombard:

Lloyds gives investors a share in U.K. economy and in future mistakes: Lloyds Bank, more than any of the high street lenders, is pinned squarely to the economy. When consumers cheer up, the bank does, too. It showed in António Horta-Osório's voice at the full-year results. Last year was about political and economic uncertainty. Now Britain, says Mr Horta-Osório, knows where it is going. And so does the bank. Sort of. Lloyds has reduced its profitability targets for next year. Returns on tangible equity will slip to 12% to 13%. Competition is eroding net interest margins, the difference between what the bank pays to borrow and what it earns from lending. Bad loans are inching up.

To Read More Click Here

The Daily Telegraph

'Dominoes falling' in global shipping as coronavirus continues to grip China's economy: Container shipping from Chinese ports has collapsed since the outbreak of coronavirus and has yet to show any sign of recovery, threatening weeks of chaos for manufacturing supply lines and the broader structure of global trade.

The Questor Column:

Questor: Scottish IT's dividends are surging but the share price is static. This cannot last: Last week we wrote about a global trust, Edinburgh Worldwide, that can boast an out-and-out focus on the "growth" style of investing. But we believe investors should have a balance of exposure to "growth" investing and its opposite, "value". So this week we'll take another look at a global trust whose strategy is about as different from Edinburgh Worldwide's as you could imagine: the Scottish Investment Trust. The contrast between the two portfolios can be seen in their attitudes to technology stocks. Edinburgh Worldwide owns (according to its most recent annual report) Tesla, SpaceX and Oxford Nanopore, among others, whereas Scottish Investment Trust owns none at all. The latter's managers actively seek out what we might call "problem" stocks. They divide their holdings into three categories: "ugly ducklings", "change is afoot" and "more to come" – troubled, recovering and still improving, if you like. This approach, the epitome of value, contrarian investing, has been out of fashion for a long time, a fact reflected in the anaemic performance of the trust's shares (a loss of 1.1%) since we rated them a hold in January 2017. But while share prices are at the mercy of market sentiment, which is not always well founded, profits and dividends are in the realm of hard fact – and when we look at its record in this way, Scottish IT has shone. Analysts at Winterflood, the broker, said earlier this month: "Although income is not a focus of the investment approach the fund has a strong record of dividend growth." Over the past 10 years, they added, the ordinary dividend has grown by 138%, an annualised rate of 9%. This has been

supported by strong growth in earnings: 180% over 10 years, or 10.9% a year. As a result, the trust has been able to pay a special dividend on top of the ordinary in each of the past five years. The yield of 2.9% is towards the top end of the global peer group and the trust's substantial reserves of revenues would pay the ordinary dividend at the board's intended level for more than three years. In Questor's view, share prices can remain static while dividends increase only for so long: in the end the market will acknowledge the value of a steadily rising income. Questor says, "Hold."

Daily Mail

Steelmaking returns to Redcar with the potential to create 20,000 jobs after plant was mothballed five years ago: Steelmaking is returning to a North East town – with the potential to create 20,000 jobs over the next 20 years.

The Scottish Herald

Crane hire firm goes into administration amid oil and gas market challenges: A crane hire firm with bases in Aberdeen and Grangemouth has fallen into administration with the loss of 11 jobs amid tough conditions in the key oil and gas and construction sectors.

Scottish business diaspora study finds nation needs to export more: The largest study of the Scottish business diaspora has found the country needs to be less inward-looking, strengthen its global ambition and export more.

The Scotsman

Dundee firm SP looking for multi-million boost after tying up Cobots distribution: A Dundee-based company has been announced as the first and only Scottish distribution partner of a range of robots in a deal potentially worth £1 million in the first year of trading alone.

Capital idea as Calgary Communications moves into new Edinburgh HQ: Branding firm Calgary Communications has opened a "cutting-edge" Scottish HQ in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh shopping app Mallzee turns swipes into trees: Edinburgh-based Mallzee has launched a tree planting initiative for its app users to help fund reforestation projects, as Sir David Attenborough's visit to the capital this week shines a light on the climate emergency.

Fledgling firm Ergo Law doubles up on Edinburgh solicitors: Scottish legal firm Ergo Law has celebrated its fourth year in business by doubling its solicitor headcount.

Ferguson shipyard 'forced into administration' by Scottish Government: A troubled Clyde shipyard was "forced into administration" by the Scottish Government without giving the private sector time to save it, a dossier compiled by its former owner has claimed.

Scotland's 'largest hotel' set for record year of visitors after multi-million-pound revamp: An Edinburgh student campus is bidding for its busiest year on record following a £10.7 million refurbishment.

Professional services firm Alvarez & Marsal chooses Glasgow for latest location: Global professional services firm Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) has chosen Glasgow as the fifth key location in its U.K. regional office expansion.

Fresh boost for Scotland's space industry as satellite firm creates jobs at new Edinburgh base: A Dutch-owned company specialising in the development of advanced satellite systems is landing in Scotland after securing a grant which will lead to the creation of 18 jobs.

Bank of Scotland owner Lloyds says outlook improving as PPI bill dents annual profits: Bank of Scotland owner Lloyds Banking Group has given an upbeat outlook despite seeing its annual profits slump by more than a quarter after a further bill for payment protection insurance (PPI).

Legal heavyweight Pinsent Masons scoops Scottish Stonewall accolade: Law firm Pinsent Masons has been crowned Scottish Diversity Champion for a second year by equality campaign charity Stonewall.

Scottish Qualifications Authority success for Bellshill-based Edge Testing Solutions: Edge Testing Solutions, the software testing business, has been granted customised award certification by Scotland's national awarding and accreditation body.

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