

Coralie Gordon



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Coralie Gordon was drawn to Queensland's Darling Downs almost 50 years ago, as a secondary school teacher taking up a position in a small country town. The Queensland Division of the Arabian Horse Society had been formed in 1969 and Coralie was its Publicity Officer for ten years, writing her first Arabian reports for RM Williams' Hoof and Horns magazine.

At the time Bostocks Stud with its wealth of wonderful Arabians

including Count Manilla and Crystal Fire, was close by. The Queensland Agricultural College with its famous stallions Silver Moonlight and Grand Royal was just down the Toowoomba Range. The iconic stallion Royal Domino stood at Jangharm Stud not far away, and on the highway to Oakey was the Blunt-Makim Stud with its superb Hamdanieh Simrieh mare Electra [a daughter of Silver Magic].

Coralie met her husband Ken and they began their Cameo Arabian Stud in 1973, the year their first Arabian, a colt by Spindrift, was foaled. The Gordons actively showed their superb stallion Chip Chase Desert Wind and his many successful progeny until the early 80's, and also participated in shows and stud schools in both Queensland and NSW. Coralie was an Arabian National Panel judge for 32 years, and a Judges Examiner for many of those years. The couple were foundation members of the Downs Arabian Club, of which Coralie is now a Life Member and Patron. They



Cameo Mares with Coralie

were also Foundation Members of the Queensland Arabian Crabbet Group of which Coralie was President for over 20 years.

She stood for election as a Director of the Arabian Horse Society of Australia, after the retirement of some of her mentors, and was a board member for 27 years, including two terms as Chairman of the AHSA.

During this time Coralie authored and co-authored seven books in the series The Arabian Horse in Australia, wrote the booklet 25 Years of Australian Champions for the Silver Anniversary of the Australian National Championships, and did a lot of the groundwork to enable the book on Australia's foundation Quambi Stud to be printed.

A passionate breeder of Crabbet Arabians, Coralie was an editor, writer and publisher of Australia's Crabbet Arabian Annual for 20 years, collaborating with her friend Joan Flynn as Somerset Publications [named after a beautiful Somerled mare they owned]. She supplied hundreds of articles on Australian Arabians and Arabian shows to newspapers and magazines both here and overseas, including the US Arabian Horse World Magazine. She has been a speaker at World Crabbet Conventions in the UK and Australia, and organized the Parades of Australian Arabians for the Australian WAHO Conferences of 1984 [with her friend Noel Wilkinson] and 2000, writing the booklets that accompanied them as well as providing the commentary at the Parades.

She has also written two self-published books, The Crabbet Silver Family in Australia and Crabbet Arabian Imports to Australia, with a dear friend and fellow Crabbet enthusiast, Joan Flynn. Her most recent book [and quite possibly her last!] is Hoofprints in History, a comprehensive, beautifully-illustrated book written for the WAHO Conference of 2019 at Terrigal in Australia, where Coralie also was invited to be one of the speakers at the Opening Session.

Coralie's other love was show commentating, which saw her provide well-informed commentary at 30 years of Australian Arabian National Championships, as well as many other Arabian shows, Parades and the Equine Expos in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.



Cameo Graziella & Ken Gordon

(Cedardell Zanzibar x Cameo Moonsylph)

These days Coralie and Ken Gordon, having bred over 300 Arabian and Anglo Arabian horses over almost 50 years, pursue their love of endurance riding, Ken as the rider at 78 years of age, Coralie as the strapper. Of the several hundred Arabians which carry their Cameo prefix, many of them have been successful in Australian and overseas endurance. They have exported horses to New Zealand, Spain, the UAE and the USA.

At their laid-back bush block on the eastern slopes of the Great Dividing Range, they still breed and train their horses, after many years of happy involvement in the breed, including the 2015 50th Anniversary Quilty Gold Cup in New South Wales, where Ken proudly collected his first prized Quilty buckle on his great mare with the funny face, Cameo Favorita (Cedardell Zanzibar x Cameo Fifynella). Coralie and friends keep the campfire burning all through the night for Ken's return off track.

After many years of commitment to their Oakey irrigation farm, an original 104 year old Gordon family selection, growing cotton and Lucerne, grain and oilseeds, and raising their three children there, they are finally free to enjoy their leisure pursuits. Coralie teaches Art and History in the local Primary School. Ken is still working their horses and preparing for another endurance season.

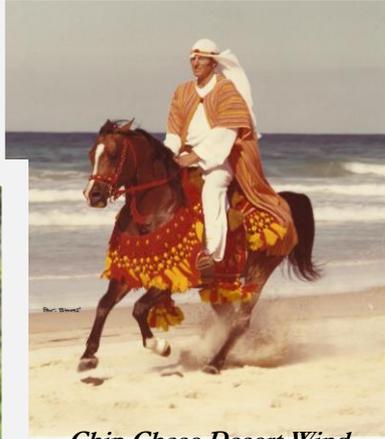


Cedardell Zanzibar

(Somerled x Zaria)



Sue Crockett ©
Cameo Gryffindor "Gryffy"
(Cedardell Zanzibar x Cameo Merrie Moon)
at Sparkler



Ken Gordon ©
Chip Chase Desert Wind
(Cherokee Mecca x Chip Chase Desert Joul)
Ken Gordon Up



Cameo Zinniaa
(Cedardell Zanzibar x The Cameo Magnoliaa)



Cameo Felspar on track...
(Cedardell Zanzibar x Cameo Freya)