



Chris Rudd

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Magnificent laurel wreath border displaying pride in his achievements

This is the first time we have seen so clearly that the “diagonal feathering” of ABC 1064 that frames the horseman and royal name is in fact an unmistakable, classic, laurel wreath with pairs of bayberries between the leaves. These were recognised everywhere at that time as crowns of victory, especially in sporting competitions, but in political life kings, dictators, and Roman emperors can all be shown wearing them too. Tincomarus’ own portrait with laurel wreath on silver units (ABC 1106) accompanied subsequent gold staters in class 5b, shortly after this issue, and a wreath was repeated on the last coinage in his name, ABC 1094, probably struck for donatives soon after his death. Tincomarus must have had a lot to celebrate by the time this, his last stater series, class 5a, was issued late in his reign - perhaps to mark, say, 30 years in office, and at a time when he must also have had an eye to the future of his kingdom. Was this why he had the established format of classes 3 and 4 (ABC 1055, 1061) rearranged, to bring his dynasty’s credentials (“son of Commios”) forward to the obverse, while displaying pride in his personal achievements, inside that victor’s crown, on the reverse? See Lot 9.

Auction 201 • 20 July 2025

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Gallic coins **IMPORTED** into Britain



1. Gallo-Belgic Broad Flan. Left. Sills G-B Ab1, class 6, dies 37r/46. Bellovaci. c.150-125 BC. Gold stater. 21mm. 7.24g. Draped bust of androgynous deity left with flamboyant flaming hair./ Disarticulated horse galloping left, with curvy body, rosette below. ABC-, LT 7886, DT 67, Sch/GB class VIIIc, VA-, S 2, Sills GGC 298 (**same dies**). Good VF/VF, rich golden gold, whole face clearly defined, bold rosette. Ex Joseph Fay collection. Found Great Dunmow, Essex, 1997. **VERY RARE only 23 this pair of dies recorded.** **Est. £2500 £2000**

"The class [6] is defined by the return to a single rosette on the reverse", *Gaulish and early British gold coinage*, p.145. This example shows the deity's full face, not often seen.



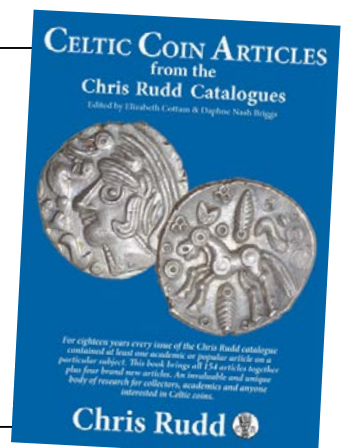
2. Uniface Tree. Sills Gallo-Belgic D, class 3. Morini. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.44g. Plain obverse./ Tree-like object with bar and small crescent either side, bent line, heart-shape below. ABC 43, LT 8722, VA 69-3, DK 28, S 10. *Good VF, minty fresh, neat round flan of rich golden gold, terrific tree. Found Isle of Grain, Kent, 2009.* **Est. £550 £440**

Oak trees were sacred to the Druids, who reportedly gathered mistletoe by moonlight (Pliny, *Natural History* 16.95). See the crescent moons either side of the tree?

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Coins of the CANTIACI of Kent

Excessively rare – only three others



3. Nipples. Freckled Variety. Type G2/6-3a. c.60-45 BC. Cast potin unit. 14mm. 1.35g. Linear head facing right, outline composed of pellets, central nipple./ Box-like linear bull, crescent above, central nipple. ABC–, VA–, BMC–, S–. *EF, smooth olive-green patina, distinctive ‘freckles’.* Found Essex/Cambs., 1980-90s. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only three others all found more than 30 years ago. **Est. £400 £320**

David Holman comments: “What’s fascinating about both this type and G2/6-5 (wheelface) is that they show individuality and artistic flair on the part of their designer(s). The same goes for the Thurnham type [*Chris Rudd List* 81, no.18), which is an extreme example, and one wonders why it immediately met an evolutionary dead end. What made them decide to do this?” (pers.comm. 1.4.2025).

Extremely rare – only six others



4. Dubnovellaunos Bull and Bird. c.25 BC-AD 5. Silver unit. 11mm. 0.81g. Triquetra of horse’s heads, necks and forelegs, [DVBN] OVAL[A] around./ Bull pawing ground, butting right, bird on back, ringed-pellet in front and behind. ABC 327, VA–, BMC–, S–, *BNJ* 1992, no.90. *Good VF, sharply struck in bright silver, clear horses’ heads, bold bull.* **EXTREMELY RARE** only six others recorded. **Est. £2000 £1600**

Commenting on our previous specimen Dr Philip de Jersey writes: “I’ve been asked many times over the years whether I have a favourite Celtic coin. It’s always difficult to choose just one, but this silver unit of Dubnovellaunos is a very strong candidate. The first example, found on the Isle of Thanet in Kent, was shown to the Ashmolean Museum in 1992, and has since disappeared back into the woodwork: I suspect still held by the metal detectorist who was lucky enough to find it. I liked the coin so much that I included an illustration in my Shire Archaeology book (*Celtic Coinage in Britain*, fig. 45): it seemed to be an excellent example of the inventiveness of the insular Celtic coinage...I particularly like the arrangement of the horses’ heads and forelegs on the obverse – although there are other types with a broadly similar theme (e.g. ABC 2258), this is especially accomplished – and the bird on the bull is exceptionally rare on British Celtic coinage. Undoubtedly a miniature masterpiece!” (*Chris Rudd List* 73, January 2004, No.15). This isn’t the only Cantian coin which shows a bird on an animal’s back (see ABC 231, 258 and 267). When we sold our last example in 2012 we said it was the first we’d offered for sale for eight years. It’s been thirteen years since that example, how long till the next I wonder?

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

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5. Amminus Plant. c.AD30-40. Silver unit. 12-15mm. 0.98g. Central plant in circle, AMM INVS around./ Pegasus stepping right, head facing, DVNI below, beaded border. ABC 456, VA 192, BMC 2522-23, DK 105, S 188. PAS: KENT-E40E89 (**this coin**). *Irregular flan and unobtrusive hairline crack, otherwise Near EF, good silver, bold inscription. VERY RARE only 17 others recorded, six of which are quite badly chipped. Found Ripple, Kent.* **Est. £750 £600**

Amminus' plant has seven stems, Cunobelinus' has nine (ABC 2906, see No.36 this list). Struck at *Duno-*, a fortified site in Kent yet to be securely identified. Dr John Sills says Amminus may have been a son of Sego, not Cunobelinus as reported by Suetonius (*Gaius* 44.2). This example is a particularly clear version with both names in full, every letter crisp and clear.

Coins of the BELGAE of Hampshire

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



6. Hampshire Thunderbolt. Sills British B, class 1, Thunderbolt, dies 14/25. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.45g. Stylised boat with two standing figures, pellets each side./ Cruciform thunderbolt motif, various objects around. ABC 767, VA 143, BMC 410-13, DK 306, S 46. *Near EF, pale gold, sharply struck, beautifully ornamented cruciform. EXCESSIVELY RARE only three others this pair of dies recorded.* **Est. £750 £600**

Dr John Sills says: "The angled thunderbolt, as seen here, is a very rare variant only seen at the very end of the series" (pers. comm. 14.4.25). The serrated angular object which we call a stylised boat turns up again on the Duro Boat Gold and Duro Boat Bird quarter stater of the Durotriges (ABC 2205 and 2208, see Lot 25).

Excessively rare – only two others



7. Danebury Torc. Wheel Type. Sills Western British Qc Derivatives, Danebury Crescent. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 9mm. 0.96g. Cruciform motif with single horizontal lines, double-beaded vertical lines, ringed-pellet at centre, crescent and bear's paws in angles, pellets and rings./ Horse right, beaded mane, pellet and beaded ring below. ABC–, VA–, BMC–, DK–, S–. CCI 24.3477 (**this coin**). *Good VF, neat flan of dark-hued gold. Found Alton, Hants., 16 November 2024. EXCESSIVELY RARE only two others recorded.* **Est. £1500 £1200**

A senior authority, name unknown, but one of the Belgae active in central and western Hampshire in an exceptionally turbulent period before Commios took overall charge, used the insignia that we see on this obverse die and on ABC 821. Reverses, however, hint that he may in fact have governed two adjacent districts, reflected in small but telling differences in the only two dies so far on record. In this (principal?) design, the horse has a crescent rump and wedge-shaped shoulder, a bold ring emblem with six pellets below, and - off the flan here, but seen on the other strike from this die (PAS SUR-BDA875), there was a 12-spoke solar wheel above. ABC 821 - issued for the other district? - added an outer border to the horse's mane, altered both solar emblems, and gave the horse the ring-with-pellet rump and shoulders that echoes his obverse insignia, and also appears on silver units that must belong with these quarter staters: ABC 917 perhaps from the principal district and ABC 932, perhaps from the other one (same mane as ABC 821).

Excessively rare – only two others



8. Crescents and Corded Arms. c.55-45 BC. Silver half unit. 10mm. 0.42g. Back-to-back corded crescents, cogwheels, s-shapes and rings around./ Four thin corded arms, central ringed-pellet, cogwheels and crescents in each quarter. ABC 974, VA–, BMC 652, S–. CCI 24.3222 (**this coin**). *VF/Good VF, bright silver, clear cogwheels. First we've had, much nicer than ABC plate coin. Found Ridgeway, Berks., 31 August 2024.*

EXCESSIVELY RARE only two others recorded. **Est. £850 £700**

The two examples previously recorded were both allegedly found in Wiltshire, this is the first with firm findspot so the attribution is still uncertain.

Coins of the **SOUTHERN REGION** later dynastic

Excessively rare – only five others
this is arguably the finest known



9. Tincomarus Native Warrior ComF/Tinco. Sills class 5a, dies ??? c.25 BC-AD 10. Gold stater. 19mm. 5.23g. COM·F in central tablet./ Warrior on horse leaping right, holding spear, TINCO around, laurel wreath border. ABC 1064, VA–, BMC 779, DK 334, S–. *Good VF, rose-gold, well centred COMF, bold warrior with border clearly displayed. An exceptional example, arguably the nicest known. Found Middleton on Sea, West Sussex, 25 October 2024.* **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only five others recorded. **Est. £3500 £2800**

This is by far the cleanest strike so far on record from the single pair of dies for class 5a staters, still in pristine condition, so that we can see much more detail than even on BMC 779, which was also an early strike, but when the dies were already beginning to wear. So much gold was struck for what must have been a special purpose or occasion that both dies were kept in use until they developed the major flaws seen on all the later striking (see illustration in ABC). This particular engraver had much neater Roman lettering than his predecessor at Tincomarus' mint (compare class 4: ABC 1061), and a good feel for horses, giving Tincomarus' plausibly spirited pony a braided mane and fluent, lashing tail. He also shows us a rider in unmistakably Roman military dress, with bare legs under a knee-length tunic that sweeps up over his thighs when on horseback, like any Roman commander on horseback. And did this engraver simply find doing faces difficult, or is that in fact what it looks like – a Roman infantry general's - not a cavalry commander's! - helmet that covers his whole face and neck and may even sport a crest? Was Tincomarus himself not only a successful high king but an accomplished horseman, with competitive triumphs to his name? Featured in *The Searcher*, January 2025, p.32-33 (**this coin**).

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10. Tincomarus Diadem. c.25 BC-AD 10. Silver unit. 12mm 1.26g. Diademed head left, edge of TINCOMARVS around, two ringed-pellets behind./ Horse left, beaded mane, lyre above, uncertain object below (serpent's head/fish?). ABC 1100, VA 473, BMC–, S 90. *Good VF, toned silver, beautifully bold strike. Ex The Berkshire Collection. Found Reading, Berks., 1985. RARE* **Est. £450 £360**

In 1995 Philip de Jersey read the legend on this type, then called Tincommios Diadem, as possible TINVOMMRDVS (*Chris Rudd List* 15.11). It was John Orna-Ornstein of the British Museum who in 1996 first spotted the correct reading of the name on a gold stater as Tincomarus. Following Alfred Holder (1904) who thought *tinca* was a fish, as in English 'tench'. Clive Cheeseman interprets the name as 'great fish' (*Britannia* 29, 1998, 309-315).



Fish?



11. Tincomarus ABC Bird. A-Type. c.25 BC-AD 10. Silver minim. 8mm. 0.34g. Large A inside two interlocking squares with concave sides, forming eight-pointed star./ Bird standing right on exergual line, in its beak is a vine stem bearing two bunches of grapes, small plant behind, beaded border. ABC 1133, VA 561, BMC 1569-71, S 158. CCI 01.0339 (**this coin**). *Good VF, toned silver, neat round flan, with clear A and complete eagle. Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, ex Warwick collection, bt. Chris Rudd 2001, ex Cotswold collection. VERY RARE only 20 others recorded, including five in museums. Est. £375 £300*

Dr Simon Bean believes this minim should be attributed to Tincomaros, not Verica. The obverse occasionally shows the letter B or C in place of A; these letters possibly refer to issues. The reverse is classical in concept and execution and may have been copied from a gemstone or a silver quinarius of Mark Antony (RCV 1487, Crawford 489/4), 43BC, which features a raven, lituus and jug. The most obvious message of this minim is that Verica (or Tincomaros) is bringing prosperity to the kingdom, exemplified by imported Roman wine.



12. Verica Little Horse Rearing. Sills class 2c, Rearing Horse, VI, No Pellets, dies 7/11. c.AD 10-40. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.16g. COMI in incuse rectangle, ringed-pellet above and below, beaded border./ Full-bodied horse rearing up right, hind legs on exergual line, VI above, beaded border. ABC 1199, VA 466, BMC 1179-99, DK 372, S 124. CCI 00.1177 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rose gold, complete inscription. Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2000). Allegedly found Waltham St Lawrence, Berks. Est. £750 £600*

"Burnett (1990) published details of 190 Iron Age and 24 Roman coins allegedly found just to the west of the Weycock Hill Romano-British temple, in 1977 (see also Haselgrove 1987, 269-70)", *Coin Hoards in Iron Age Britain*, p.55. Published in *Divided Kingdoms* p.394 and p.409 (**this coin**).



13. Verica Tiberius. c.AD 10-40. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.23g. Figure standing holding lituus (wand), COM to left, MIF to right, beaded border./ Bust of Tiberius right, VERI behind, CA in front, beaded

border. ABC 1250, VA 533, BMC 1421-49, S 136. *Good VF/EF, cabinet toned silver, magnificent Tiberius. Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, purchased 1985. **SCARCE** Est. £600 **£480***

The figure could be a statue from a possible Commios 'cult' temple on Hayling Island, Hants. Tiberius Julius Caesar Augustus (16 November 42 BC – 16 March AD 37) was Roman emperor from AD 14-37.



14. Epaticcus Box Lion. c.AD 20-40. Silver unit. 12mm. 1.28g. EPATI in box on vertical wreath, beaded border./ Lion leaping right, tail raised, standing on two exergual lines with pellets between. ABC 1355, VA 583, BMC 2330, S 359. CCI 25.0243 (**this coin**). *Near EF, lightly toned silver, boldly branded, fabulous lion with shaggy mane. Found near Swindon, Wilts. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only four others recorded - two plated, one badly damaged and one in the British Museum. Est. £3000 **£2400***

When Epaticcus took charge of Atrebatian territory south of the Thames, a master-engraver cut him some coin dies in finest contemporary Roman style, including both of these. One set for silver units had his portrait head and Catuvellaunian credentials (ABC 1352), this one emblazoned his name on a tablet, and both used this special form of the letter A with a dot, not a cross-bar, that anyone could associate with the Calleva mint, whether or not they could actually read. Both designs had a bounding lion reverse, which may even have been the device on the gemstone in his personal signet ring. As a Catuvellaunian royal prince, Epaticcus was not entitled to use his brother Cunobelinus' title REX, but his lion imagery is plainly regal, later becoming that lion-skin headdress on ABC 1346, in the style of Alexander the Great. Here we have an exceptionally fine reverse strike, showing details even of the tuft at the end of the lion's tail, and that handsomely sparkling guilloche pattern under the lion's feet. Might this celebrate Epaticcus' new command on both banks of the River Thames, bounding across it like a big shaggy dog – glad to be here, and friendly – but would be deadly if crossed.

Coins of the ICENI of northern East Anglia

Excessively rare - only three others this pair of dies



15. Bury Diadem. Main Type. Talbot Bury A, dies G/9 (**this coin**). c.55-50 BC. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.34g. 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' above, ringed-pellet below, exergual solid line with beaded line below. ABC 1495, VA—, BMC 3527, COI 5a, S—. *Good VF, large flan of good silver, super serpent, both heads fully displayed, handsome horse. Ex Vindos collection. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only three others this pair of dies recorded. Est. £750 **£600***

We think the goddess may also be Sirona 'the star', the Celto-Roman healer-goddess (see *War Coins of the Coriosolites*, p.10-11). *Made for Trade* plate coin, p.167 (**this coin**).

Unique obverse die



16. Norfolk Wolf Left. Inverted Triangle. Talbot Norfolk Wolf B, Sub-type Ci, die group 12, dies -/32. c.50-35 BC. Gold stater. 16mm. 5.67g. Left-facing Icenian wreath motif, leaves facing downwards, fibula below./ Wolf standing left with bristly back, bird perched on rump, crescent and large pellets above, large pellet and inverted pellet triad below. ABC-, VA 610-3, BMC 228-249, COI 7s, S-. *VF/Good VF, yellow gold, great wolf, prominent bristles and bird on back. Found Stretham, Cambs., June 2020. **UNIQUE** obverse die.* **Est. £2000 £1600**

This is a beautiful specimen of the Icenian cousin of Fenrir 'the fen-dweller' of Norse mythology. See Dr Daphne Nash Briggs, *Some cosmic wolves*, *Chris Rudd List* 110, pp.2-4. Sir John Evans, Richard Mack, Derek Allen, Robert Van Arsdell and Richard Hobbs of the British Museum all describe the wolf as a wolf. So does Dr John Talbot, the leading authority on the coins of the Icenian. However, in his landmark *Made for Trade. A New View of Icenian Coinage* (2017) John suggests that 'it could be a hunting dog' (*MfT*, p.86-87). We don't think so. As we stated 15 years ago, 'we have no doubt that it is a wolf' (*Ancient British Coins*, p.78).

Excessively rare type - only two other this pair of dies recorded



17. Ditchingham Star. Talbot Bury E, dies D/2. c.40-35 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.16g. Head left, corded hair./ Horse right, hollow star above, ring below. ABC 1519, VA-, BMC-, COI 31, S-. *VF, good silver, neat horse. Ex David Burd collection. Found Ditchingham, Norfolk. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** type and only two other this pair of dies recorded.* **Est. £750 £600**

This must surely be the portrait of a formidable local community leader in Norfolk, with a fierce glare under his heavy eyebrows, a long, drooping moustache, a distinctive, muscular jaw, and a long, pointed nose – because COI 30, struck from the same reverse die as lot 17, must just as surely depict the same individual, that time facing right and with a full beard. We may never know his name, but he was active at a time when there must constantly have been bands of incoming warrior-farmers and boatmen to settle with their families, escaping capture and endless Roman brutalities in Lower Germany and northern Belgica in the 40s BC and beyond – people who would for cultural reasons have been much more welcome in Norfolk than perhaps anywhere else in Britain. The hollow five-point star seated on the generic territorial mare's back relates him to the author(s) of other early, mainstream, Icenian silver (COI 8), but with an extra local detail of his own, here well in view, of an inner ring. Above her, the elaborate, crown-like insignia may well have been required, in such troubled times, to proclaim formal, sacral, and legal legitimacy for this man's right to strike coinage at all, conferred by the Icenian people's - literally - over-arching political leadership. The simpler device below her also appears on the Mossop Head series (COI 11e-g). For more detail on this interesting emblem see Chris Rudd's discussion of COI 30, reprinted accessibly in *CCA* (pp.307-9).

We don't just sell Celtic coins to collectors. We also buy them from collectors.



18. Freckenham Crescents. Triad in Ring. Talbot Boar Horse B Stater, dies F/8. c.5BC-AD5. Gold stater. 15-17mm. 5.23g. Back to back crescents with V-shape at terminals, row of pellets either side, pellet triad above and below./ Annulate horse right, corded mane, beaded ring above with pellets inside, star below. ABC–, VA–, BMC–, COI 52b, S–. CCI 97.2210 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rich rose gold, super sharp crescents full horse, splendid star. Ex Brian Wright collection, ex CNG 39, 18 September 1996, lot 2265; Davissons 12, November 1999. VERY RARE die pair, 24 others recorded. Est. £1500 £1200*
Crescent moons symbolise water and water-goddess Ica.



19. Ece Dishy. Talbot Ece B Unit, Die-group 3, dies C/5. c.AD 20-25. Silver unit. 12mm. 1.11g. Back-to-back moon emblem./ Horse right, dashes for mane, six-pellets on chest, pellets above, ECE below. ABC–, VA–, BMC–, COI 80b, S–. *EF, fabulous moons, crisp and clear, horse's head fully displayed, bold ECE. Ex David Lewis collection. VERY RARE only 16 this pair of dies recorded. Est. £350 £280*
A distinct type because of the dish-shaped flan.

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



20. North East Coast. Three Line Type. Sills Mint A, fig.7. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 18mm. 6.02g. Wreath motif with brick-like leaves facing inwards, 'bear's paws' above, tiny dots around hair bar, two crescents at end, serpent to left of crescent./ Disjointed horse left, large triangular head, small triquetra under neck, charioteer's arms above, rosette below, two beaded lines in exergue. ABC 1734, VA 805-11, BMC 204-10, S 29. CCI 98.1860 (**this coin**). *Near EF, pinky gold, beautifully struck both sides. Ex Winchester collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1998). Found South Carlton, Lincs., 22 July 1998. Est. £1000 £800*
In 1999 John Sills wrote: "Around 80 reverse dies are known for Mint A and nearly 50 for Mint B; this is a very large number (although still very much an underestimate, especially in the case of Mint B), and over a million North East Coast staters may have been struck (Early Corieltavian Gold, *Chris Rudd List 43*, 1999, pp.2-4).



21. Domino. Sills Mint A, class 6, Biface Domino Type. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 5.35g. Traces of wreath./ Disjointed horse left, triangle head, pellet and four pellets in box above, swastika below. ABC 1758, VA 829-1, BMC 3185-86, S 393. *EF, lustrous pinky-hued gold, full domino box and swastika. Found Toynton St Peter, Lincs., 20 November 2022. RARE* **Est. £1500 £1200**

In ancient symbolism *four* or a *four-sided* sign refers to the element of earth or land. In ancient Egypt earth is symbolised by a row of dots in a horizontal cartouche, not unlike the above 'domino box'.



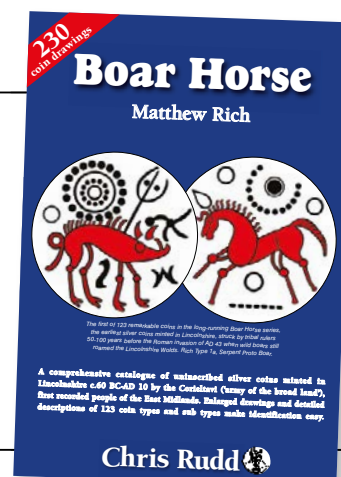
22. W-Forelegs Proto Boar. Rich Type 16a. c.55-45 BC. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.31g. Bandy-bodied boar right, ringed-pellet and large beaded ringed-pellet above, ringed-pellet below./ Naturalistic horse left with W-forelegs, large beaded circle above, ringed-pellet in front and below. ABC-, VA 857-5, BMC 3208-09, S-. *Near EF, bright silver, both animals bold, well ornamented. Ex Winchester collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1997), ex G Royle collection. RARE* **Est. £650 £550**

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



23. Eisu Arrowhead. c.AD 40-45. Silver unit. 13mm. 0.94g. Stylised head right, ringed-pellets, x's and rings around./ Annulate horse left, [EI] and arrowhead above, SV and pellet below. ABC 2084, VA-, BMC 3052-53, COD 31, S 382. *VF/Gd VF, cuprous silver, clear arrowhead. Ex Matt Parker collection. Found Melksham, Wilts., 1990s. SCARCE* **Est. £300 £240**

Boar Horse by Matthew Rich is a comprehensive catalogue of uninscribed silver coins minted in Lincolnshire c.60BC-AD10 by the Corieltavi ('army of the broad land'), the first recorded people of the East Midlands. Enlarged coin drawings and detailed descriptions of 123 coin types and sub types make identification easy. 80 fact-packed pages, over 250 illustrations, only **£15** + p&p direct from Chris Rudd.



Coins of the **DUROTRIGES** of Wessex



24. Cranborne Chase. c.58-40 BC. Base silver stater. 20mm. 4.57g. Wreath motif./ Horse left, with 'safety-pin' head, large pellets and one small pellet above, 'coffee-bean' behind, large pellet below, exergual line with zigzag and pellet decoration below ABC 2169, VA 1235-1, BMC 2555-636, S 367. *Good VF, large flan, well struck, fabulous horse centrally positioned, Found Dorchester, Dorset, 2009-15. Est. £300 £240*

Near Extremely Fine



25. Duro Boat Bird. DQS Geometric class 3 Mid, die-group 5.2, dies O9/R22. c.50-30 BC. Silver quarter stater. 10mm. 1.41g. Stylised 'three men in a boat' motif./ Central thunderbolt, Y-shape to left, uncertain object (stylised bird?) to right. ABC 2208, VA 1242, BMC 2734-47, S 368. *Near EF, chunky flan of lightly toned silver, bold bird, one of the heaviest of these dies recorded. Ex Bristol collection. **SCARCE** Est. £400 £320*

The Y-shapes may have been taken from the crescentic hairbar on Durotrigan staters. See Lot 24. The ellipse at the bottom right was originally a ringed-pellet. For more information on this fascinating series see *Durotrigan Quarter Staters*. The book contains die identifications, rarities and findspots (where known) of this large series, plus maps and tables.

Coins of the **EASTERN** North Thames region



26. Waldingfield. Sills British F1, class 2, dies 2/17. c.54 BC. Gold stater. 18-20mm. 6.20g. Wreath motif, beaded cloak lines./ Disjointed horse left, horizontal beaded mane, pellets above, 'coffee-bean' behind, pellet and two rings below. ABC 2335, VA 1462, BMC–, DK 419, S 25. *Good VF, as struck, yellow gold, bold horse, clear rings. Only one of a handful we've offered for sale. Ex Joseph Fay collection. Found between Dunmow and Chelmsford, Essex, November 2024. **EXTREMELY RARE** only six others this pair of dies. Est. £3000 £2000*

Dr John Sills says: "The Waldingfield coinage is the only series that it may be possible eventually to link with Mandubracios, who Caesar restored to the throne in 54 BC" (*Chris Rudd List* 27, 1997, no.89). Mandubracios 'pony breeches' was the son of 'Imanuentius' king of the Trinovantes who was killed by Cassivellaunos (BG 5:20, 22).



27. Dragon Cross. c.55-45 BC. Silver unit. 13mm. 0.96g. Four-armed spiral, ringed-pellet at centre, dragon's head at end of each arm, bucranium in angles./ Well-formed horse prancing right, pentagram and ringed-pellet below. ABC 2258, VA 164, BMC–, S 173. *Good VF, lightly toned silver, lovely dragon heads. Ex Joseph Fay collection. Found The Rodings, near Chelmsford, Essex. VERY RARE only nineteen others recorded.* **Est. £850 £700**

A strong Cantian influence can be detected here: dragons feature on ABC 213, 237, 243, 327 and maybe 303, 330 and 357; pentagrams on ABC 282, 285, 309 and 354. For the significance of the pentagram see *Coins of the Iceni* (Chris Rudd 2022), p.8.

Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI of Hertfordshire

Unique die pair



28. Great Waltham Curved Neck. (formerly Westerham North). Sills British Ab1, class 3, dies 15/27. c.75-65 BC. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 6.52g. Wreath motif with downward facing leaves./ Disjointed horse left, large pellet below, zigzag exergual line with dots between. ABC 2430, VA 200, BMC 1-23, DK 393, S 21. CCI 03.1137 (**this coin**). *Nr EF/Good VF, as struck in golden gold, pretty exergual decoration. Ex Nummi Regnum Britonum collection, ex Robert Redele collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2007). Ex Great Waltham hoard, Essex, 1999. Unique die pair.* **Est. £1250 £1000**

This is one of the earliest gold staters issued in Britain, as indicated by its unusually heavy weight and by its rich golden colour. It was probably struck under the authority of Cassivellaunos ('bronze commander') to pay British troops to fight Caesar in 54 BC. Dr John Sills says: "The reverses are readily identifiable by the horse's curved neck...A further distinctive feature in the 'stacked saucers' appearance of its body" (DK, p.416). Published in *Coin Hoards in Iron Age Britain*, p. 131, no.111 (**this coin**), *Divided Kingdoms*, p.422 & 464 (**this coin**).

Extremely Fine and Extremely Rare



29. Raunds Wing. Leaves Down. Sills Intermediate and Local Issues. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.22g. Crossed-wreath motif, short ladder-like lines and hidden face in two opposed angles, winged object in third, bear's paws in fourth./ Triple-tailed annulate horse right with beaded mane, 'dahlia' solar symbol above, ringed-pellet below, beaded ring in front. ABC 2466, VA–, BMC 367, DK 479, S–. PAS: NARC-D9904F (**this coin**). *Unobtrusive hairline crack, otherwise EF, pale golden gold,*

large flan clearly showing all ornaments, Found Bletsoe, Beds., 19 August 2024. **EXTREMELY RARE** type, only 15 others recorded, including one in the British Museum. **Est. £3000 £2400**

Dr John Sills describes the ornaments in the angles of the wreath as 'double annulet and linear crescent', we prefer hidden face. He also calls our winged object an 'angular cloak' and our bear's paws, 'simple fronds'. The horse is similar to Harlow Wheel gold quarter stater (ABC 2463), and Rose Wings (ABC 2469) but the triple tail and annulet body are probably derived from Tring Wheel (ABC 2228).



30. Addeddomaros Spiral. Sills class 3. c.45-25 BC. Gold stater. 16mm. 5.50g. Star-form solar spiral of six curved and corded arms, three crescents in centre./ Full-bodied horse right, corded mane, beaded dewlap, tip of triad of horse muzzles above, ringed-pellet under tail, cornucopia below. ABC 2517, VA 1620, BMC 2396-404, DK 488, S 201. *Good VF, chunky flan of rose gold, bold spiral, complete cornucopia. Ex Brian Wright collection. Found Fordham, Cambs.* **RARE** **Est. £1500 £1200**

Addeddomaros, 'great in chariots' or 'great in steadfastness', may have been a younger brother of Cassivellaunos and was evidently a Catuvellaunian king of huge power and prestige, possibly as well educated as he was well armed. He may even have known a little Latin and Greek. He was the first ruler north of the Thames to add his name to coins; if he hadn't we would never have heard of him, though the medieval Welsh Triads record Aedd Mawr 'Aedd the Great' as one of the legendary founders of Britain.

Extremely rare - only six others this pair of dies



31. Addeddomaros Floral. Sills class 3, Cruciform, dies 24/36. c.45-25 BC. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.28g. Cruciform motif of four leaves, teardrops in angles, ringed-pellet at centre, beaded border./ Annulate horse right, horse muzzle above, ring under tail, ringed-pellet below. ABC 2529, VA 1623, BMC 2417-21, DK 493, S 204. CCI 94.1348 (**this coin**). *Good VF, scintillating rose gold, sharp cruciform. Ex Shirley Teasdale collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2023), ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1995).* **EXTREMELY RARE** this pair of dies only 6 others recorded. **Est. £1200 £1000**

This is Addeddomaros' final gold quarter stater, struck to accompany his final stater, the Spiral type (ABC 2517) which also features a triple horse muzzle motif above the horse. Observe how closely Tasciovanos' first quarter follows the design of his predecessor's last. Published in *Divided Kingdoms*, p.550, (**this coin**).

Unique reverse die



32. Tasciovanos Warrior. Low Tail Type. Sills class 5b, dies 33/-. c.25 BC-AD10. Gold stater. 18mm. 5.39g. Crossed-wreath motif with two opposed crescents and four ringed-pellets at centre

forming hidden faces./ Warrior on horse right, TASC around, wheel and pellet-triad in front. ABC—, VA—, BMC—, DK—, S—*Good VF, light rose gold, great hidden faces, well centred warrior. Ex Brian Wright collection. **UNIQUE?** reverse die.*

Est. £1500 £1200

Dr John Sills says: "It's a class 5b Low Tail type from obverse 33, but struck from an unrecorded reverse die with TASC laid out in similar, though not identical, fashion to the class 5a High Tail type, i.e. with TA behind the horse, S below and C in front. On the High Tail type the tail is between the T and the A." (pers.comm. 3.4.2025).



33. Tasciovanos Eagle Griffin. c.25 BC-AD 10. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.35g. Eagle standing left, head facing back, TA in front, SCIO behind./ Griffin stepping right, ring in front, pellet triad below. ABC 2646 var., VA 1792 var., BMC 1658-59 var., S 232. CCI 99.0657 (**this coin**). *Near EF, beautiful bold strike, majestic eagle with fabulous feathers, bold inscription. Found Ashton Clinton, Bucks. **EXTREMELY RARE** legend variant, only eight others recorded.*

Est. £1000 £800

The Celtic Coin Index card says "Shown by Tom Clarke, 1999." A scarce type, we sold our last example eight years ago.

Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI & TRINOVANTES united

Excessively rare - only four others this pair of dies



34. Cunobelinus Biga. Sills class 1, dies 7/10. c.AD 1-10. Gold stater. 16mm. 5.44g. CAMVL monogram in central panel, on stylised vertical wreath, heart-shaped hidden face in top right and bottom left angles, beaded V in top left and bottom right./ Two facing horses left, four-spoked wheel below with pellets in angles, leaf above, tip of CVNOBELINI in curved exergue. ABC 2771, VA 1910, BMC 1769-71, DK 549, S 280. CCI 98.0504 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rose gold, full heart-face, bold biga. Ex Brian Wright collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1999), ex Colin Baddeley collection, bt. Chris Rudd (1998). Found between Datchworth and Aston, Herts., c.1997. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only four others this pair of dies.*

Est. £3500 £2800

The reverse design's theme is that of consenting union between two powerful tribes (cf. *Chris Rudd List* 111, pp.4-6). Its glorious leaf puts that same heart-shaped outline around a stylised Trinovantian branch, emblematic perhaps of *Camulodunon*, that had embellished gold staters since the days of the great Addedomaros - the last king to have held sway in in both territories. May we even read homage, in the horses and Sun's chariot wheel, to an honoured predecessor whose name meant 'great in chariots'? Even the curving layout of Cunobelinus' name echoes *DK* 483, first in its own series. But above all, the central image shows two wild tribal mares, divine beings with phallic faces, prancing in perfect synchrony, heads held high as if being put through a chariot manoeuvre. But they are without harness and they have no driver. Their performance is as consensual and perfectly in step as the dance of courting swans: that impression, with their high-held necks, must have been intentional. Of course one is also supposed to picture real-life, elite charioteering. There must have been stupendous games at Dubnovellaunos' funeral in *Camulodunum*, if he is indeed the man in the Lexden mound. These enriched gold staters would have made handsome prizes and impressive largesse to sweeten relations with potentially disgruntled Trinovantian aristocrats as Cunobelinus embarked upon his very long reign. After all, this first coinage, in all metals, was confined to Trinovantian territory: he ruled, in effect, as a Trinovantian king until, presumably, Tasciovanos died, perhaps by around AD 8, he could assume his father's mantle, and could redesign his coinage as sole ruler of both realms (ABC 2774). Published in *Divided Kingdoms* p.647, No.27 and p. 671 (**this coin**).



35. Cunobelinus Wild B. Ring Type. Sills class 5. c.AD 8-41. Gold stater. 16-18mm. 5.30g. c.AD 8-41. Gold stater. 17mm. Ear of barley, CA to left, MV to right./ Wild-type horse prancing right, spiky mane, angled foreleg, branch and star above, CVNO and ringed-pellet below. ABC 2783, VA 1933, BMC 1804-08, DK 561, S 283. *Good VF, cabinet toned gold, bold ear of barley, lovely leaping horse. Ex Brian Wright collection. RARE* **Est. £1200 £1000**

The Wild B Type has no central stalk and a single short curl attached to its right hand side, the reverse has a prancing horse with unusually small head in comparison to the thick neck. The later dies have a large ringed-pellet between CVNO and the horse's body. The uniformity of style and detail from start to finish on both obverse and reverse suggests the work of a single engraver.



36. Cunobelinus Plant. c.AD 8-41. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.16g. Plant or branch with nine buds or fruits, CVNOB ELINVS around and within two circles, the outer one beaded./ Partially-cloaked male figure walking right; he holds a club in his right hand and a three-pronged object in his left hand (probably a thunderbolt); CA to left, MV to right, beaded border. ABC 2906, VA—, BMC 1897, S 309. *Near EF, lightly toned silver, magnificent plant, every bud pronounced. Found Eridge, East Sussex, November 2017. RARE* **Est. £750 £600**

Almost certainly one of Cunobelin's latest issues of silver, perhaps dating from the mid-30s AD. The obverse was copied by his son, Amminus, in Kent (ABC 456), probably later still in the 30s. See Lot 5. Reverse image in definite roman style clearly an image projecting power.



37. Cunobelinus Pegasus Victory Left. c.AD 8-41. Bronze unit. 17mm. 1.41g. Pegasus left, looking back over shoulder, [CAM] below, beaded border./ Victory standing left, CVN in front. ABC 2921, VA 1973, BMC 1938-43, S 325. PAS: KENT-401811 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rich brown patina, bold pegasus, clear wings. Found Sutton, near Dover, Kent. SCARCE* **Est. £250 £200**

Probably issued for Kentish use.

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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* 2025 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.

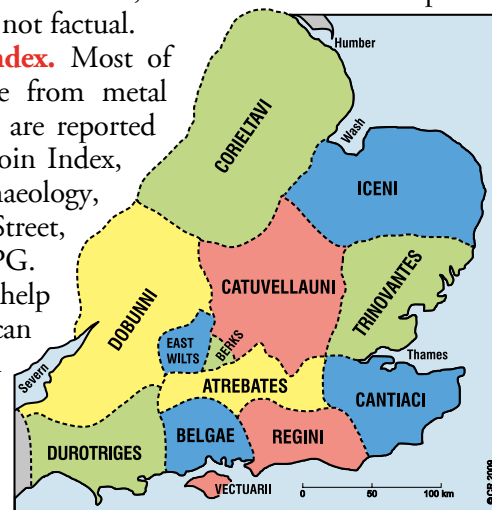
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