

Sue Dingas



Summary

- General Manager Climb Services & Retail BridgeClimb
- Currently studying Executive MBA
- 15 + years in tourism management
- 8 years in ski industry working in Australia and North America

I have been involved in the retail industry for over twenty years and during that time have had experience in a broad variety of industries, products and services. Commencing my career with Grace Bros through their highly regarded 3 year Cadet program I quickly progressed to the position of Group Manager (Homewares at Hurstville) within 4 years. During that time I was also awarded Cadet of the Year and competed in Junior Retailer of the Year Competition reaching the State Finals. After completing my Advanced Management Certificate I was asked to teach Retail Management at St George TAFE. At 21, I was the youngest teacher on campus and the only teacher without a degree. My experience was then broadened in hospitality throughout the ski areas of Australia and North America. After 5 seasons at Thredbo running Retail Operations (including ski hire) I was headhunted to Mount Hotham to run Retail Operations. Mount Hotham had been recently purchased by ARF (Superannuation) and was in major expansion mode. I also became a fully certified ski instructor that enabled me to work in award winning resorts such as Whistler (Canada) and Telluride (USA). During that time I studied via correspondence, sitting exams all over the world. Returning to Sydney after 8 years in the ski industry saw me take upon the challenge of heading up Retail Operations of the much maligned Fox Studios. The retail stores at Fox Studios had traded for over 12 months and had never turned a profit. After my arrival we turned our first profit in month 4. After 14 months with Fox, I relocated to Melbourne after being approached by a Melbourne Based Health Care Company (now owned by Skilled Engineering) to set up their National Retail Network. During that time I was involved across all aspects of the business including office fit-outs and property management through to acquisitions. Prior to returning to Sydney I spent a glorious 19 months as Director of Retail for Hayman Island. My role included range planning and product development for own branded merchandise. Having returned to Sydney in December 2006, I set up a Consultancy business named Thirty 7 Below (Mount Hotham Latitude is 37 below the equator) in honour of my passion for skiing and the outdoors whilst I explored and rediscovered my home city, Sydney. I proudly joined BridgeClimb in October 2007 as Divisional Manager Climb Services and Retail and manage the indoor operations (Call Centre, Check In, Climber Preparation, Duty Managers and Retail).