

**Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2005**

**TRIAL OF THE PYX 2005**

**in accordance with**

**the Coinage Act 1971,  
the Trial of the Pyx Order 1998 and  
the Trial of the Pyx (Amendment)  
Order 2005**

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**VERDICT**

**of the Jury**

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**TRIAL OF THE PYX 2005 – UNITED KINGDOM COINAGE**

**VERDICT OF THE JURY**

**1. Declaration**

- (a) We, the members of the Jury, were duly sworn on 8 February 2005 before the Queen's Remembrancer at Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London to assay gold, platinum, silver Maundy, silver, gold-plated silver, cupro-nickel, nickel-brass and bimetallic coins of Her Majesty, which were produced to us by officers of the Royal Mint. Accounts of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint were produced to us and showed that the coins were made by the Royal Mint in accordance with the Coinage Act 1971 and various Proclamations and were ready for issue between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2004.
- (b) We ascertained the number of coins in each packet produced to us and we confirmed that it corresponded with the number which the officers of the Royal Mint represented the packet to contain.
- (c) In this verdict any reference to a permitted variation from the standard weight, fineness, composition or diameter is to such variation from the standard weight, fineness, composition or diameter as is permitted under the Act and the Proclamations.

**2. Gold coins**

- (a) We took out one coin from each of the single packets of gold coins.
- (b) We weighed in bulk the coins taken out and found that they were within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being ninety-one milligrams above (+91) the standard weight.
- (c) Next we melted the weighed Britannia coins into an ingot and assayed it, comparing it with the standard trial plate of gold, and found that the metal of the ingot was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being point two of a part per thousand above (+0.2) the standard fineness.
- (d) Then we melted the other weighed coins into an ingot and assayed it, comparing it with the standard trial plate of gold, and found that there was no variation from the standard fineness in the metal of the ingot.
- (e) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of gold coins and found that they were within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being one hundred and sixty-five milligrams below (-165) the standard weight.
- (f) We then took out of the residue three coins of each type and weighed and assayed them separately.

- (i) We found that each of the coins weighed separately was within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations being, in milligrams, as follows:

for the coins of one hundred pounds Britannia:	sixteen above (+16), thirty-one above (+31) and forty-six above (+46) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pounds Britannia:	six above (+6), twelve above (+12) and thirteen below (-13) standard weight;
for the coins of twenty-five pounds Britannia:	two below (-2), four above (+4) and six below (-6) standard weight;
for the coins of ten pounds Britannia:	one below (-1), two above (+2) and six below (-6) standard weight;
for the coins of five pounds:	fifteen above (+15), twenty above (+20) and twenty-three below (-23) standard weight;
for the coins of two pounds:	one above (+1), four above (+4) and twenty-four below (-24) standard weight;
for the sovereigns:	two below (-2), four below (-4) and six above (+6) standard weight;
for the half sovereigns:	two below (-2) standard weight;
for the coins of one pound:	ten above (+10) and eleven above (+11) standard weight; and
for the coins of fifty pence:	eleven above (+11), twelve above (+12) and thirteen below (-13) standard weight.

- (ii) Finally, we found that each of the coins assayed separately was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the least to the greatest of the variations being, in parts per thousand, as follows:

for the coins of one hundred pounds Britannia:	point one below (-0.1), point four below (-0.4) and point six below (-0.6) standard
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	fineness;
for the coins of fifty pounds Britannia:	point one below (-0.1), point three below (-0.3) and point three above (+0.3) standard fineness;
for the coins of twenty-five pounds Britannia:	point six above (+0.6) and point eight above (+0.8) standard fineness;
for the coins of ten pounds Britannia:	point three below (-0.3) and point four below (-0.4) standard fineness;
for the coins of five pounds:	point one below (-0.1), point one above (+0.1) and one above (+1.0) standard fineness;
for the coins of two pounds:	point one below (-0.1), point two above (+0.2) and point four below (-0.4) standard fineness;
for the sovereigns:	point one below (-0.1) and point three below (-0.3) standard fineness;
for the half-sovereigns:	point one below (-0.1), point two below (-0.2) and point four below (-0.4) standard fineness;
for the coins of one pound:	point one above (+0.1) standard fineness; and
for the coins of fifty pence:	point one below (-0.1), point three below (-0.3) and point five below (-0.5) standard fineness.

### 3. Platinum coins

- (a) We took out all the coins from the packets of platinum coins and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being seven hundred and ten milligrams below (-710) the standard weight.

- (b) We then assayed all the platinum coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of platinum, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being two point one parts per thousand above (+2.1) the standard fineness.

#### 4. Silver Maundy coins

- (a) We took out all the coins from the packets of silver Maundy coins and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being twelve milligrams below (-12) standard weight.
- (b) We then assayed all the silver Maundy coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being one point two parts per thousand above (+1.2) the standard fineness.

#### 5. Silver coins other than Maundy coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of each denomination in the packets of such silver coins weighed not more than one kilogram.
- (b) We also ascertained that all the coins contained in the packets weighed more than five hundred grams.
- (c) We took out all the coins of each denomination and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations being, in grams, as follows:

for the coins of five pounds:	point zero two above (+0.02) standard weight;
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for the coins of five pounds Pied Forte:	point four one above (+0.41) standard weight;
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for the coins of two pounds Britannia:	point two four above (+0.24) standard weight;
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for the coins of one pound:	point zero one above (+0.01) standard weight;
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for the coins of one pound Pied Forte:	point three one above (+0.31) standard weight; and
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for the coins of fifty pence Pied Forte:	point three five above (+0.35) standard weight.
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- (d) Then, we assayed all the coins, other than the Britannia coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of the coins was

on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being one part per thousand above (+1.0) the standard fineness.

- (e) Finally, we assayed all the Britannia coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being two point seven parts per thousand above (+2.7) the standard fineness.

## 6. Gold-plated silver coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of each denomination in the packets of gold-plated silver coins weighed not more than one kilogram.
- (b) We also ascertained that all the coins contained in the packets weighed not more than five hundred grams.
- (c) We took out all the coins and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations being, in grams, as follows:

for the coins of two pounds:	point one seven below (-0.17) standard weight; and
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for the coins of two pounds Pied Forte:	point zero four above (+0.04) standard weight.
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- (d) Then, we assayed all the coins, comparing the metal of the coins other than the gold-plating with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that such metal was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being for the inner section one point three parts above (+1.3) and for the outer section point eight of a part per thousand above (+0.8) the standard fineness.
- (e) Finally, in assaying all the coins, we weighed the gold-plating of the outer section of the coins and found that the gold-plating was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being, in milligrams, as follows:

for the coins of two pounds:	thirty two milligrams below (-32) standard weight; and
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for the coins of two pounds Pied Forte:	fourteen milligrams below (-14) standard weight.
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## 7. Cupro-nickel coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of each denomination in the packets of cupro-nickel coins weighed more than one kilogram.

- (b) We took from each packet a sufficient number coins and grouped them into eight lots, each lot comprising coins of the same denomination and weighing not less than nine hundred and eighty grams or more than one kilogram.
- (c) We then weighed each lot in bulk and found that it was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations being, in grams, as follows:

for the lot of coins of five pounds:	point five four below (-0.54) standard weight;
for the two lots of coins of fifty pence:	point three nine below (-0.39) and point six three below (-0.63) standard weight;
for the three lots of coins of twenty pence:	one point three two above (+1.32), two point eleven above (+2.11) and two point four five above (+2.45) standard weight;
for the lot of coins of ten pence:	two point one above (+2.1) standard weight; and
for the lot of coins of five pence:	point four nine below (-0.49) standard weight.

- (d) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of cupro-nickel coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being two hundred and thirty-five point five nine grams above (+235.59) the standard weight.
- (e) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plates of copper and nickel, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being as follows:

for the coins of twenty pence:	minus point four seven of a per cent (-0.47) of copper and plus point four six of a per cent (+0.46) of nickel; and
for the coins of five pounds fifty pence ten pence and five pence:	minus point one three of a per cent (-0.13) of copper and plus point one three of a per cent (+0.13) of nickel.

- (f) Lastly, we measured the diameters of twenty of the coins of each denomination and found that the average diameter of the coins of each denomination was within the permitted variation from the standard diameter, the variations being, in millimetres, as follows:

for the coins of five pounds:	point zero one (-0.01) less than standard diameter;
for the coins of fifty pence:	point zero two (+0.02) more than standard diameter;
for the coins of twenty pence:	point zero two less (-0.02) than standard diameter; and
for the coins of five pence:	point zero two less (-0.02) than standard diameter.

### 8. Nickel-brass coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of one pound contained in the packets of nickel-brass coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (b) We took from each packet a sufficient number of coins and grouped them into three lots, each lot weighing not less than nine hundred and eight grams or more than one kilogram. We weighed each lot in bulk and found that it was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations being, in grams, as follows:

Point six four above (+0.64), point eight three above (+0.83) and two point seven eight above (+2.78) the standard weight.

- (c) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of nickel-brass coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being one hundred and twenty-eight point one grams above (+128.1) the standard weight.
- (d) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plates of copper, nickel and zinc, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from standard composition, the variations being plus point one one of a per cent (+0.11) of copper, plus point one five of a per cent (+0.15) of nickel and minus point two five of a per cent (-0.25) of zinc.
- (e) Finally, we measured the diameters of twenty of the coins and found that the average diameter of those coins was within the permitted variation from the standard diameter, the variation being point zero one of a part per thousand millimetres below (-0.01) the standard diameter.

### 9. Bimetallic coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of two pounds contained in the packets of bimetallic coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (b) We took from each packet sufficient coins and grouped them into two lots, each lot weighing not less than nine hundred and eighty grams or more than one

kilogram, and weighed each lot in bulk and found that it was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations being, in grams, as follows:

One point one five below (-1.15) and two point zero seven below (-2.07) the standard weight.

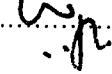
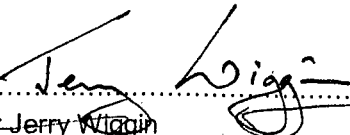
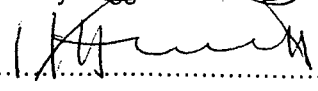
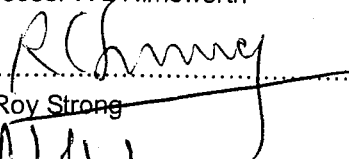
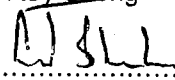
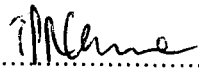
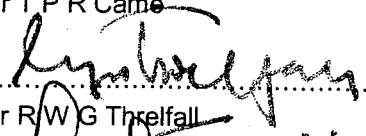
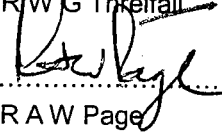
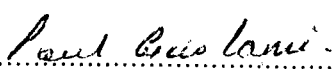

- (c) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being twenty-two point four grams below (-22.4) the standard weight.
- (d) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, by:
  - (i) comparing the cupro-nickel inner sections of the coins with the standard trial plates of copper and nickel, and found that that metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being minus point seven two of a per cent (-0.72) of copper and plus point six seven of a per cent (+0.67) of nickel; and
  - (ii) comparing the nickel-brass outer sections of the coins with the standard trial plates of copper, nickel and zinc, and found that that metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being plus point eight one of a per cent (+0.81) of copper, plus point zero three of a per cent (+0.03) of nickel and minus point eight five of a per cent (-0.85) of zinc.
- (e) Finally, we measured the diameters of twenty of the coins and found that the average diameter of those coins was within the permitted variation from the standard diameter, the variation being point zero two of a part per thousand millimetres above (+0.02) the standard diameter.

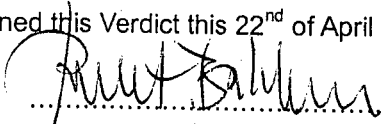
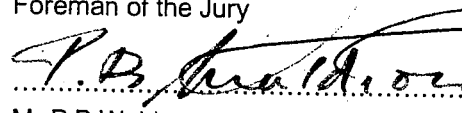
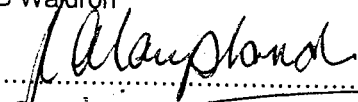
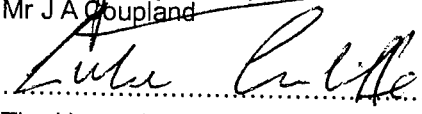
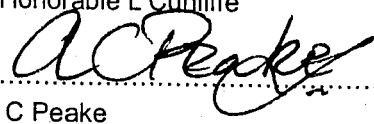
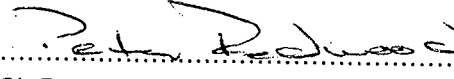

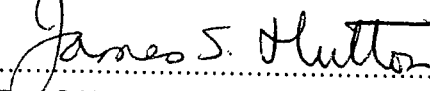
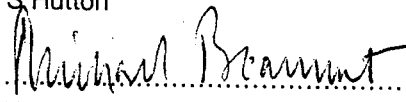
We found that all the coins submitted to the Trial were, on the whole, within the permitted variations.

The following, being members of the Jury, have duly signed this Verdict this 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2005.

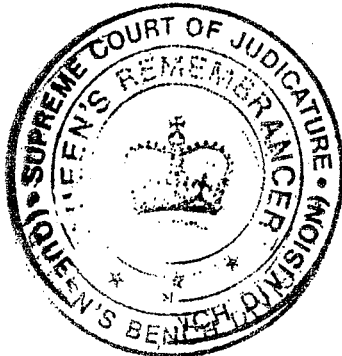
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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. ....<br>Mr B E Toye             | 11. ....<br>Sir Robert Balchin<br>Foreman of the Jury |
| 2. ....<br>Sir Jerry Wiggin        | 12. ....<br>Mr P B Waldron                            |
| 3. ....<br>Professor R L Himsworth | 13. ....<br>Mr J A Coupland                           |
| 4. ....<br>Sir Roy Strong          | 14. ....<br>The Honorable L Cunliffe                  |
| 5. ....<br>Mr G P Blunden          | 15. ....<br>Mr A C Peake                              |
| 6. ....<br>Mr T P R Came           | 16. ....<br>Sir Peter Redwood                         |
| 7. ....<br>Mr R W G Threlfall      | 17. ....<br>Mr D W Evans                              |
| 8. ....<br>Mr R A W Page           | 18. ....<br>Dr J S Hutton                             |
| 9. ....<br>Mr P J Girolami         | 19. ....<br>Mr M V Beamont                            |
| 10. ....<br>Mr J M Graham-Campbell |   |

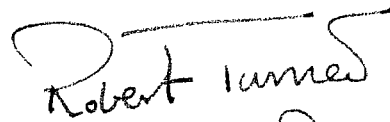
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Mr M V Beamont

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Robert James  
The Queen's Remembrance  
25<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

**Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2005**

**TRIAL OF THE PYX 2005**

**in accordance with**

**the Coinage Act 1971,  
the Trial of the Pyx Order 1998 and  
the Trial of the Pyx (Amendment)  
Order 2005**

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**VERDICT**

**of the Jury**

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