

Numismatic Oddities in Ipswich. 2018 – Dr Roger Vezin

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The selection of unlisted coins as follows is about half of those encountered through routine commercial and club activity, or general enquiries during the year.



- I. Arcadius double centenionalis, Nicomedia, 22mm., 4.85g. Obverse; hand of God above bust, r., Rev; Standing Emperor with captive, l., SMNA in ex. And T in field r. (1). c.f. Sear 20786 but note (2) unknown of officina A = 1.



- II. Carausius. Nominally a billon antonine, 24mm., London mint, PAX AVG being the most common reverse in both the official and unofficial series, but this struck on an old debased AR ditto of Aemilian, 253 AD, reverse over substrate obverse, inscription B, (3) (4).



- III. Possible forgery: Marcianopolis, Moesia Inferior, AE 5 assaria 29mm., 13.5g. Gordian III and Serapis obverse, Hygeia and snake reverse (5) but a very odd style. Type H.& J. (6) 6.37.21.3-4, quite scarce, about 60 known shared between two distinct die pairs, this being the only one from a third pair, suggesting a new number 6.37.21.5, or false, as a dubious specimen of Elagabalus and Maesa with the same reverse type, with a different die. As I type this 9/8/19, however, I report the appearance 6/8 of a Gordian III specimen as above, of an apparently genuine fourth pair.



- IV. Byzantine late 8c to early 9c 30mm., 16.7g. lead seal with cruciform invocative monogram citing (Const)antino Patricios & Quaestor, (7). This scarce magistrate title is unknown of one Constantinos, (8) (9) (10).



- V. Byzantine type possibly Bulgarian bilateral civil functionary or commercial lead seal, 16mm., 4.4g., late 11 - early 12c.
 Obverse: +KEP.Θ/TW(C)WΔ(OY)/NIKHTA/ΠΙΠΙ
 Reverse: ΖΔ(O?)ME/ATIKEWN/--ANATWN/--W(?)API/KI
 the obverse being abbreviation for Κυριε.βοηθει.τω.σω.δουλω plus the name Νικητα(ο) plus the beginning, continued on the reverse of an unfamiliar title. Although unidentified (8) (9) (10) for similar obverses see Zacos (11).



- VI. Zeeland type sceatta, 'vico' type early 8c (12). Although debatable whether any of these arbitrarily classified pieces are unlisted, the nearest are c.f. Op den Velde 680 - 9, derived from Ab.88.30. (13), (14)



- VII. India, Jaipur State. AV mohur, Jai Singh III, 10.86g., 20mm. year 28, (1833) citing Mohammed Akbar II (1806 - 1837) (15). KM No 77, this year not listed. (16).



- VIII. Edward IV AR groat 25mm. 3.00g. light coinage. Obverse 1st. reign by m.m. half sun & rose / rose (17), c.f. S.2011 (18) but not known of Norwich.



- IX. Java. Balinese pattern magic coin, AE 55mm. Probably about 18c. (19) as these started to appear to Westerners in the early 19th. These were hidden in private houses to repel evil spirits. Obverse shows two grotesque figures facing each other, the reverse one ditto in the left field facing an unidentifiable creature on the right. See Cribb 200 – 7 but this example has Javanese script. (20).

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