



# TRAKEHNNERS UK

## Trakehner UK 2012 Junior Bursary Winner

My name is Amy Furness, I am 19 years of age and a student at the Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester studying Equine Management. My horse, Landmark Abacus, is a 16.3, 7 year old Trakehner x Thoroughbred.



We are currently eventing at Novice level and are working towards our first CCI\* at Hartpury in August and then looking to make the transition up to Intermediate level before the end of the season.



I have owned Baby (Landmark Abacus' stable name) since a 3 year old and he has not been the easiest horse throughout our eventing career, experiencing more downs than ups in the dressage phase. He has a lovely nature and is always trying his hardest to please but his weak frame and excitable attitude usually meant our dressage scores were the worst on the score board. However, during our eventing season in 2011, he injured himself and ruptured his tendon sheath resulting in a 7 month break.



Since then Baby has returned to work with a better attitude, a stronger frame and is overall a more grown up horse. This has improved our dressage scores incredibly and made our 2012 eventing season much more enjoyable. Our best dressage score at Novice level is 32 and after watching the video of this test I can see that there are still so many ways in which we can improve which is rather exciting! The show jumping phase has always been slightly tricky due to his enthusiasm for jumping; meaning that sometimes he can be careless over jumps that he doesn't have to think about (less than 1.20m in height) however the cross country has always been his forte as he has gone clear every single time without fail since our eventing career began. Baby has so much scope and potential and I love competing him and working towards new goals however as a combination we need much more coaching and direction to enable us to reach our full potential! I believe that because Baby is finding the jumping phases at Novice level easy, the step up to intermediate level and ultimately to advanced will not be too much of a challenge and I feel with a little more training we will have many great successes in the future at the higher levels.

Our best results to date have been at the beginning of this eventing season where at Belton Park, all three disciplines went well on the day and we ended up in 3rd place! I was also proud of our result at the following event at Weston Park where even though our

dressage was the worst on the scoreboard; We were the only ones to finish on our dressage score meaning we came 6th. Unfortunately after this all of our other events have been abandoned due to bad weather but our next event will be Hartpury which we are very much looking forward to!

To be considered for the bursary would be an amazing opportunity and the money would help massively towards costs of training and entry fees in order to give Baby and I the best chance in our eventing career and help to give Trakehners the recognition they deserve as outstanding competition horses. Since owning Baby, I have decided that in the future I will no doubt be investing in other Trakehners to produce and compete – They are undoubtedly the best breed I have come across yet!

Here is a link to our eventing record:

<http://www.britisheventing.com/asp-net/Events/Results.aspx?HorseId=88614>