

The Thredbo Alpine Museum Collection thematic displays are representative of the development of snow sports in Australia.

THE WORLD CUP: On entering the room on the left is the special feature display celebrating the Cafe Lavazza 1989 Thredbo Ski World Cup. It was without doubt the biggest event ever in any Aussie ski resort. Next to it is Malcolm Milne's 1969 Ski World Cup medal.

THE THREDBO STORY: Continuing along on the left, you will see a large picture illustrating Thredbo with its first two buildings in 1957, namely The Lodge and Crackenback Ski Club. Purchased from the Selmer Guthega Dam construction site in 1956, the Lodge prior to that was left behind by German forces in Norway at the end of WW2.

THE KIANDRA STORY: Located at the far end of the Museum features the beginnings of Australian skiing in 1861 at Kiandra situated on the Snowy Mountains Highway just north west of Adaminaby, when Norwegian gold miners introduced skiing and ski-making to their fellow fortune hunters.

SKIS AND SNOWBOARDS CONTINUALLY EVOLVING: Wooden Skis

1861 to 1897 – the 3 metre “Kiandra Skis” made from Australian mountain ash wood by Norwegian gold miners.

1920s – The wooden carved skis donated by Kurt Lance were made in America

1930s - the hickory Andy Broad skis which were the first to be produced commercially in Australia. Note the seal skin strip attached to the notch at the tip of one of the skis. Skins were used for walking uphill.

1950s – Using vertical laminating techniques learned in Austria, Joe Steiner successfully manufactured these skis for the Australian market.

Composite (wood combined with metal or fibreglass) Skis:

1960s - It became cheaper to import skis rather than making them from imported hickory in Australia.

1970s - shorter skis were introduced for beginners

1980s – The straight ski was still used recreation and competition.

1990s - “shaped” skis became wider at the tip and tail with a narrow waist. They were easy to turn and very suitable for resort skiing.

2000s – The resort ski was even wider and rounded at the tip. Some skiers like the stability of longer, wider skis in untracked terrain and in deep powder snow beyond resort boundaries.

SKI BINDINGS mark the most significant change in the evolution of skiing: from the leather strap (1861) holding the boot in place on the ski, to a sophisticated safety binding which releases the boot on sudden impact.

SNOWBOARDS: The Snurfer developed in the 1960s was the forerunner of the Snowboard. The collection of snowboards dates from the 1970s through to the 1990s.

SKI BOOTS: In 1861 everyday boots which were thrust into the leather toe binding. By the 1930s people reinforced the sides of the soles of the leather lace-up boots to accommodate the new metal toe bindings. Since the late 1960's, plastic boots and clips dominate the ski slopes.

CLOTHING: In the large display case is a Spyder slalom ski suit with its padded elbows and knees for protection when hitting course ‘gates’ aside to gain maximum time on course. In contrast is the mannequin in a aero-dynamic body hugging ski suit worn by downhill and giant slalom racers. Two other mannequins model high fashion ski wear reflecting the colourful, glamorous atmosphere seen in Thredbo in the 1980s.

CHAIRLIFT SEATS: The restored large red canopied seat was used on the Kosciusko Chalet Chairlift, which operated for the 1964 and 1965 ski seasons. The chairlift was built as access lift to Charlotte Pass from the Alpine Way. It went to the top of the Ramshead Range where another chairlift continued on to Charlotte Pass Chalet. Due to frequent stoppages caused by high gale force winds and very heavy snows in 1964 when volunteers dug out the chairlift line, the lift was dismantled in 1965 for another life at Jamberoo Grass Ski and Recreational Park. The chairlift seat outside the museum was used on the Thredbo Ramshead Chairlift which opened in 1963 and decommissioned in 2011.

Please tell your friends about us

Our opening hours: 1-5 pm

Winter: July, August, September
(closed Mondays)

Summer – peak December 26 – January 26
(closed Mondays)

Other: Weekends only – February to April
June & October
Plus public holidays and special events

Admission: Free (Donations always welcome)

Location: Centrally located on the Lower Level of
the Thredbo Alpine Hotel, easily
accessible from the Village Square via
the steps leading down to the bus stop

Visit us at: www.thredboalpinemuseum.com



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Phone us at: 6457 7410 (opening hours)
6456 2279 (administrator)

WELCOME TO THE



In 2019-2020 celebrating

**30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
1989 THREDBO SKI WORLD CUP**

&

**50th ANNIVERSARY OF AUSTRALIA'S
FIRST MEDAL IN A SKI WORLD CUP
WON BY MALCOLM MILNE**