



# ORIENTAL RUG SOCIETY OF NSW

PO Box 343 Woollahra NSW 1350 [www.rugsociety.org.au](http://www.rugsociety.org.au)

Vol 34, No 1

## NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12 February, 2015  
Powerhouse Museum  
Learning Centre (off Macarthur St)  
Ultimo  
7.15 Refreshments  
7.45 Annual General Meeting  
Show-and-Tell



**Gong shi fa tsai** to everyone for the Year of the Sheep; without these woolly ruminants, the oriental carpet we know today would never have existed!

We have some great talks planned for 2015: the main ornamentation in Turkmen carpets, the Powerhouse Museum's carpet collection, Kutchi nomadic herders' rugs (known as *kharad*), and more. Be sure to renew your membership (see below) so we can notify you of dates and details.

We start 2015 with our Annual General Meeting (AGM -- **agenda attached**), followed by a **Show- and-Tell**. Everyone is invited to bring a good-quality or interesting rug, or perhaps another Asian textile, and tell us why it grabbed them. We only ask that you first clean it of any dust and insects!

**The venue is our usual one. Entry is \$15 for members, \$25 for guests -- but \$15 if they join on the night.**

The AGM includes the election of all ORS Executive and Committee members. You can nominate someone – or yourself – with the **attached nomination form**. Return it to the PO Box address above -- or email it to us at [info@rugsociety.org.au](mailto:info@rugsociety.org.au) -- by COB on Wed 11 February. All nominations must be from, for and voted on by **paid-up members only**.

## Christmas Party

The rain failed to dampen our fun on the day: Rug Quiz, raffle, prizes, great food and drink. Many thanks to hosts Ian and Belinda Perryman for the use of their colourful rug gallery, and to the caterers, door-minders, raffle and quiz organisers -- and to Cameron Wilkinson who helped make the raffle a sell-out!

## Membership Renewals

**It's time to renew your ORS membership for 2015.** Your financial as well as moral support are vital for our continued success, so we would much appreciate your prompt action.

**Membership is \$45.00 for singles, \$55.00 for a couple.** If renewing by cheque, please use the attached renewal form. If you prefer to *direct debit* your payment:

**1. Account: Oriental Rug Society of NSW  
Bank: CBA  
BSB: 062 217  
A/c no: 1049 1173**

2. Important: in the Description/Message to Payee, insert your **surname** and the word 'sub'. (Your surname is essential. If more than one person, please use the surname known to the ORS. Don't use a company name, even if the money is from a company account).

3. Then send an email stating your full name, what you've paid and when, to:  
**ruthlerner@gmail.com**

## Meeting Dates for 2015

We suggest you note them in your diary now. In the event of any changes we will notify you well in advance.

12 February    23 April    11 June  
13 August    1 October    December TBA



## Our New Website & Facebook

Have you seen our new user-friendly website? Use it to stay in touch with our activities, and please onpass the URL to friends and acquaintances who might be interested:  
**www.rugsociety.org.au**

We're on Facebook too! Why not become a Friend: **www.facebook.com/orsnsw** If you want to share some rug-related information or upcoming event, or perhaps an image of a special rug in your collection, submit them to **info@rugsociety.org.au** and we'll post anything suitable on our Facebook!



## Rug Sites: a Browser's Guide

The Web abounds in commercial rug sites, mostly run by dealers. But some sites provide useful information, opinions -- and especially images -- that will interest all who wish to expand their knowledge of rugs and rug history.

Here is a mixed bag of rug websites that you might profitably enjoy. They contain something

for everyone, but we recommend treating them as a **supplement** to, rather than a substitute for, the many well-researched oriental carpet books and studies available nowadays (we'll publish a selected list in the near future).

There's some gold amongst the dross, so thoroughly explore each site and click the tabs and highlighted links. If you know of other sites, tell us on **info@rugsociety.org.au**

**www.turkotek.com** A mix of expertise and informed speculation, with interesting debates and images. Not exclusively about Turkmen.

**www.jozan.net** A respected international web-portal and digital magazine about oriental carpets. Interesting articles, guides, images.

**www.carpetcollector.de** Free online magazine in German & English devoted to antique rugs and textile art. Click 'English' at top right. Includes an archive of earlier issues.

**www.pbase.com/dosseman/turkveislameserl eri&page=all** A peek at Istanbul's renowned Turkish & Islamic Museum's rug collection.

**weavingartmuseum.org/index.html** Informative, especially on history of carpet weaving. Good images.

**www.rugrabbit.com** Prepared by an American journalist based in Prague. Click on Albums and Gallery Exhibitions.

**tea-and-carpets.blogspot.com.au/2009/01/** Not updated for a few years but an interesting collation of images, essays and research reports.

**www.tcoletribalrugs.com** A dealer's site with links (top of home page) to generally reliable and informative rug topics, reprinted articles and images.

**www.spongobongo.com** An extensive database on oriental rugs (the site was down as this newsletter was being prepared).

