

Manyrivers can make a big splash

THE jumps season is just building up, but even at this early stage things are starting to take shape.

In this column we will look at horses worthy of consideration this winter, some of which have already run but also 'dark horses' that have been highlighted to me on the grapevine and will prove profitable to follow.

Last weekend saw a pair of horses worth keeping on the right side even though they failed to finish their respective races.

On Sunday, Alan King ran debutant **MILLE CHIEF** in a modest novice hurdle at Market Rasen. He was brought down two out, but has already been touted as a Triumph Hurdle prospect after being purchased from the same stable in France as Walkon.

The King stable had no luck with Mille Chief, but their smart Flat performer **MANYRIVERSTOCROSS** won well on his jumping debut at Chepstow recently.

THE PROFESSIONALS' GRAPEVINE

With **Matthew Thole**



This was an average little race, but he could not have done the job easier and will now take a sharp rise in class. He is rated one to follow.

The Tom Mullins-trained **OSCAR DAN DAN** fell in a €40,000 hurdle at Navan on Sunday. He will now be rested and can be backed when reappearing over the Christmas period.

Trainer Nicky Henderson ran a lovely new recruit called **ZARINSKI** at Sandown last Saturday.

Ex-John Oxx, although well fancied he was deemed to just need a run and finished a good second. He will improve considerably and given good ground conditions he should be winning soon. Other Henderson inmates worth

noting are the exciting **QUANTITATIVEEASING** who has already won a bumper race at Punchestown. This JP McManus-owned Anshan gelding seems to have it all – a great attitude, pace and a real touch of class.

He really is a horse to follow and could be one to end up at the festivals in the spring. Henderson's new French recruit **RADIUM** has settled in since winning a good quality hurdle race at Auteuil in the summer. He is another relatively dark horse that should be high on your list of interest.

Two real dark ones for you are Peter Bowen's **ROYAL SCOUNDREL** who has not been seen in action in public



Manyriverstocross, top, impressed on his fencing bow at Chepstow

since August 2008. The five-year-old won a Newton Abbot novice hurdle in good style, but then suffered training problems. Make no mistake, when he reappears he is definitely one to watch out for.

Gold Cup-winning trainer Noel Chance has another possible stable star and again he could pop up at a good price within the next few weeks.

His eight-year-old **AUX LE BAHNN** won a few softish races over hurdles last season. But held in enough regard to hold Cheltenham and Aintree Festival entries, he has been kept fresh and

schooled extensively over fences in Lambourn. He is very well thought of and could be the one to put his talented trainer back in the headlines.

Before I go, I must highlight the decision to send high-class Flat horse **CESARE** on a winter hurdling campaign, many people will not agree or at least be surprised with James Fanshawe's decision.

But let's not forget the stable's previous hurdling star Royal Gait came into the winter sport with a very similar profile and was actually the same age. It's a big ask but 33-1 for the Champion

Hurdle could look massive if he takes to the game as he has class to burn.

**Professionals' Grapevine:
Horses to note:
Saturday 14 November**

**MILLE CHIEF
MANYRIVERSTOCROSS
OSCAR DAN DAN
ZARINSKI
RADIUM
ROYAL SCOUNDREL
AUX LE BAHNN
CESARE**

Next week I will have a dozen horses to note that are guaranteed to make you money this winter.