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Did Anarevito, perhaps like Eppillus and Verica, trade slaves for wine?

This speculative question was promoted by the recent discovery of a second Anarevito stater. Like the first, it was found in east Kent, where a slave chain and many pieces of Gallo-Roman wine jars have also been found. Anarevito's philo-Roman father, Eppillus, shows an early interest in wine while still in Hampshire (see his grapevine silver unit, ABC 1163). He shows more interest when he moves to Kent and strikes two wine-related gold staters, both with a grapevine wreath (ABC 384, 387). Anarevito's philo-Roman uncle (or presumed relative), 'vine leaf' Verica seems passionate about Roman wine and Roman wine vessels (see ABC 438, 1193, 1211, 1241, 1250, 1286, 1307, 1322, 1331). He also brags about his sea-power (ABC 1259, 1295, 1298), as do rival wine-importers (ABC 462, 471, 474 and especially 2939 which shows what might plausibly be described as a cross-Channel slave ship). Diodorus Siculus links the Gauls' love of wine to the Gallic slave trade. Also Strabo says slaves were one of Britain's main exports. So maybe it's not altogether unlikely that Anarevito, based in east Kent, was involved in Kent's lucrative slaves-for-wine commerce. Professor Sir Barry Cunliffe says that, after Caesar's conquest of Gaul, "slaves become a cash crop practically overnight." See Lot 8.



ABC 384



ABC 387



ABC 1193



ABC 1211

Golden evidence of Britain's slave-based, cross-Channel, Gallo-Roman, cash-crop, booze biz?

Auction 197 • 17 November 2024

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Gallic coins **IMPORTED** into Britain

Huge, heavyweight early gold



1. Gallic War Uniface. Crescent Arcs. Ambiani. Sills class 3b. c.56-55 BC. Gold stater. 18mm. 6.20g. Plain obverse./ M-shaped horse right, crescent and pellet below, 'coffee-bean' and anemone motif behind, exergual corded line with crescents and pellets. ABC 16, LT 8710, VA 54, DK 11, S 11. *Good VF, huge heavyweight flan of golden gold, whole coffee bean and anemone motif. Found near Aylesham, Kent, 1997.* **Est. £1000 £800**

The defining feature of class 3 is its corded rather than solid exergual line, but the arcs below are also larger and engraved as linear crescents on late dies, as this heavyweight example.



2. Boat Tree. Ornate Lines Type. Sills G-B D, fig. 4a. c. 56-53 BC. 11mm. 1.43g. Virtually blank obverse./ Tree-like object with two bars and small crescent either side, bent line, crescent and Y-shape below. ABC 43, LT 8722, VA 69-3, DK 29, S 10. *Near EF, golden gold, sharp strike with clear chain pattern and Y-shape with distinct curled tail. Found Chichester, West Sussex, 12 January 2023.* **Est. £500 £400**

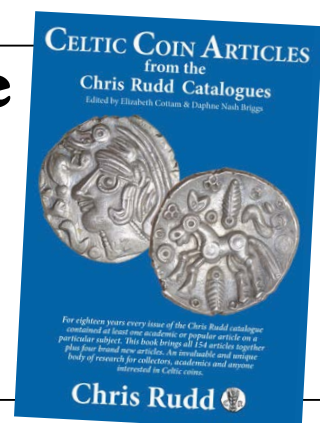
"On the Ornate Lines type the wedges are replaced by a chain pattern between two parallel lines and the Y-shaped frond below the central bar develops a curled tail" (*Divided Kingdoms*, p.16)

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Coins of the CANTIACI of Kent



3. Caesar's Trophy. Sills class 2, Tree Triangle. c.45-40 BC. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.25g. Plain obverse./ Stylised Roman trophy, cross-hatched box either side, crescent and rings below, above: large cross-hatched circles and central double-ring. ABC 192, VA 145, 147, BMC 437-43, DK 57, S 47. *Unobtrusive hairline crack, otherwise Good VF, golden gold, neat flan, terrific trophy. Found near Canterbury, Kent, 2008.* **SCARCE** **Est. £600 £480**

Totally reimagined version of the captured Gallic trophy on denarii of Julius Caesar. Utterly Celtic in style.



4. Nipples. Holman G2/5-1b. c.60-45 BC. Potin. 13-16mm. 1.26g. Linear head left with crescent hairline and linear neck-line, central pellet in ring./ Linear bull, crescent above, pellet below, exergual line. *Good VF, glossy dark-grey patina, sharp cast. Found Berkshire.* **Est. £300 £240**



5. Facing Heads. c.50-30 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 0.88g. Two identical heads face-to-face, each with prominent beak-like nose, corded diadem, bull's head below./ Well-formed horse left, with cabled mane, bull's horns above, tip of two triangles in front. ABC 216, VA-, BMC-, S-, *British Numismatic Journal* 1986, pp.181-182. *Good VF, silvery silver, fabulous facing heads, fully displayed upside down bull's head,* **VERY RARE** *only 20 others recorded.* **Est. £850 £700**

Note the bull's head below the facing heads and again above the horse on the reverse.

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

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Virtually full inscription



6. Dubnovellaunos Serpent. Sills class 3. c.25-10 BC. Gold stater. 15-17mm. 5.50g. Plain obverse with slight banding./ Horse leaping right with beaded mane, [DVB]N[O]VALLAVNO[S] around, two pellets and bucranium above, ringed-pellet above horse's head, serpent and ringed-pellet below. ABC 303, VA 169, BMC 2492-96, DK 76, S 177. *Good VF, fabulous horse, richly ornamented, virtually full inscription including letter A in front of the horse. Ex Winchester collection. Found near Cambridge, 1998.* **VERY RARE** **Est. £2000 £1600**

The bull's head, the symbol of power, ferocity and virility also appears on an early stater of Tasciovanos, king of the Catuvellauni, ABC 2553.

Excessively rare – only two others recorded



7. Eppillus Margate Plain. Sills class 1b. c.AD 1-15. Gold quarter stater. 14mm. 1.21g. COMF on plain field./ Horse right, EPPI above, cruciform flower motif below, beaded border. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, DK 115, S-. PAS: KENT-95BF6C (**this coin**). *Good VF, rich golden gold, heavyweight, bold horse, sharp inscription. Found Ripple, Kent, 2 March 2022.* **EXCESSIVELY RARE** *only two others recorded* **Est. £2000 £1600**

One of the rarest inscribed quarter staters in the British series, named after the specimen in the collection of Sir John Evans, which was found near Margate, Kent, 1853 (*Num. Chron.* 16, p.80, no.13) – and what a difference it makes to have a coin struck when the dies were fresh (contrast DK 115 when they were worn and clogging). Now we see exactly what was intended: the sturdy “Little Horse’s” neatly beaded mane, and the same pellets at the centre and between the petals of the flower emblem as it had before, in ABC 393. This was the last in Eppillus’ first series of Cantian quarter staters, and the examples we have so far suggest intensive activity at his mint just before Anarevito’s coinage appears in tandem with the last of his father’s, and at just the point when an ambitious young Cunobelin’s gold coinage also first appears in Kent. Was there a crisis in Eppillus’ Cantian realm, as Cunobelin challenged his control of the best harbours and seaways between the Folkestone/Dover area and the ageing Augustus’ markets in Gaul (see notes on Lot 8)? Is that why Eppillus promoted a trusted son as a district chief and heir, whilst inscribing his own last quarter staters (ABC 396) with the title REX, just to clarify which of them actually held the all-important treaty with Rome? It is only well recorded finds such as these that help us piece such a narrative together.

The finer of the two recorded and the only one available to private collectors



8. Anarevit[o]. Sills class 1. c.AD 10-15. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.50g. Back-to-back crescents on three-line wreath (left and right middle lines corded, top and bottom outer lines corded.), EPPI in angles./ Rider on full-bodied horse galloping right, ANA above (AN conjoined), REVIT below, pellet above horse's head, beaded border. ABC–, VA–, BMC–, DK 119 var., S–. PAS: KENT-06535F (**this coin**). *Good VF, large flan of buttery gold, sharp inscription, magnificent warrior. Found Dover, Kent, 4 March 2024. EXCESSIVELY RARE only one other known, these dies UNIQUE? Est. £25,000 £20,000*

In several respects this second Anarevito stater is as important as the first. Crucially, it confirms that the ruler's name is **Anarevito[s]**, not **Avarevito[s]**. The neatly ligatured cross-barrel A and forward-leaning N leave no doubt about this, as the first stater did. This one is struck from completely different dies, with an entirely different legend layout on both sides of the coin; note too that the letter O has been omitted from the last part of the name. The different dies mean that the issue was larger than originally thought. Indeed, Anarevito himself was probably a bigger figure in three- or four-part *Cantion*, each with its own king, yes, **king** (BG 5.22), than previously imagined. He minted more coins than hitherto realised. As Dr John Sills observes, Anarevito probably struck the Wreath Cross gold quarter stater, ABC 390, and also the Stepping Horse silver minim, ABC 402, both previously assigned to his father, Eppillus (J.Sills, *Divided Kingdoms*, p.78, 783). Moreover, it may be significant that this second Anarevito stater was discovered only a mile or so from the first (near Dover) and only seven miles from Folkestone, which in the Late Iron Age was the most convenient port in Britain for ferrying folk to France (ancient Gaul). This fact, plus the fact most of the other gold and silver coins now attributed to Anarevito have also come from east Kent, has led to speculation that Anarevito, possibly based at or near Folkestone, was perhaps placed to export slaves from Britain and to import Italian wine from Gaul. His two gold staters, both found not far from Folkestone, also hint that Anarevito had the financial and political power to profit from slave trading. David Holman, who has extensive experience of Kent's Iron Age coins and archaeology, agrees. He writes: "The evidence of Anarevito's gold staters indicates that he would have held a sufficient level of power to have been a likely beneficiary of slaves" (pers.comm. 14 July 2024). When comparing this second Anarevito stater with the first, (sold by Chris Rudd for £21,000, 16.5.2011, now in the British Museum) we think that most professional numismatists and most amateur collectors would concur that this superbly well centred specimen is of a markedly higher grade. The first of these remarkable and impressively important gold staters was discovered too late for inclusion in our book *Ancient British Coins*; however you'll find a brief reference to it in our note for ABC 390. For fuller reports of this stupendous stater see *Chris Rudd List* 115, p.2-3; *Current Archaeology* 250 (January 2011), p.7; *Coin News*, December 2010, p.10; *Treasure Hunting*, January 2011, p.86-87; *The Searcher*, February 2011, p.50-51.

Coins of the **REGINI** of West Sussex

Unique 'tattoo' coin from Hunston



9. Hunston Boar. c.50-30 BC. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.35g. Diademed head right, flame-like hair, hubbed wheel 'tattoo' on cheek, crescent ear with pellet arc below./ Horse right with double-stranded tail, human head above, boar below, ringed-pellets around, enigmatic shape in front. New type, ABC-, VA-, BMC-, S-. *Good VF, sharp tattoo, delightfully depicted horse, full boar. Unlisted by major catalogues. Found Hunston, West Sussex, March 2009. **UNIQUE*** **Est. £1500 £1200**

This silver unit was designed by one of the most versatile artists working anywhere in Britain at this time. He (or she) cut dies for several different district leaders in Sussex and also in Berkshire (compare ABC 1001-1007). This unit adapts a closely related Reginian design (ABC-, *CR List* 186.9), with the same goddess in her water-bird diadem (you see the lower edge of the duck's cheek and beak at the edge of this coin). Both issues were of equally good silver, matched in weight, but are clearly signalled as from different authorities. Did this one hold lands around a river other than the Arun (ancient *Trisantona*), whose significance for the primary design Chris Rudd described in his notes on CR 186.9? The Rother, for instance, which flows from Empshott in Hampshire to join the Arun in West Sussex? This one's version of their battle-boar stands with feet in "my" water, not on the other one's more solid surface. Their horses have deliberately different faces. This one adds extra ringlet markings and an enigmatic shape in front of the horse that might be the rump and bushy tail of a running animal (fox??), if only we could see more of it. Together with that enormous solar wheel on their goddess' face, these *must* all be one particular chieftain's identifying marks. But are both telling us they are first or second-generation Gauls (not Belgae), securely settled in Sussex? The head above the horse (their goddess again), first seen on ABC 644, then on both of these more evolved designs, was a traditional device of Lemovices in Limousin (DT series 1079, esp. DT 3414), whose coins our engraver obviously knew, and adapted for patrons in Britain. It was likewise rather a Gallic thing to do, to slap signature marks onto a collective deity's cheek, especially in Armorica and Normandy. But in a pleasing reversal of all their historical fortunes, someone in recently conquered Belgica (40s-20s BC) so admired our British artist's Reginian design, that they struck a little version of it in bronze for own their local use (DT 497) duck helmet, stalk lips, and all, but minus the military boar, which would have offended their new Roman overlords. Dr John Sills says: "The Hunston Boar is nearly, but not quite, a new type, if that makes any sense. The obverse, complete with a wheel on the face and pellet arc hanging down from the ear, is from the same obverse die as a coin in the Cottam collection, Spink 2 December 2015, lot 69 (1.33g), but Geoff Cottam's example is a brockage, with the reverse an incuse version of the obverse."



DT 497

Coins of the **BELGAE** of Hampshire

Near Extremely Fine and Excessively rare – only two others recorded



10. Hampshire Long-Spike (previously Burgan 11). Sills Western British Qc Derivatives. c.50-40 BC. Gold quarter stater. 9mm. 1.21g. Wreath of fine leaves, wide crescent at end of hairbar./ Triple-tailed horse right, floral sun and ringed-pellets above. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, DK 267 (same dies), S-. CCI 21.0790 (**this coin**), PAS:HAMP-2043B1 (**this coin**). *Near EF, good weight, beautifully*

ornamented, full floral sun. Found Overton, Hants, 28 November 2021. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only two others recorded.

Est. £3000 £2400



Avocet



Curlew



The first example of Hampshire Long-Spike sold at auction in Paris in 1989 as Burgan Lot 11. This coin and the second example were found in Hampshire, hence the new name, and all three were struck from the same pair of heavily worked dies at a time when Sussex and Hampshire were together producing more local issues than the rest of coin-producing Britain put together (Dr John Sills, *Divided Kingdoms* p. 240). This was a time when many aristocrats were leaving Gaul to make a fresh start in Britain. Some may have favoured Reginian Sussex (see notes on lot 9) but Belgae seem to have focused especially on Hampshire, where lands either side of the river Test, readily accessed from Southampton Water, saw intensive early activity: this coin, of good early weight, was found well inland, near its source. These people, only known to us from their coinage, engaged some experienced engravers: Long Spike's dies seem cut by the same hand as Reginian ABC 512 Bognor cogwheel: same horse with no mane, but there with Reginian cogwheel insignia. Other Regini (e.g. ABC 500-512, 554, 560, 566-581, and 590) used the same floral sun motif that Long Spike also displays above his horse: combinations of these shared devices may well reflect political associations for otherwise undocumented enterprises. Long Spike's own personal insignia are mainly embedded in his obverse. Here, we see subtle but startling changes to the usual local format: the wreath's leaves run as if from the outside inwards, not as if out of the centre; the nice crisp cloak emblem is positioned, most exceptionally, above, not below the sun-god's face arcs, if viewed facing right like everyone else's coins; and the frontal hook of the equally conventional hair-bar has been stretched into a striking central feature that resembles the head and long beak of a wading bird – either avocet or curlew – probing the cloak, whose parallel lines now do look rather watery. Are we even meant to turn it around, to see it as curlew, making the whole design face left – which instantly puts the cloak back in its usual position below the face arcs, but contrasts Long Spike's design with that of all his neighbours? Was that its whole point: to be distinctive at sight?



11. Petersfield Wreath Face. Sills Southern British Qc Derivatives. c.50-40 BC. Gold quarter stater. 9mm. 0.94g. Wreath motif forming hidden face./ Horse right, ladder mane and moon-shaped rump, wheel and pellet above, pellet triad under head. ABC 773, VA-, BMC 568-70, DK 238, S-. VF/Good VF, rose gold, neat round flan, bonny horse. Found Denmead, near Petersfield, Hampshire, 1 May 2023.

RARE

Est. £700 £550

The type is also struck from a single obverse die and the alloy used is unusual with gold, silver, and copper in seemingly equal measures, which would have limited Petersfield quarters to use within fixed administrative boundaries (see BMC p.75 for metal analysis).

Coins of the SOUTHERN REGION later dynastic

Excessively rare B Type – only three others recorded



12. Tincomarus ABC Bird. B Type. c.25 BC-AD 10. Silver minim. 8mm. 0.37g. Two interlocking squares forming star, B in centre./ Bird facing right on exergual line, branch in mouth, pellet triad under head. ABC 1133 (note only, no photo), VA 562, BMC-, S-. Near EF/VF, beautifully bold B, clear bird with open mouth, a miniature masterpiece. Ex John Follows collection. Found Pulborough, West Sussex, 2017. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** with letter B in centre, only three others recorded, this is the first we've had.

Est. £900 £750

The ABC Bird minim has fluttered between various attributions over the past three decades. The variety bearing an A on

the obverse was first ascribed to Amminus (eg *Origins*, p. 238), and this attribution persisted until at least the mid-1970s (eg Mack 316). By 1976 (*Britannia* 7, 96-100), however, Derek Allen had rejected his earlier opinion of the type, although he did not offer an alternative attribution. In 1982 Martin Henig and Daphne Nash (*Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 1, p.243-246) once again suggested Amminus, this time possibly acting as an emissary of Verica (and hence the use of an Atrebatian denomination for this coinage). In 1989, Robert Van Arsdell placed both the A and B varieties within Verica's coinage, and the British Museum repeated this classification for their three examples of the A type (BMC 1569-71). More recently Simon Bean has attributed all three varieties – A, B and C – to Tincomarus (*The coinage of the Atrebates and Regni*, 2000, p.131), on the basis of the presence of the letters A and B behind the head on one of Tincomarus's silver units, ABC 1106. He argues (p.135) that the C variety offered here is an abbreviated patronymic, i.e. for Commios, although it might also simply reflect the order of issue, following the minims with A and B. As for whether the coinage belongs to Amminus (unlikely), Verica (perhaps?) or Tincomarus (probably?), the case is not yet closed.



13. Verica Circles. c.AD 10-40. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.30g. Ringed-pellet within circle, VER[IC]A COMMIF around, beaded border./ Lion right, pellet mane, crescent above, REX below, beaded border. ABC 1229, VA 505, BMC 1332-55, S 132. *Good VF/EF, silvery silver, full crescent, lovely lion with bold pellet mane. One of the sharpest, most complete lions we've seen. Ex Neil Bundle collection. Found All Cannings, Wilts. **SCARCE*** **Est. £750 £600**

The obverse was inspired by a shield denarius of Octavian, 35-34 BC, RCV 1546. The lion probably sprang, fully formed, from Tincomarus (ABC 1121, 1124) or Eppillus (ABC 1166).



14. Epaticcus Eagle. c.AD 20-40. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.32g. 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, solid silvery silver, sharp strike, clear EPATI. Ex Neil Bundle collection.* **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



15. Bury Diadem. Ring Type. Talbot Bury A. c.55-50 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.38g. Female head left, with long pointed nose, heart-shaped ear and wearing lunar crown, snake in front./ Horse left, tiny s-shapes for mane, solar 'anemone' and ringed-pellet above, tiny s-shapes in cross in front, ringed-pellet below, exergual line. ABC–, VA 80, BMC 3524-26, COI 5b, S–. *Good VF, lightly toned silver, whole head, well centred and well ornamented. Ex Vindos collection. Found Beccles, Suffolk, March 1997. **RARE*** **Est. £550 £440**

Dr Anne Ross thinks the goddess may be Andraste 'the invincible', revered by Boudica (see Cassius Dio *History* 62 and

A.Ross, *The Bury Diadem*, *Chris Rudd List* 41, 1997, p.3). We think she may also be Sirona 'the star', the Celto-Roman healer-goddess (see *War Coins of the Coriosolites*, p.10-11). Another possibility is that she might be Ica, a goddess associated with springs, rivers and maybe healing too; an interesting possibility because the River Alde, which probably marked the southern boundary of the Iceni, may originally have been called Iken (see Eilert Ekwall, *English River Names*, OUP, 1968, p.218-219, and *ikkā 'cure, treatment, salvation' in Ranko Matasović, *Etymological Dictionary of Proto-Celtic*, Brill, 2009, p.171). Did Ica give her name to the Iceni?

Ex 2014 T370 Treasure hoard



16. Plouviez Cross. Talbot dies B/4. c.25-20 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 5.14g. Cross of pellets, ringed-pellet in centre./ Full-bodied horse right, with short dashes for mane and open head, feathered tail, above: pellet triad and large crown-like motif with two pellets in each crescent, pellets around. ABC 1420, VA 624-7, BMC 3392-95, COI 37, S 427. CCI 19.3951 (**this coin**), PAS: NMS-D8C40D (**this coin**). *Good VF, large flan, sharply struck in resplendent rose gold, full horse's head (usually off flan), whole crown motif.* Ex 2014 T370 hoard, found Runhall, Norfolk, 2 March 2014. **RARE** type, **EXCESSIVELY RARE** this pair of dies, only two others recorded. **Est. £2000 £1600**

This is Dr John Talbot's 'Plouviez Stater', named after Jude Plouviez, the archaeologist who excavated the site of the famous Dallinghoo gold treasure hoard in Suffolk, 2008-09 (*CHLAB* p.352-357; *Made for Trade*, p.229-230; *BNJ* 80, 2010, p.1-23). The pellet cross may represent the four directions. The four quarters may signify four sub-tribes of the Iceni. The double-crescent moon crown may indicate the sanctity of the horse to the Iceni.



17. Toney Curly Top. Left. c.AD 1-10. Silver unit. 12-14mm. 0.83g. Male head right, pellets for hair./ Curvy horse left, pellet mane, large open head, lozenge above with pellet in centre and at each corner, ringed-pellet below. ABC 1549, VA—, BMC 3554, COI 68c, S 433. *VF/Good VF, lightly toned silver, bold horse.* Ex David Burd collection. Found Ashill, Norfolk. **EXTREMELY RARE** only nine others recorded. **Est. £850 £700**

The Toney Curly Top head is directly copied from a coin of Tasciovanos, ABC 2610, as were the pellet triads in front of it (Did Cunobelin control the Iceni?, *Chris Rudd List* 102, November 2008, p.2-6). Dr John Talbot thinks the same engraver was responsible for both coins (*Made for Trade*, p.101). It's over six years since we sold a Toney Curly Top, Left which are much rarer than the usual Right facing Sun or Kite types.



ABC 2610

Not in ABC, VA, BMC nor Spink



18. Anted Slope. Talbot Unit die-group 1, dies J/18. c.AD25-43. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.24g. Back-to-back crescents./ Horse right, corn ear mane, reversed-S below head, two pellets below tail, below:

triad, row of sloping pellets and ANTD monogram. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, COI 86d, S-. *Good VF/EF, big flan of lightly toned silver, sharp horse, outstanding ornaments, full monogram. Ex Vindos collection. EXTREMELY RARE only eight others this pair of dies. Est. £275 £220*

Engravers at this mint were expert with spirited horses and heraldic patterns, but only the master-designer (ABC 1642) seems to have been properly literate, with an accurate ANTE monogram and neatly barred D (Brittonic *Tau Gallicum*). As letters clogged in use, and were in innocence only partially restored, successive copyists blithely lost the E, and the D's side bar could sometimes disappear.

Coins of the CORIELTAUVI of the East Midlands



19. North East Coast. Three Line Type. Sills Mint A. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.95g. Wreath motif with leaves facing inwards./ Disjointed horse left, charioteers' arms, pellet and crescent above, pelletal sun below, beaded exergual lines. ABC 1734, VA 805-11, BMC 204-10, S 29. *Good VF, yellow gold, bold horse, pronounced pellets. Found North Elkington, Lincs, 2018. Est. £1200 £1000*

This is the last issue from Mint A and has the "normal inverted U on the reverse [charioteers' arms] and a complex linear pattern in the exergue" see *Early Corieltavian Gold, Chris Rudd List 43, p.2-4.*

One of the nicest, most complete examples we've seen



20. Lindsey Scyphate. Reversed-S Type. c.50-40 BC. Gold quarter stater. 16mm. 1.33g. Stylised boar left, with short bristly back, short lines and pellets around./ Large reversed S-shape, stylised eyebrows-and-eyes and cross to left, pellets around. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, S 395. *Good VF, round scyphate flan of golden gold, well struck boar, whole cross. One of the nicest, most complete examples we've seen for some time. Found Grantham, Lincs., 7 April 2024. VERY RARE only 21 others recorded, including 12 chipped or broken. Est. £1000 £800*

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?

Six dates you can rely on

Some metal detectorists spend decades searching for their first gold stater. We try to make it easier for you. Here are six golden dates for your 2024 diary - days on which you can be sure of finding an incomparable selection of Ancient British coins (silver as well as gold) being sold by auction in Norwich:

19 January

16 March

18 May

20 July

14 September

16 November



21. Vepocunavos Vep. c.AD15-40. Silver unit. 15mm. 1.04g. Blank./ Horse right, belted neck and belly, solid head, VEP above, pellet triad under tail and below. ABC 1866, VA 963, 965, BMC 3277-82, S 408. CCI 92.0045 (**this coin**). *VF/Almost EF, lightly toned, strong legend, clear pellet triads. Ex The Royal Berkshire collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1993).* **VERY RARE** **Est. £350 £280**

There is a note on the card on the Celtic Coin Index saying: "Shown BM 30/11/87 by Mr Jenkinson." We bought it through the trade in 1991 and were given the findspot and date of 'near Kings Lynn, Norfolk or Lincolnshire, c.1990'. Access to the Celtic Coin Index allowed us to see the original record and that the latter findspot is more likely to be correct but the date that we were given wasn't.

Coins of the **DOBUNNI** of the West Midlands



22. Cotswold Oxo. Head Type F. c.10BC-AD10. Silver unit. 12mm. 1.40g. Head right, two ringed-pellets and X forming hidden face, S-shapes and ringed-pellets around./ Triple-tailed annulate horse right, small cross above, pellet and ringed-pellets around. ABC 2027, VA 1078, BMC 2981-3000, S 377. CCI 18.1755 (**this coin**). *Near EF, good silvery silver, super sharp horse and small cross. Ex John D Watkins collection, bt. Spink 21.11.1995, lot 23.* **Est. £350 £280**

In his 'A study of Dobunnic coinage' Derek Allen classified the uninscribed silver coins of the Dobunni by head types (in Elsie M.Clifford, *Bagendon: a Belgic Oppidum*, 1961). According to Allen this coin is Class F. In 1989 Robert Van Arsdell attributed Allen's Class E and Class F coins (both with the oxo motif on the face) to Antedrig.

Last Dobunnic ruler to strike coins



23. Eisu Tree. Dies 1/9r. c.AD20-43? Gold stater. 18mm. 5.35g. Dobunnic branch emblem on plain field./ Triple-tailed disjointed horse right, above: two pellets, small cross and EISV, wheel below. ABC 2078, VA 1105, BMC 3039-42, S 381. *VF/Good VF, neat flan of pale rose gold, boldly branded EISV. Found Gloucester, c.1990.* **RARE** **Est. £2000 £1600**

Eisu 'lord' may have been the last Dobunnic ruler to strike coins. Eisu's full name may have been Esugenos ('descended from Esos', a well known example) which then would be exactly the same in the British Celtic language as Germanic (primitive English) *Aessicunia* ['kinsman of Aesus'], a name we know from the Bath excavations, on a 3rd/4th century curse. This reverse die has been recut and shows the inscription EISV beautifully and completely displayed above the horse.

Coins of the **DUROTRIGES** of Wessex



24. Badbury Rings. c.58-45 BC. Silver stater. 18mm. 5.16g. Durotrigan wreath motif with upward-facing leaves./ Disjointed horse left with large pellets above, ringed-pellet above and in front, small C-shape behind, zigzag exergual decoration. ABC 2163, VA 1246, BMC 2647, 2661, 2728-31, S-. *Near EF, sharply struck in super silver, clear rings. Ex Neil Bundle collection. SCARCE Est. £550 £440*
Badbury Rings silver staters, named after Badbury Rings hillfort in Dorset, are also considerably scarcer than Cranborne Chase staters and usually in better condition..

Probably minted at Hengistbury Head, Dorset



25. Hengistbury Six Seven Ten. Mack type 346. c.AD40-50. Cast bronze unit. 16mm. 1.94g. Six pellets to left of forked line, seven pellets to right./ Ten pellets arranged in three rows. ABC-, VA 1346-1, BMC-, S-. CCI 07.0408 (**this coin**). *Good VF, emerald green patina, bold pellets. Ex John D Watkins collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2009), ex Vecchi Auction 24 March 1998, lot 7. SCARCE Est. £500 £400*
Probably minted at Hengistbury Head, Dorset, excavated 1911-12 and 1979-84. Most Hengistbury cast bronze units are locked away in museums, which is why they are rarely seen for sale. Not in ABC, BMC nor Spink.

Coins of the **EASTERN** North Thames region

Extremely rare and Good Very Fine



26. Harlow Flyer. Sills British Ld2, dies 3/2. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.11g. Vertical wreath crossed by pellet line within plain lines, 'bear's paws' in angles, crescents below./ Full-bodied horse right, wing-motif and pellet above, cogwheel sun below. ABC 2368, VA-, BMC-, DK 444, S-. CCI 11.0509 (**this coin**). *Good VF, sharply struck in golden gold, full cogwheel. Ex Luke Daniel collection, ex David Turner collection. EXTREMELY RARE only six others this pair of dies. Est. £1250 £1000*

There is a smiley hidden face at 12 o'clock. The two-wing motif above the horse echoes the two-wing motif on Whaddon Chase gold staters, (ABC 24433-2445) and quarter staters (ABC 2457). Published in *Divided Kingdoms*, p.475 (**this coin**). Not in Van Arsdell, BMC nor Spink.



Hidden face

Coins of the **CATUVELLAUNI** of Hertfordshire



27. Rose Wings. Sills class 2. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.24g. Cruciform motif with central four-petalled 'rose', crescents and objects in angles./ Well-formed horse right, with cabled mane, pellet triad below tail, wing-motif above, rose below. ABC 2469, VA 244, BMC-, DK 473, S 48. *Good VF, golden gold, clear ornaments, both roses clear. Found Bishops Stortford, Essex, 2020. VERY RARE* Est. £1000 £800

The first example of this type we sold in 1999 and we said: "The winged ornaments clearly identify this rare quarter stater as part of the Whaddon Chase series. The 'rose' is similar to the one on Freckenham gold staters [see ABC 1423-1435], with four petals rather than three" (*Chris Rudd List* 43, 1999. no.51). Dr John Sills agrees, saying: "The Rose Wings type equates to Lb class 2 Curved Wreath staters" (*DK*, p.485).



28. Addedomaros Spiral. Sills class 3. c.45-25 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.55g. Star-form solar spiral of six curved and corded arms, three crescents in centre./ Full-bodied horse right, corded mane, beaded dewlap, triad of horse muzzles above, ringed-pellet in front and behind, cornucopia below. ABC 2517, VA 1620, BMC 2396-404, DK 488, S 201. *Good VF/Near EF, neat flan of toned rose gold, bold horse, magnificent muzzles, complete cornucopia. Ex Winchester collection. RARE* Est. £1500 £1200

Addedomaros was a great innovator. This is the third of his highly imaginative obverse stater designs and the largest stater issue with over 50 reverse dies known. Remarkably consistent from beginning to end with only two breaks in the die chain, it was probably issued over a relatively brief period despite its scale. Nothing like it had ever been seen before in Britain or Gaul.



29. Tasciovanos Verlamion. Sills class 4b VER/TASC, Kretz Type C, var.1-2. c.20BC-AD10. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.34g. Crossed wreaths, crescents in centre, VER and teardrop in angles./ Horse stepping left, bucranium and two pellets above, T in front, AS below on exergual line, C under tail, pellet triad behind. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, DK 524, S-. *Near EF, neat flan of rose gold, flawless surfaces, sharp inscription, bold horse. VERY RARE only 22 others recorded* Est. £700 £550

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Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI & TRINOVANTES united

**Excessively rare die pair -
only four others recorded**



30. Cunobelinus Linear. Multi-Grain Type. Sills class 2, dies 13/23. c.AD8-41. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 5.43g. Barley ear with central stalk, [C]A to left, MV to right./ Horse right, ladder mane, branch above with pellet above and below, CVN below, pellet border. ABC 2774, VA 1925-5, BMC 1783, DK 550, S 282. CCI 22.0642 (**this coin**). *Good VF, lustrous rose-gold, super multi-grain corn-ear, bold horse, clear CVN.* **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only four others this pair of dies recorded. **Est. £1750 £1400**

This superb well-centred Multi-Grain stater appears to have seven grains of barley to the left of the stalk and six to the right. It is one of the earliest corn ear staters to be struck by Cunobelinus.

**Extremely rare die pair -
only eight others recorded**



31. Cunobelinus Plastic. Sills class 6, dies 40/52. c.AD 8-41. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.31g. Barley ear, no central stalk, CA to left, MV to right./ Full-bodied horse rearing right, branch and pellet above, CVN on exergue line below. ABC-, VA-, BMC 1846-48, DK 586, S-. *Good VF, rich rose gold, long, whiskery ear of barley, sharp horse. Found Essex.* **EXTREMELY RARE** this pair of dies, only eight others recorded. **Est. £750 £600**

“Allen allocated twice as many quarters to the Plastic series than is actually the case; only his nos. 176-182 belong to this group, the remainder being Wild types,” says Sills. “This has caused some confusion in the literature, with the result that the type is not illustrated in Van Arsdell and ABC. True Plastic quarters are a small but well defined issue struck from a single obverse die, which has four grains on the left hand side of the barley ear and three on the right, copying the asymmetry of the staters” (*Divided Kingdoms*, p.634).

**Historic Celtic head with lime-washed hair,
absent from all major catalogues**



32. Cunobelinus Spiky Bearded. c.AD8-41. Silver unit. 11-13mm. 1.20g. Head left with pointed beard and swept-back hair, CAM in front, VL behind./ Seated Victory right, arm raised holding bowl,

ringed-pellet in front, CVNO in exergue. ABC 2855 var., VA 2045 var., BMC 1863-65 var., S 303 var. *Good VF, lightly toned silver, magnificent head, full CAMVL, boldly struck seated figure. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only four others recorded.* **Est. £1250 £1000**

The head is undoubtedly copied from the denarius of L. Hostilius Saserna featuring a Gallic captive (RCV 418, Crawford 448/2e). This is a fascinating situation. This is Cunobelin's first portrait coin in silver and probably the first image he has had copied from a Roman denarius; and he decided to select an obviously Celtic head, not a Roman head like the fifteen other heads he later copied. Was this a deliberate choice? Yes, almost certainly. There is no mistaking the overtly Celtic feature of noble bearded head; the swept-back spiky hair, washed in lime-water to stiffen and bleach it, is a particularly Celtic characteristic, mentioned by classical authors. Or, might the head actually be supposed to represent the god Camulos himself? Gaulish/British Camulos matches quite well with a Roman Mars who was patron and ancestor of the Roman people as well as being a war god; and the unusual under-chin goatee beard in this image may be a nudge to think of a deity not of a person (Cuno put his own name under Victory). The reverse would have been copied from a gemstone. The obverse, labelled CAMVL, paired with the peaceful, seated victory reverse, must have been designed to celebrate Cunobelin's command of *Camulodunon*. We can guess how triumphant he felt, but we have every reason to think his victory was a diplomatic achievement, not victory after a bloodbath.



L. Hostilius Saserna

This is one of the finest we've seen



33. Cunobelinus Flower. c.AD8-41. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.21g. Central flower, two scrolled leaflets at base of stalk, CA to left, MV to right, beaded border./ Horse stepping right, head turned back, pellet triad in front, behind and below horse, CVNO between two exergual lines, beaded border. ABC 2885, VA 2049, BMC 1867A, S 305. *EF/Good VF, smooth surfaces of good quality bright silver, full inscription. This is one of the finest we've seen of this delightful type. Found Great Henny, Essex, January 2023. **VERY RARE** only 18 others recorded, including one in the British Museum.* **Est. £1250 £1000**

This silver unit – surely the work of a Roman-trained engraver – was almost certainly issued after the death of Cunobelinus and belongs alongside the Classic Left stater ABC 2804. The flamboyant flower arrangement has a funereal fragrance, a costly commemorative feeling, as one might expect of a floral tribute to *'Britannorum rex'*. Indeed the three-part structure of this flower arrangement (central part with two matching lateral parts) is highly reminiscent of the flower motif above the left-facing horse on ABC 2804, and the corn ear with two poppy heads (another tripartite design) on Dubno's quarter stater, ABC 3008. Below is a vegetal hidden face with droopy moustache (spirit of the recently deceased?). The fact that the horse is looking back, *facing left*, links it to the Classic Left stater, ABC 2804; and the way that it is stepping – right foreleg raised high, left hindleg raised lower – seems to tie it to Dubno's quarter stater, ABC 3008. Another point worth noting is that Cunobelinus Flower is the only Cuno-branded coin with **three** pellet triads, purposely positioned around the horse to form an inverted **triangle**; which suggests to us that this extraordinary silver unit is a sacred commemorative issue. Issued by whom? Our guess is Dunbo, in other words, the historical Togodumnus of Cassius Dio (*Histories* 61.33). Why isn't it branded DVBNO? Perhaps because his succession to the throne of *Camulodunon* was still in dispute or awaiting the blessing of the emperor Claudius.

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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.

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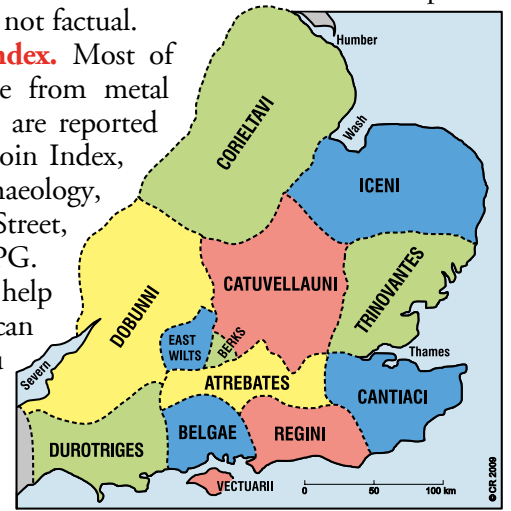
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