

# THREDBO ALPINE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 78 | February 2022



Picture taken at our AGM, Errol Hanlon, Chrissi Web, Maureen Roberts, Raylene Jarvis, Randy Wieman

## Our current display

We have our unique collection of Australian team uniforms dating back to 1972 on show.

To celebrate the Beijing 22 Winter Olympics beginning on February 4th 2022 and the Winter Paralympics on the 4th March, we have on loan the uniforms of two local Olympians; Tora Bright and Manuela Berchtold.

We also have a rather large "welcome" banner from the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, courtesy of the team manager Don Maclurcan, providing a colourful backdrop.

Images of some of our current and emerging Olympic snow sports champions now feature on the wall above the permanent display of skis and snowboards.



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### Winter Olympic Games

We have our unique collection of Australian team uniforms dating back to 1972 on show and more.....



Olympic Games Uniforms - donated by our locals

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Yes we have two Presidents for 2022!

Errol Hanlon & Randy Wieman will share this important role and have put together a vision for the next 12 months.

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SNOWFIELDS PIONEER - Peter Southwell Keely

'Johnny Abbottsmith, Snowfields Pioneer' by Peter Southwell Keely (2021) 75 pages. Published on-line by Perisher Historical Society. Retail price will be \$30

## Australian Alpine SnowSports History Association (AASHA)

### UPDATE

Committee have recently advised that due to the ongoing Covid 19 constraints they have now scheduled the Conference for November 2022.

## PAGE 7 - AUSTRALIANS at the Olympics & Paralympics

Many of our locals have made it onto the winter 2022 Olympic Team.....we wish them well & congrats to all.

## PAGE 8 - Membership & Opening Times

Join & support  
Drop in and check out our displays

Thank you



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# Museum Update

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## Summer 2021/22

Generous support has been received from the government, both at federal and state levels with grants to the tune of \$8,000 and administered by Museums & Galleries NSW.

This has enabled the purchase of a second container to enable more storage in Thredbo, and for the Museum floor: a security camera and two lockable display cabinets, thus enhancing the security of the valuable TAM collection.

## Can you help us?

We are in search of some 1974, 1990 and 1995 Australian Ski Year Books. Can you help us please? When found, these will complete our collection of rare Australian Ski Year books dating back to 1923.

The Museum library of over 300 books is accessible for all who wish to read or research material relating to the Snowy Mountains – just ask the volunteer on the reception desk. Whilst books may not be removed from the Museum, there is a photocopier available.



## Our 2021 Museum Visitors

Visitor numbers to the Museum have been consistent with those of last year's summer holidays and the mandatory masks have prevailed. During December / January period where we were open on 33 of the 37 days and saw 843 visitors from those 33 days. This compares with previous years as below for the same Dec /Jan period.

Our team of community volunteers have enabled the doors to be open throughout the festive season.

Some comments in the visitors' book included:

*"There are many interesting things on display like the uniforms from long ago" said Jasmine, Abigail Melanie and Alan.*

*Bronwynne Jones wrote "Thank you so much Chrissi Webb for sharing her expertise, knowledge and historical aspects of the lodges and of people in Thredbo. I am extremely grateful.*

*Gary and Sue commented "An amazing display and cheap at half the price.*

*Master Miller thought "Olympians and skis are very cool.*

## Museum Visitors

2020 TOTAL 2605  
2021 TOTAL 3898

2022 JANUARY  
**843**



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# Events & come see in the Museum

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## TAM & THREDBO EVENTS

### Snowfall Cocktails & Museum exhibition launch

Friday 17 June 2022

### Mid Winter Dinner & Faces of Thredbo

Wednesday 20 July

## Our 2022 Office Bearers

**Patron** Alan Rydge

### President/s

Randy Wieman 0408 453 632 &  
Errol Hanlon 0439 646 313

### Vice President/s

Wayne Kirkpatrick 0418 766 484  
Chrissi Webb 6456 2279

**Secretary** Maureen Roberts 6456 1289

**Treasurer** Raylene Jarvis 0414 679 409

**COMMITTEE** - Alan Fredericks, Michelle Reichinger, Andrew Koczanowski, Brett Webb

## Come see Laurie Seamans Camera - it has an amazing story!

The Laurie Seaman Camera is a must see display about the story of two young skiing friends Laurie Seaman and Evan Hayes who got lost in a blizzard near Mt Kosciuszko, a tragic story that lives on through the building and upkeep of Seaman's Hut.

The photos Seaman and Hayes took of each other with this camera, upon reaching the summit of Mt Kosciuszko just before their separation and deaths, were developed and are on public display.

This event reminds us of the respect we must continue to hold for the Australian alpine environment.



Seaman Camera with case, viewer and two photos developed from the last film. Laurie Seaman & Evan Hayes

The Kodak 3A Autographic Camera is technical significant for the innovations of relative portability (measuring 85 mm x 175 mm x 4.5 mm & weighing 1.5 kg) and the facility for the photographer to mark images with relevant information through a trap door. This depended upon the copyright invention of Kodak 'autographic' film.

The Laurie Seaman Camera is a rarely surviving example of a once representative camera, which has survived because of the tragic circumstances surrounding it.

Statement of Significance, Bullock V. (2013)

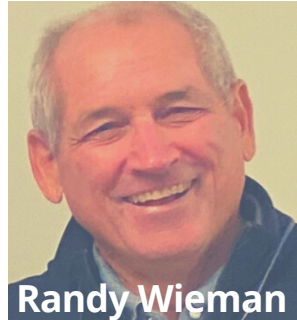
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# President/s Report

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**Errol Hanlon**



**Randy Wieman**

## Our President/s Report

The Thredbo Alpine Museum (TAM) is an integral part of the Thredbo experience.

Thredbo Historical Society now known as Thredbo Alpine Museum (TAM) was set up on the initiative of Graeme Holloway together with fellow Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd staff members Wendy O'Donohue and David Osbourne in 1995/96.

It has since provided information on Australian Skiing history and a collection point for Thredbo memorabilia. Graeme served as President for the first 11 years. Since 2008 when Museum space was acquired, Alan Fredericks then served as President and many people have visited the Museum which has always been staffed by Volunteers.

After 12 years as President Alan stepped down at the end of 2020. Graeme returned for a year to nurse the baby he created before Errol and I volunteered to take on the challenge.

### THE PRESIDENTS

**Errol Hanlon – Randy Wieman**

**All correspondence to  
randy@hotshots.net.au**

### **We have set four targets to move the Museum forward.**

1. Increase membership and revenue.
2. Add more digital capabilities so that more information can be viewed. See more people, especially younger ones getting involved. We have asked Errol's son, Marcus to design a virtual reality program so that visitors can ski or mountain bike the slopes of Thredbo or the run of one of Thredbo's Olympians.
3. Use our existing space until such time KT allocates a new Museum space in the future. Accordingly, we have increased the available space for Museum items.
4. Improve functionality of our TAM website and social media platforms.

We intend to invite Winter Olympians post Beijing 2022 to give us an insight into their experience, this will occur on the evening of the Snowfall Cocktail Event.

Due to COVID restrictions we are going to catch up on the 'Faces of Thredbo' for the past 2 years at the mid winter dinner. It will be a big event.

We look forward to the challenges ahead and value everyone's input. We want to maximise our existing venue while planning for our future expansion. We all agree, including Stuart Diver that TAM is a valuable asset to Thredbo and its guests.

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# Book Review & AASHA Update

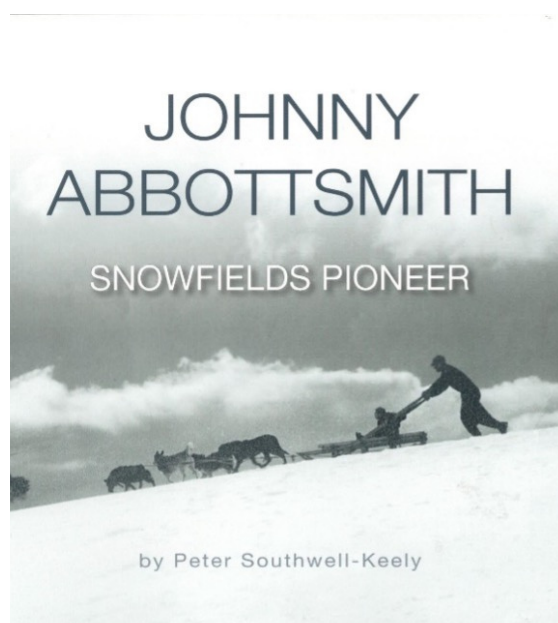
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## Snowfields Pioneer Peter Southwell Keely

SNOWFIELDS PIONEER - Peter Southwell Keely

'Johnny Abbottsmith, Snowfields Pioneer' by Peter Southwell Keely (2021) 75 pages. Published on-line by Perisher Historical Society. Retail price will be \$30

"Starting as a grease monkey at the Hotel Kosciusko in 1936, Johnny became a ski instructor, soldier, Antarctic scientist, ski racer, carpenter, diesel engineer, weather observer, owner of the first oversnow transport in Perisher, builder of ski tows and ski lodges, owner of a service station and caravan park, and in later years, opal miner and round-Australia traveller".



## Australian Alpine SnowSports History Association (AASHA)

UPDATE ON 2022 CONFERENCE AT FALLS CREEK

The Australian Alpine Snowsports History Association (AASHA) is an unincorporated body formed in 2014 to foster the building and retention of Australia's skiing and alpine snowsports history and to make it available to the public.

It is largely supported by the four existing incorporated historical groups in Mt Buller, Thredbo, Falls Creek and Perisher. All of these have museums open to the public except Perisher. Southern Tasmania and Northern Tasmania Groups are also involved as are Disabled Winter Sport Australia and the Australian Indigenous Alpine Sport Foundation. Ski history authors, artists and historians are also involved.

AASHA's main focus has been to hold an annual conference each year at rotating venues. Falls Creek were scheduled to hold the 2020 conference (Covid cancelled) and then the 2021 conference – also covid cancelled.

They had plans to host the Conference in April this year but their Committee have recently advised that due to the ongoing Covid 19 constraints they have now scheduled the Conference for November 2022.

AASHA President Genevieve Fahey will shortly be advising electronically all AASHA members on her database.

PS. Under the current schedule Thredbo are due to host the conference in 2024

Alan Fredericks  
Past AASHA President

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# Australians at the Winter Olympics

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1952 was the first Winter Olympics that an official Australian team had been entered. Prior to this date only individuals from Australia had competed on their own behalf.

The 1952 ski team consisted of Bob Arnott, Bill Day, Barry Patten in the alpine events (downhill and slalom), all from NSW. Bruce Haslington of Cooma and Cedric Sloane of Victoria contested the cross-country event.

The size of the Australian team increases each Winter games, with the biggest increase being with the introduction of snowboarding as an Olympic sport. It is interesting to note that this year half of the team are female!

## **Australians competing at the "Beijing 2022" Olympics include;**

**Alpine Skiing:** Greta Small, Katie Parker, Louis Muhlen-Schulte.

**Bobsleigh:** Bree Walker, Kiara Reddingius

**Cross-Country Skiing:** Casey Wright, Hugo Hinckfuss, Jessica Yeaton, Lars Young Vik, Phillip Bellingham, Steve de Campo

**Curling:** Dean Hewitt, Tahli Gill Figure Skating: Brendan Kerry, Kailani Craine

**Freestyle Skiing – Aerials:** Danielle Scott, Gabi Ash, Laura Peel

**Moguls:** Britteny Cox, Brodie Summers, Cooper Woods, Jakara Anthony, James Matheson, Matthew Graham, Sophie Ash, Taylah O'Neill

**Ski Cross:** Sami Kennedy-Sim. Freeski: Abi Harrigan Luge: Alexander Ferlazzo Short Track Skating: Brendan Corey

**Skeleton:** Jaclyn Narracott, Nick Timmings

**Snowboard - Snowboard Cross:** Adam Dickson, Adam Lambert, Belle Brockhoff, Cameron Bolton, Jarryd Hughes, Josie Baff

**Snowboard Halfpipe:** Emily Arthur, Scotty James, Valentino Guseli

**Snowboard Slopestyle and Big Air:** Matthew Cox, Tess Coady

## **Australians competing at the Paralympics Beijing 4 - 13 March 2022**

**Alpine skiers :** Melissa Perrine, Mitchell Gourley, Rae Anderson, Josh Hanlon, Sam Tait, Jonty O'Callaghan and Patrick Jensen.

**Alpine Sighted Guides:** Amelia Hodgson and Bobby Kelly

**Snowboarder:** Ben Tudhope

**Chef de Mission:** Kate McLoughlin.

Chrissi Webb



Picture of Tess Coady - compliments KT media

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# Membership & Opening Times

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**Become a TAM member today** - Individual, Family, Lodge & Corporate memberships available.

## TAM MEMBERSHIP FEES 2021/22

### Individuals

1 year \$45  
5 years \$225  
10 years \$450

### Family

1 year \$60  
5 years \$300

### Group/Club Lodge

Annual \$220/year

### Corporate

Gold: \$1500/yr  
Silver: \$1000/yr  
Bronze: \$500/yr



<https://www.thredboalpinemuseum.org.au/membership-payment>

## Opening Times

**12 – 4 pm**

**OPEN EVERY DAY**  
**FEB - MARCH - APRIL - JUNE**

**JULY - SEPTEMBER (closed Mondays)**  
**OCT - NOV (Weekends only)**  
**DEC 26 – JAN 27 (closed Mondays)**

**ALSO OPENED ON.....**  
**public holidays & special events,**  
**subject to the availability of**  
**volunteers**

COVID 19 restrictions are currently in place, please wear a mask & sanitise hands on arrival, thank you.



Late December  
David Edwin  
Harrison  
(Harro) 64  
years of age  
sadly passed  
away

He was an accomplished Olympian kayaker, widely respected throughout the skiing community, assisting young skiers and snowboarders to achieve their goals.

Operator of Harro's Snowsports in Lake Crackenback, Niseko & Furano Japan.

His generosity, smile, good sense of humour will be missed by all in the skiing community.

A celebration of his life was held at Lake Crackenback with over 500 in attendance.

Our sincere condolences are with Sue, Brock and Mitch.