

Monaro Timber

NEWS

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The monthly newsletter from
Monaro Timber Pty Ltd

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End Of Year

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For those of you in business welcome to the end of another year. I hope the past twelve months has been good for you and I wish you all the best for the coming financial year. This year was very good for us at Monaro Timber. We increased our stock holdings and also our range of products. This was done to provide our customers with a greater choice. Our new pack racking system was finally installed meaning better and faster access to our stock in storage. The workshop saw the addition of a moulder and thicknesser which has increased both output and product range.

Our apprentice, Josh, took out the Cabinetmaking prize at CIT with a very well constructed cabinet and he also made a cabinet which took out a distinction for an architectural student. This is both a reflection on Josh's abilities and the standards which we endeavour to maintain in our workshop. We have also been involved in the supply of materials for many other jobs of distinction. These include stairs, benchtops, skirtings and architraves and many fine furniture pieces.

This year we ran a massive sale and cleared out a lot of stock at crazy prices. We had an open day with demos and a BBQ which by all accounts went down pretty well. If you are a wood club member you would probably know we have also attended several meetings to help educate woodies about timber and have run educational days/evenings at Monaro Timber. We have done

the same for some schools too.

All in all we have had a pretty good year and we plan to make the next one better!!

Measuring Up.

One of the things that has emerged from discussions with various people is the difficulties some people have with the way timber is sold. I'm not talking about the basic concept of parting with cash for goods and services provided, although I do have a couple of customers struggling to grasp that one at the moment! I am, instead talking about the way timber is measured and priced. I thought I would run through some of the basics. Forgive me if this is all straight forward but many do seem unsure.

All timber starts off as rough sawn boards. These are in what we call nominal sizes and are not exact. Indeed, pull out a handful of rough sawn boards from a pack and you will see variations in size. Some will be oversize and some under. Some very straight while others bent or twisted. Basically, the main thicknesses are 25mm, 38mm and 50mm. Some species are available in thicker sizes but these are rarer. Widths start at 50mm and either go up in 10mm or 25mm increments. This is species dependent. The 25mm system is a soft conversion from the imperial measurement days and the 10mm system is the metric method. In length we go up in 100mm increments as a rule.

We sell our rough sawn boards by the cubic metre. This worries a lot of

people as the numbers are big and they don't understand how to work it all out. Here are some examples.

A board is 100mm x 25mm. All calculations are done in metres and we need to work out the volume and multiply by the rate. Therefore, $0.1 \times 0.025 = .0025m^3$. Say the rate is \$4000.00/m³ we then have a price of \$10.00/Lm. It's easy with a calculator. Here are a few more.

100 x 38 is $.1 \times .038 = 0.0038$

300 x 50 is $0.3 \times .05 = 0.015$

At \$4000.00/m³ the metre rates are \$15.20 and \$60.00 respectively. Knowing the cubic rate you can work out the metre price for any size. Here's another handy thing. A table top of say 1000mm width and 2000mm length at 32mm thick would have a rough sawn volume of approximately $0.109m^3$. Knowing this you can quickly do some comparisons between various species.

When timber is dressed or moulded it is sold by the lineal metre. The price is calculated from the rough sawn with a machining charge added. An example might be a special skirting. The finished size is 90 x 19 but priced from a 100 x 25. At a cost of \$2000.00/m³ plus 0.50cents to machine, the skirting would cost \$5.50/Lm. It's not hard once you get the hang of it. Just remember to multiply a very small number by a very large one and there's your price. Don't forget GST. If you have any queries about this feel free to ask and no, you don't have to buy the whole m³.

Cheers

Shaun.

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