

NB seats: from hell to leather

■ Words: Ron Gillick, North Eastern Victoria Chapter Captain



After 12 years, I decided that the original cloth seats in our 2002 NB were starting to look a bit shabby and second hand from all of those years of wear and tear, fading in the sun and a small cigarette burn in the passenger's seat which was done prior to us purchasing the car in 2004.

That cigarette burn had been bugging me for the 10 years we have owned the car.

I had always wanted leather seats after seeing them in the SEs of several Club members. After a long but fruitless search for a used set of these seats I decided that I would get ours re-upholstered.

By chance we had a new member, Ian Mason, on our Snowy Mountains run and his recently-purchased NB had leather seats and steering wheel which had been done by a firm in Melbourne named "Blackmans Automotive Interiors".

It looked to be an excellent job done by them so, on return from the Snowies, I contacted them and arranged to have our car done.

Not being a fan of the people designing Mazda's interiors who, until the past couple of years, seemed to have been allowed to use only black and various shades thereof, Marg and I opted to liven things up with a bit of colour and had red inserts put in to the seats. It won't be to everyone's taste but, so far, we have had only positive comments from those who have seen the car.

For anyone who may be interested, Blackmans have several outlets around Melbourne. Their web address is www.blackmansleather.com.au ●

