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Minted by “Double Serpent son of Sunburst”?

At a time when so many varieties of gold quarter stater were issued that it sometimes seems every hillfort in Hampshire must have had its own coin-lord, ABC 593, found at Danebury, was the sole example on record of this particularly fine issue until this second example came to light. And what a tale a new variety can tell. From the eastern reaches of the Belgae chalk-lands (its author had widespread connections), this quarter stater was struck on the same anvil as ABC 593 when that obverse die was already well used (his mint had plenty of gold). Its reverse die, however, was new, with exuberant embellishments that distinguish it from the first issue and suggest its author's pride in defending a productive stock-raising community. See how his horse's mane of simple beads has now sprung into leaf, even become a nodding ear of grain, and how her knees and feet are conjoined trefoils of long, sharp blades: a unique and practical series marker at a local mint that also gives the distinct impression that this district's emblematic mare, with her sun-shield rump and shoulders, is up to her knees in a late summer meadow. Even the standard hook device on the obverse die's hair-bar was designed for this ruler as if with a handle, resembling a sickle or scythe, which has now been sharpened, losing its former terminal bead. The whole design seems to speak of a wealthy warlord's good fortune, and gratitude to a landowning militia for their services this season, rewarding horsemen in gold, with a promise of more of the same next season. See Lot 6.

Auction 203 • 16 November 2025

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Auction 203 ends 16 November 2025



This catalogue goes live online at the-saleroom.com from 9am Monday 3 November. Bidding ends from 5pm (GMT) Sunday 16 November 2025. 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.

Gallic coins **IMPORTED** into Britain



1. Gallo-Belgic Broad Flan. Left. Sills G-B Ab2, class 3b, dies 24/24. Scheers class VII. Bellovaci. c.115-100 BC. Gold quarter stater. 14mm. 1.71g. Elaborate wreathed head left, three large curls for hair./ Horse left, stylised charioteer and pellets above, 'coffee-bean' behind, rosette below. ABC 31, LT 7892, VA 20, Sills 309, fig.34f, S 7. *Slightly wavy flan otherwise Good VF, large flan of golden gold, fabulous face with phallic nose. Ex Winchester collection. **VERY RARE** Est. £1250 £1000*
See *Gaulish and Early British Gold Coinage* for more information on the Gallo-Belgic Ab series p.140-159.

Stunning extremely fine



2. Gallic War Uniface. Sills class 3. Ambiani. c.56-55 BC. Gold stater. 17-19mm. 6.12g. Plain obverse./ M-shaped horse right, pellets and 'coffee bean' in front, crescent and pellet below, exergual corded line. ABC 16, LT 8710, VA 54, DK 9-15, S 11. *Stunning EF, golden gold, smooth flawless surfaces, well centred horse. A beautiful example. Ex Brian Wright collection. Est. £850 £700*
The 'coffee bean' and pellets in front of the horse may be seen as a rearing serpent. See Dr John Sills article on identifying the different types of Gallic War uniface staters, their classes, dating and die statistics in *Celtic Coin Articles* p.366-370.

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

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Coins of the CANTIACI of Kent



3. Dubnovllaunos Trefoil. Sills class 3, Serpent, dies -/4. c.25 BC-AD 5. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.33g. Plain with slight banding./ Horse right with beaded mane, V-shaped trefoil above, serpent below, four ringed-pellets around, all within cabled border. ABC 312, VA 170, BMC 2475-77, DK 79, S 171. CCI 96.2613 (**this coin**). *Good VF, neat flan of rose gold, with superbly styled horse, well ornamented.* *Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2001), ex SNC May 1999, no.2007; October 1997 no.4905; July 1996, no.3235. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only three others this reverse die. Est. £850 £700*

The fact that all the earliest gold coins struck in Kent had plain or near-plain obverses is indicative of the large quantities of uniface Belgic staters and quarter staters imported to Cantion during and after the Gallic War. These one-sided imports made uniface gold coins the acceptable norm in Late Iron Age Kent. Published in *Divided Kingdoms*, p.96 (**this coin**).



4. Sam Griffin. c.AD 1-10? Silver unit. 12mm. 0.89g. Laureate head left, crescentic hair with central crescent-on-line, ringed-pellets at base./ Griffin left, head turned back, beaded mane, SA below. ABC 369, VA-, BMC-, DK 91, S 187. *VF, good head with interesting hair ornament, bold griffin, SA visible.* *Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2009). **VERY RARE** only 19 others recorded, including four large fragments. Est. £850 £700*

The bust on this type appears to be derived from the Eppillus Carnyx (ABC 399, DK 117) which, if correct, would mean that Sams coinage overlaps with – or even postdates – that of Eppillus. Dr John Sills explains: “Caution should be exercised in automatically assuming that the Sam bust is the copy, however, for it is a spirited design in its own right and may simply be the last in a sequence of distinctive Cantian heads, such as those on Dubnovllaunos’ Rochester Pegasus [ABC 318, DK 81] and Pegasus silver [ABC 315, DK 83].” *Divided Kingdoms*, p.54.

Coins of the SOUTHERN REGION early uninscribed



5. Selsey Two Faced. Sills British Qd Plain Type, class 1. c.55-45 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.53g. Wreath design with three hidden faces and two bars between wreath and crescent./ Triple-tailed horse right, charioteer's arms above, 'coffee-bean' and ringed-pellet in front, eight-spoked wheel below. ABC 485, 491, VA 212-5, BMC 450-452, DK 207, S 38. *Good VF, toned gold, bold triple-tailed horse.* *Ex Winchester collection. **SCARCE** Est. £1500 £1200*

This type has between six and nine leaves in the right-hand side of the wreath below the hairbar. The ringed-pellet in front of the horse could be an issue mark, rather like the S-shape seen on DK 208.

Coins of the **REGINI** of West Sussex

Excessively rare – only one other recorded



6. Danebury Sun Snake. Sills Western British Qc Derivatives, Danebury Sun. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.11g. Central wreath, large sun in bottom right angle, two S-shapes snakes in top right./ Annulate horse left, large beaded wheel above, ringed-pellets and pellets around. ABC 593, VA–, BMC–, DK 268, S–. PAS: HAMP-17B171 (**this coin**). *Good VF, yellow gold, big sun, sharp horse. Found Worldham, East Hampshire, 22 October 2020. EXCESSIVELY RARE only one other recorded.*

Est. £2500 £2000

We may never know this warlord's name, nor whether he issued this coinage alone or in consortium with other leaders, but we can at least be sure that authorship was precisely encoded using known devices somewhere in the design. His horses have decidedly split, blade-like feet. This was one of his signature markers, and silver units ABC 875 may well have been issued to go with ABC 593, compensating local infantry for absence in spring from the farm. And he was a man of war: coins designed for him glint with all that he needed to win and protect possessions amidst the conflict that attended political change throughout Britain's southern region. His emblematic mare (perhaps on both dies) had a sharp, broad, spear-blade ear, and there was an oval military shield behind her. Presiding above, his own sparkling version of the regional Belgic solar wheel was drawn as if from life as a literal chariot wheel. Are we, perhaps, to read his name as "Double Serpent son of Sunburst" on the obverse? If so, some other Danebury area silver units are probably his: ABC 899, whose animal dancing with "his" chariot wheel straddles his signature double serpent; while a dancing, equine dragon with that split-blade foot (ABC 896), may celebrate a fine season's achievements at a winter feast. The central pellet in the little solar ring at the far left of the design on both dies for this new quarter stater has been carefully scratched over - was this more than simply a useful control mark at the mint, but another seasonal marker? Might they themselves have danced with swords at winter festivals, and competed for prizes in gold?



7. Selsey Tramlines. Sills Early Southern Local Issues, Belgic and Cantian derivatives, dies 2/2. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 9mm. 1.14g. Two parallel corded lines with row of three ringed-pellets between and triad of small rings on each side of otherwise plain field./ Horse left with beaded mane and corded tail, ringed pellet, small rings and 'wing motif' above, floret below, small ring in front and behind. ABC 632, VA 254, BMC 553-567, DK 189, S–. CCI 02.0719 (**this coin**). *EF, pinkish-gold, boldly struck with unusual ornament above horse. Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2002). Found Bury, West Sussex, November 2001. EXTREMELY RARE only 10 this pair of dies recorded. Est. £1250 £1000*

The British Museum's 15 specimens were all found at Selsey/East Wittering, Sussex, c.1873. John Sills calls the ornament above the horse a 'curled hair frond', when we sold this coin in 2002 we called it a 'dolphin'. Nowadays we prefer to think of it as a 'wing motif' possibly indicating a flying horse. It can also be seen in an upright position on SS Type gold stater, ABC 2237, Whaddon Chase gold staters, ABC 2338-2344, ABC 2433-2442, the Bishop's Wreath gold quarter stater, ABC 2365 and Lister's Celtic Head silver unit, ABC 2478. Published in *DK* p.219, no.25 and p.242 (**this coin**).

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Unpublished in all major reference works



8. Yarmouth Quarter. c.55-45 BC. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.36g. Stylised bearded head right with spiky eyebrow, wiggly haircurls, ten-pellet beard and radial lines for neck./ Cruciform 'thunderbolt' motif of two opposed 'fishes', 'shuttlecocks' and thin linear crescents. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, DK-, S-. CCI 98.0724 (**this coin**). *EF, toned gold, delightful design. Found Eastbourne, East Sussex. Ex Geoff Cottam collection. VERY RARE only 19 recorded. Previously unpublished in all major reference works.* **Est. £2000 £1600**

This type has puzzled and concerned numismatists for three decades, which is why you won't find it in any of the major reference catalogues. This is a Yarmouth Quarter, struck in the Solent hinterland, probably at or near Chichester, West Sussex, to accompany the Yarmouth stater, ABC 518, DK 177 and the Chichester Chariot Wheel silver unit, ABC 701, both of which have three radial lines, as does the Yarmouth quarter. For more information about this most elusive and enigmatic type see *Chris Rudd Auction* 183, Lot 7.

Coins of the BELGAE of Hampshire



9. Chute. Sills British Da1, class 1b. c.54-53 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 6.12g. 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, zigzag exergual decoration. ABC 746, VA 1205, BMC 35-76, DK 302, S 22. *Good VF, neat flan of buttery yellow gold, beautifully ornamented, full tail lines, crab and shrimp. Ex Brian Wright collection, bt. Lloyd Bennett, "prob. Chute hoard no.2."* **RARE**

Est. £1000 £800

The high grade of this coin does indicate that it could possibly have come from a hoard.

Coins of the SOUTHERN REGION later dynastic



10. Commios A-Type. Sills class 1, dies 2/4. c.50-25 BC. Gold quarter stater. 9mm. 1.21g. Letter A on plain field./ Globular horse left, ladder-like mane, beaded ring above, double rings below. ABC 1031, VA 353-5, BMC-, DK 324, S 67. CCI 14.0615 (**this coin**). *Good VF/Near EF, neat flan of golden gold, clear A, bold horse. Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2013), ex Chris Hamlyn collection. VERY RARE only 16 this pair of dies recorded.* **Est. £850 £700**

Van Arsdell calls it a 'digamma'. We say it's a letter A for Atreates. A nice example of a most unusual gold coin. Published in *DK*, p.330 (**this coin**).



11. Commios Moon Head. c.50-25 BC. Silver minim. 8mm. 0.34g. Moon head left, lentoid eye, ring and ringed-pellets in front, curved ladder for hair./ Globular horse left, ringed-pellet above and below. ABC 1043, VA 358-5 (*Num. Circ.* Nov. 1989), BMC 759-60, S 70. *EF, neat flan of lightly toned silver, fabulous head.* Ex *The Royal Berkshire Collection*, bt. Chris Rudd (2010). Found Greywell, near Basingstoke, Hampshire. **VERY RARE** **Est. £450 £360**

Head, horse and ringed-pellets are very like those of Old Basing silver unit of the Belgae, ABC 836. The attribution to Commios, first proposed by Van Arsdell in 1989, is stylistic.



12. Eppillus Pegasus. Sills class 2, dies 6/5. c.20BC-AD1. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.19g. EPPIL COMF in two lines on plain field, beaded border./ Pegasus right, pellet above, ringed-pellet below, beaded border. ABC 1154, VA 435, BMC 1010-15, DK 355, S 98. CCI 00.0979 (**this coin**). *Good VF, rose gold, full inscription, bold Pegasus with big wing.* Ex *Winchester collection*, ex Goldberg 7 June 2000, lot 3012; *CNR Summer/Fall 2000*, no.112. **VERY RARE** only 18 others this pair of dies. **Est. £750 £600**

Eppillus 'little horse' proudly states on this superb gold quarter stater that he is a son of Commios. Published in *DK*, p.372 (**this coin**).

Ex Mossop collection



13. Eppillus Grapevine. c.20BC-AD1. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.21g. Bearded head right, vine leaf border./ Boar right, EPPI above, F COM below, beaded border. ABC 1163, VA 416, BMC 1061-87, S 100. CCI 93.0725 (**this coin**). *Good VF, lightly toned silver, well centred, pleasing portrait, beautiful boar, complete inscription.* Ex *The Royal Berkshire Collection*, bt. Glendining's, 6 November 1991, lot 31, ex Mossop collection. **SCARCE** **Est. £750 £600**

We think the wreath is a stylised laurel wreath, a celebratory victory wreath of the sort used by his brother Tincomarus (ABC 1094 and 1130) and by Eppillus himself in Kent. The wide spacing of the paired laurel leaves is particularly noticeable on Eppillus' two Cantian staters (ABC 384 and 387) and, to a lesser extent, on a Cantian quarter stater (ABC 390). And what victory would Eppillus have been celebrating with this silver coin? Taking *Calleva* from Tincomarus is the obvious answer, and would account for his use of the martial boar on this coin (boars live in forests and *Calleva* means 'place in the woods'). Around the same time, Andoco issued a silver unit showing a bearded head similarly encircled by a vegetal border (ABC 2721). A beautiful coin from the magnificent collection of H.R.Mossop DFC (1919-88), author of *The Lincoln Mint*, published in *DK*, p.372 (**this coin**).

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

Excessively rare – only four others this pair of dies recorded



14. Verica Thunderbolt. VIR Type. Sills class 4, dies 13/25. c.AD 10-40. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.32g. Thunderbolt with central ringed-pellet, COM above, FILI below, beaded border./ Horse leaping right, VIR above, ringed-pellet below, beaded border. ABC 1205, VA 468, BMC 1218-22, DK 376, S 126. CCI 13.0073 (**this coin**). *Near EF, sharply struck in scintillating rose gold, full inscription, fabulous horse. Ex Winchester collection, ex M&M Germany, 4 October 2001, lot 1209. EXCESSIVELY RARE only four others this pair of dies recorded.*

Est. £1200 £1000

The thunderbolt was a power symbol in the classical world, an attribute of Zeus and Jupiter. In Gaul the thunderbolt was an attribute of Turanis, the god of thunderstorms. This one may have been copied from a denarius of Q.Fabius Maximus, restored issue, 82 or 80 BC, Sear RCV 295, RRC 371/1. Published in DK p.411 (**this coin**).



RCV 295

Coins of the **ATREBATES** of north Hampshire



15. Epaticcus Eagle. c.AD 20-40. Silver unit. 11mm. 1.20g. 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. *Good VF, cabinet toned silver, full EPATI, majestic eagle. Ex Winchester 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 Amminius. 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

**Extremely fine and extremely rare
– only eight others recorded**



16. Irstead Trefoil. Two Dots. Talbot Early Boar Horse B (A). c.AD 5-10. Gold quarter stater. 10mm. 1.07g. Latticed square on opposed crescents./ Horse stepping right, with dash-style mane and bridle rein, trefoil above, ringed-pellet below. ABC 1474, VA-, BMC 3436, COI 59, S 430. *EF, beautiful toned rose gold, sharp squares, full bodied horse, clear trefoil. Ex Winchester collection.* **EXTREMELY RARE only eight others recorded.**

Est. £750 £600

Dr John Talbot describes his Boar Horse B (A) quarter staters as "being neater and 'tighter' in execution" than the more common BHB Trefoil quarter (*What is Icenian Coinage?* unpublished doctoral thesis, 2015, vol.2, p.146). Also the latticed box on the Two Dots Type isn't quite as square, the horse's mane is larger and you can see its bridle rein more clearly.

Near extremely fine



17. Norfolk Boar. Beaded Rings. Talbot Boar Horse B (A) Unit. c.AD 5-10. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.15g. Bristly boar right, beaded rings above, pellet below./ Horse right, linear mane, pellet triad and beaded ring above enclosing pellet triad. ABC 1576, VA 655, BMC 3445-54, COI 60a, S431. *Near EF, good silver, sharp strike, bold beaded rings.* Ex Geoff Cottam collection, bt. Cummings, 25 September 1991. Found Snettisham, Norfolk. **RARE** **Est. £650 £500**



18. Ecen Corn Ear. High N. Talbot Ecen Unit die-group 1. c.AD 25-35. Silver unit. 13mm. 1.25g. Back-to-back moon emblem./ Horse right, corn-ear mane, trefoil on chest, two pellets below tail, pellet daisy above, diagonal row of three pellets and ECEN below, N raised. ABC-, VA-, BMC 4033, COI 89c, S-.. *EF, large flan, sharply struck in dazzling silver, fabulous filly, beautifully ornamented. One of the sharpest we've seen for some time.* Ex Winchester collection. **VERY RARE** only 23 others recorded. **Est. £400 £360**

Notable Norfolk God



19. Norfolk God Moustache. Lipline. Talbot Late Face Horse Unit sub-set 2, Die group 11. c.AD 20-45. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.19g. Moustached head right, wearing boarskin headdress, slit for eye, corn ear behind, pellet triad below, trefoils in front./ Horse right with cabled mane, cabled pelta above, 'kite' motif below. ABC-, VA-, BMC-, COI 94a, S-.. *EF, neat flan, cabinet toned silver, super sharp head, bold horse, all key features displayed. An exceptional example.* Ex Geoff Cottam collection, bt. Cummings, 15 August 1991. Found Snettisham, Norfolk. **Est. £750 £600**

"The Norfolk God was a war god too" (COI p.86, fig. 76), and this patron deity of Icenian Folk and their assembly (literally, in Brittonic, a *Toutatis*) may well have been invoked as a wolf or wild boar in times of armed conflict. But now, when it was vital in everyone's interests for the Norfolk clans to keep peace amongst themselves and take serious grievances to the tribal assembly for arbitration, this vast, anonymous silver series was probably designed to meet needs other than those for which silver in the name of district officials like Antedios or Ecen were issued. Icenian designers were masters of cryptic, embedded imagery. Upright, you see the god's head crowned with their battle-boar's long, forward-sweeping bristles (cf. ABC 1579, 1582, etc), but turn the coin 90° to the right, and you see the boar himself, with tell-tale hollow breast, upturned snout, and with his own row of bristles. Here, however, facing left, he seems at peace, bristles down, tossing what now looks like a leaf of ash, elder, or rowan – common trees in the woods where their own half-bred hogs roamed and rooted in safety – food for their feasts. As John Talbot has suggested (*Made for Trade* p.98), this image probably represents an actual military standard or cult statue of serious civic significance. Might it even have been kept at *Canidurum*? (same beast, with crossbred hog's curly tail, on ABC 1630). Was he one in whose presence treaties were sealed and youths of military age took their oath when first conscripted?



Boar

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

Extremely rare – only 11 others recorded



20. North East Coast. Right Type with Sun. Sills Mint A, fig. 3. c.60-50 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.80g. Wreath motif with leaves facing inwards./ Lunate horse right, charioteer's arms and pellets above, four-arm star below horse's head, petaloid sun below. ABC 1719, VA 800-5, BMC 184-91, S 28. CCI 23.0405 (**this coin**). PAS: NARC-9962D6 (**this coin**). *Good VF, golden gold, well centred horse, super sharp sun. Found East Carlton, Northants., 23 May 2021. **EXTREMELY RARE** only 11 others from this pair of dies.* **Est. £1200 £1000**

In 1999 Dr John Sills divided North East Coast staters up into two mints – Mint A and Mint B – and identified thirteen classes (Early Corieltavian Gold, *Chris Rudd List 43*, p.2-4, *CCA*, p.340-42).

An exceptional specimen of superior quality



21. South Ferriby Boar. Rich Type 22b. c.55-45 BC. Silver unit. 15-17mm. 1.32g. Long-legged boar right, two pellets in beaded ring above, ringed-pellet behind and below./ Long-eared horse right, pellet in beaded ring above, ringed-pellet in front and below. ABC –, VA –, BMC –, S –. CCI 02.0981 (**this coin**). *Nr EF, large flan of toned silver, bold strike. An exceptional specimen of superior quality. Ex John Lambeth collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2008), ex Larry Baker collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2003). Found Witham, Lincs., 17 February 2002.* **Est. £400 £320**

Excessively rare – only two or three others recorded



22. Cat. c.AD 10-20. Silver unit. 14mm. 1.17g. Traces of boar right, ring of pellets above [with retrograde CAT?]/ Horse right, corded mane, ring above. ABC 1845, VA –, BMC 3352, S 422A. CCI 08.9246 (**this coin**). *VF/Good VF, toned, bold horse. Ex John Lambeth collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2008), ex Michael O'Bee collection. **EXCESSIVELY RARE** only two or three others recorded. **Est. £750 £600***

The inscription can be read as Tac– or Cat– (backwards), the latter being more likely. Cat– may be short for Cattos 'cat', like Catti of the Dobunni [ABC 2057], or Catus 'battle' as in Catuvellauni. Cat– was evidently a minor ruler with the major distraction of possibly being the first in the region to place his name on coins, or at least part of it.

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

Excessively rare – only five others this pair of dies recorded



23. Coriomandu Tree. Elliptical Nose. c.25-0 BC. Gold stater. 18-20mm. 5.73g. Tree symbol, ring at base./ Triple-tailed horse right with elliptical nose, CORIO and two pellets and crescent above forming hidden face, wheel below, V-shape and two pellets behind. ABC–, VA 1035, BMC 3064-133, COD 6c, S 386. *VF, large flan of rose gold, bold horse. Found Madley, Hereford, 2 March 2022.*
EXCESSIVELY RARE only five others this pair of dies recorded. **Est. £1500 £1200**

Peter Healy, author of the newly published *Coins of the Dobunni*, (see advert page 15) says: “There are 5 other coins of the same die pair - 6/33. The obverse die appears to have got something in the bottom of the pellet depression in the anvil die resulting in the dot on the pellet of some coins. Also the horse has an elliptical nose... Interestingly all other 6/33 coins are from the Farmborough hoard.”

Coins of the **EAST WILTSHIRE** tribal group



24. Upavon Moon Head. c.30-1 BC. Silver unit. 12mm. 0.89g. Moon-head right with prominent pellet-nose, stalk lips, solid crescent for hair, cogwheel on chin./ Curvilinear horse left with feather-like tail, large four-spoked wheel and tiny ring below, rings around. ABC 2128, VA–, BMC 3013-17, S–. CCI 04.0750 (**this coin**). *Good VF, neat round flan of toned silver, great head, well centred. Ex John Lambeth collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2007), ex Andrew Griffiths collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2004), ex Chris King collection.* **SCARCE** **Est. £500 £400**

Coins of the **DUROTRIGES** of Wessex



25. Duro Boat Gold. DQS Geometric Class 3 Early, Die-group 4A, dies O7/R18. c.50-30 BC. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.45g. Stylised ‘three-men-in-a-boat’ motif./ Central thunderbolt, Y-shape and ‘bird’ to right, Y-shape and axe to left. ABC 2205, VA 1225, BMC 414-18, DK 299, S 368.

CCI 15.0592 (**this coin**). EF, pale yellow gold, sharp strike, full bird. Ex Geoff Cottam collection, bt. Vecchi, 6 October 1997. **SCARCE** Est. £750 £600

Published in Dr David Robinson's recently published book *Durotrigan Quarter Staters*, p.152 (**this coin**). The book contains die identifications, rarities and findspots (where known) of this large series, plus maps and tables. For discussion on boat imagery see *Reading the images on Iron-Age coins: 1. The sun-boat and its passengers* by Dr Daphne Nash Briggs, CCA pp.174-76.

Ex Brighstone hoard, Isle of Wight



26. Spread Tail. c.58-45 BC. Silver stater. 19mm. 5.45g. Durotrigan wreath pattern with upward-facing leaves./ Disjunct horse left, with three diverging lines for tail, large pellets above, 'coffee bean' behind, large pellet below. ABC 2160, VA 1238, BMC 2662, S-. *Good EF, neat flan of lightly toned silver, pronounced pellets, full 'coffee bean', spread tails clearly showing.* Ex *The Royal Berkshire Collection*, bt Chris Rudd, (2008). Ex *Brighstone hoard, Isle of Wight*, 2005.

Est. £500 £400

Shortly after 10am, 19 October 2005, a hoard of 967 staters of the Durotriges was discovered near Brighstone, Isle of Wight, by Albert Snell, 74, a retired postman. Archaeologist Frank Basford says: "It is an important, significant find, the largest hoard of its kind ever found on the Isle of Wight, and could have been some form of community savings." We were the first dealers to hear of the hoard and, after it had been recorded by the British Museum, we selected some of the finest coins for our customers. This is one of the best of 307 Spread Tail staters from the hoard. Published in *Coin Hoards in Iron Age Britain* (2014), p.219-24 (**this hoard**); *Coin News*, February 2006, p.32-34; *Australasian Coin & Banknote*, March 2006, p.34-36; *Moneta Antiche*, March/April 2006, p.9-13; *Münzen Revue*, April 2006, p.46-49; Chris Rudd *Isle of Wight treasure hoard* leaflet, January 2008; other numismatic journals (**this hoard**).



27. Hengistbury Seven Seven Ten. c.AD 40-50. Cast bronze unit. 14-18mm. 1.77g. Seven pellets either side of forked line./ Ten pellets. ABC 2196, VA 1345, BMC 2924, S 372. *EF, olive-green patina, pronounced pellets, unusual to see with so much casting sprue.* Ex Geoff Cottam collection, bt. Alan Cherry, 22 September 1993.

Est. £750 £600

It is curious that the first coins made in Britain (Thurrock types, ABC 120-132) and the last tribal coins made in Britain (Hengistbury types) were both made of cast bronze. When it was freshly cast it would have been golden like the sun. For more information on this enigmatic type see Philip de Jersey's article in CCA, pp.44-45.

Why Celtic collectors sell through Chris Rudd

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Coins of the **EASTERN** North Thames region

Excellent example with nearly 30-year provenance



28. Finney's Thunderbolt. Sills Early North-West Thames Indeterminate and Local Issues, dies 2/2. c.50-30 BC. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.19g. Zigzag chevron thunderbolt or lightning flash with ringed-pellet on outside of each angle, beaded border./ Full-bodied horse right with 'teardrop' ear, beaded mane, globular chest and rump, outline dewlap; 'cogwheel' sun above, three pellets around. ABC 2255, VA-, BMC 368, DK 480, S-. CCI 97.0784 (**this coin**). *EF, lustrous yellow gold, with bold thunderbolt and outstanding horse. An excellent example. Ex The Royal Berkshire Collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2010), ex Chris Morrison collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2004), ex Michael Richards collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2002), ex Dr William Blank collection, ex CNA sale, 6 June 1996, no.1739. EXCESSIVELY RARE only four others this pair of dies recorded.*

Est. £2000 £1600

Twenty-one years ago Dr Philip de Jersey commented on this coin: "Although we call this type Finney's Thunderbolt because his coin was the first published example, in fact it's been around for quite a while longer. Back in June 1976 a Mr Chapman showed the British Museum an example he'd found near Sandy, in Bedfordshire; in December of the same year the curator of Bedford Museum showed it to the Ashmolean, and it's easy enough to imagine a succession of curators puzzling over the piece." Published in *DK*, p.517 (**this coin**).

Coins of the **TRINOVANTES** of Essex



29. Dubnovellaunos Branch. II Type. Sills class 2b, Kretz class D3-4. c.25-10 BC. Gold stater. 17mm. 5.41g. Banded flan with wreath motif, two outline crescents and two rings in centre, forming two 'sad' hidden faces./ Full-bodied horse prancing left with beaded mane and long high-arched tail, ringed-pellet and D[V]BNOVIILLA above, wavy branch below. ABC 2392, VA 1650/1655, BMC 2436, DK 538, S 207. *Good VF, scintillating rose gold, bold horse with virtually full inscription and huge branch. Found Cressing, Essex, October 2016. SCARCE*

Est. £1500 £1200

Note the II being used as an informal Roman form of the letter E. The wavy branch is emblematic as a victory branch which occurs on the earliest gold staters of Addedomaros, ABC 2508 and 2511 and is also seen above the horse on most gold staters of Cunobelinus. Dr John Sills discusses whether the man in the mound, discovered in a large Iron Age burial mound excavated at Lexden, south of Colchester, was Dubnovellaunos, see *CCA* p.384-386.

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 2026 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:

18 January

15 March

17 May

19 July

20 September

15 November



30. Dubnovellaunos Trefoil. Annulate Head Type. Sills class 1. c.25-10 BC. Gold quarter stater. 12mm. 1.32g. Wreath motif, two solid crescents and two ringed-pellets in centre, forming two 'sad' hidden faces./ Horse left, annulate head with ringed-pellet in front, trefoil and pellet above, two ringed-pellets behind, pellet and branch below. ABC-, VA 1660, BMC 2442, DK 541, S 208. *Good VF, scintillating rose-gold, well centred horse, full trefoil. Ex Winchester collection. RARE* Est. £650 £500
The quarter stater to accompany Lot 29.

Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI of Hertfordshire



31. Winged Helmet. c.55-45 BC. Silver unit. 15mm. 1.26g. Male head right, with moustache and wearing winged helmet./ Horse right, beaded mane, small animal above? pellet below. ABC 2472, VA-, BMC 381, S 50. CCI 08.9199 (**this coin**). *Good VF, lightly toned silver, clear helmet with distinct wings. Ex The Royal Berkshire collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2009). Found Duxford, Essex. EXTREMELY RARE only twelve others recorded. Est. £1000 £800*
The head on the Winged Helmet could be the head of Cassivellaunos, commander of the British forces, 54 BC, because it wears a winged helmet and because a winged sceptre features strongly on early Whaddon Chase gold staters (ABC 2433-39) which are thought to have been minted by Cassivellaunos as tribute money payable to Caesar, c.53-50 BC. If this is the case it could well be the first known portrait of a British king. There is a lot of winged symbolism on early Catuvellaunian coins, all of which are probably contemporaneous with Cassivellaunos, who was almost certainly leader of the Catuvellauni 'battle chiefs' or 'ones who excel in battle'.



Raven-helmet from Romania, 3rd century BC. When the warrior ran, the wings flapped.

Near extremely fine



32. Harlow Horses. c.50-30 BC. Silver half unit. 11mm. 0.54g. Annulate horse right, ringed-pellet and two corded lines above./ Annulate horse right, ringed-pellet above and in front, pellet under head and below. ABC 2502, VA 1643, BMC 397-98, S 52. CCI 02.0174 (**this coin**). *Nr EF, toned, well centred horses. Ex John Lambeth collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2009). Found near Soham, Cambs. VERY RARE* Est. £800 £650



33. Andoco Crescent Wreath. Sills class 1, dies 2/2. c.20-1 BC. Gold quarter stater. 11mm. 1.33g. Crossed-wreath motif with back-to-back crescents in centre and pellet between, ANDO in angles./ Full-bodied horse left with beaded mane, phallic bucranium above, wheel below. ABC 2718, VA 1863, BMC 2015-17, DK 532, S 263. CCI 02.0329 (**this coin**). *Good VF/near EF, neat flan of rose gold, bold horse, beautiful bucranium. Ex Winchester collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2004). Found Puckeridge, Herts., 2 May 2002.* **Est. £750 £600**

Rainer Kretz says: 'Andoco... was most probably a close relative of Tasciovanos and as such a member of the Catuvellaunian ruling elite. A recent analysis of findspots would seem to suggest that he may have ruled a separate though affiliated area within the overall Catuvellaunian territories centred on Baldock (Herts.), about 20 miles away from the findspot of this coin as the crow flies. The issues of Tasciovanos and Andoco are closely interlinked and the available evidence points strongly towards Andoco's coinage being contemporaneous with Tasciovanos' 2nd coinage, thus placing it in the last quarter of the first century BC. Andoco issued two barely differing types of quarter stater. The more common variety (VA -)(BMC 2015-2016) to which this exceptionally handsome coin belongs, contains just one pellet between two slim and rather open central crescents. The other and much rarer type (VA 1863)(BMC 2017) has three pellets between rather more compact and curved crescents. The differences may not always be clear at first sight but if one examines the two designs side by side, there can be little doubt that we are dealing with two distinct types. The well-balanced design of Andoco's quarter staters shows a close typological relationship with Tasciovanos' issues. The obverses depict a version of the popular 'crossed wreaths' theme, most probably derived from some of Tasciovanos' 2nd coinage quarter staters such as ABC 2595 or ABC 2598. Instead of the original inscriptions TASC/TASCI or VERL/VER, they now carry the legend ANDO within the four quarters. The horse on the reverse, although stylistically similar to many of the horses on Tasciovanos' 2nd coinage quarters, is depicted in a more life-like and dynamic pose. Above is Andoco's uniquely styled bucranium, here displaying exceptionally long horns, which on almost all of the recorded examples are off the flan. Instead of a legend there is now an elaborate wheel motif below the horse.' For more information see R. Kretz 'The Problem of Andoco...' in Spink NC, October 2002. Published in *DK*, p.580 no.18 and p.613 (**this coin**).

Coins of the CATUVELLAUNI & TRINOVANTES united



34. Cunobelinus Plastic. No Ringed-Pellet Type. Sills class 6. c.AD 8-41. Gold stater. 18mm. 5.41g. Ear of corn without central stalk short line at base of stem, CA to left, MV to right, pellet above M./ Horse right with beaded mane, branch and pellet above, CVNO below, beaded border. ABC-, VA 2010-3, BMC 1815-23, DK 562, S-. *Near EF, rich rose gold, nicely centred, fabulous horse, full inscription. A pleasing example of this perennially popular type. Found Beds/Herts.* **SCARCE** **Est. £2500 £2000**

The usual ringed-pellet below the horse disappears before being replaced by a pellet on most subsequent dies, although at least two dies have no pellet (as on this coin), *Divided Kingdoms*, p.628. Is the pellet above the M a privy mark?



35. Cunobelinus Camuloduno. c.AD 8-41. Bronze unit. 16mm. 2.02g. CAMVL [O]DVNO in two panels, scroll decoration above and below./ Sphinx crouching left, [CV]NO below, beaded border. ABC 2924, VA 1977, BMC 1928-30, S 332. CCI 08.9205 (**this coin**). *Good VF/VE, glossy dark green patina, sharp inscription. Ex John Lambeth collection, bt. Chris Rudd (2008).* **SCARCE** **Est. £300 £240**

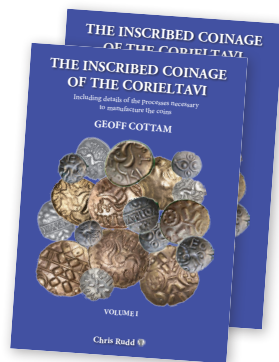
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Abbreviations. F fine, VF very fine, EF extremely fine.

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, CCA = Ed. E Cottam, D Nash Briggs, *Celtic Coin Articles*, 2024 COI = E Cottam, C Rudd *Coins of the Iceni*, 2022, DK = J Sills *Divided Kingdoms*, 2017, S = Spink *Coins of England* 2025 ed.

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