



# Chris Rudd

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## Struck in memoriam to mark Boduoc's passing?

*Boduoc was an important district ruler amongst the northern Dobunni, perhaps with his seat at Bagendon, while Corio was still active in the wider territory. We don't know whether he was simply an ambitious local noble or an incoming appointee of the mighty Tasciovanos, but either way his silver coinage departed from established Dobunnic conventions (e.g. Lot 22). His gold standard was aligned with Tasciovanos', and we may reasonably suppose that he relied on the Catuvellaunian king to support his local initiatives. Boduoc must have debated his coin designs with his able engraver, probably on loan from Tasciovanos, and their neat lettering and uncluttered Classical style suggest that this artist learned his craft at a workshop in Gaul. Boduoc's usual silver coinage (ABC 2042) presents what must be his own portrait as a genial*

*and confident young ruler, clean-shaven in Augustan style, and these were copiously issued from a busy mint throughout his tenure. ABC 2045 with its bearded head is the sole exception, displaying a grave and venerable sage with an air of divinity: Roman Jupiter, too, was bearded. But it echoes most closely images of the legendary Roman king Numa Pompilius (r. 715–672 BC), seen on a Roman denarius of 49–48 BC with the same grave expression and long, straight, beard (RRC 446/1, RCV 1373). This can be no accident: Numa, famously, gave the Romans their calendar, laws, and several state cults and priesthoods, thereby transforming Romulus' warlike rabble into the makings of a civilized people. Was this how Boduoc also wanted to be known amongst the Dobunni? See Lot 23.*

## Auction 194 • 19 May 2024

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# Auction 194 ends 19 May 2024



This catalogue goes live online at the-saleroom.com from 9am Monday 6 May. Bidding ends from 5pm (GMT) Sunday 19 May 2024. You may bid online, by email or by phone or post using the enclosed bid sheet. Estimates shown in **BLACK**, Starting Prices in **RED**. A 20% Buyers Premium (24% inc. VAT if applicable) is payable and will be added to the hammer price of all successful bids. See full Terms & Conditions at back of catalogue. If you have any queries or want some advice, ask Liz. I'm here to help.



Berkshire Coat of Arms

Nos. 8, 10 and 30.



John Follows

Nos. 7, 15 and 31.

## Gallic coins **IMPORTED** into Britain

**“May be an experimental type”  
- of the highest rarity, possibly Unique?**



**1. Gallo-Belgic Broad Flan. Mule. Ambiani.** Sills class 1 Aa/Ab. c.190-160 BC. Gold stater. 24mm. 7.17g. Draped bust of androgynous deity right, with flamboyant flaming hair./ Disarticulated horse galloping left, with split head, curvy body, dotty mane; vestigial charioteer above, bird below, cogwheel before. Previously unpublished ABC-, LT-, DT-, VA-, S-, Sills GGC-. CCI 13.0667 (**this coin**). *VF, large flan of golden gold, magnificent maze-like hair curls, well struck horse. Found Soham, Cambs., 2011. Of this highest rarity **UNIQUE?*** **Est. £3000 £2600**

Dr John Sills says: “It’s difficult to know exactly where this coin fits in the overall Gallo-Belgic A sequence, and even whether it belongs to the right- or left-facing series. Details of the hair swirls on the obverse are closest to the very earliest right-facing stater, Gallo-Belgic Aa class 1a (GGC p. 128, fig. 27a), and on the reverse the exceptionally low-slung horse is also similar. It may be an experimental type, struck before a decision had made about whether Aa should face left or right and possibly before the left-facing series, Gallo-Belgic Ab, had begun. If this is the case it could be the earliest known Gallo-Belgic A stater, probably struck not long after 200 BC. The early date of class 1 as a whole is shown by the bird-like motif between the horse’s legs, which is derived from the cantharos on Soy staters, a type copied directly from the Philippos.”

NOTE: Estimates shown in **BLACK**, Starting Prices in **RED**

**For advice or help with bidding phone Liz 01263 735 007**

Superb example, one of the nicest we've seen



**2. Gallic War Uniface. Corded Line/Pellet Arcs.** Ambiani. Sills fig.3a. c.56-55 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 6.17g. Plain obverse./ M-shaped horse right, crescent and pellet below, coffee bean in front and behind, exergual corded line with open crescents and pellets. ABC 16, LT 8710, VA 54, S 11. *Stunning EF, large flan of golden gold, smooth surfaces, full and fabulous horse, elaborately ornamented. A superb example, one of the nicest centrally struck examples we've seen. Found Great Houghton, Northants. Est. £1500 £1200*  
A perennially popular type frequently seen for sale but this Gallic War Uniface rates in the top 5% of examples, in our opinion. Centrally struck in rich golden gold the horse is sharply stamped and you have the addition of both coffee beans, charioteer's arms above plus the exergual corded line. You simply could not get more of the design on the flan, all key features are displayed. A great addition for any discerning collector.

## Coins of the CANTIACI of Kent



**3. Nipples. Flick Leg, No Head Outline Type. Holman Type G4/6-2a.** c.60-45 BC. Cast potin unit. 12-15mm.1.07g. Linear head facing right with central nipple./ Box-like linear bull, right leg flicked upward, central nipple. ABC-, VA 137-1, BMC 723, S-. CCI 98.1955 (**this coin**). *Good VF, glossy dark green patina, prominent nipples. Ex Ian Richards collection, ex E J Williams collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1999), ex Adrian Nicholl collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1998). VERY RARE Est. £300 £240*

## Coins of the SOUTHERN REGION early uninscribed



**4. Carn Brea.** (formerly Westerham North). Sills British Aa1, class 2a, dies 1/21. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 6.30g. Vestiges of stylised laureate 'he/she' head right./ Disarticulated horse left, crescent-moon belly, pellets above, 'coffee bean' behind, large pellet below. ABC-, VA-, BMC 7-23, DK 144 (**same dies**), S-. *Good VF for issue, heavyweight flan of golden gold, full 'coffee bean'. A characterful*

example of one of Britain's earliest 'home-made' gold staters. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** die pair, only four others recorded. **Est. £1000 £800**

Named after four staters from the Carn Brea hoard, Cornwall, 1749. Dr John Sills, doyen of early British gold coins, says: "The most likely issuers are the Atrebates or their predecessors." If you sometimes find it difficult to tell the difference between British Aa (like this coin) and British Ad, "don't worry," says John, "it took me a quarter of a century to sort them out" (pers.comm. 26.4.2023). An extremely rare opportunity to acquire one of Britain's earliest and heaviest insular gold staters. You won't see this variety in ABC, Van Arsdell nor Spink.

**Excessively rare die pair  
only two others recorded**



**5. Annulets.** Sills British Qd, dies 2/9. c.55-45 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 5.34g. Wreath design with hidden faces and two bars between wreath and crescent./ Triple-tailed horse right, charioteer's arms above, seven-spoked wheel and small crescent (or letter C) below. ABC 494, VA 212-1, BMC 456-457, DK 210-11, S-. *VF/Good VF, rose gold, well centred three-tailed horse, bold wheel. Found Silchester/Stratfield Mortier, Hants.* **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only two others this pair of dies. **Est. £1000 £800**

## Coins of the **BELGAE** of Hampshire



**6. Chute.** Sills class 1b. c.54-53 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.99g. Wreath pattern with downward-facing leaves and fish-like hairlocks./ Disjointed triple-tailed horse left, shrimp and large blobs above, disjointed crab below, coffee-bean behind, exergual decoration. ABC 746, VA 1205, BMC 35-76, DK 302, S 22. *Unobtrusive hairline crack, otherwise EF, neat round flan of yellow gold, beautifully ornamented, full tail lines, crab and shrimp. A stunning example. Ex Neil Bundle collection, ex David Robinson collection.* **RARE** **Est. £1000 £800**

**Not in VA, BMC nor Spink**



**7. Danebury Cogwheel Leaves.** c.50-40 BC. Silver half unit. 9-11mm. 0.49g. Cruciform motif of beaded lines, central cogwheel sun, leaf in each angle./ Globular horse left, beaded mane, small rings below. ABC 968, VA-, BMC-, S-, *Num. Circ.* Oct. 1990, p.268, nos. 7-8. *Good VF, lovely leaves, bold horse. Ex John Follows collection. Found Chilgrove, West Sussex. EXCESSIVELY RARE only four others recorded, including two in Birmingham Museum.* **Est. £850 £700**

With its broad (oak?) leaves, set in a sacred octagonal grove, this is one of many coins of Belgic ancestry which features trees (especially oak trees), branches or leaves. Celtic Europe's most famous 'men of the trees' were the Druids. Reportedly of British origin (Caesar, *BG* 6.13), their name means 'oak knowers' and they worshipped in oak groves. We suspect that it was a Druid who designed this exceedingly rare leafy coin. Not in Van Arsdell, BMC nor Spink.



**Coins of the SOUTHERN REGION later dynastic**

**Excessively rare die pair  
only two others recorded**



**8. Commios E-Type.** Sills class 2, dies 16/27. c.50-25 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.43g. Atrebatian wreath pattern with downward facing leaves./ Disjointed triple-tailed horse right, EI-symbol above with bent middle bar, six-spoked wheel below, trefoil under head, coffee bean behind, [COMMIOS] around. ABC 1025, VA 352, BMC 730, DK 322, S 66. *Good VF, neat round flan of resplendent rose gold, sharp EI-symbol and trefoil. Ex The Royal Berkshire collection, purchased from B.Knight in 1982. Found Sulhamstead, Berkshire, November 1981. EXCESSIVELY RARE only two others this pair of dies.* **Est. £1800 £1500**

"The significance of the E is unclear, but in the context of an early inscribed issue and given the bold letter A on the obverse of the quarters (ABC 1031), it is not unreasonable to suggest that it represents either the letter E or an EI monogram... [it is] unlikely to be a moneyer's initial(s) but its use as a privy mark, perhaps to denote a change in fineness, cannot be ruled out. The most plausible interpretation, by analogy with COM F and its variants on the issues of later rulers, is that it is an abbreviated patronym representing the otherwise unknown father of Commios." *Divided Kingdoms*, p.321.



**9. Commios Ladder Head. Upright E Type.** c.50-25 BC. Silver unit. 11mm. 1.22g. Moon head left, vertical lentoid eye, ladder-like hair, ornaments in front./ Horse left, ladder mane, E-symbol above, S-shape/uncertain animal below. ABC 1037, VA 355-1, BMC 731-34, S 69. *Gd VF, silvery silver, great head, bold horse. Found Newbury, Berkshire. VERY RARE* **Est. £500 £400**



**10. Tincomarus Spiral.** Sills class 7, Wreath, dies 23/26. c.25BC-AD10. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.18g. Circular wreath spiral motif, pellet at centre./ Horse stepping right, T above, pellet below. ABC 1094, VA 366, BMC 781-97, DK 349, S 73. CCI 02.0078 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rose gold, super spiral, full horse.* Ex *The Royal Berkshire collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2002)*. **RARE** Est. £750 £600

This very British design, so bold in its simplicity and so unlike any Gaulish coin, was perhaps inspired by a gold aureus of Julius Caesar, 44 BC (Sear RCV 1397). This wouldn't be surprising because Tincomarus' father had once been a trusted ally of Caesar. Published in *Divided Kingdoms*, p.370 (**this coin**).



**11. Verica Little Horse Rearing.** Sills class 2b, Rearing Horse, VI, Pellets. c.AD10-40. Gold quarter stater. 9mm. 1.25g. COMI in incuse tablet, ring above and below, beaded border./ Roman-style horse rearing right, VI above, exergual line below. ABC-, VA-, BMC 1191, 1200, 1202-05, DK 372, S 124. *Good EF, neat round flan of rose gold, sharp strike, beautifully bold well centred horse.* **SCARCE** Est. £1000 £800

Class 2 quarters have a very similar obverse to Verica's class 3 staters (ABC 1184) and show the horse springing from the exergual line. VI is short for Verica.

**Near EF, one of the nicest examples we've seen**



**12. Verica Smiley.** c.AD10-40. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.09g. COM·F between two crescents, ringed-pellet at each end forming two hidden faces./ Boar right, standing on exergual line, star above, VIRI below, beaded border. ABC 1220, VA 470-1, BMC 1241-78, S 131. *Near EF, bluey-hued silver, well centred, full hidden faces, magnificent boar, sharp star.* Est. £800 £650

One of the nicest examples we've seen of this type, struck in cabinet toned silver the well muscled boar appears to be lifting his head as if snorting. So sharply struck you can see his dorsal bristles and his tusk.



**13. Epaticcus Eagle.** c.AD20-40. Silver unit. 11mm. 1.21g. Herculean bust of Epaticcus right, wearing lionskin headdress, EPATI before, beaded border./ Spread-winged Roman eagle, head turned to left, talons clutching S-shaped snake, ringed-pellet above, beaded border. ABC 1346, VA 580, BMC 2024-2293, S 356. *Near EF, toned silver, sharp strike, exceptional eagle.* Found near Silchester, Hants. Est. £550 £440

Epaticcus describes himself as a son of Tasciovanos, king of the Catuvellauni, which makes him a brother of Cunobelinus and uncle of Caratacus, Togodumnus and Amminus. The name Epaticcus may be derived from the Celtic *epos* 'horse'. He seems to have fancied himself as a strong-arm prince because he poses here as Hercules.

## Coins of the ICENI of northern East Anglia



**14. Norfolk Wolf Left.** Talbot B Sub-Type D, die group 16, dies T/43. c.50-35 BC. Gold stater. 19mm. 5.55g. Left-facing Icenian wreath motif, leaves facing upwards, fibula below./ Wolf standing left with bristly back, crescent and large pellets above, large pellet and small pellets below, two pellets in front. ABC-, VA 610-3, BMC 228-249, COI 7s, S-. *Good VF/VF, luscious yellow gold, lovely wreath motif, long-legged wolf, clear bristles.* **VERY RARE** die pair, only 28 others recorded. **Est. £1200 £1000**

**Near EF, lovely long-legged horse  
Ex John Follows collection**



**15. Odin's Eye 1. Linear Mane Type.** Talbot Snettisham Unit, sub-type 1, die-group 2, dies H/15. c.35-25 BC Silver unit. 14mm. 1.16g. Head right, corn ear hair, eye in front of mouth./ Long-legged horse right, single-line mane, ringed-pellet above, in front and below. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, COI 35b variant, S-. *Near EF, large flan of lightly toned silver, bold horse with long lanky legs.* *Ex John Follows collection.* **VERY RARE** only 23 others this pair of dies. **Est. £450 £360**  
Difficult to see on the example illustrated in *Made for Trade*, p.177, and omitted from *Coins of the Icen*, this is a Linear Mane type.

**Ancient British Coins plate coin**



**16. Antedio Triple Moons.** Talbot dies A/2. c.AD25-43. Gold stater. 18mm. 5.38g. Three opposed crescents in centre, pellet in cusps, ring and pellets between, enclosed by six arcs with pellet-triad or quad in cusps./ Maned horse right, with W-shape forelegs, pellet under tail, double-ringed solar motif above, pellet and ANTEDI monogram below. ABC 1639 (**this coin**), VA 705, BMC 3790, COI 85, S 440. CCI 92.0431 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rose gold, bold moons, full inscription.* *Apart from the two*

flat spots, virtually as struck. Ex Burford collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2014), ex Christian Edward Mahoney collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2001), ex Dr Jon Kardatzke collection. **VERY RARE** only 24 others this pair of dies. **Est. £2500 £2000**

Unearthed more than thirty years ago and securely provenanced, this very rare Antedios Triple Moons gold stater is an important coin type because it clearly reveals the second fullest known rendering of the king's name, the most complete being ANTEDIO which occurs on a unique silver unit (ABC 1633). For some speculation about Triple Moons staters see 'The crowning glory of a puppet king' (*Chris Rudd List* 125, September 2012, p.1).

### Excessively rare – only three others this pair of dies



**17. Waveney Diadem.** Talbot Bury H, dies B/3. c.50-40 BC. Silver unit. 18mm. 1.68g. Well styled, comparatively naturalistic, female head right, wearing lunar diadem, S-shaped serpent in front with ram-horned head, two 'cornucopiae' hair curls./ Naturalistic horse galloping left, tiny S-shapes for mane, leaf-like spear-tail, large solar 'anemone' and ringed-pellets above, large ringed-pellet below, quatrefoil in front, triple exergual lines with middle line beaded. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, COI 19 (Bury Diadem Right), S-. *Good VF, superbly struck on huge heavyweight flan of good silver, well-centre head, wonderful Whaddon-style horse. The heaviest and largest specimen of a recently recognised type. Found at Waveney Valley, Norfolk, 2017. EXCESSIVELY RARE* only three others this pair of dies. **Est. £3000 £2400**

Dr John Talbot says: "This is a Bury H in superb condition from dies B:3. The weight at 1.68g is the highest recorded for this exceptionally rare type (now nine known) which appears to be a local issue from the Waveney valley." Note the cornucopiae-shaped hair curls, see Lot 26. For more information about this interesting and rare type see *Chris Rudd Auction* 189, Lot 17.

### Ex Fincham hoard, Norfolk Published in *CHIAB*



**18. Norfolk God No Tache. Sunken Eye Type.** c.AD20-45. Silver unit. 13mm. 0.99g. Male head right with lentoid eye, large nose, open mouth, short hair and wearing boar-skin headdress, two trefoils in front./ Horse right with Y-shaped head, cabled mane and two straps, pelta-shaped motif above, 'kite' below, pellet under tail. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, COI 93a, S-. CCI 99.0172 (**this coin**). *Good VF, toned silver, well centred, great head and horse. Ex John Urban collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1999). Found Fincham hoard, Norfolk, 1993-2005. EXTREMELY RARE* only 14 others this type recorded. **Est. £400 £320**  
We've sold more of the 343 coins from this hoard than any other dealer. We've also written more about this hoard than anyone else. Published in *Coin Hoards in Iron Age Britain*, p.287, No.59 (**this coin**).



# Coins of the **CORIELTAUVI** of the East Midlands



**19. North East Coast. Right Type with Sun.** Sills Mint A, fig. 4. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 17-19mm. 5.99g. Wreath motif with leaves facing inwards, snake below, row of small pellets./ Lunate horse right, charioteer's arms and pellets above, pelletal sun below, star in front, beaded exergual line. ABC 1719, VA 800-11, BMC 184-91, S 28. *Fabulous EF, large flan struck in glorious golden gold, bold strike, super wreath. Found Panton, Lincs.* **SCARCE Est. £1500 £1200**

This large, heavyweight Sun Type gold stater reveals a sad little hidden face above the horse; the charioteer's hands supply the eyes.



Hidden face



**20. Lindsey Scyphate. Left Type.** c.50-40 BC. Gold quarter stater. 16mm. 1.38g. Stylised boar left, with short bristly back, pellets around./ Large S-shape, stylised eyebrows-and-eyes either side, pellets around. ABC 1773, VA-, BMC 3189-92, S 395. *Irregular edge otherwise Good VF, usual thin cup-shaped flan of pale gold, full S. Ex Ken Toyne collection.* **VERY RARE Est. £650 £500**

The image on the reverse is meant to be a boar and the S-shape on the reverse could be a thunderbolt or lightning flash. When the type first emerged in 1981, speculation was rife: were they bride price? nipple caps? blood cups? semen vessels?



**21. Mini Kite Left.** Rich Type 41c. c.45-10 BC. Silver half unit. 10mm. 0.33g. Blank./ Long-eared horse left, 'kite' motif above containing faint pellets. ABC 1839, VA 889-7, BMC 3246-48, S-. CCI 09.3246 (**this coin**). *VF, bright silver, full kite. Ex East Anglian collection.* **EXTREMELY RARE only eight others recorded. Est. £350 £280**

# Coins of the DOBUNNI of the West Midlands

Near EF, superb double facing image



**22. Cotswold Cock. Head Type A.** c.50-35 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.03g. Moon-shaped head right, large crescents for hair, two small animals in front./ Two-tailed horse left, corded mane, S-shape above (bird's head), ringed-pellets around, cock's head below. ABC 2012, VA 1020, BMC 2950-51, S 377. *Near EF, big flan of good quality silver, great head, delightful cock. One of the nicest examples we've seen for several years. Found Cirencester, Glos., 2022. RARE* **Est. £1000 £800**

Silver units in the Western region display some of the finest works of narrative art from anywhere in Britain. Nothing is static; everything turns, like night into day (a cock's crow heralds dawn), like winter into spring, like the unending cycles of birth, death, and rebirth that informed the Druids' philosophy. The goddess with stars for a diadem and lunar crescents for hair, like Roman Diana (cf. ABC 2867) is mistress of animals, breathing life into somewhat equine shapes that float around her - nonspecific and suggestive as if unborn and awaiting new life in the new season, when campaigning would also begin. This wealthy and influential Dobunnic leader, whose coinage designs set the pattern for most of his successors, signed himself with a conspicuous personal emblem that probably reflects his otherwise unrecorded name. Facing left with the horse it is a ram's head with an almighty ribbed horn, but facing right it is a cockerel's head. Small differences from one die to another (either animal might bleat or crow) probably served as issue marks at a busy mint. Goat, ram, and cockerel were all attributes of the god Mercury, whom Caesar tells us the Gauls especially honoured (*BG* 6.17.1) and Mercury's cult, in Roman times, was especially well represented in the Cotswolds, both at the temple at Uley, and from finds around Cirencester. Giver of wealth and good fortune, bridge between upper and lower worlds, his cockerel heralds day, and his ram or goat symbolize fertility. It was a propitious design.

Excessively rare – only four others recorded



**23. Boduoc Old Head.** c.25-5 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.12g. Head left with long swept-back hair, droopy walrus moustache and long flowing beard, pellet and tip of BODVO in front./ Horse galloping right with beaded mane, ringed-pellet above, pellet and solar 'anemone' below, pellet under arched tail. ABC 2045, VA-, BMC-, S-. PAS: OXON- 3D78AB (**this coin**). *EF/Good VF, silvery silver, superb portrait. Found Standlake, West Oxon, 9 July 2023. EXCESSIVELY RARE only four others recorded.* **Est. £3000 £2400**

This artist gave the horse exactly the same playfully romping attitude as on Boduoc's gold stater (ABC 2039: see note on CR 178.23 and cover), even with just the same hint of its being (unusually, for Britain) a stallion in the positioning of a dot that belongs with the wheel (it's a cross on the stater). We do not know when Boduoc issued this special coinage, or even if it may have been designed *in memoriam* to mark his passing. What we do know is that all five recorded examples were struck from a single pair of dies in varying states of wear because they were worked so hard on what must have been lavish expenditure for some one-off purpose. Both dies for this exceptional issue were self-evidently made by the same hand as Boduoc's mainstream silver units (ABC 2042). Their format is so identical, indeed – apart from the bearded head – that he had to omit the letter C from Boduoc's name because its usual space under the chin was needed for the sage's flowing beard.



RCV 1373

## Coins of the **DUROTRIGES** of Wessex



**24. Cranborne Chase.** c.58-40 BC. Silver stater, probably with a little **gold**. 18mm. 5.64g. Wreath motif with upward-pointing leaves./ Triple-tailed horse left, pellets above, 'coffee-bean' behind, large pellet below. ABC 2157, VA 1235-1, BMC 2525-2546, S 365 'White Gold type'. *Good EF, chunky flan of good silver with golden hue, bold wreath, cheek and pellets. Ex Neil Bundle collection.* **Est. £750 £600**  
 Dr Daphne Nash Briggs sees the horse as a 'sun-horse' and the twelve large pellets above it as 'heavenly discs'. She says: "On electrum and silver staters, coloured like the moon, it is clear that the small object rising from the valley of the horse's back is one third of a thirteenth disc, representing as precisely as you can on a little coin die the number of lunar months in a year" (*Chris Rudd List* 106, 2-4).

## Coins of the **EASTERN** North Thames region



**25. Broadoak Boars.** c.50-30 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 0.85g. Two boars facing, surrounded by other animals or locks of hair./ Long-eared horse right, small long-legged boar above facing right, ringed-pellet below. ABC 2267, VA-, BMC, S-. PAS: SUR-051608 (**this coin**). *VF, good silver, amazing menagerie. Found Kettering, Northants, 17 April 2022.* **EXTREMELY RARE** only nine others recorded. **Est. £1000 £800**

In 2004 Dr Philip de Jersey wrote about the first example we sold: 'In the past I've tended to lump together the Broadoak Boars silver unit with the Broadoak Head (ABC 2264), but there is a good case to be made that these are two separate types. The reverses are very similar indeed, with a small boar above the horse, although there is some variation in the circular motif beneath the horse: it seems as though this may be represented as a wheel only on the Broadoak Head type. The obverse is more puzzling. There are a number of Broadoak Head coins with a very stylized obverse, apparently the result of damage to the die which has perhaps been copied onto new dies. The new dies still have an eye visible, but little of the rest of the design is in any way coherent, instead focusing on large curls which presumably develop out of the hair on the earlier, clearer coins. I had previously interpreted the obverse of the Broadoak Boars units as particularly stylized examples of this process. But on several coins, such as the one under discussion here, there do appear to be two opposed boars on the obverse, rather than simply a couple of stylized curls of hair. Of course they may well have developed out of the curls of hair, but somebody has made a conscious decision to turn these curls into boars, and as such the Broadoak Boars should count as a separate issue. It remains to be seen whether it can be tied in more closely still with its predecessor – since the Broadoak Head must surely have been the earlier of the two – perhaps through a reverse die-link; none appear to exist at present.' *Chris Rudd List* 73, 2004. A great rarity, this is only the second example we have offered for sale. Will you have to wait 20 years for the next?

Excessively rare – only one other recorded (plated)



**26. Stallion and Boar.** c.50-30 BC. Silver unit. 12-14mm. 1.42g. Diademed head left, with elliptical eye, crescent-shaped ear, stars and ?pseudo-inscription around head./ Horse left, with open-head, tiny star and upside-down rider above, small boar below. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, DK-, S-. CCI 20.0814 (**this coin**). Broken and repaired, otherwise Good VF, super stallion, bold boar. Found Braughing, Herts, c.31 August 2019. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only one other recorded. **Est. £750 £600**

For more information on this excessively rare type see *Chris Rudd List* 119, p.6 and No.40. But what a difference it makes to see the whole design on this first complete example! It was designed by a Belgic artist active in Britain who was especially familiar with one particular series of silver and bronze units attributed to the Ambiani (DT 350–352), that in this generation also inspired die designs in Kent (ABC 237: same crouching rider, but upright), Berkshire (ABC 1007: same goddess, but as mistress of animals, and same whirling reverse as our coin), Catuvellaunian lands (ABC 2490), and Suffolk (ABC 1495: see notes on *Liz's List* 111, No.1). The Stallion and Boar silver unit here was designed for someone active north of the Thames, probably in exile soon after the Gallic defeat, and who seems to have been on the war-path in a blazing fury, as if determined to make good, with his world turned upside-down. Its somersaulting rider is an extraordinary image, conceivably an acrobat (cf Tasciovanos, Lot 30), but is really its model's rider upside down. Nowhere else in Britain do we see DT 350's chunky, muscular stallion (same muzzle, too), mane as erect as his battle-boar's bristles, charging other stallions in defence of his mares in the mating season. The star above the horse, also taken from DT 350–351, may well be this leader's personal insignia, and it links him with the goddess, who has two more starburst-emblems in her hair. She must surely represent *Sirona*, brightness of the Moon, giver of life, whose protection he invoked with that solemn hidden face that his starbursts have made with her ear. But why the somersault? Celtic *Sirona* (also spelt *Stirona*, meaning "Star") was the North Star itself, our *Polaris*, the one still point around which all the other stars turn, faithful guide for navigation in the dark, and reassurance in a human world where everything was changing.



Hidden face

## Coins of the TRINOVANTES of Essex



**27. Rowntree Fern Leaf.** Sills NE Thames Local Issue. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.26g. Wreath motif, slightly angular and roughly symmetrical, with knobbed 'spike' and two outline crescents./ Annulate horse right, 'cog-wheel' radiant sun-sign below. ABC 2362, VA-, BMC-, DK 442, S-. VF, as minted, yellow gold, complete cogwheel. Ex Joseph Fay collection. Found Chelmsford, Essex. **EXTREMELY RARE** only seven others recorded. **Est. £850 £700**

The obverse of this type is very similar to the Heybridge Horse (ABC 2359), with four strands below the hairbar and three above, although the two halves are angled rather than aligned, (*Divided Kingdoms*, p.444). Not in VA, BMC nor Spink.



**28. Clacton Curved Exergue.** Sills British G1, class 2a, dies 4/11. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 19mm. 6.03g. Wreath motif with upward-pointing leaves, ornate cloak fastener./ Long-legged short-bodied horse galloping right, large pellet below, zigzag curved exergual decoration. ABC-, VA-, BMC 168, 172, DK 405, S-. *Good VF, big flan of pale gold, excellent curved exergue motif. Ex Joseph Fay collection. Found Hockley, Essex, 2022-23. EXTREMELY RARE only six others this pair of dies. Est. £1500 £1200* Not in ABC, Van Arsdell or Spink.

## Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI of Hertfordshire



**29. Middle Whaddon Chase. Curved Wreath, Leaves In Type.** Sills British Lb1, class 2. c.55-45 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.40g. Crossed-wreath design with two back-to-back outline crescents in centre, pellets and ornaments in angles./ Naturalistic horse right with corded mane, pellets and back-to-back crescents above, 'coffee bean' in front of head, large ringed-pellet below. ABC 2445, VA 1493, BMC 338-41, DK 471, S 32. *Good VF/Near EF, as struck on a neat flan of golden gold, bold horse, fabulous hidden faces. EXCESSIVELY RARE only five others recorded this pair of dies. Est. £2000 £1600*

So called Leaves In because the horizontal arms of the cross wreath point inwards rather than outwards. Note the double hidden face on the reverse which is displayed more completely and more clearly than we've seen for some time. Commenting on a previous example Rainer Kretz says: "This is one of the more unusual types of Middle Whaddon Chase stater, which has been known since c.1840 and is engraved on plate C, no.10 of Evans' *The coins of the ancient Britons*. There are some minor differences from the more common Middle Whaddon Chase [now Westbury Type] ABC 2442 (CR List 184, Lot 26), the most noticeable being the introduction of the two curved wreath segments and the substitution of the wing above the horse for a crescent. The highly effective crossed wreath design, which was shared with some other Whaddon Chase types as well as the Wonesh stater, went on to have a major impact upon the North Thames coinage and left its indelible mark on the stater coinages of Addedomaros, Tasciovanos, Andoco, and Cunobelinus. The obverse of this particular type forms the direct typological and quite possibly also chronological precursor to Tasciovanos's first coinage stater (ABC 2553 & 2550). It already contains the two fox-like hidden faces, which Tasciovanos's die cutters later used as the basis for a veritable hidden-faces extravaganza on some of his second coinage staters." (*Chris Rudd List 111, No.45*).



**30. Tasciovanos Tascio Ricon.** Sills class 7b, dies 41/72 c.25BC-AD10. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 5.48g. TASCIO RICON in two panels on vertical wreath./ Cavalryman charging left, wearing chain-mail armour, holding dagger and shield, pellet daisy in front, beaded ringed-pellet below, beaded border. ABC 2580, VA 1780-5, BMC 1629-33, DK 515, S 219. *VF/Good VF, rich golden gold, well displayed cavalryman.* Ex *The Royal Berkshire collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2012). Found Great Barford, Beds., 14 August 2011.* **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only five others this pair of dies. **Est. £2000 £1600**

*Rigon*, spelt here as *ricon*, seems to be a contraction of a longer word and may mean 'supreme king' as suggested by Rainer Kretz. This coin clearly shows the cavalryman charging into battle, clad in a short tunic of chain-mail armour and wearing a wide-brimmed iron helmet. The supreme athleticism of the warrior is apparent, he's looking back in his saddle as he wields a sword and carries a large elliptical shield and is riding with no hands on the reins. This must surely be one of the most evocative and realistic military images ever seen on an Ancient British coin.



Tasciovanos in chain-mail tunic

### Ex John Follows collection



**31. Tasciovanos Acorn.** Sills class 2, Stepping Horse Type. c.25BC-AD10. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.36g. Crossed wreaths motif of triple lines, central line beaded, one curved, one straight, back-to-back crescents at centre, 'teardrop' in each quarter./ Horse left, beaded mane, foreleg raised, pellet above, acorn below. ABC 2586, VA 1688, BMC 1651-53, DK 519, S 221. *Near EF, scintillating rose gold, super-sharp wreath, clear 'teardrops', bold, bonny horse.* Ex *John Follows collection. Found Godmanchester, Cambs.* **SCARCE** 56 others recorded **Est. £750 £600**

We've previously speculated that the nut-like object under the high-stepping horse may be an acorn on a twig and hinted at possible Druidic connections (*Chris Rudd List* 38, No.56). A similar nut-like symbol can sometimes be seen on Tasciovanos Hidden Faces staters (ABC 2553), just in front of the horse, BMC 1591 being the best illustration of this. It also occurs on Tasciovanos Camul quarters (ABC 2589). There were some great oak-rich forests around *Verlamion* (Hatfield Forest and Epping Forest to name but two), so we think the acorn will have been a familiar and meaningful nut to Iron Age rulers in Hertfordshire and Essex. What Evans calls 'horse-shoe shaped figures in the angles' and others politely refer to as 'teardrops' are of course vulvas.

## Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI & TRINOVANTES united



**32. Cunobelinus Classic A. Twin Tendrils Type.** Sills class 7a, dies 67/118. c.AD8-41. Gold stater. 15-17mm. 5.42g. Ear of barley with central stalk, elaborate scrolls at base, CA to left, M[V] to right./ Stallion rearing right, branch above, CVNO below on exergual line, beaded border. ABC 2798, VA-, BMC 1830-31, DK 565, S 288. CCI 18.0901 (**this coin**). *VF/Good EF, rich rose gold, stunning stallion, full CVNO.* Ex Neil Bundle collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2022). Found Rib Valley, Herts. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only two others this pair of dies. **Est. £2000 £1600**

Many connoisseurs of Ancient British gold coins regard the Classic staters of Cunobelinus as the pinnacle of British die cutting and these coins are thus highly prized.

### Unique reverse die



**33. Cunobelinus Classic A. Bow Stem.** Sills class 7a, dies 43/-c.AD8-41. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.35g. Ear of barley with ribbon-like scroll at base, CA to left, M[V] to right./ Classic style horse right, branch above, CVNO below on exergual line, beaded border. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, DK 588, S-. *Good VF, gorgeous rose gold, neatly engraved, full-bodied horse, bold inscription.* Found Ely, Cambs., 15 November 2023. **RARE** type, **UNIQUE** reverse die **Est. £1500 £1200**

Dr John Sills says: "The quarter is struck from obverse 43, but it's from a new and relatively crude reverse die compared to the DK 587 type. As with DK 588 it was probably engraved by someone who had previously worked on the relatively unsophisticated Plastic type." (pers.comm. 13.12.2023).



**34. Cunobelinus Hunting Dog. CAM Inwards Type.** de Jersey class C1, var. iv. c.AD8-41. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.30g. CVN in central tablet, beaded border./ Hunting dog left, pellet in beaded ring above, CA behind, [M] below, beaded border. ABC 2846, VA 1949, BMC 858-61, S 301. *Near EF, good silvery silver, super central CVN, dynamic dog. By far the nicest example we've had.* Found Sudbury, Suffolk, 4 June 2023. **EXTREMELY RARE** only five others this legend variety. **Est. £750 £600**

William F.Stevens wrote: "Strabo tells us that hunting-dogs were an important commodity for the Britons and were a major export," (Coin News, August 2002, p.36). See Chris Rudd List 63, pp.5-9 and Dr Philip de Jersey, Cunobelin's Silver, Britannia 32, 2001, p.35.

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**Abbreviations.** F fine, VF very fine, EF extremely fine.

**References.** **ABC** = E Cottam, P de Jersey, C Rudd & J Sills *Ancient British Coins*, 2010, **VA** = R Van Arsdell *Celtic Coinage of Britain*, 1989, **BMC** = R Hobbs, *British Iron Age Coins in the British Museum*, 1996, **COI** = E Cottam, C Rudd *Coins of the Iceni*, 2022, **DK** = J Sills *Divided Kingdoms*, 2017, **S** = Spink *Coins of England* 2024 ed.

**Metals.** All Celtic coins are *alloys*, e.g. gold coins are a *variable* mix of gold, silver and copper.

**Grading.** Iron age flans rarely bear the whole die image. For example, an unworn coin graded 'Good VF' may lack part of the design or legend.

**Rarity** of British Celtic coins based on Celtic Coin Index: **EXCESSIVELY RARE** 1-5, **EXTREMELY RARE** 6-15, **VERY RARE** 16-30, **RARE** 31-50, **SCARCE** 51-100. Remember, most coin finds are unreported. So these figures are only a *rough guide* to rarity.

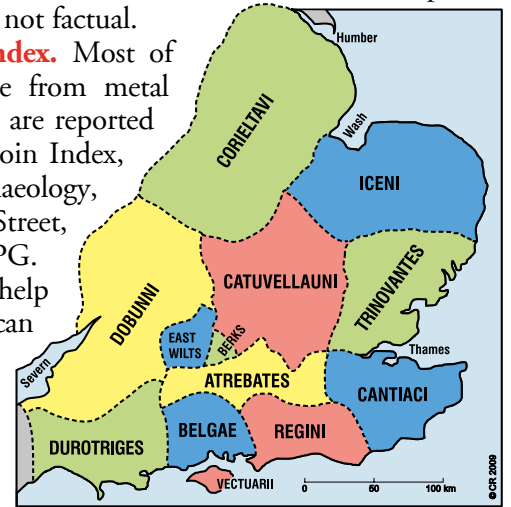
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