

Liz's List

No. 130 April 2024



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Liz's List is issued six times a year by Chris Rudd. Subscription: £15 UK, £20 Rest of World. Reference books: **ABC**: Cottam, de Jersey, Rudd & Sills *Ancient British Coins* £75, **LT**: La Tour *Atlas des monnaies gauloises*, **VA**: Van Arsdell *Celtic Coinage of Britain*, **BMC**: Hobbs *British Iron Age Coins in the British Museum*; **COI**: *Coins of the Iceni* £20, **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.



John Follows

Nos. 13 and 20 are from the
John Follows collection



Berkshire Coat of Arms

Nos. 10, 14, 19, 25, 28, 29 and 30
are from the *Royal Berkshire collection*



1. Cheriton Smiler. Eyelash Type. Sills class 2b, Cheriton Axehead. Belgae. c.55-45 BC. AV stater. 18mm. 4.68g. Horizontal wreath motif with outward facing leaves, three parallel cabled lines, crescents with radiating lines below./ Disjointed horse l, with elongated neck, blobs around, crab below. ABC-, VA-, BMC 86-87, DK 314, S-. VF, brassy gold,

well ornamented horse. Ex T Davey coll., bt. CR (1996). Found Butser Hill, near Petersfield, Hants., Sept/Oct 1994. **R £650** Dr Philip de Jersey says: 'Cheriton staters were struck from a fairly small number of dies, probably about ten each for obverse and reverse. Over time individual dies become easier to recognise, thanks to little flaws and quirks of the design.'



2. Dubnovellaunos V-Sign. Trinovantes. c.5 BC-AD 10. AR unit. 13mm. 0.85g. Head r, phallic nose, three large crescents for hair, beaded border./ Annulate horse l, beaded mane, corded pole protruding from back, [D]VNO above, flower below. ABC 2398, VA 1663, BMC-, S-. VF/Gd VF, lightly toned AR, neat horse, clear phallic nose, well ornamented reverse. **RR only 18 others recorded £650**

Dubnovellaunos had a long-serving diecutter in Essex, with a simple, consistent graphic style, and whose literacy steadily develops over time, as he sounded out the king's long name in the Roman alphabet whose phonetics never really suited the Celtic languages. We seldom see a silver unit's lettering as clearly this (he got his N the right way round this time, writing backwards as he had to on the die), and we know from another example struck from this same die that he was still spelling *-vallaunos* with an *-A-* in the local pronunciation. This

dates it early in the king's tenure in Essex; the scribe then switched to a standard Romano-Gaulish spelling with E [see Sills *DK* p. 588 for details]. Dubnovellaunos' abundant silver units (this obverse die was worked until it split) match the simple style and format of his gold (ABC 2389), all of which stress his responsibility, as sacral king, for his people's wellbeing and the fertility of their lands and livestock. This shows on the units as solar imagery on both dies in the form of a bright flower, and the three-branched sacred emblem above the mare made to suggest a flowering plant or someone saluting the Sun (cf. arrangement on the half unit, ABC 2401, where the mare even turns to face it). And then there is that enigmatic obverse. We see a realistic portrait on a bronze unit (ABC 2404, by which time our scribe was using the II form of E), and it seems Dubnovellaunos actually had rather a large nose. Are we to meant to picture the king himself in the face of that potent deity who made the meadows bloom in summer so that they could fill their ships with produce for export to Gaul?



CORIOSOLITES NE Brittany (Corseul, St. Brieuç, Dinan).

3. Ogmios and V-Boar. Whisky Face with Racquet and Double Beaded Tail. De Jersey class 2. c.60-56 BC. AR stater. 19mm. 6.42g. Head of Armorican sun-god r, three large rolls of hair, almond eye./ Horse r, double-stranded tail, 4 pellets in front, V-form boar below. LT 6598, Rybot 32, group II, Hooker 90. *Good VF, bright silver. Ex JDD Brown coll.* **£250**

To learn more get *War Coins of the Sun Warriors*, Chris Rudd 2018, only £15 + p&p, or *Celtic Improvisations* by John Hooker, £29 + p&p.

IMPORTED Gaulish coins found in England.

4. Marine Monster Left. Ambiani. c.60-50 BC. AE unit. 12-14mm. 1.75g. S-shaped serpent./ Horse facing left, vertical limbless horse (?serpent) above. LT 8497 var., Scheers/GB fig. 420 var., DT 429 var. *Good very fine, emerald green patina, superb serpent. Ex J Fay coll. Fd. Leaden Roding, Essex. RR type, possibly UNIQUE? this variant £350* Like the Wolves and Boars bronze unit (*Chris Rudd List 73*, no.10 and front cover), this coin which looks Belgic may have been made in Britain. It seems to have provided the inspiration for a North Thames bronze (ABC 2318) which bears a remarkably similar serpent. Scheers has described this curious reverse creature as a duck, while L.-P. Delestrée prefers to call it a limbless horse. These attempts to describe the indescribable are not necessarily mutually exclusive, and it's possible that to the Ambiani too it could be duck, a serpent and a horse. It could actually be an Insular coin on an Ambiani model, struck over here by people recruiting or trading or fleeing for their lives. Hence the reversed image: different mint? Only more examples will tell us.

5. Boat Tree. Plain Field Type. Sills Gallo-Belgic D, fig. 2a. Morini. c.57-56 BC. AV quarter stater. 11mm. 1.43g. Stylised boat./ Tree motif, zigzag line, crescent and heart below. ABC-, LT-, DT-, VA-, DK 24, S 10. PAS: PUBLIC-6EC836 (**this coin**). *Near EF, golden gold, bold strike. Found Wrestlingworth, Beds, 7.9.2017. £400*

The Plain Field Type refers to the lack of wedges either side of the tree symbol. See J.Sills, Identifying 'boat type' quarter staters, *Chris Rudd List 90*, 2006, p.2-5 and *Divided Kingdoms*, p.14-15.

CANTIACI Kent, cap. Durovernum (Canterbury).

6. Rounded Bull. Holman E3/4-1a. c.85-70 BC. Cast potin unit. 17mm. 1.32g. Linear head r./ Rounded bull r, tail raised. ABC 165, VA-, BMC-, S-. *VF, pewter patina, great 'Picasso' head. RRRR type £175*

REGINI West Sussex.

7. Bognor Cogwheel. Mane, Two Arcs Type. Sills British Qc Cog type, class 1a, dies 3/10. c.55-45 BC. AV quarter stater. 11-13mm. 1.42g. Wreath design with hidden face and serpent./ Horse right with beaded mane,

ringed-pellet protruding from chest, floral sun above, cogwheel below. ABC 509, VA 228, BMC 510, 512-14, DK 161, S 48. CCI 97.1061 (**this coin**). *Gd VF, golden gold, whole horse, full cogwheel. Ex J Urban coll., bt. CR (1997). Fd. near Eastbourne, East Sussex, Aug. 1996.*

RRR only 9 others this pair of dies. **£550**

Published in *Divided Kingdoms* p.147 & 168 (**this coin**).

BELGAE Solent area, inc. Danebury and Chichester.

8. Chute. Sills class 1b, dies 2/39. c.54-53 BC. AV stater. 16-18mm. 5.80g. Wreath pattern./ Disjointed triple-tailed horse l, shrimp and large blobs above, disjointed crab below, 'bird's head' behind with pellet in beak, exergual zigzag and pellet decoration. ABC 746, VA 1205, BMC 35-76, DK 302, S 22.). *VF/Gd VF, yellow gold, terrific triple tails, full crab and shrimp, clear bird's head. Ex Wessex coll.*

RR only 19 others this pair of dies. **£750**

The radiant coffee bean motif behind the horse's back legs with long beak-like lines is decidedly bird-like, especially with the pellet 'seed' in it's beak.



Bird's head

REGINI and ATREBATES in alliance.

9. Commios Concave Square. c.50-25 BC. AR minim. 8mm. 0.24g. Concave sided square, cogwheel in centre, ringed-pellets in angles./ Horse l, wheel above and below. ABC 1046, VA 482, BMC 654-56, S 59. *Gd VF, silvery silver, bold horse. Fd. Salisbury, Wilts., Aug. 2022. RR £400* We usually call the ornament at the centre of the square a ringed-pellet but on this example you can clearly see it is a cogwheel. A charming miniature masterpiece.

10. Tincomarus Cernunnos. c.25 BC-AD 10. AR unit. 12mm. 1.29g. Facing horned head./ Bull l, head facing, TIN above, C below. ABC 1109, VA 370, BMC 926-29, S 83. CCI 12.0713 (**this coin**). *VF, lightly toned silver, sharp Cernunnos, clear horns. Ex Royal Berkshire coll., bt. CR (2009).* **RR £450**

The facing Medusa head was copied from a Roman Republican denarius of L.Plantius Plancus, struck in Rome 47 BC (Sear *RVC* 429). The British engraver has made two of Medusa's hair-locks look more like a pair of horns, presumably intentionally.

11. Eppillus Calleva Daisy. Sills class 3b, Calleva Plain. c.20BC-AD1. AV quarter stater. 9mm. 1.18g. [C]ALLEV, star below, beaded border./ Dog running r, [EPP]I above. ABC 1148, VA 407, BMC 986-1001, DK 357, S 96. *VF, super rose gold, bouncy dog.* **S £650**

Calleva means 'in the woods'. Did Eppillus, king of *Calleva*, go deer-hunting in its woods? Maybe that's why there's a running dog on this scarce gold coin. This is the only Silchester-minted gold coin of Eppillus known to have been discovered in Cantian territory.



12. Verica Tiberius. c.AD10-40. AR unit. 12mm. 1.31g. Naked augur standing facing, holding lituus, COM M[IF], beaded border. / Tiberian-type laureate bust r, VERI CA around, beaded border. ABC 1250, VA 533, BMC 1421-49, S 136. *Gd VF, nice silver, fabulous bust, full VERICA.* Ex J Hall coll., bt. CR (2000). **S type £420**

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

13. Verica Wine Cup. c.AD10-40. AR minim. 7mm. 0.24g. Wine cup, REX above, beaded border./ Eagle r, on T-shaped perch, [VERCA COM]MIF around. ABC 1331, VA 563, BMC 1572-78, S 159. CCI 04.0558 (**this coin**). *VF, bold wine cup.* Ex J Follows coll. **RR £225**

Though normally catalogued as VERICA, the king's name on this sensationally miniaturised masterpiece actually reads VERCA, with VE ligatured the missing letter I perhaps implied by the downstroke of the letter R. When you're engraving a royal name on a die this tiny brevity is of the essence.

14. Epaticcus Eagle. c.AD 20-40. AR unit. 12mm. 1.18g. Bust r, EPATI in front, beaded border./ Eagle standing l, snake below, beaded border ABC 1346, VA 580, BMC 2024-2293, S 356. *VF/Gd VF, clear head, majestic eagle.* Ex Royal Berkshire coll. Fd. Reading, Berks., 1983. **S £275**

ICENI Norfolk, N Suffolk, NE Cambs.

15. Norfolk Wolf. Two-Line Diamond. Talbot Sub-Type D, die-group 18, dies BA/76. c.50-35 BC. Base AV stater. 16mm. 4.91g. Traces of wreath motif./ Bristly wolf l, crescent and large pellets above, pellet below. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, COI 7w, S-. *F/Gd VF, bristly boar, clear bird.* Ex East Anglian coll. Fd. Forest of Dean, Glos. **RR type, RRRR only three other this pair of dies. £450**

16. Norfolk Boar Star. Pellet Head. Talbot Boar Horse B Unit, dies P/22. c.5BC-AD5. AR unit. 13mm. 1.02g. Boar r, Y-shape front leg./ Horse r, crescent and pellet triad above, star below. ABC-, VA 657-1, BMC 3455-72, COI 55b, S 43. *VF, silvery silver, bold horse, full crescent and pellet triad.* Fd. Stonea, Cambs. **RRR only 7 others this pair of dies recorded. £250**

17. Anted D-Bar. c.AD25-30. AR unit. 13mm. 0.98g. Double moon emblem./ Horse r, pellet daisy above, [AN]T[D] monogram below. ABC 1645, VA 711, 715, BMC 3800-4025, COI 86b, S 441. *VF, large flan, bold, clear pellet-daisy.* **£120**

CORIELTAUVI E Midlands, from Humber to Welland.

18. South Ferriby Sad Face. Scroll Eyes Type. c.45-10 BC. AV stater. 18mm. 5.18g. Wreath motif./ Lunate horse l, triangle head, ringed-pellet above forming hidden 'sad' face. ABC-, VA-, BMC 3150, S-. CCI 96.2239 (**this coin**). *Gd VF, virtually as minted, large flan of radiant rose gold, clear face.* Ex East Anglian coll., bt. CR (1996). Fd. Torksey, Lincs., c.1991-93. **£650**



Sad face

Hidden 'spirit' faces are a distinctive feature of Ancient British coins and probably derive from the powerful influence that British Druids apparently had in die design. Is this the face of the goddess Litavis?

19. Esuprasu. c.AD40-47. AE core. 19mm. 3.77g. Wreath motif, crossed bar with crescent and each end, beaded ring in each./ Lunate horse l, traces of IISVP RASV around. Contemporary forgery of ABC 1917, VA 920, BMC 3269, S 405. *Fine, dark olive-green patina, clear wreath.* Ex Royal Berkshire coll., bt. CR (2012). Fd. Thorpe Salvin, S. Yorkshire, 2006. **R £150**

20. South Ferriby Stork Head Right. Rich Type 28a. c.55-45 BC. AR unit. 14mm. 1.04g. Plain./ Horse r, stork head, pellet rosette above, pellet below tail. ABC 1806, VA 884-1, BMC 3228-3229, S-. CCI 04.0581 (**this coin**). *Gd VF, large flan, lightly toned silver, bold horse.* Ex J Follows coll. **S £275**

21. Stork Head Right. Rich Type 38b. c.55-45 BC. AR half unit. 10mm. 0.40g. Plain./ Horse r, stork head, pellet daisy above. ABC-, VA 879, 881, BMC 3251-55, S 400. *VF, good silver.* Ex L Daniel coll. **RR only 20 others recorded £125**

DUOTRIGES Wessex, cap. Durnovaria (Dorchester).

22. Cranborne Chase. c.58-40 BC. AR stater. 17mm. 3.46g. Wreath motif./ Horse l, pellets. ABC 2169, VA 1235-1, BMC 2641-46, S 367. *Gd VF/VF, chunky flan, good wreath.* **£125**

TRINOVANTES Essex, S. Suffolk, cap. Camulodunon (Colchester).

23. Dubnovellaunos Hairy. c.5BC-AD10. AE unit. 14mm. 1.85g. Head l, fat cheek, curved lines for hair, ringed-pellet above eye./ Horse l, beaded mane, ringed-pellet below. ABC 2407, VA 1669, BMC 2446-48, S 211. *Gd VF, greeny-brown patina, lovely bonny horse.* Fd. Chichester, W.Sussex, 12.1.2023. **R £150**

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

24. Tasciovanos Pegasus. Sils class 7b, Large Tablet/Pegasus, dies 45/44. c.25BC-AD10. AV quarter. 10mm. 1.35g. TASC in panel on vertical wreath./ Fat-bodied Pegasus l. ABC-, VA-, BMC 1650, DK 534, S-. PAS: CAM-E129B1 (**this coin**). *Gd VF, neat round flan of rose-gold, sharply struck TASC.* Fd. Pertenhall, Beds., 8.9.2013.

RRR only nine others this pair of dies £750

Published in *Divided Kingdoms*, p.616 (**this coin**). But you won't see this type in ABC, VA nor Spink, even though the first was found 165 years ago. Only one example in the BM and this is nicer.

All coins GUARANTEED GENUINE or your money back in full





25. Tasciovanos Regal Rider. c.20BC-AD10. AR unit. 13mm. 1.23g. VER on plain field, pellet border./ Naked horseman r, beaded border. ABC 2625, VA 1747, BMC 1674-76, S 234. CCI 98.1019 (**this coin**). *VF, clear horseman. Ex Royal Berkshire coll., bt. CR (2004), ex M King coll.* **RR £325**

CATUVELLAUNI & TRINOVANTES

united by Cunobelinus.

26. Cunobelinus Plastic. CAM CVN/CVN Type. Sills class 3b, dies 25/29. c.AD8-41. AV quarter stater. 11mm. 1.27g. Ear of corn without central stalk, CAM to l, CV[N] to r./ Horse prancing r, branch above, [C]VM below, beaded border. ABC 2819, VA 2017, BMC 1845, DK 578, S-. CCI 17.2118. (**this coin**). *VF, rose gold, bold horse. Ex G Garner coll., bt. CR (2010). Fd. Colchester, Essex, Dec. 1990.* **RRR only 6 others this pair of dies £550**

Published in *Divided Kingdoms*, p.691 (**this coin**).

27. Cunobelinus Horseman. c.AD8-41. AR unit. 12mm. 1.16g. CVNO BELI in two panels, star above and below, beaded border./ Horseman r, [CVN] below, beaded border. ABC 2858, VA 1951, BMC 1862, S 302. *Good VF, good silver, well centred CVNOBELI, fat horse. Fd. Abingdon, Oxon.* **RR £650**

28. Cunobelinus Pegasus Victory Left. c.AD8-41. AE unit. 14-16mm. 2.21g. Pegasus l, looking back over shoulder, CAM below, beaded border./ Victory standing l. ABC 2921, VA 1973, BMC 1938-43, S 325. *Gd VF, brownish-green patina, bold pegasus, clear CAM. Ex Royal Berkshire coll.* **S £150**

29. Cunobelinus Spread Eagle. c.AD8-41. AE unit. 16mm. 2.07g. Head l, CAML./ Spread eagle, [CVN] below, beaded border. ABC 2954, VA 2087, BMC 1920, S 335. CCI 69.0392 (**this coin**). *Gd VF, glossy green patina, great eagle. Ex Royal Berkshire coll., bt. CR (2005), ex Cotswold coll., ex Mossop, bt. Baldwins, 1969. Fd. Harlow, Essex.* **RRR only 12 others recorded £275**

An elusive type, we haven't had one in catalogues since 2011.

30. Agr Bitch. c.AD25-30. AR unit. 11-13mm. 1.04g. AGR in centre of wreath and pellet border./ Bitch standing r, holding snake in left paw. ABC 3005, VA-, BMC 1899, S 354. CCI 09.3320 (**this coin**). *Small chip, otherwise Gd VF, full AGR, bold bitch. Ex Royal Berkshire coll., bt. CR (2009). Fd. Kent.* **RRR only 13 others recorded, inc. one in the BM. £800**

Dr John Sills suggests Agr may have acted as regent for Cunobelinus if the latter had made a diplomatic visit to Rome to see Tiberius. He says: "If a notional date c.AD 1 is taken for the start of Cunobelinus' coinage, and the Agr gold and silver was struck a third of the way through his reign, this takes us close to the accession of Tiberius in AD 14...Other scenarios are plausible for Agr, not least that he was being groomed as a potential successor for Cunobelinus and was allowed to strike coinage while the king was engaged elsewhere on a military campaign or an internal diplomatic mission" (DK, p.758). This is the second Agr Bitch unit we've had that was found in Kent. The first (CR 28, 1997, no.185) came from Woodnesborough, Kent.

OTHER COINS OF CELTIC INTEREST

31. Zeus Ammon Pentagram. Small Greek AE fraction of *Pitane*, Mysia. c.400-200 BC. 10mm. 1.20g. Ram-horned head of Zeus Ammon facing r./ Large pentagram filling field, letter Π to left, letter I to right. Sear GCV (Seaby 1979) 3980; BMC 15, 171, 2; SNG Cop. 534 var; SNG BN 2350-52 var; SNG Kayhan 70 var. *Good VF/Near EF, bold head, magnificent pentagram, gloss dark-green patina. Ex A Strain coll., bt. CR (2012).* **R variant £220**

We've included this lovely little Greek bronze to demonstrate the great numismatic antiquity of the horned human head (see No.10 and ABC 662 and 866) and the pentagram symbol (see ABC 282, 285, 309, 2258). *Pitane* (modern Candarli, NW Turkey) was a small coastal town on the Elaitic gulf, north west of *Pergamon*.

CHEAPO-CHEAPO! all low grade, none over £40.

32. Thurrock. Cantiaci. c.120-100 BC. Potin. 15mm. 2.95g. Head of Apollo l./ Bull butting r. ABC 120. *VF, glossy green patina, bold cast. Fd. Osgodby, Lincs, July 1996.* **£40**
The first regular coinage minted in Britain, directly copied from coins imported from Massalia (modern Marseilles).

33. South Ferriby Shrimp. Rich Type 24d? Corieltavi. c.55-45 BC AR unit. 10-14mm. 0.81g. Boar r, beaded exergual line./ Horse r. ABC-. *1/2 missing otherwise Fine. Ex A Harrison coll.* **£10**

34. Two Unidentified North Thames. AE unit. 13/11mm. 1.15g/0.68g. *Fair.* **£10**

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My goal is to help you as best I can and give you good value.



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