

Leather Artisan

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Editor

Another Edition is completed and I thank all those that have contributed. I would love to hear from more people that read this magazine to see how we are going. Is it providing the information and articles that you are interested? Is there something missing that you would like to see? Do you agree with what the articles are saying or do you disagree? Don't forget to look at our facebook Page and Post something of interest for us all to see.

<https://www.facebook.com/nzleatherartisans/>

Also try looking at our website <http://nzleatherartisans.co.nz/>

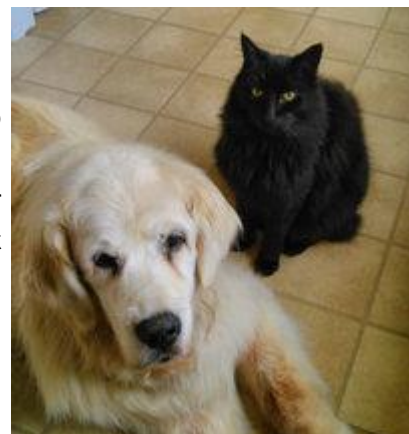
The more Looks and Likes we get the more popular we get and the more people will come and see what we do. Good Leather-working
Tim Swainson (Editor)

Director's Report

I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year holiday and are now refreshed and ready to take on 2016 with renewed energy. I can't believe it is February already.

Our family from Sydney came to stay for 3 weeks over the festive season, and with 5 extras in our house, with them all taller than I am, and I'm not short, the house felt very tiny. It was wonderful to have all the family together.

Sadly, on Friday 29th January, 12 days after her 15th birthday, I had to say goodbye to our beautiful Golden Retriever Cassie. (The photo is Cassie with her much loved mate Ebony) She was full of arthritis, pretty much deaf, and blind, so I had to make the hard decision. We have had 2 goldies, and daughter Kay owned their mother, Gemma. I think we will now stick with our Sidney Silkie Daisy, who at 12, thinks she is about 3, and totally obsessed with my husband Jan. There is an imaginary thread between his ankle and her nose I'm sure. Also have our lovely black cat who is bigger than Daisy.



I have just got home from a week's house and dog sitting in Dunedin for a friend. I thoroughly enjoyed my time and had wonderful weather. I really feel I have come home each time I head down south, though we only ever lived down there for a year in 1973/74. My grandmother was born in Dunedin and is buried there, and my great grandfather is in the Port Chalmers cemetery, after running a ship's chandler shop there for many years, so have family history there. I managed to catch up with a shoe maker, Louise Clifton, who has ongoing workshops one of which I visited. Nice shoes. She is bringing out a Japanese shoe maker for an exhibition in March at Olveston House in Dunedin. Should be well worth the visit.

I also had a tissue paper and leather workshop with the Dunedin members. a brief report in this issue.

I returned to Christchurch with the car boot full of boxes, an accumulation of leather tools etc etc, which all belonged to a retired Nun, who at 80+, decided she needed to clear out her room. After I get a chance to go through it all, there are sure to be items for the buy and sell page, which is starting in this February issue of the Artisan. If you have anything you want to buy, sell or swap please contact Tim Swainson.

I also paid a visit to Bill Drake at Drake Leather in Rattray Street Dunedin, who we have on our list of suppliers. He kindly cut out some kit-sets for me with his clicking press, otherwise have to cut them all by hand, and not good on circles. Thanks Bill.

Happy leathering
Sue

Seamless Joins

Join a seam in leather without anything but the leather itself similar to a zipper. This idea was found on Cam Bergerman's facebook page.



<https://www.facebook.com/CamsStuff>.

The hole diameter has to be slightly larger than half the distance between the holes. Notice in the picture below, there is no cut out toward the edge on the top and bottom holes along the left side. This keeps it from "unzipping" when it's put together. You may need some pliers to pull the first and last tabs through the holes, since they are not cut open like the rest. Once it's started, just alternate tucking the tabs

under each other.

When you get to the end you might have to use pliers again. You want the first and last tabs to be as wide as you can possibly fit through the holes, since they are basically what hold the whole

thing together.

You can tool and/or stain the leather however you like. This wrap was a nice snug fit, so I had to use some saddle soap to lube it up enough to slide it onto the widest part of the bow's grip.

Notice I did not cut out toward the edge on the top and bottom holes along the left side.

This keeps it from "unzipping" when it's put

together. There are several variables that you have to take into account, including the size of the holes that you punch, the thickness of the leather you are using, and how much of a "tab" you leave underneath the joint. You could figure the size out by trial and error, or if you are an engineer you could do some complicated maths, but this is how I figured it out. I had a couple scrap pieces that I had used to test the idea. I "zipped" them up, taped them tightly around where the grip would end up being, and then unzipped the leather from the front. Then it was just a matter of measuring to get the correct width. As far as the length, just match it to your handle.

Editor

To the right is my second attempt, after testing on a couple of scrap pieces of leather. I found that if I skived down the edges of the leather, the zip joint on the inside of the cylinder was much smoother. Thanks Cam

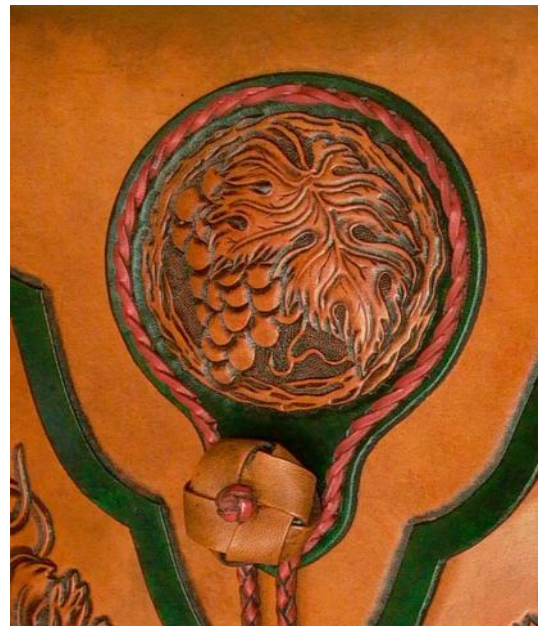


Sick of finding ways to close your projects?

Here are some “all leather” closures by René Berend’s. He tries to get away from metal fittings and find ways to substitute them.

Thanks for sending us these examples. Good to hear from you.

Follow him on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/rene.berends.37>



Watch this space.

Auckland Workshop June or July.
Details in the next magazine.



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Leather Artisans**

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