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FAR EAST CAPITAL

The Mining Investment Experts

Weekly Commentary

18 July 2026 *Chart comments updated on Friday's close* Analyst : Warwick Grigor

Gold down, but exploration stocks can still fire

Last week ended on a poor note with many stocks moving lower. The buyers still haven't found a reason to come back to the market.

This week we have another look at what is happening with gold, and consider how we should be realigning our thoughts. We also have a brief note on CNG Resources, an exploration stock with prospective gold ground in WA.

Otherwise, it is a brief Weekly. Next week I may have a few more stocks to discuss after the Noosa Conference.

Sentiment Oscillator	
Charts in Uptrend:	16% (14%)
Charts in Downtrend:	64% (62%)

Realigning our thoughts on the gold sector

The great gold market of 2025 is showing similarities to the blowout to US$800/oz seen in January 1980. Back then the peak price was not seen again for many years. Nevertheless, the gold equities market boomed and this was the main factor in the re-establishment of the Australian gold sector. It didn't matter that the 1980 high was not reached again until 2007. Business was good.

Gold hit an intraday high of US$5,608/oz on 28 January 2026. It has spent the last six months falling to below US$4,000 oz, being a fall of almost 30%. What should that mean for your investment portfolio?

The focus for the foreseeable future should not be on the gold price alone. It could fall further but it could also rally significantly. We are in the stage of the market when there is no trend to protect us. We have to do the analysis of the producers to look for relative value. As companies report earnings in the elevated gold price era we will see some stocks are delivering and others will be disappointing. Money will gravitate to the better, more reliable companies.

Exploration and development companies will continue to promote themselves on aspirations. Share prices will move according to their ability to achieve results more so than on the gold price itself. Even at these lower prices, the company-generated optimism can override actual movements in the gold price.

So, we need to modify our behaviour in the gold sector but it would be wrong to abandon it altogether.

CNG Resources starting drilling near Leonora

I first came across CNG Resources (CGR) at a conference in Sydney in March this year. At the time, I wrote that the ground acquisition around Leonora could be a masterstroke for the company. Ever since then, I have been watching the share price slide along with the rest of the sector, wondering when I should take a position. It seems that I may have waited too long.

Last week, the company announced that drilling of 4,000m was about to start, now that heritage clearance has been acquired. Their shares jumped from a low of 4.9¢ to peak at 9.4¢ on the day of the announcement, but turnover was very thin last week.

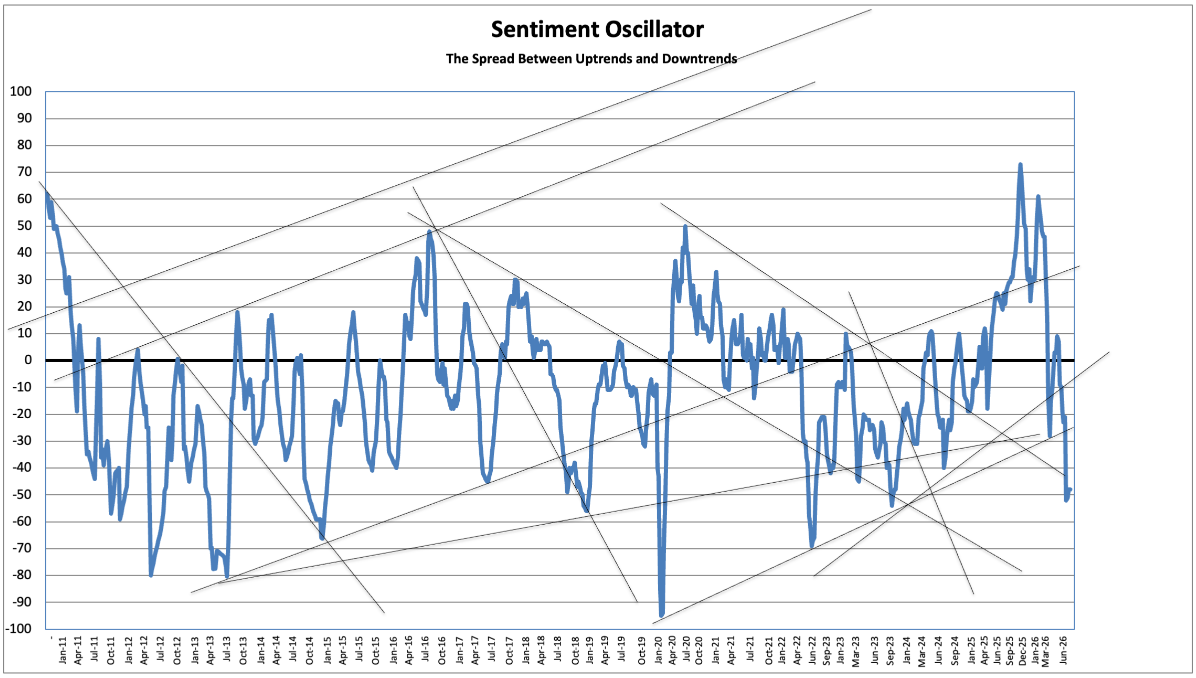
North and South of Leonora

To remind you, CNG has acquired ground to the north and south of Leonora. Some was pegged, but a parcel of ground to the south was purchased for five million shares and some contingent payments from Patronas Resources Ltd. It now has 380 km^2 of highly prospective gold ground on several prospects. Given the location, I would be surprised if it doesn't get some good hits at the very least.

Not much exploration has taken place since the 1990s, when it was being drilled for shallow oxidised gold. Gold was found, but there hasn't been any follow-up work until now. With a better gold price, there is plenty of reason to go back and drill some deeper zones.

The Bottom Line

In real estate, we are familiar with the phrase "location, location, location". The same applies to exploration. CGR's ground has the right stratigraphy, it is proximal to gold mines and treatment plants, and it is now about to be tested. Expect to see plenty of speculation in the market over the coming months. I would be happy to buy some with a 12-month view.



Sentiment Oscillator: Sentiment bounced around the bottom last week. There were 16% (14%) of shares under coverage in uptrend, and 64% (62%) in downtrend.

Detailed Chart Comments

NB. Only the bold comments have been updated. Comments in grey type are from previous weeks and will be less relevant. Please note that this list is a cross section of the market. It IS NOT a list of recommendations.

Indices	Code		Trend Comment	
All Ordinaries	XAO		**new uptrend forming**	
Metals and Mining	XMM		new high then a correction	
Energy	XEJ		down	
Stocks	**Code**		**Trend Comment (updated comments in bold)**	**Main Interest**
Aguia Resources	AGR		bouncing from lows	phosphate, gold
Akora	AKO		down	iron ore
Alkane Resources	ALK		sideways	gold
Alligator Energy	AGE		new uptrend forming	uranium
Alpha HPA	A4N		fallen to downtrend line	HPA
American Rare Earths	ARR		testing downtrend	rare earths
American Tungsten & Antimony	AT4		resumed downtrend	antimon
Anax Metals	ANX		down heavily	copper
Andean Silver	ASL		**down**	silver
AnteoTech	ADO		heavy correction	batteries

Arafura Resources	ARU		breached uptrend	rare earths
Ardea Resources	ARL		down	nickel
Ark Mines	AHK		down	rare earths
Astral Resources	AAR		passing out of downtrend	gold
Aureka	AKA		weaker	gold exploration
Auric Mining	AWJ		down	gold
Aurora Energy Metals	1AE		down	uranium
Aurelia Metals	AMI		improving	copper + base metals
Aurum Resources	AUE		down	gold exploration
Australian Gold and Copper	AGC		down	base metals, silver, gold
Australian Rare Earths	AR3		collapse through support	rare earths
Australian Strategic Materials	ASM		stil in downtrend	rare earths
BHP	BHP		back in uptrend	diversified, iron ore
Ballard Mining	BM1		testing short term downtrend	lithium
Ballymore Resources	BMR		testing downtrend	gold exploration
Barton Gold	BGD		downtrend	gold exploration
Beach Energy	BPT		down	oil and gas
Beetaloo Energy	BTL		breaching downtrend	gas
Bellevue Gold	BGL		down	gold
Besra Gold	BEZ		off its highs	gold
Black Cat Syndicate	BC8		down	gold
Boa Resources	BOA		rising	copper
Boab Metals	BML		down	silver/lead
Brazilian Rare Earths	BRE		breached uptrend	rare earths
Brightstar Resources	BTR		easing again	gold
Canadian Phosphate	CP8		correcting lower	phosphate
Caravel Minerals	CVV		down	copper
Carnaby Resources	CNB		breached support line	copper
Castile Resources	CST		down	gold/copper/cobalt
Catalyst Metals	CYL		down	gold
Cazaly Resources	CAZ		still in downtrend	rare earths
Centaurus Metals	CTM		breached uptrend	nickel/cobalt/HPA
Challenger Gold	CEL		down	gold
CNG Resources	CGR		spike out of downtrend	gold exploration
Cobalt Blue	COB		down	cobalt
CuFe	CUF		another new high	bismuth, Cu, Au
Cyprium Metals	CYM		breaching downtrend	copper
EQ Resources	EQR		falling again	tungsten
Estrella Resources	ESR		breached downtrend	manganese
Evolution Mining	EVN		down	gold
Felix Gold	FXG		down	gold exploration, antimony
Finder Energy	FDR		breaching downtrend	oil/gas
First Graphene	FGR		improving	graphene
Flagship Minerals	FLG		down	gold

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Gateway Mining	GML		down	gold exploration + gallium
GBM Resources	GBM		down	gold
Genesis Minerals	GMD		down	gold
Globe Metals and Mining	GBE		down	niobium
Gold 50	G50		down	gold exploration + gallium
Golden Horse	GHM		down	gold exploration
Great Boulder Resources	GBR		sideways	gold exploration
Green360 Tech	GT3		down	kaolin
Hamelin Gold	HMG		down	gold exploration
Hawk Resources	HWK		down	scandium
Heavy Minerals	HVY		at lows	garnet
Hillgrove Resources	HGO		rising	copper
Iltani Resources	ILT		breached downtrend	antimony
Iluka Resources	ILU		down	mineral sands
Investigator Resources	IVR		falling	silver
Jupiter Mines	JMS		sideways	manganese
Kaiser Reef	KAU		down	gold
Kingfisher Minerals	KFM		back into downtrend	copper expl.
Kalamazoo Resources	KRZ		down	gold
Kalina Power	KPO		breached downtrend	data centre power
Koba Resources	KOB		down	uranium
Larvotto Resources	LRV		testing uptrend	gold, antimony
Litchfield Minerals	LMS		collapse	copper exploration
Lindian Resources	LIN		stronger	rare earths + bauxite
Lode Resources	LDR		down	antimony, silver
Lotus Resources	LOT		collapse	uranium
Lynas Corp.	LYC		down	rare earths
Mammoth	M79		strong recovery	gold exploration
Many Peaks	MPK		on support line	gold exploration
Marmota	MEU		down	gold/uranium exploration
Matsa Resources	MAT		down	gold
Meeka Gold	MEK		down	gold
MetalsX	MLX		down	tin, nickel
Meteoric Resources	MEI		breached support	rare earths
Midas Minerals	MM1		breaching uptrend	lithium
Mithril Silver & Gold	MTH		still down	silver, gold
Native Mineral Resources	NMR		turning down	gold
New Murchison	NMG		down	gold
Nexgen Energy	NXG		down	uranium
Novo Resources	NVO		placement & heavy correction	gold exploration
Omega Oil	OMA		heavy correction	oil
Pacific Gold	PGO		sideways	gold exploration
Pacific Lime & Cement	PLA		rising	renewables, cement
Paladin Energy	PDN		breached uptrend	uranium

Pantoro Gold	PNR		down	gold
Patriot Battery Metals	PMT		down	lithium
Peninsula Energy	PEN		down	uranium
Perseus Mining	PRU		down	gold
Phosco	PHO		rising	phosphate
Pilbara Minerals	PGL		down	gold
PolarX	PXX		down	gold exploration, base metals
QMines	QML		breached downtrend	copper
Regis Resources	RRL		breached downtrend	gold
Revolver Resources	RRR		stronger	copper
Richmond Vanadium	RVT		sideways	vanadium
RIO	RIO		down	diversified, iron ore
Rox Resources	RXL		down	gold
RTG Mining	RTG		rising	copper
Rumble Resources	RTR		softer	zinc, gold, tungsten exploration
Santana Minerals	SMI		correcting lower	gold
Santos	STO		rising	oil/gas
Sarytogan Graphite	SGA		down	graphite
Scorpion Minerals	SCN		testing downtrend	gold exploration
Sinclair Gold (was AQI)	SGC		down	gold exploration
Siren Gold	SNG		down	gold exploration
Skylark Minerals	SKM		down	gold exploration
Somerset Minerals	SMM		heavy fall	copper exploration
Southern Palladium	SPD		down	PGMs
Stanmore Coal	SMR		heavy correction	coal
St George Mining	SGQ		downtrend	rare earths, niobium
Stellar Resources	SRZ		breached uptrend	tin
Sun Silver	SS1		down	silver
Sunrise Metals	SRL		surge higher	scandium
Tamboran Resources	TBN		lower	gas
Theta Gold	TGM		breaching downtrend	gold
Tivan	TVN		testing downtrend	fluorite
Torque Metals	TOR		down heavily	gold exploration + lithium
Toubani Resources	TRE		down	gold
Verity Resources	VRL		down	gold
Vertex Minerals	VTX		down	gold
Waratah Minerals	WTM		down	gold exploration
Westgold Resources	WGX		down	gold
West Wits Mining	WWI		down	gold
Whitehaven Coal	WHC		rising	coal
White Cliff Minerals	WCN		sideways through the downtrend	copper exploration
WIN Metals	WIN		down	gold
Yandal Resources	YRL		down	gold exploration
Totals	16%	22	Uptrend	

	64%	90	Downtrend	
		141		

Guides to Chart Interpretations

- Charts usually go from one trend (up or down) into the other via a period of indecision and uncertainty during which the trend can either recover or change. This period is signified by the orange colour. The orange represents both the greatest risk and greatest reward possibilities.
- Once a chart is in confirmed up or downtrends, it is not uncommon for 10-20% of that trend to have already transpired.
- There are trends within trends. The focus of this chart review is the immediate trend that affects the sentiment, i.e. it can be a downtrend within a long-term uptrend.
- Not every chart warrants a new comment every week. The new comments are in bold type. Grey-type comments may be dated.
- Individual charts provide a single view. It is valuable to look at charts of other companies in similar commodities, and the overall sentiment is also very valuable. Not many stocks can swim against the tide.
- We periodically add or delete charts, sometimes for obscure reasons. If a chart consistently gives poor signals or is very erratic, we may delete it. Sometimes we add a chart because we want to see what all the fuss is about. We do have a preference for charting stocks that we cover in our research as well.
- Errors and omissions may occur from time to time, especially in fast-moving markets.

Amber Lights in Tables: Just a reminder, if when the amber light is used in the table – it is when the charts are ambiguous or when there is a change of trend taking place. If a chart is breaching a downtrend, it can either be a positive sign or a trap. Only once it has done more work can it be confirmed as a new uptrend. Maybe it is a new uptrend (or conversely a new downtrend); the risk-takers can decide to jump on board early (or sell). They will maximise their profits (or minimise their losses if indeed it is the start of the new uptrend (ordowntrend). More risk-averse investors should wait a little longer, being prepared to give up some of the gains in return for greater certainty.

Weightings of Sectors Represented in the Company Charts

Sector	No. of Companies	Weighting	
Gold	**34**	**24.1%**	
Gold Exploration	**24**	**17.0%**	
Copper	**14**	**9.9%**	
Rare Earths	**11**	**7.8%**	
Uranium	**7**	**5.0%**	
Oil/Gas/Hydrogen	**6**	**4.3%**	
Silver	**6**	**4.3%**	
Iron Ore/Manganese	**5**	**3.5%**	
Antimony	**4**	**2.8%**	
Lithium	**3**	**2.1%**	
Graphite/graphene	**2**	**1.4%**	
HPA/Kaolin	**2**	**1.4%**	
Nickel	**2**	**1.4%**	
Scandium	**2**	**1.4%**	
Tungsten	**1**	**0.7%**	
Tin	**2**	**1.4%**	
Coal	**2**	**1.4%**	
Bismuth	**1**	**0.7%**	
Niobium	**1**	**0.7%**	
Potash/Phosphate	**3**	**2.1%**	
Vanadium	**1**	**0.7%**	

PGMs	**1**	**0.7%**	
Mineral Sands	**1**	**0.7%**	
Cobalt	**1**	**0.7%**	
Other	**5**	**3.5%**	
Total	**141**		

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