



By Appointment to  
Her Majesty the Queen  
Timber Merchants

# MOSS & CO

timber importers & merchants

Moss & Co, founded in 1885, remains a family business with a well established tradition of high quality service and personal interest in every customer. Our clientele is wide ranging – cabinet makers, joiners, wood carvers, pattern makers, do-it-yourself enthusiasts, schools, colleges, building maintenance and Government departments all figure largely among the people and organisations that we are proud to serve.

Moss & Co is well known for its extensive range of species, the majority of which are imported but which includes some native varieties. Stocks are air seasoned or kiln dried to established trade standards and stored in well ventilated, purpose built sheds to ensure that the wood remains in first class condition. Planks are generally kept in their sawn state awaiting conversion but the more popular sections of European Redwood and some hardwood sections are also available ready planed and as mouldings.

The following pages provide some brief information about some of our more popular species. The dimensional ranges, densities and durabilities given are indicative only. Please enquire for current availabilities. Also included are descriptions of our sheet materials, the machining and other processing services we offer and some thoughts on the limitations of timber as a material and its conservation for sustained use: 'Trees for Today, Forests for the Future'.

ASH *Fraxinus* spp N E North America

Tough white Ash, from the Appalachian Region of North America is almost indistinguishable from European Ash, yet has the advantage of being square edged and having fewer defects. It is generally off-white to olive brown with a pronounced characteristic grain. It finishes well either clear or stained to allow the grain to show through. Ash is very stiff and resilient to shock and has long been used for tool handles and vehicle chassis but today is widely used for furniture, commercial and domestic joinery and turning.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 5"– 10"+ Length: 6'– 14' Density: 670 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Perishable

BALSA *Ochroma lagopus* Ecuador

Well known as a model making wood, balsa must be the lightest in weight of all hardwoods and certainly the easiest to carve and shape. It is off-white and sometimes pinkish in colour with a fine grain. Our stocks are specially selected for colour and low density.

Thickness: 3¼" Width: 1½"– 5" Length: 2'– 7' Density: 80 – 250 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Perishable

BEECH *Fagus sylvatica* Europe

Beech is a utilitarian hardwood from mainland Europe with a fine grain, characteristic flecking and a plain off-white colour. Steamed Beech which has a pink colour can generally be obtained to order. Beech works easily to a smooth finish and is popular for most internal joinery, especially work-tops (which we can make to order) and kitchen cabinets.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 4"– 10"+ Length: 6'– 14' Density: 720 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Perishable

CEDAR, BRAZILIAN *Cedrela* spp Brazil

Similar in appearance to Brazilian Mahogany, Cigar Box Cedar, with its distinctive scent, is the correct timber for lining humidors and cigar boxes.

Thickness: 1"– 2" Width: 6"– 8" Length: 6'– 12' Density: 480 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

CEDAR, LEBANON *Cedrus libani* Europe

Cedar of Lebanon is mid-brown in colour with a natural oiliness producing an intense incense-like fragrance, long recognised as a moth deterrent. This timber is ideal for making wardrobes and blanket chests.

Variable supply of log sawn planks; refer for current stocks. Density: 580 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

CEDAR, RED *Thuja plicata* N W North America

Red Cedar, from the western seaboard of North America, is well known for its compelling aromatic smell and warm red/brown colour. It is fairly soft and lightweight but has considerable resistance to exposure. Cedar has long been used in the construction of greenhouses and conservatories but is also well suited for both internal and external joinery. For cladding purposes, we stock tongued-and-grooved matching and shiplap sections. Roof shingles can be supplied to order.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 4"– 12" Length: 6'– 14' Density: 390 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

CEDAR, YELLOW *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* N W North America

Yellow Cedar is a specialist's timber sourced from the same area as Red Cedar. It is pale yellow to off-white with an inconspicuous grain and a consistency and stability which renders it ideal for carving and architectural model making as well as for canoe construction.

Thickness: 2" Width: 4"– 6" Length: 8'– 14' Density: 310 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

CHERRY *Prunus serotina* N E North America

Cherry comes from the Appalachian Region of North America where it has long been used in the manufacture of traditional Shaker style furniture. Cherry has a warm pink-brown colour with paler greenish bands, a distinctive grain figure and occasional dark pitch streaks. The uniform fine grain works to a smooth finish and ages to a mellow richness, adding to the appearance of the fine furniture and joinery to which this timber is admirably suited.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 5"– 8"+ Length: 6'– 12' Density: 580 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Moderate

**DOUGLAS FIR** *Pseudotsuga menziesii* N W North America

Also known as British Columbian or Oregon Pine, this is an exceptional softwood, being strong, hard wearing and attractive with a distinctive grain and rather darker than European Redwood. The timber is usually knot free and of good length and width. Douglas Fir has numerous uses: decorative flooring, staircases, furniture, external joinery and boat building are just a few examples. Large cross-sections and long lengths up to 10 m may be available for structural applications.

Thickness: 1"–6" Width: 4"–12" Length: 6'–20' Density: 530 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Moderate

**EBONY** *Diospyros* spp Africa and S Asia

This exotic timber is often pure black or mottled grey-black sometimes with faint brown stripes. Having a very fine grain and high density, Ebony polishes to a deep lustre and is used for furniture trims, musical instruments, turnery and other special decorative applications. A limited range of lengths and widths is available due to restricted supplies.

Thickness: ¾"–2" Width: 1½"–4" Length: 1'–4' Density: 1030 kg/m<sup>3</sup> + Very Durable

**EUROPEAN REDWOOD** *Pinus sylvestris* N Russia

Also known as Baltic Pine or Scots Pine, our stocks of European Pine are exclusively from Northern Russia and should not be confused with the inferior faster grown productions of Scandinavia. Timber from these slow growing trees has a finer less pronounced grain, is more stable and easier to work. We have extensive stocks of the best imported grade, known as 'Unsorted', which is used for quality cabinet making and architectural and general joinery. In addition to our sawn stocks, we usually keep some sections ready prepared.

Thickness: 25–75mm Width: 150–275mm Length: 1.8–4.8m Density: 510 kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
Non-durable

**IROKO** *Chlorophora excelsa* W Africa

Iroko is sometimes referred to as African Teak because of its natural oiliness, brown colour, strength and durability. However it lacks the consistent fine

qualities of genuine Teak, having a coarse irregular grain (sometimes interlocking causing tearing on machined surfaces), variable colour and unpredictable stability. Iroko is well suited for external carpentry, terrace decking and some marine work. Internally, its durability and moderate cost make it a choice for kitchen and laboratory worktops but caution is advised if considering it for fine joinery.

Thickness: 1"–4" Width: 6"–12" Length: 6'–14' Density: 660 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

**JELUTONG** *Dyera costulata* S E Asia

Jelutong is a major speciality of Moss & Co, with shipments throughout the year to satisfy the exacting demands of pattern makers, model makers, woodcarvers and manufacturers of picture frame mouldings and furniture. Jelutong is off-white sometimes pale yellow in colour with a fine barely visible grain containing latex canals. Jelutong is exceptionally stable and very easy to shape and smooth to a grainless finish for paint and lacquer work.

Thickness: 1"–4" Width: 6"–12"+ Length: 6'–16' Density: 470 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Non-durable

**LIME** *Tilia vulgaris* Europe

Lime is off-white with a close even grain which retains fine detail, yet is mild enough to work easily by hand. A good smooth finish allows waxing, painting or gilding. Lime is also used by architectural and prototype model makers, antique restorers and makers of picture frames and musical instruments. Our log sawn planks can be converted to square edged and planed if required. We often have small blocks available in the office.

Thickness: 1"–4"+ Width: 6"–10"+ Length: 5'–10' Density: 560 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Perishable

**MAHOGANY** *Swietenia macrophylla* N South America

These days the best Mahogany comes from the rain forests of South America and we aim to import only from reputable suppliers committed to sustainable logging operations. This timber is considered superior to other

Mahoganies such as African (*Kahya* spp) and more particularly, Philippine (*Shorea* spp). The wood of these big trees is a lustrous red-brown which polishes well and mellows beautifully with age. It is mild textured and easy to work with a fine grain and a high degree of stability. Traditionally used for top quality furniture, patternmaking and boat building, Mahogany is also suitable for all internal and external joinery.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 6"–12"+ Length: 6'–15' Density: 560 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

MAPLE *Acer saccharinum* N E North America

Maple is popular for its white to pale yellow brown colour, delicate brown figure and close fine grain which works to an excellent silky finish. It is well suited to jobs requiring good resistance to wear, such as work surfaces and flooring and it is equally suitable for good quality furniture and all general joinery. Maple is frequently chosen in place of European Sycamore, to which it is closely related by genus and appearance, being more freely available. Maple is also available manufactured as tongued and grooved strip flooring.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 4"– 8"+ Length: 6'–14' Density: 740 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Non-durable

OAK, EUROPEAN *Quercus robur* Europe  
OAK, NORTH AMERICAN *Quercus alba* N E North America

American White Oak is generally similar in appearance to European Oak, pale yellow-brown to mid-brown, mellowing with age, milder but rather heavier. Oak has well established uses for furniture, doors, windows, floors and all prestigious joinery. It finishes well and is strong, hardwearing and reasonably stable. We also keep American Oak as a ready machined tongued and-grooved flooring in various widths. European Oak is also available in larger sections for rustic beams and, when fresh sawn (Green) for high quality fencing and bollards. With all Oak, precautions are necessary to prevent contact with iron and steel which react with tannin in the wood causing a black stain.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 5"–10"+ Length: 6'–14' Density: 750 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Moderate

PEAR *Pyrus communis* Europe

Sourced from old orchard trees and steamed during kilning to produce an even colour, Pear is light pinkish-brown with a fine even grain. Pear turns well and is also popular for model making.

Thickness: 30mm – 80mm Width: 4" – 10"+ Length: 4' – 7' Density: 700 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

PITCH PINE *Pinus caribaea* Honduras

Pitch Pine is one of the most prestigious American pines. After machining, the wood gradually mellows to a rich mid-brown with a distinctive darker brown figure. Along with its resinous beauty and obvious choice for furniture making, Pitch Pine is noted for its strength, hardness and durability under exposed conditions such as external joinery, boat building and river and marine constructions.

Thickness: 1"– 4" Width: 6"–12" Length: 6'–14' Density: 760 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Moderate

ROSEWOODS *Dalbergia* spp South America, Central America & S E Asia

We try to keep a choice of Rosewoods in stock but, in common with other exotic timbers, availability varies widely. Supplies may be restricted to short lengths of small sections but sometimes larger planks and thicker sections may be available. All Rosewoods are specialist timbers suited to furniture restoration, prestige joinery and turnery.

Of the traditional Rosewoods from South America, only old imported stocks are occasionally available, notably Rio Rosewood (*D. nigra*). Mexican Rosewood, also known as Cocobolo (*D. retusa*), which is more often available is nearest in appearance to Rio – richly grained, deep red-brown in colour with darker striping and dense, finishing with a profound lustre of great character.

Generally in stock is East Indian Rosewood, or Sonokeling (*D. latifolia*), which usually comes from the old Dutch plantations of Indonesia. It is typically purple to grey-brown with a close fine grain which finishes well. Also usually in stock is Honduran Rosewood (*D. stevensonii*) which is rose-brown with a close, fine grain which finishes well and polishes to a deep lustre.

Thickness: 1"–2"+ Width: 3"–7" Length: 4'–7' Density: av. 950 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Very Durable

**SYCAMORE** *Acer pseudoplatanus* British Isles

Sycamore is of the same family as Maple and in many respects is similar, though usually rather whiter with a less pronounced grain and occasional pin knots. Chosen for furniture making, joinery and turning it is an attractive, pale and even grained wood finishing to a fine surface.

Thickness: 1"–2" Width: 5"–10"+ Length: 6'–12' Density: 630 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Perishable

**TEAK** *Tectona grandis* S E Asia

A valuable timber held in high regard for its qualities of strength, stability and durability in extreme conditions and great natural beauty, Teak is a distinctly oily wood, mid to dark brown with attractive darker grain marking. It is used in the best quality cabinet making, internal and external joinery and in boat building for structural elements, fittings and trims. Teak also turns well and can be carved.

Thickness: 1"–4" Width: 6"–12"+ Length: 6'–10' Density: 660 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Very durable

**TULIPWOOD** *Liriodendron tulipifera* N E North America

Also known as American Poplar or American Whitewood, Tulip is a reasonably priced utility hardwood that machines to a good finish for painted cabinet work and internal joinery. Its colour is variable, being generally straw-brown to light grey-green sometimes with darker patches. Tulipwood is reasonably stable having a fine uniform grain. It is a good choice for trims, mouldings and other applications previously accommodated by Ramin, which is now in short supply.

Thickness: 1"–4" Width: 4"–10"+ Length: 6'–16' Density: 510 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Non-durable

**WALNUT** *Juglans nigra* North America

American Black Walnut is widespread among the rich soils of the Central Eastern and Midwest Regions of the USA, where it has long been used for good quality furniture and all joinery requiring quality of finish combined with strength and resilience. It is dark purplish chocolate brown in colour

and develops a deep lustrous patina with age. Despite knots, its appearance makes this wood stand out as one of the supreme cabinet making timbers.

Thickness: 1"–3" Width: 4"–7"+ Length: 6'–12' Density: 660 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Moderate

**WENGÉ** *Millettia laurentii* Zaire

A highly distinctive appearance of a very dark brown colour with pale elongated flecks and a fine parallel grain when quarter sawn makes Wengé a highly sought after joinery hardwood. Suitable for table tops, bathroom surfaces, fine furniture and turned items. Availability is sometimes limited.

Thickness: 1"–2" Width: 4"–12" Length: 6'–16' Density: 880 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Durable

**YELLOW PINE** *Pinus strobus* E North America

Traditionally from the Canadian Province of Quebec, Yellow Pine is softer than European Pine and has a less pronounced grain. In colour it is pale ivory-yellow and the grade that we stock is usually knot free. It is easy to work by hand and extremely stable. Not to be confused with Southern Yellow Pine, Quebec Yellow Pine is used by patternmakers, model makers and wood carvers who are able to create delicate designs to great effect. Manufacturers of moulded and carved picture frames, builders of musical instruments and specialist suppliers of racing boats also find Yellow Pine an invaluable timber.

Thickness: 1"–2" Width: 10"–12" Length: 6'–14' Density: 420 kg/m<sup>3</sup> Non-durable

## OTHER SPECIES

In addition to the above timbers we also aim to keep a wide selection of other beautiful and interesting woods and these generally include the following: Amazakoue, African Blackwood, Lignum Vitae, figured Snakewood, Lemonwood, Brazilian Tulipwood, Kingwood, Spanish Olivewood, Satinwood, Purpleheart, Padauk and Zebrano. A number of these are ready cut and waxed for use as turning blanks.

## SHEET MATERIALS

Most of the following sheet materials can be quickly and accurately cut to size. Please enquire for a quotation.

### BIRCH PLYWOOD

Manufactured to a high standard, these boards are well suited to clean cutting with reasonable stability and a smooth close-grained surface suitable for painting or varnishing. We keep a full range of thicknesses in WBP exterior grade ranging from 0.8 mm to 24 mm. The normal sheet size for 6mm and thicker is 1220 x 2440 mm. Larger sizes are available on request.

### UTILITY PLYWOOD

Imported from the Far East and Brazil, these boards are used for a wide range of general purpose applications where quality of surface finish and clean cutting are not of paramount importance. The plywood is manufactured to WBP exterior specification. Sheet size 2440 x 1220 mm in thicknesses 4 mm to 25 mm. Larger sheets 3050 x 1525 mm are available on request. We also stock a specially constructed flexible ply in 8 mm thickness in either long or short grain.

### MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD

Usually known as 'MDF', we stock the Medite brand, a prestige board generally acknowledged as the market leader in finish and quality. It cuts extremely cleanly and holds a sharp profile when moulded. When painted or lacquered the finish is probably the finest achievable with any timber based material. There is also the added advantage that the edges can be painted without lipping. The exceptional smoothness, flatness and stability of MDF make it an ideal board for veneering and an extensive range of pre-veneered boards is always held in stock. MDF can be supplied in flexible, moisture resistant and fully waterproof versions. Sheet sizes are 2440 x 1220 mm in thickness 3 mm to 25 mm and 1525 x 1190 mm in 2 mm. Some larger sheets are kept in stock and others with thicknesses up to 50 mm can be obtained on request.

## HARDBOARD

A general purpose board 3.2 mm thick in sheet size 2440 x 1220 mm. Other sizes, oil tempered, white painted and perforated boards are available.

### SUNDEALA PINBOARD

Sundeala brand Medium Pinboard, stocked in 9 mm interior quality (but available in other thicknesses and for exterior use) is the best material for permanent pinboard construction.

### VENEERED BOARDS

Many of the timbers that we keep are available in veneer form and bonded to a variety of boards but principally on plywood of 4 mm to 12 mm thickness veneered one side and on MDF of 4 mm to 26 mm thickness mostly veneered both sides. These boards are ideal for cabinets, shelving, table tops and any application requiring components of a greater width than normally available in solid wood planks. Sheet sizes are generally 2440 x 1220 mm but some thicker boards are available 3050 x 1220 mm. Matching veneer strips are available with a hot melt adhesive for ironing on to exposed edges and our mill will also produce square and profiled lippings in the appropriate timber to match.

### VENEER LEAVES

A variety of hardwood veneer paper-backed leaves are available for customers' own application, normally with a contact adhesive. Our stocks usually include Ash, Beech, Cherry, Mahogany-type, Maple, Oak, Teak and Walnut. Leaf size is 2440 x 600 mm and 2440 x 1220 mm on request.

### CROSS GRAIN PELLETS

A professional finish to screw fixings can easily be achieved by the use of our matching cross grain timber pellets, available singly or boxed, in most common timbers. They are tapered averaging 12 mm in diameter.

## MILLING SERVICE

One of the most important and best-used services offered by Moss & Co are those provided by the saw and moulding mills, converting sawn wood to customers' special sizes and profiles. We regularly undertake sawing, planing and moulding together with the construction of solid wood worktops, coarse sanding, panel sawing and cross-cutting. Please feel free to enquire with your specific requirements.

## ORDERING

Customers are very welcome to visit our premises to place orders in person and this is desirable if special selection is required. For most straight forward orders we invite instruction by telephone, fax or email. We like to agree prices before starting work and estimates and quotations are freely given. Payment is accepted by cash, cheque and most debit and credit cards. Regular customers may apply for account facilities, subject to the usual enquiries.

When enquiring for an estimate it is important to specify if your timber is to be planed or left rough sawn and if planed, whether the size stated is the nominal size before planing or the finished size after planing. If a shaped moulding is required, a sketch, or better still a full size drawing, is invaluable. When planning a layout diagram to describe the cutting of sheet materials, remember to allow about 4 mm for each saw cut. Note that with most plywood and veneered boards, the timber grain runs along the 2440mm length of the board, except for birch plywood which is 'short grain'.

When ordering timber we like to be presented with a detailed cutting list since this frequently allows us to select planks more economically than if all the piece lengths are added together. Please list together all the lengths of each particular cross section size, so as to ensure an economic and correct yield from the stock selected. Please note that we do not then cut each piece to length: if cross cutting is desired, either roughly for ease of transport or exactly to final length, then a specific request must be made. Timber worktops supplied as standard are over length, square edged, rough production sanded one side and without any applied finish.

## DELIVERY SERVICE

Our delivery vehicles operate throughout Greater London and the Home Counties and other customers are served by carrier and parcel services. Our own deliveries are discharged at the nearest point to your reception point that our driver can, in his opinion, safely, legally and with due consideration for other road users manoeuvre his vehicle. It is expected that the customer will provide assistance with unloading, commensurate with the nature of the load. Any extension to this delivery unloading service is at the discretion of our driver. Customers are welcome to call at our yard to select and/or collect in person.

## USEFUL GUIDELINES

Whilst essentially a specialist supplier of timber to commercial and trade customers, we are always very pleased to welcome customers from other backgrounds. It is therefore important to recognise that a trade supplier such as Moss & Co can only offer its stock 'as seen'. It is very much a case of *caveat emptor*. We are a responsible timber company with a high regard for our customers and their requirements and we will do all that we can to assist customers. However it is important that the following points are carefully noted. No recommendation or warranty is made, intended or implied and customers should satisfy themselves of the suitability of the material offered before making any purchase. The company and its staff may offer 'without prejudice' opinions, observations and suggestions to help customers make their own judgment but the final responsibility for choice, suitability and performance, must remain with the customer.

### MOISTURE CONTENT AND MOVEMENT

Wood, as a natural product of the plant kingdom, contains water within its cellular structure, as a necessary and important element of its physical integrity. An important part of the timber supply process is to dry the wood to an equilibrium moisture content appropriate to trade storage, pending final sale. Taking wood into an enclosed and warm environment such as a house, office or shop will usually provide conditions under which there will be a further migration of moisture from the timber. There are also likely to be changes between the seasons, with moisture being taken up from the air through the summer months and lost again in the winter. The effect of these adjustments to match atmospheric humidity may be observed in dimensional changes to width and to a lesser extent, thickness. This expansion and contraction may be even or uneven and can lead to unpredictable distortion such as cupping, bow, cast and twist. We obviously hope that distortion will not occur and on most occasions there is none. If present it is usually slight and of no practicable consequence. However, one should not be surprised if it does arise since nature will always exert its inexorable and unpredictable influence.

In being aware of timber's need to move it is wise to plan for this to be accommodated within your design. This is especially important with wide

timber jointed surfaces such as kitchen worktops, tables and door panels when any movement is accentuated by the great overall width of the article. The main points to be considered are the possibility of the back edge of a worktop contracting away from an abutting wall leaving a gap and the need to fix the surface with a flexible system; if free movement is denied, it is likely that the top will pull against the fixings resulting in serious and spectacular splitting. One should also be wary of a heat source such as a cooker hob or built-under oven, refrigerator or radiator causing local and uneven moisture movement, shrinkage and splitting. When finishing timber in general and jointed surfaces in particular, it is generally considered a good idea to apply the finish at an early stage, to all sides and not just to the visible areas. This allows a more even and controlled migration of moisture. Much of the above discussion also applies to flooring.

### COLOUR AND APPEARANCE

Timber, as a naturally occurring material growing under a wide variety of physical and climatic conditions, is prone to variation of colour, shade, grain pattern, texture and density. Most of these features are intangible and we can only offer our subjective opinion, so customers are urged to exercise their own judgement, based on their chosen criteria. We are very happy for customers to make their own selection from our stock and we encourage the use of a plane or chisel to allow a clearer appreciation of underlying colour and texture. When asked to make a selection on a customer's behalf, it must be accepted that although we aim for the best appearance with least contrast, all judgment is subjective and the timber will be, at worst, 'as rising'. The paler, temperate hardwoods such as Maple, Sycamore and Beech have a, as yet not fully understood, propensity to react chemically with drying laths during the kilning process. This, unfortunately, sometimes results in a grey 'sticker shadow' across each board, at about 600mm intervals. Until recently, this was of little concern since timber of these species was usually painted, stained or placed out of sight. We do our best to minimise this feature and must stress that these timbers are offered with sticker shadow as an allowable defect. We have heard that customers frequently alleviate the impact of this mark by bleaching (which is not always effective) or masking with an equalizing stain.

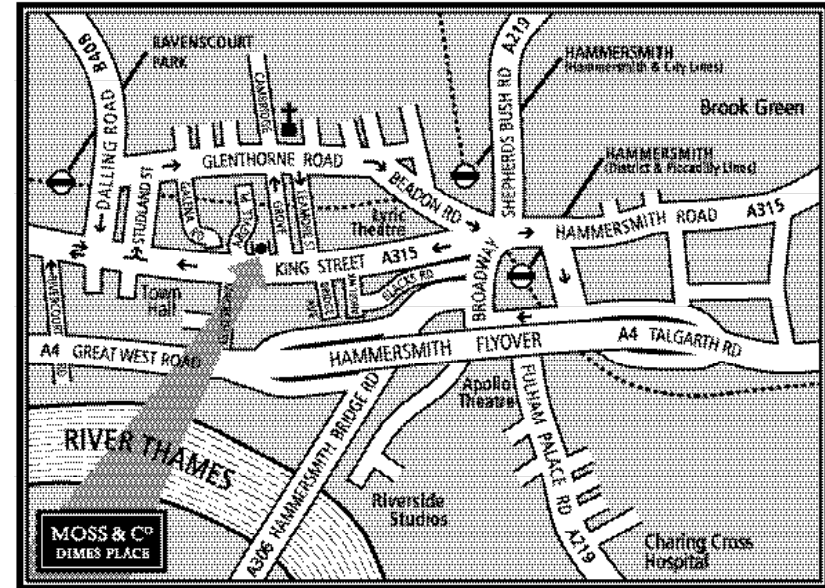
## CONSERVATION – FORESTS FOR THE FUTURE

Everyone must now be aware of the almost irreversible damage done to tropical rainforests by the demands for agricultural land and fuel wood. The forest ecosystem is a rich source of beautiful and useful timbers and, although selective, their extraction does give cause for concern. Nonetheless, good quality timber is a major earner of foreign currency of significant value to the economies of these, mainly less developed countries. A way must be found of ensuring the survival of the forests.

One must put the problem into perspective and appreciate that only a very small percentage of the forest felled in the tropics actually ends up being exported to the United Kingdom for use by the timber trade. It is now well documented that the large part of forest destruction is as a result of inefficient agricultural practice and poor government control; most tropical countries have impressive forest management policies but commitment and the means of enforcement are, regrettably, all too often lacking.

We at Moss & Co are sympathetic with this well voiced but sometimes ill informed debate and wish to encourage a positive move to limit environmental damage. We aim to import only from sustainable sources and to stock and promote the increased use of temperate hardwoods and timber efficient man-made forest products. As a member of the Timber Trade Federation we are signed up to the Environmental Code of Practice which encourages improved standards of conduct and condemns illegal logging practices.

It is important to give tropical hardwoods a significant value by continuing to purchase them. Forest owners will only then see the importance of husbanding their resources and not be forced to seek alternative, higher value uses which inevitably lead to forest clearance for farming, mining, charcoal production etc. It is unrealistic to expect these hard pressed countries to isolate their forests solely as nature reserves and we should encourage management for a sustainable yield, compatible with the other legitimate requirements of the local people.



### DIRECTIONS

From the Hammersmith Broadway gyratory turn west along King Street, the A315, towards Chiswick. Dimes Place is the third turning on the right about ¼ mile on, just after Pizza Hut and Kall Kwik. Parking is available in the yard through the gates at the end.

Our nearest Underground Station is Hammersmith on the District, Piccadilly and Hammersmith & City lines. Follow signs for the Kings Mall Shopping Centre which will take you in to King Street. Dimes Place is the third turning on the right and is before Argos.

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