



General Grant was born at the **Hanstead Stud** in 1945, the year the Second World War ended. This is significant, as horse breeding had been severely affected during the war due to the shortage of feed and farm labour. The return to peace brought opportunities for more people to take up the breeding of Arabians, and they often went to the Hanstead and Crabbet Studs, to buy foundation stock. Hanstead Stud owned by Lady Yule, was founded on horses from Crabbet.

General Grant was sired by **Raktha**, a magnificent grey stallion bred by Lady Yule out of her foundation mare Razina, and by Naseem. Raktha had been bought by Lady Wentworth in 1939, as a four year old, as part of the exchange of horses between Hanstead and Crabbet, which also included the use of each other's stallions. Eventually, relations broke down and General Grant was one of the last horses to be bred as part of the arrangement.



Raktha

General Grant was a very correct horse and this quote from lady Anne Lytton in his obituary says it all “ ***His conformation was faultless and he had perfect legs which he handed down to everyone of his foals.***”

General Grant's dam was Samsie, a bay mare by Riffal out of Naxina. Samsie was a very good mare who traced in the tail female line to Narghileh, who possessed the ability of so many 'N' line – to produce great stallions. Naxina (Skowronek – Nessima) had four excellent daughters and two outstanding sons – Naseel and Grey Owl. Samsie had 6 foals, of which General Grant was the only one by Raktha. All Samsie's other foals were by Rissalix or his sons, including Samson by Count D'orsaz, who has lines breeding today through his son Prince Saraph and Samaveda by Blue Domino, who produced the exquisite mare Amaveda by Count Rapello.

### South Africa

General Grant was used quite extensively at Hanstead, as well as by a few outside mares. Twenty-six pure-bred foals were registered up to 1957, when **Gladys Yule** (Lady Yule's daughter) died and many of the horses were sold. General Kasalo (ex Rikitea) from his foal crop, became the Junior Male Champion at the Arab Horse Show (UK) in 1953 before being exported to South Africa in 1954, where he was to have a huge impact on the breeding of Arabians. He sired an amazing 117 pure-bred foals. Space does not permit a full description of his successes, but worthy of mention are Chez Nous Cassandra (ex Misma) who was the dam of many successful horses with the Eibna prefix including Eibna Sorrento 1976 (ex Quimran Sorrento), Jerico Pollyana, Jerico Sherifa (ex Irexia), Chez Nous Silver Owl, Agha Nezmet, and Timarie Major Dick. Other very influential General Grant male descendants were; Grantchester ex Rafeena, Timarie Major Grant (imported in utero ex Rafeena). General Grant daughters exported to South Africa that were also influential were Endora (ex Elvira), Lanisa (ex Shamnar) and Rinessa (ex Rikitea). The latter two were important for the Quimran Stud in the 1950s and 1960s for Mr W P du Toit.

### UK – Early General Grant daughters

One of General Grant's early foals was El Attary, a chestnut mare (1951) ex Al Akhira, who is principally known for producing the pretty little stallion El Attorlando by Count Orlando, who was bred by Mrs I M Yeomans. He was bought by Mrs E.M Thomas and used on some of her mares, producing Elinda ex Indira. Ambarla (El Attorlando – Magic Amber) had a descendant, Marlak Magic Aura (Ben Marlak – Rosa Aura) in the parade at the Crabbet Convention 2002. He has another cross the General Grant through Ginetta. Prince Kharambeau, is a descendant of El Attorlando worthy of mention as an endurance horse ridden by the Hawes family. El Attorlando was latterly owned by used extensively by the Haywards on their mares but there do appear to be any lines breeding in Crabbet form.

Teresita (1951) ex Garance, bred 6 foals for Margaret Greely, whose Well House Stud was largely based on Hansteadbloodlines. Teresita had a very good show career including taking the Supreme Female Championship at the Arab Horse Show as a 3 year old. Her daughter Doinita (by Blue Domino) was exported to Australia where she had great success in the show-ring. Teresita then foaled Esther II (1960), a chestnut filly by Greatheart, who was a very successful brood mare for several different breeders; Mrs Thomas, the Kydds and Mrs Munday . Her daughter Jambalaya (Blue Domino) had much success in-hand and was a key mare at the Monclare Stud, where she produced well with their stallion Risslan (Oran – Rissalma). Esther II crossed particularly well with Indian King, including Delilah (1968), who was Reserve Junior Female Champion at the Arab Horse Show in 1969, Empress Josephine (1970), Indian Royal (1971), and Jonquil (1972). Delilah's daughter Shodina (1979) by Indian Treasure, was Mare Champion at the Arab Horse Show and Mare Champion in the Nations Cup in 1983.

Ambria (1952) was a daughter of Asma by Grey Owl. Ambria produced Count Ambrino, a pretty stallion by Count D'orsaz who like his sire, excelled under saddle, winning at the Royal International Horse Show. Count Ambrino was used at stud by Mrs Roberts, and his son Sir Lancelot (ex Marinella) sired 40 foals, mainly for Mrs Bowditch. Ambria is notable for being the dam of Blue Diamond (by Blue Domino), who was exported to Belgium and sired many horses for Mr Peeters. A line from Ambria continues in 75%+ form through Brighten Up (Sir Lancelot - Flare-Up), her daughter Bright and Breezy by Kactus, and grand-daughter Bright Hannah (2009) by Istafahan.

Eloia (1952) (General Grant – Elvira), was bred by Miss Yule and bought by Margaret Evans. Eloia was Supreme Female Champion in 1960 and her daughter Elara, by Stargard, was Junior Female Champion in 1965. Elara was successful under saddle before being exported to Australia as a 12 year old.

Bashida (1952) was bred by Dr Houtappel in Holland out of the beautiful mare Tehoura (Radi – Niseyra). Her first foal was Hadassa a bay mare by Rythal, she was brought to the UK as a 2 year old and joined the Fairfield Arabian Stud. There, she bred the striking stallion Hassani of Fairfield (by Rissani), who did a lot to shatter the myth that Arabians couldn't perform. He was very versatile appearing in Arabian native costume, western tack and conventional English attire. He sired 21 pure-bred foals and many top quality Anglo-Arabs and Part-Breds. Next, Hadassa had an influential daughter by Indian Magic - Soumana of Fairfield. She produced Dark Angel (by Naxif) who had Marillion Platinum Wings, a lovely mare who did well under saddle. Soumana also produced a number of offspring that helped Crabbet breeders keeping bloodlines alive, whilst avoiding too much in-breeding. These horses were Silver Silk (by Silver Scimitar), Bright Cavalier (by Bright Crown) and Achim's Silver Magic (by Silver Fahd). Silver Silk gave us Shabash, a grey stallion (1989) (by Golden Silver), who bred some beautiful horses for Geoffrey Plaister.

Imperial Silver Lace (Shabash – Mur Es Sams) already has three foals and Silver Zaanif (by Lufti Pasha) is carrying on the line with a fine bay colt from Australian Crabbet import, Palma Benay, owned by Anna Brown. Imperial Silk (Shabash – Imperial Rietta) has also bred three foals recently, by performance stars PHA Silvern Risalm, Silva Dollar and Silvern Prince. Bright Cavalier has bred two lovely fillies for Anne Brown, Bright Star (ex Nishtar) and Bright Dawn (ex Zaharina). Achim's Silver Magic line carries on through Templars Magic Pearl (ex Hadida Pearl). Silver Serenade (St. John – Silver Silk) has a 100% Crabbet colt, Silver Djinn by Shaded Silver. Silver Silk's great grand-daughter Shayna Madel (by Zircon Nazeer) was ridden Arab Mare of the Year at HOYS in 2005. The pretty grey mare Silver Brocade (Winged Saint – Silver Silk) has done very well under saddle, so all in all, Soumana of Fairfield lines are continuing strongly, and often provide good performance horses.

Bashida's next foal was Nishida, who bred many top show horses, for the Wrights. Lishida (1960) by Ludo, was responsible for a whole dynasty of horses with the Weatheroak prefix, via her son Indian Blizzard (by Indian Magic). Many were successful in ridden showing. Very few horses remain from this branch except through Grey Sparkle (100% Crabbet), a daughter of Indian Blizzard out of Leya of Weatheroak. She has four Crabbet offspring to carry on the line. Nishida's daughter Nazif by Ludo) bred some beautiful horses, and Carrik Aviva (by Indian Magic) is the grand-dam of Ariosto (by Imad). Carrik Crystif is another of Nazif's offspring who was an excellent ridden show stallion, as well as being the sire of fairy tale stallion El Crysto (ex Mariposa). Nishida's next foal of note was Ludmilla (by Ludo) and she proved to be an exceptional broodmare (11 foals), producing Dancing Moondust and Dancing Queen by Dancing King. Dancing Queen was a truly outstanding mare, achieving great success in the show ring and through her foals. Queen's Topaz (by Midnight Gold), and Daas (by Imad) were examples of the quality she produced. Nishida's son El Santo (by Ludo) was a performance stallion as well as a good sire. Considering the number of horses bred by the Wrights, it is sobering to see how few descendants now remain in Crabbet form. Luckily, El Santo's lines continue through his 100% Crabbet son Winged Saint, who is with the Atkinsons. Another line comes through El Santo's daughter Rose Star (ex Rose Flame). Caroline Sussex has Binley Rose Gold (by Grecian Idyll) and bred Prince Santros (by Prince Sadik). Other good horses from Nishida include Ludovic and Moulton Ludyana by Ludo, and Dancing Emperor, Dancing Nizzam and Bint Nishida all by Dancing King. Of these only Bint Nishida seems to have an active breeding line in Crabbet form through Nishtar (by Jubilee Star), bred by Anne Brown. Dancing Ruzala (Manzala - Dancing Nizzorah by Dancing Nizzam) deserves a mention as a top endurance horse for Karen Jones.

General D'orsaz (1957) was out of Azella and he is notable as the sire of Farosa (1970) out of the famous Farette. Farosa had several foals by Crystal Magician including Crystal

Farifi (by Crystal Magician), who was the dam of Fazleta (by Gai Gaspacho), Junior Female Champion at the Nationals in 1987. Spey Crystal, a full sister to Crystal Farifi, was National Junior Female Champion in 1985. Full brother Fabberge, sired Cacharel (FaRAH'S Fantasy) who has produced Crabbet stars Storm Fantasy, (by Silent Storm) and Dark Prince and Dark Shah by Imad. Storm Fantasy is the dam of Stormlite Royale, National Crabbet Youngstock Champion 2010.

General D'orsaz continued to sire good stock and the other line that continues today in Crabbet form is through Kystal Missella (1998) a grey daughter of Sindherella, by Crystal Dandy, who is great-grandson of General D'orsaz. Krsytal Missella had a filly by Halal in 2008, so the line is continuing.

### **A new era at Briery Close Stud**

After the death of Gladys Yule, General Grant was purchased by Major and Mrs Hedley, for their Briery Close Stud in Windermere. The Hedleys had originally bred show ponies but it wasn't long before they had one of the largest studs breeding pure-bred Arabians, in the UK. The Hedleys valued the blood of Raktha, Oran and Rissalix, and their choice of breeding stock reflected this. They also introduced blood from overseas, and had a great many successes with these crosses.

The Hedley's choice of General Grant was fortuitous, given that a great many stallions from the Crabbet and Hanstead Studs, were sold abroad at the dispersal and reduction sales. Not only did he breed many great horses for the Hedleys, he was available at stud to the increasing number of new breeders. Amorella, was the first of a superb family that helped her grand-dam, Umatella (Oran-Namilla), win the Princess Muna Saddle of Honour on three occasions. Amorella was out of Domatella (Blue Domino –Umatella), and demonstrated perfectly the wonderful Raktha/Oran/ Rissalix cross. She was Junior Female Champion at the Arab Horse Show in 1967. Many of her descendants were crossed with the fashionable stallions of the time – often Spanish or Egyptian, or were exported and thus were lost to Crabbet. Amorella's full sister Chantarella, was even more successful in the show ring. She was Reserve Mare Champion and Brood Mare Champion at the AHS Show 1972. Her best foal was probably Mikaela, a very typey filly by Mikeno. She was very successful in the show ring including Junior Female Champion but she had only one Crabbet foal that did not breed on. Chantarella had four good foals by the Crabbet stallion Orion (Oran – Dancing Diamond), again re-inforcing the success of the Raktha/Oran/Rissalix cross.

Cydella was the next full sister, and she was also very successful in the show ring. She produced the stallion Mikonos (Mikeno), who sired prize-winner Blue Sapphire (Blue Rhapsody). Cydella's daughter Farrella by Fari II, had a successful show career and her

daughter Refella (Count Roland) did very well under saddle. She is the dam of Sindherella (see General D'orsaz section).

Ziree El Wada (Naseel – Rose du Sable) was a very beautiful mare that the Hedleys had acquired from Mrs Nicholson. When crossed with General Grant, she produced consistently top quality horses. Zayda (1967) was exported to Holland, but she was followed by Zulka, a dark chestnut with a great expression. Zulka did very well in the show ring, whilst often competing against other superb fillies from Briery Close. Zulka proved to be a very good brood mare and her grand-daughter Zaharina (Ludomino – Zarah ex Zulka) bred some beautiful horses for Ann Brown. Fortunately, this line is secure through Zaharina's two fillies – Bright Dawn (Bright Cavalier) and Azarine (Shaded Silver). Sadly, the endurance mare Zaha (Hachim), was lost recently. Zenith, a full brother to Zulka and Zayda, was exported to Australia where he sired 71 foals. Zelda Bint Samurai 1984 (Golden Samurai – Zulka) has two crosses to General Grant, and she has two daughters by Golden Scimitar.

Although General Grant had the reputation of producing very good daughters, he did in fact produce a number of good sons. Grenadier (Blue Rhapsody) was very successful under saddle and although he only sired 6 foals, amazingly, one line survives to him through Bint Zaehebi (Autumn Royal – Richelle by Grenadier). She has produced a lovely filly for Rowena Bertram – Anna Aurelia by Marcus Aurelius.

### **Other breeders**

#### **Mr and Mrs J Lewis**

Khamisa was a mare with interesting lines to Courthouse and she foaled Khamilla by General Grant. Khamilla produced the excellent stallion Myros (1972) by Song of India. Myros was Stallion Champion at the AHS Show in 1980 and sired some beautiful horses including Mohica (Golden Gilt) and Mystic Gilt (Grecian Gilt). There are very few lines remaining from Myros now .

#### **Well House breeding**

Pearl Maiden (1968) was a grey mare bred by Margaret Greely who used the General Grant crossed on Rissalix mares very successfully, producing Chief Kasalo, Rinessa and Teresita from Rikitea, and Sikander Shah from Rikitea's daughter Garance, and Pearl Maiden from Perle D'or (Count D'orsaz – Garance). Pearl Maiden was bought by Mrs Linney and was successful in the show ring at National level. But it was her amazing success in producing consecutive year's champion foals by Mikeno, that she is most remembered. First was Mikeno's Pearl(1972), a grey filly who went on to produce the impressive stallion Orontes by Orion. Mikeno's Treasure followed (1975) and she had a

Mikeela (Manex) who did well under saddle. Another filly and a colt of this breeding followed, and all of good quality. Two further foals were bred from El Meluk, Mikeno' son, but sadly, there are no lines continuing in Crabbet form today.

Another Well House mare was Silver Perle (General Grant – Indira). She had Silver Chastindi, a stunning grey stallion by Indian Silver, and had a great career under saddle. His seven foals were all colts but luckily, Silver Satyr (ex Shamasque) also a great performer under saddle, has had some female youngstock. Including Horse of the Year ridden Arabian, Silver Lil (ex Lilacs Fantasy). Indian Nuhra (Al Amik by Silver Satyr- ex Indian Sylphide) a 2002 mare, brings in the valuable blood of Blue Sylphide.

### **Angelica at Harwood**

Harwood Stud had been in existence from the early days of Crabbet with its owner Miss Lyon. When she died, the Calverts inherited the horses and used mainly Crabbet horses in the early days. Sending Consuella (Magnet - Misery) to General Grant resulted in the very influential Angelica (1966). She produced the very good stallion Taqah (1971) by Indian Flame. He in turn sired Kasadi (ex Anna Rose), who was the cornerstone of the stud for his long life, producing many good performance horses, and stamped his stock with the 'Kasadi look'. Fairwinds Jedi (ex Silvered Rosebud) is a good example of the the Kasadi sort, with many Championships to his name, partnered by owner/rider, Lorna Ewin. Taqah also sired Amboselli (ex Saera), who whilst not having the opportunities at stud that Kasadi had, nevertheless, produced the very pretty El Sharluke who sired so many of the Marbon horses and many with that prefix carry his blood. Marbon horses are really coming to the fore in recent years, as Crabbet supporters realise the importance of the bloodlines. Marbon Mastarpiece, is a strikingly marked chestnut colt by Marbon Mastarifah out of Marbon Mead by El Sharluke. He was Reserve Overall Champion at the Welsh Crabbet Show 2010 for the Flowers. This is one area of Crabbet breeding that seems to be safe for the moment.

Many of the Taqah and Kasadi descendants were exported and particularly to Australia. However Kasadi was to stay at Harwood for the whole of his life. He made a very significant contribution the the success of the stud, and his stock were eagerly sought for riding horses. Despite siring 93 foals, it's difficult to find Kasadi descendants of breeding age today, that are at least 75% Crabbet.

Red Cavaleir , a grandson of Taqah, out of Charmane, has some youngstock in Scotland, and is flying the flag for Taqah!

**Blue Rhapsody family**

The Hedleys had a lot of success in the show-ring with a series of full sisters by General Grant and out of Blue Rhapsody (Blue Domino – Roxelana). Rhapsody in Blue (1966), Blue Satin (1970), Blue Fashion (1971) and Blue Iris, were all champions. Blue Satin is notable for her son Golden Scimitar, a chestnut stallion who has two crosses to General Grant, close up and three crosses to Blue Domino. He was successful in the show ring at a time when imported bloodlines were becoming all the rage. Golden Scimitar was owned by the Hawkhurst Stud for a time but much of his stock out of their amazing collection of mares, went to France when they moved. Unfortunately, most of their horses were lost to breeding subsequently. Scyros (ex Silver Sirocco) has one daughter by Samian Gold (Golden Samurai – Indian Cascade) in France. Golden Scimitar returned to Briery Close and thankfully has some Crabbet related offspring of breeding age. Blue Iris produced the good fillies Pallida and Siberica by Manto. Siberica's daughter Nikkita by Mehzeer, has produced two good stallions, with Eisor Zigzak being one by Zibak.

**Silindra**

Stellata was a double Raktha chestnut mare (1969) ex Silindra, who was another of the Hedley's strong string of show horses. Her first foal Forna (by Fari II) was exported to Australia where she had 11 foals. Her full sister, Lindora (1970) had a daughter Roselinda, who bred two good fillies for Diane Ellis.

**The Kydds**

The Kydds had bred their own dynasty of horses based on Indian King crossed with Dancing Sunlight/Dancing Shadow – the dancing twins by Dargee. Andante, who was out of the former mare, was successful in the showring, and like her full sisters, nicked very well with General Grant. Her daughter Safina (1971) had Myah (by Militaire) who is the dam of the beautiful in-hand and ridden mare, Maiad (by Imad).

Full sister to Andante, Tarantella had Aria by General Grant in 1971. She was Reserve Junior Female Champion in 1973. Her son Militaire (by King Cotton Gold) was an excellent stallion who won the 3 year old colts in the Nations Cup at Ascot in 1980. Militaire produced the outstanding ridden stallion Mareschal (ex Charming Shadows). Mareschal sired some beautiful horses for Mrs Connor, including Mareesah, who was the dam of Aazari. Militaire was also the sire of Mitre, a very correct stallion who was exported to Saudi Arabia where he had 21 foals. Dancing Solitaire (ex Blue Spring) had Kosmos (by Aboud) and he has several Crabbet youngsters, of which Kariqa (ex Sariqa) and Raziqa (ex Zariqa), are Crabbet Class winners.

**General Gold**

General Gold was in General Grant's last foal crop and he was his outstanding son in the UK. He had an exceptional showing career and was Supreme Male Champion in 1979 at the Nationals. He was bred by Mrs Carline Murray from her very successful Golden Treasure, who won in-hand at the highest level. Once again the cross of General Grant on Blue Domino gave a superb result. General Gold had his sire's very correct conformation and great shoulder, and Golden Treasure's style. He had outstanding movement, which probably accounts for the performance success of many of his descendants. General Gold did what his sire struggled to do (in the UK at least) – to consistently produce top class stallions. General Gold's best known sons were; Golden Cavalier 1977 (ex Crystal Gold), Golden Samurai 1978 (ex Amaveda), Valiant Gold 1979 (ex Dreaming Gold), General Lee Gold 1980 (ex Leda), Golden Sunfire 1984 (ex Sunset), exported to the USA and Elegant Gold 1987 (ex Bright Marina).

Golden Cavalier was bred by Mrs Murray and bought by Mrs Cooke. He nicked extremely well with Mrs Cooke's mares, particularly those by Ahmoun and many of his descendants have gone on to excel in performance. Jane Kadri bred Golden Cavalier's most famous foal – the incredible Imad (ex Ivory Wings). Much has already been written about this wonderful stallion who had an outstanding performance career, as well as breeding many beautiful athletic horses. Diana Whittome had Imad from a foal and he has crossed extremely well with her female stock descended from Tarantella. Canto, a grey stallion by Imad ex Carillion, still stands at stud and has a beautiful daughter Silver Cantata (ex Silver Sheba). Daas, also bred by Jane Kadri, (ex Dancing Queen), is an impressive stallion who has some promising youngstock, including Ethaar, Overall Crabbet Champion at the Nationals last year. Maiad has already been mentioned and perfectly demonstrates the quality of Imad's offspring. Sorrento won the stallion class at the Welsh Crabbet last year and he is a horse that moves! Illuminate a beautiful grey mare ex Illarie, was Overall In'Hand Champion at the Welsh Crabbet Show in 2009. Festoon, Farfalla, Gemima, Silvern Surprise, Dhay, Illustre, Solero, Illaria, Autumn Dew, Sunlight's Imadge and Stormlite Royal are just some of the successful young horses with the blood of Imad.

Grecian Gilt (1977) was a chestnut mare by General Gold, from the illustrious Silver Gilt line mare, Golden Gilt. She has produced two excellent stallions, Mystic Gilt who sired 15 foals and the 100% Crabbet stallion Grecian Idyll (by Silvern Idyll). Grecian Idyll has a Crabbet daughter, Binley Silvern Gem (ex Lou Lou) doing well in endurance with the Hawes family and his grandson Marbon Mastarpiece, was Reserve Overall Champion at the Welsh Crabbet Show. His two foals from Silvern Princess are particularly notable, and Binley Golden Flame has already sired his first 100% Crabbet foal for Mrs Raikes in Scotland.

The only other source of General Gold blood in 100% Crabbet breeding is through Prince Iman (by Indian Idyll) who is a son of Princess Gaila. She was by General Gold out of Princess Alia. Again he inherits the god shoulder and has fabulous movement.

Golden Samurai (ex Amaveda) was another very successful stallion bred by the Hedleys from their exquisite mare Amaveda (Count Rapello-Samaveda), therefore having two lines to Samsie. He was Reserve Junior World Champion in 1981 and Reserve Senior Male Champion in 1983 in the Nations Cup at Ascot. He produced the outstanding stallions Golden Scimitar (Blue Satin) and World Champion Shogun (Fawziea). Shogun sired several good performance horses including Taragun (ex Taretta) featured in Crabbet Journal no.11 and CAS Kazurai (ex Kazminta). Briery Close still has a number of Golden Samurai's descendants and they have proved themselves when crossed with a variety of bloodlines.

General Lee Gold was a good performance horse, excelling at eventing, dressage and eventing in the ownership of Kate Fox. Although he only sired 14 foals, he has lines continuing through Red House Ziona (ex Zilati's Jewel), her best known descendants being Red House Zinderella (by Red House Faraoh) who was Reserve Overall Crabbet Champion at the Nationals in 2009.

Top prizewinner Sianah Gold, who was sired by Courthouse stallion St.Simon, bred the mare Dezert Rose, by General Gold. Dezert Rose produced Gold Seyal, a chestnut stallion of terrific movement, by another horse of Courthouse breeding, Spearmint. Gold Seyal was used by Tina Cooke, and he is the sire of Gold Elyse, the dam of Crabbet Champion Ethaar.

General Grant had long lasting influence on the breeding of Arabians both here and abroad. He proved an outstanding sire of broodmares, and later in life produced a once in lifetime son, who has made an incalculable contribution to the success of the Crabbet horse.