

Liz's List

No. 109 October 2020



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Liz's List is issued six times a year by Chris Rudd. Subscription: £10 UK, £15 Europe or £20 Rest of World. Reference books: **ABC:** Cottam, de Jersey, Rudd & Sills *Ancient British Coins* £75, **LT:** La Tour *Atlas des monnaies gauloises* £18, **VA:** Van Arsdell *Celtic Coinage of Britain*, **BMC:** Hobbs *British Iron Age Coins in the British Museum*; **DK:** Sills *Divided Kingdoms* £95; **S:** *Coins of England* £30 all plus postage. **B:** Burgos; **C:** Calico; **VB:** Villaronga & Benages. Rarity of Gaulish coins based on Depeyrot estimates. Rarity of British coins based on numbers recorded by the Celtic Coin Index: **RRRR** excessively rare 1-5 recorded, **RRR** extremely rare 6-15, **RR** very rare 16-30, **R** rare 31-50, **S** scarce 51-100. Remember, most coin finds are unreported, so these figures are only a *rough guide* to rarity. All coins shown actual size unless otherwise stated. Pink tint indicates coins of special note. **Abbreviations:** AV gold, AR silver, AE bronze, F fine, VF very fine, EF extremely fine. g. grams, l. left. r. right. **Currency guide:** £10 = 11 euros, 12 US\$. Any questions? Please ask me. I'm here to help you.

Cunobelin plays games with Augustan imagery



Augustan roof tile with two dolphins celebrating naval victory



1
enlarged



Augustan silver denarius with sacrificial tripod

1. Cunobelinus Cricket. Catuvellauni & Trinovantes. c.AD8-41. AR unit. 13mm. 1.23g. CVNO between two lines, crescent either end, cornucopia above, two dolphins below, beaded border./ Figure standing with back to us, holding 'bat' in r. hand, sacrificial tripod of three 'cricket stumps', CA to l, M[V] to r, beaded border. ABC 2900, VA 2065, BMC 1889-90, S 318. PAS: SF-6FE3A5 (**this coin**). Nr EF, almost as minted, lightly toned, sharp strike, bold inscription. One of the best we've had. A magnificent example of an iconographically significant silver coin.

Found Pebmarsh, Essex, August 2018. **RRR** only 12 others recorded, inc. two in the British Museum. **£900**

Cunobelin's later coins reflected his admiration for Augustus, hence the horn of plenty, dolphins and sacrifice on this superb silver coin. Dr John Creighton believes that the obverse and reverse designs both reflect the post-Actium propaganda imagery of Augustus (note dolphins) and that Cunobelin may have been influenced by such symbolism if he had been in the court of Augustus as a youth (*Coins and Power in Late Iron Age Britain*, 2000, 204). This specimen from Essex shows the sacrificial scene with great clarity – an important point with this extremely rare type because two of the known examples have been broken in half.



2



3
enlarged



2. Duck on Water/Bird on Horse. Ambiani. c.60-40 BC. AE unit. 13mm. 2.29g. Duck l./ Horse r. DT 430, BMC III S 22, Sch/GB fig. 432. Nr VF, big duck, dark patina. Ex Tony Carter collection. **RRRR** **£50**

3. Ogmios and Boar. Anchor Nose Type with Chin Whorl and Seahorse. c.57-56 BC. AR stater. 18-21mm. 6.28g. Head of Armorican sun-god r, with three rolls of hair, semi-

circular eye and phallic anchor-nose./ Horse r, with wedge-shaped seahorse head, charioteer's long-nosed head above, small boar right below. ABC 55, LT J 28 var, Rybot 77-82, Colbert de Beaulieu class III, de Jersey class 5, Hooker series Y, AN 220, DN 153, S 16. Gd VF, bright AR, with powerful head and splendid horse. Ex B Laurence coll, ex DNW sale, 8 September 1999, lot 87, ex Quebec coll, ex Davison, May 1976, ex B A Seaby. A bold specimen with a good long pedigree. **£450** This coin was probably minted to fund the Armorican fight against Julius Caesar. You can see a square battle-standard on a long cord in front of the horse, held by the charioteer, whose stylised head can be seen above the horse's rump.

IMPORTED Gaulish coins found in England.

4. Gallic War Uniface. Jumbled Exergue. Sills type 4.

All coins **GUARANTEED GENUINE**
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Ambiani. c.56-55 BC. AV stater. 16-18mm. 5.88g. Almost blank./ M-shaped horse r, charioteer's arms above, large pellet below. ABC 16 var., VA 52, DK 9, S 11. *Gd VF, golden gold, well centred horse. Fd. Puckeridge, Herts.* **£575**
Struck to pay troops to fight Caesar. See *The Searcher*, April 2020, p.67 (this coin).

CANTIACI Kent, cap. Durovernum (Canterbury).

5. Thurrock. c.120-100 BC. Bronze unit. 17mm. 2.40g. Head of Apollo l./ Bull butting r. ABC 120 var., VA 1406, BMC 660-66, S 62. *VF, bold head and bull.* **£120**

6. Nipples. Crude Outline Head Right. c.50-40 BC. Cast potin. Holman Group G. 14mm. 0.97g. Round linear head r, with big central nipple./ Matchstick bull with central nipple. ABC 174, VA 135, BMC 721, Holman G2/6-1a, S 64. *Gd VF, shiny black patina, bold nipples.* **£95**

7. Canterbury Lion. c.40-20 BC. AE half unit. 12mm. 1.51g. Head r, corded hair./ Lion l, with S-shape tail, ring above, pellet and ringed-pellet below. ABC 291, VA 154-9, BMC 2488, S 176. *Good VF, deep-brown patina, superb wild-haired Celtic head, bold bounding lion.* **RR £275**

BELGAE Solent area, inc. Danebury and Chichester.

8. Chute Dotty with Mane. Sills class 1b, dies 3/50. c.54-53BC. AV stater. 17mm. 6.04g. Wreath pattern with downward facing leaves and fishlike hairlocks./ Disjointed horse l, short lines under neck, shrimp, blobs and dots above, 'coffee bean' behind with beaded V, disjointed crab below. ABC-, VA 1205-7, 1205-9, BMC 50, 51, 76, DK 303 var., S-. *Gd VF, sharp strike in yellow gold, beautifully ornamented with key features all displayed.* **£800**

This is a very rare, little recognised type. The short diagonal lines under the horse's neck may be a misplaced mane. The dotted V makes the 'coffee bean' look like a seagull's head though this may not be intentional and may simply indicate a change of die cutter (see VA, p.290, and DK, p.270). Only the fourth we've had, first was in 1993, last in 2009. Who knows when the next will turn up?

9. Winchester Sun and Moons. c.55-45 BC. AV plated quarter stater. 10mm. 0.49g. Central beaded ring surrounded by crescents and rings./ Horse l, beaded mane, spoked wheel below. Contemporary forgery of ABC 800, VA-, BMC-, DK 277, S-. *VF, most of gold plating intact. Unrecorded and unpublished like this, first we've seen, first offered for public sale. Fd. near Andover, Hants.*

RRRR type, UNIQUE as contemporary forgery £350

Where else can you purchase an absolutely unique, previously unknown gold plated Celtic quarter stater for under £500? Only *Liz's List* regularly offers you remarkable Celtic rarities like this at such amazingly low fixed prices. First come, first served.

10. Danebury Sunrays. c.50-30 BC. AR unit. 11mm. 0.60g. Head r, corded lines for hair./ Annulate horse r, spoked wheel below. ABC 866, VA 280, BMC 595-601, S 56. *Fine/VF, tiny chips, lightly toned silver, clear wheel. Fd. near Appleshaw, Hants.* **RR £65**

REGINI and ATREBATES in alliance.

11. Commios Ladder Head. Lazy E Type. c.50-25 BC. AR unit. 12mm. 1.12g. Moon head with ladder hair, lentoid eye, hidden face in front./ Horse left, EI monogram above, uncertain S-shape animal below. ABC 1040, VA 355-3, BMC 735-57, S 69. *EF, virtually as minted, virginal condition, bright unblemished silver, freshly cut dies, boldly hammered. Fabulous hidden face fully displayed.* **£400**

Is the ithyphallic face flying out of the mouth of the moon-faced god in an act of divine creation? Or is it entering the mouth in fellatio? As always, ambiguity is a key part of Celtic art. The EI monogram probably stands for Eisu, who may have been Commios's father.



12. Tincomarus Bull Right. c.25BC-AD10. AR unit. 10-12mm. 1.19g. Laureate head right./ Bull right, head facing, TIN above, C[O] below. ABC 1115, VA 381-1, BMC 911-21, S 85. *Good VF, lightly toned silver, good head, bold bull.* **R £250**

The Roman influence on the imagery and style is unmissable.

13. Verica Smiley. c.AD10-40. Silver unit. 10mm. 0.80g. COM F, crescent and two ringed-pellets above and below forming hidden faces./ Boar right, star above, VIR[I] in exergue. ABC 1220, VA 470-1, BMC 1241-78, S 131. *Good VF, toned silver, bold boar and star. Ex J D D Brown collection.* **£200**

14. Verica Tiberius. c.AD10-40. AR unit. 11-13mm. 1.15g. Naked augur standing facing, holding lituus, traces of COMMIF, beaded border. / Tiberian-type laureate bust right, [VERICA] around. ABC 1250, VA 533, BMC 1421-49, S 136. *Slightly ragged flan otherwise VF, bright silver, bold naked figure. Ex J D D Brown coll.* **£150**

Prof. John Creighton thinks the naked figure could be a statue from Commios cult temple on Hayling Island.

ICENI Norfolk, N Suffolk, NE Cambs.

15. Freckenham Crescents. Ring and Star Type. Talbot die-group L/12. c.30-10 BC. AV stater. 16mm. 5.18g. Back-to-back crescents, row of pellets projecting from each side, pellet triad above and below, V-shape on side above and below./ Annular horse r, with beaded mane, beaded ring above, star below, exergual line with short downward-dashes.



ABC 1447, VA 620-7, BMC 3388, S 426. *VF/Gd VF, rich rose-gold, sharp star. RR die pair, only 24 others recorded. £950*
 In *Made for Trade* (2017) Dr John Talbot says that the back-to-back crescent motif "became widespread on Icenian coinage. Motifs such as this could result from political imposition or be a sign of political allegiance." The Icenii may have been subservient to the Catuvellauni, whose back-to-back crescents they adopted, since c.40-30 BC (or earlier).

16. Punk Head. Talbot Large Flan C, dies E/4. c.50-30 BC. AR unit. 14mm. 1.07g. Male head r, with large eye and herringbone hair./ Horse right, double upper front legs, large beaded ring and ringed-pellet above, ringed-pellet in front. ABC 1525 var., VA-, BMC-, S 433. *Gd VF, large flan, lightly toned silver. Ex D Jenkins coll. RR die pair, only 22 others recorded. £225*

17. Norfolk Boar Phallic. Talbot dies U/44. c.AD10-25. AR unit. 13mm. 0.94g. Stylised boar r, long bristles, pellet daisy above./ Horse r, four-spoked wheel above, phallic motif below, pellets around. ABC 1582, VA 659, BMC 3473-511, S 431. *Good VF, toned silver, bold horse, full phallic symbol. Found Eccles, Norfolk. RR die pair, only 9 others recorded. £125*

18. Ecen Six. c.AD25-43. AR unit. 12mm. 0.74g. Double moon emblem./ Horse r, head facing, six pellets on shoulder, pellet 'daisy' above, ECE below. ABC 1663, VA 762, BMC 4445-513, S 445. *VF/Gd VF, lightly toned silver, full ECE. Ex G Wentworth coll. £175*

19. Ecen Mini Stick Horse. Talbot dies D/19. c.AD25-43. AR half unit. 10mm. 0.49g. Back-to-back crescents, triangle of pellets above and below./ Globular horse r, beaded mane. ABC 1693, VA 683, 744, BMC 3781-84, S 438. *Gd VF, lightly toned silver, bold horse. Ex G Wentworth coll. RRR die pair, only 8 others recorded. £185*

CORIELTAUVI E Midlands, from Humber to Welland.

20. Domino. c.45-10 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 4.73g. Traces of wreath motif./ Lunate horse left, triangular head, 'domino' box above, four-armed spiral below. ABC 1758, VA 829-1, BMC 3185-86, S 393. *VF, slightly grainy surfaces, rose gold, clear domino and spiral. R £600*

21. Wishbone Proto Boar. Rich Type 3a. c.55-45 BC. AR unit. 13-15mm. 1.15g. Boar r, large double-beaded ringed-pellet above, beaded border./ Horse l, s-shape mane, three ringed-pellets around, large beaded ringed-pellet above. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, S-. CCI 09.3002 (*this coin*). *VF, bright silver, full horse. Ex M Probert coll. Fd. Lincs. RRRR only five examples recorded, unlisted by all major catalogues. £350*

DUROTRIGES Wessex, cap. Durnovaria (Dorchester).

22. Cranborne Chase. c.58-40 BC. Base AR stater. 18mm. 4.48g. Wreath motif./ Triple-tailed horse l, pellets above, 'coffee-bean' behind. ABC 2169, VA 1235-1, BMC 2555-636, S 367. *Gd VF, bright silver, clear tail lines. £175*

23. Duro Thunderbolt. c.20BC-AD20. AR quarter stater. 11-13mm. 0.43g. Virtually blank./ Central thunderbolt, clamshell motif. ABC 2217, VA-, BMC 2771-79, S 368. *VF, clear clamshell. Fd. Hampshire. £35*

CATUVELLAUNI north Thames, cap. Verlamion (St. Albans).

24. Tasciovanos Ver. c.25BC-AD10. AR unit. 14mm. 1.39g. Traces of VER on plain field, beaded border./ Horse r, TAS below, CI in front, A above. ABC 2622, VA 1699, BMC 1670-73, S 233. CCI 93.0075 (*this coin*). *Fine/VF, scratched obverse, good horse. Ex Bridgewater coll. Fd. Suffolk, c. Jan. 1994. RR £125*

25. Tasciovanos Old Goat. c.25BC-AD10. AE unit. 14mm. 2.19g. Bearded head l, [CAMLV ?] in front./ Goat l, solar daisy above, ringed-pellet below. ABC 2670, VA-, BMC-, S-. *Fair/VF, dark green patina, clear goat. A great rarity at an ridiculously low price. Fd. Suffolk. RRRR only 4 others recorded, first we've had. £300*

Referring to Tasciovanos' CAMVL gold coins Dr John Sills says: "The CAMVL legend may represent Tasciovanos laying formal claim to a place he did not occupy but equally may be a reference to his temporary seizure of the Trinovantian capital" (*DK*, p.555).

26. Rues Bearded. c.AD1-10. AE unit. 14mm. 1.69g. Bearded head r, [R]VII in front./ Warrior on horse r, R below, VIR in front. ABC 2754, VA 1892, BMC 1698-1701, S 272. *Nr EF, glossy green patina, sharp head, bold horse. One of the finest we've had. Fd. Baldock, Herts. R £500*
 Like the occasional bronze coin of Tasciovanos, the head on this Rues unit works well facing left too. An intentional double take? Maybe.

One of the finest we've had



26
enlarged



27
enlarged



28



29
enlarged



30



31
enlarged

CATUVELLAUNI & TRINOVANTES united by Cunobelinus.

27. Cunobelinus Wild B. Sills class 5. c.AD8-41. AV stater. 16-19mm. 5.26g. Ear of barley between CAMV./ Wild-type horse prancing right, spiky mane, angled foreleg, branch above, C[VN] and ringed-pellet below, beaded border. ABC 2783, VA 1933, BMC 1804-08, DK 561, S 283. *Gd VF, rose gold, bonny barley.* **R £900**

This well-whiskered ear of barley symbolises the sun-blessed fecundity and prosperity of *Camulodunon* and its virile king, Cunobelinus, 'hound of Belenus' the sun-god. It's also a clever conversion and re-presentation of Apollo's laurel wreath and Dubnovellaunos's wreath-band. More realistic, more natural and more regally meaningful.

28. Cunobelinus Cunobelini. c.AD8-41. AE unit. 15mm. 2.62g. CVNO[B]ELINI in two panels, ringed-pellet above and below./ Seated Victory l. ABC 2918, VA 1971, BMC 1921-27, S 324. CCI 03.0609 (**this coin**). *Gd F, bold Victory. Great provenance. Ex D Lee coll, ex J W Barratt coll, ex C King coll.* **£125**

29. Cunobelinus Bull Sacrifice. c.AD8-41. AE unit. 12mm. 1.58g. Pegasus r, [CV] NO./ Victory stabbing bull r, four rivulets of blood gushing from its neck, TASCI below. ABC 2972, VA 2099, BMC 1913-19, S 343. CCI 18.1453 (**this coin**). *Gd VF, good detail, bold TASCI, great hard green patina, smooth surfaces. Ex D Lee coll, ex A Clarke coll.* **£185**

A great portrayal of a bloody and barbaric bull-sacrifice, another piece of Augustan imagery (see No.1).

Barbarous Radiates

When the Gallic Empire ended in AD 274, so did Britain's supply of small change. So, over the next decade, British moneymakers made their own small bronze coins – millions of them, says Dr Sam Moorhead – known today as 'radiates' from their radiate sun-crowns.

30. Barbarous Imitation. Late 3rd century AD. AE unit. 13-16mm. 1.90g. Imitating Claudius II, Gothicus, AD 268-270. Radiate bust r./ Radiate figure standing with globe and long sceptre. *VF, great head. Fd. Northants.* **£35**

31. Barbarous Imitation. 3rd/4th century AD. AE minim.

8mm. 0.55g. Imitating Gallic usurper. Radiate bust r./ Two objects. *Gd VF, great head. Fd. Northants.* **£35**

CHEAPO-CHEAPO! all low grade, none over £50.

32. Bald Head. Leuci. c.80-50 BC. Potin. 17mm. 4.22g. Bald head l./ Boar l. LT-, BMC 426-432. *VF, greeny-grey glossy patina.* **£40**

33. Addedomarus Corded. Catuvellauni. c.45-25BC. AE unit. 10-14mm. 0.61g. Head l, corded hair./ Horse l. ABC 2544. *1/3 missing, otherwise VF, clear face and hair.* **£20**

34. Tasciovanos Mega Pegasus. Catuvellauni. c.25BC-AD10. AE unit. 16mm. 2.95g. Head r, traces of TASCIA[VA]./ Pegasus stepping l. ABC 2652. *VF, pegasus bold. Fd. Haversham.* **RR £50**

35. Cunobelinus Sow. Catuvellauni & Trinovantes. c.AD 8-41. AE unit. 14-16mm. 1.72g. Helmeted head r, [CVNOBELINVS]./ Sow r, [TASCIOVANI]. ABC 2960. *VF, light green patina.* **R £25**

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as best I can

and give you

good value.

Elizabeth Cotton

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