



# Monaro Timber

## News

The monthly newsletter from Monaro Timber Pty Ltd

February 2008

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### Meet our newest staff member!

Last month we mentioned we had an opening for a new business manager. I'm pleased to announce that Mitchell Catton has joined us in this position. Mitchell has a background in the building industry, most recently with Boral in their plasterboard division. He's pretty keen to get stuck in but has only been with us for a week so is currently undergoing training. He's learning fast so I expect he will be more than capable of assisting with the majority of enquiries very shortly. All positions at Monaro Timber are very hands on so you can expect to see Mitchell in the office, pulling orders in the yard or unloading trucks.

Also recently started were James and Adam. These guys have joined the workshop as first year apprentices, having just completed year twelve. I have seen work produced by both of them during their time at Marist. It was all of a high standard and that was with limited training. They are both committed so I expect they will have a rewarding future in our industry.

Here's a tip. I have taken a number of our workshop staff on a tour of Bungendore Woodworks at various times. Why? Sometimes it's easier to show someone what you need rather than try to explain how to produce it. The Woodworks showcases an extensive range of very well made and designed pieces. By showing these to the guys I have been able to explain quality concepts quickly and effectively. Knowing what can be achieved they can bring back those ideas to our workshop. Every time I do this the quality of our own work improves a little. Production is often faster too because the guys know what needs to be done so they can get there more efficiently. Besides all that, it's a good drive out to Bungendore. If you have an interest in wood work or are training staff then it's a very worthwhile place to visit.

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### New Stock.

We have just had fresh stocks of Yellow Stringy Bark, Silvertop Ash and Merbau decking arrive. The Merbau is our DNA Certified material which I talked about last month. It is excellent quality and guaranteed to come from legal sources. If you are chasing Blackbutt flooring we have plenty. There was a shortage before Christmas but we planned ahead and managed to cover orders. It will become scarce again in a short while due to the production cycles but we have good stocks now. Coming up is another run of Ironbark flooring. Get in early if you want some. Most stocks of our furniture timbers are looking good. Call us for all the up to information.

That's all for another month.

Regards *Shaun*

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [shaun@monarotimber.com.au](mailto:shaun@monarotimber.com.au) or call 02 62806467  
Drop in at 46-52 Townsville St Fyshwick. Open 8.00—4.30 weekdays.  
8.00—12 noon Saturdays

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### Volume 7, Issue 2

#### Busy start to 2008.

Already this year we have hit the ground running. The workshop picked up where we left off last year and has been finishing off a couple of large projects. The new machinery purchases have already proven to be invaluable by speeding up production and increasing our capabilities. Even though we are busy the guys are moving through the work very well so lead times for jobs aren't too bad.

#### Cypress Pine, natural alternative.

We have supplied many projects where durability and termite resistance are key issues. Typically these involve some sort of out door structure with ground contact. Most people think immediately of treated Radiata pine for such jobs but if, like me, you are not excited about chemically treated timber, then Cypress might be for you. It has several benefits. Firstly, it does not require impregnation with chemicals to make it durable. It is a class one species which means it is good in the ground for about 25 years. White ants? They hate it. The little critters will eat everything else but for them, eating Cypress would be like you eating dirty socks! It's harder than Radiata and price wise not much higher. We can supply it in a range of sawn sizes, have it cut to order and also fix you up with decking and kiln dried flooring. As a floor board it comes in at under \$40.00/m<sup>2</sup> which is pretty cost effective. My Christmas job was to clad my house with Cypress weatherboard. The job went well and it looks great.