

## Carol Legg Trainer Breeder Profile

**By Paul Simmons**

### **Personal Statistics**

**Name:** Carol Legg

**Age:** 42

**Height:** 5 ft 3 in

**What other interests do you have:** Shopping, eating, sleeping and drinking, not necessary in that order

**Pets:** Cat called Scampy

**Occupation:** Company Director for small manufacturing company making designer pet beds and dog coats

**Favourite food:** Unfortunately all!

**Favourite TV program:** CSI, I can normally solve the case before Gill! And most medical dramas.

**Favourite film:** Titanic - I love a happy ending!?!

Carol Legg and her father Eric Legg have been consistent and successful owners/trainers and breeders of Arabian racehorses for the last 23 years through their Hillside Arabian Stud. As a family they have been involved in the sport for longer than any other and have achieved considerable success. One of their first horses to race was a the great race broodmare Autumn Dream (by Autumn Royal a son of Indian King (Oran) and out of Sengamina (a daughter of Sengoran (Oran). This wonderful line-bred Crabbet mare was only placed twice from some 30 odd races but she has proved to be an invaluable race broodmare. Every single one of her progeny to race has won and includes such luminaries as the incredibly charismatic Midnite Dream (by Dantist), a winner of numerous races from 6 f to 2 miles and now Intermediate Endurance, Dantes Dream (by Dantist) a multiple winner who famously beat her older brother over 2 miles at Stratford, Pavots Dreamboy (by Pavot Al Maury) a winner of 9 races and placed in Premier Handicaps, and Mystic Dream (by Abitibi) a winner of both the Gold and Silver Jebel Ali Finals. All these were bred and owned by Eric but trained by Carol, but French Lieutenant (by Dedja Des Forges) has won numerous races including the Jebel Ali Silver Final and was bred by Carol out of her adored mare Sihrea Crystal (by Crystal Magician ).

2003 was a special year for the Leggs as they finished the Arabian race season with Mystic Dream winning the highly valuable Jebel Ali Gold Final Handicap (Listed race) and French Lieutenant following up a race later with the Jebel Ali Silver Final. Mystic Dream won the Silver Final in 2004. These two gallant geldings have since turned their hooves to endurance with considerable success.

In 2007 Carol's team enjoyed enormous success, the highly accident prone gelding Mushammer (Passem Lotois x Kawzah Tiki) who was bought at the Ascot Arab Racehorse sale in 2003 for only £1,200 was crowned Champion Arab Race Horse after winning 4 races and being placed 4 times from 8 starts. Carol was also the very popular winner of the Arab Horse Society Small Owner/Trainer award for any trainer with four or less horses in training. Carol's team included Pavots Dreamboy, Golden Dream (Khairouan x Autumn Dream) and Fair Deed Dash (Dedja Des Forges x TFA Ashajan).

On the Endurance side, 2007 was also a great success. French Lieutenant won 80K National young riders at Cirencester with Liz Dodge and the 80K FEI ER at Red Dragon with Lorna Kidson. Whilst Mystic Dream won 80K ER at Berkshire Downs, 100 K ER at Cirencester and was 2nd to French Lieutenant at Red Dragon with Liz Dodge. They both had a 100% completion rate in 2007. Both horses are on the Adult Development squad, with the aim of getting selected to go to Sangatte France 18th April. Liz Dodge finished 3rd in the National Young Rider Championship this year and Mystic was the top owner bred Endurance horse in the country.

Whilst Autumn Dream has now retired the breeding operation is continuing through her daughter Dantes Dream who's first progeny is due to race this season Mayday Dream (2005 c. by Vert Olive) will be seen out mid summer. Waiting in the wings Carol & Eric have some superb youngsters from Dantes Dream including Terminators Dream (2006 c. by Bengali D'Albret) and Flying Dream (2007 f . by Bengali D'Albret), and Dantes Dream is due to the incredible Nizam in 2008, Nizam winning numerous Group 1 races in UK, Turkey and UAE inc. Group 1 Zaabeel Stakes and is of course a son of the incredible Amer. Carol & Eric are also looking forward to Midnite Dream's first crop of foals including out of their homebred mare (a half sister to super performance horse French Lieutenant) Madam Dynamite (2003 f by Frere Des Loups x Sihrea Crystal (by Crystal Magician).

**How long have you been involved in Arab racing?**

This season will be our 23<sup>rd</sup> consecutive season.

**How did you get involved in Arab Racing?**

We got involved in Arab racing purely by chance. Our family had always loved racing and had a few running over jumps, but we went to an Arab horse sale in 1984, (which were in those days held at Newbury) to buy a Anglo Arab to replace my AA pony who had done us proud around the local show jumping and Hunter trails. We picked out and purchased the 5 year old Trembleath Dawn Breaker by the show horse Celtic Ballad. As we were standing around the ring a small chestnut Arab colt was being lead around and being described as "suitable for Arab Racing". Dad said "what's Arab racing?" Not an idea was my reply; we purchased the Arab Sharir by Crystal prince for the princely sum of 210 Guineas. The next day I was on the phone to the Arab Horses Society to find out what this Arab horses racing was all about.

**Who was your first runner? (where & when?)**

Trembleath Dawnbreaker, never did jump a fence in competition, he was in fact our first runner at Larkhill in May 1985, finishing fourth. He then went on that season to be our first winner at Taunton, winning by a head with myself riding and Dad training.

**When did you start breeding Arab racehorses?**

In 1992 we put both our mares to Ahmoun.

**Who is the best race stallion you've used on a mare?**

That would have to be Nizam, who Dante's Dream is due to this year.

**Who is the best racehorse you have bred?**

The best Racehorse we have produced would have to be Pavots Dreamboy the winner of 9 races plus 35 places, including 5 seconds in premier handicaps, Pav has won in excess of £12,500, winning from 6-10 Furlongs. By the Zaabel International Group 1 winner Pavot Al Maury, out of our amazing brood mare Autumn Dream.

**What is your biggest win as an Arab race trainer?**

That would have to be Mystic dream winning the Jebel Ali Gold final in 2003, closely followed by French Lieutenant winning the silver final 30 minutes later.

**What has been your best season racing?**

That would have to be 2003, when I had 7 winners all homebred and finished fourth overall in the trainer's championship. Closely followed by the 2007 season winning the champion pure bred and small owners and trainers Trophy's was amazing!

**What is the difference between training racehorses and endurance horses?**

I basically train them the same, with the Endurance horses just doing more, if the Racehorses canter 3 times the endurance horses go up 5 times. I am very lucky with where we are positioned and have some wonderful hills for trotting and canter work, which take's the strain off there legs. I also believe all horses should be treated as individuals and there work schedule tailored to there own needs.

**Which sport do you prefer?**

Can't answer that one! I love them both!

**What do you enjoy most about Arab Racing?**

I think it that it gives normal working people like myself the opportunity to bred and train racehorses and be involved in the sport of Kings.

**What is your main aim for 2008?** In racing that would be winning that all elusive Premier Handicap and endurance would have to be completing our first 100 mile race ride with either Frenchie or Mystic (or both!).

**Who are you planning to race in 2008?**

Pavots Dreamboy  
Golden Dream (the last foal of Autumn Dream)  
Mushammer  
Mayday Dream (Vert Olive x Dantes Dream)  
Fair Deed Dash (unless sold)

Carol's horses can be viewed on her website complete with sound effects (!!!) on [www.arabianracehorses.co.uk](http://www.arabianracehorses.co.uk)