

"The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury hereby give notice that, at a Trial of the Pyx begun at Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London on the 26th day of February 1976 and concluded on the 21st day of May 1976, the following verdict of the Pyx Jury was delivered to the Queen's Remembrancer, viz.:

1976
TRIAL OF THE PYX
VERDICT

1. We, the undersigned, were duly sworn on the 26th February 1976 before the Queen's Remembrancer at Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London to assay gold, silver Maundy and cupro-nickel coins of Her Majesty, which were produced to us by officers of the Royal Mint. Accounts of the Deputy Master and Controller of the Royal Mint similarly produced to us showed that the coins had been made by the Royal Mint between the 1st January 1975 and the 31st December 1975 inclusive, in accordance with the Coinage Act 1971 and two Proclamations made on the 20th December 1968 and the 20th December 1972 relating to coins of fifty new pence. Those accounts also showed that the coins had been set aside for the trial of the Pyx as prescribed by the Trial of the Pyx Order 1969, as amended by the Trial of the Pyx (Amendment) Order 1971.

2. In this verdict any reference to the permitted variation from standard weight, fineness, composition or diameter is a reference to such variation from the standard weight, fineness, composition or diameter as is allowed by the Coinage Act 1971 and the Proclamation made on the 20th December 1968.

3. We ascertained the number of coins in each packet produced to us and that it corresponded with the number which the officers of the Royal Mint represented the packet to contain.

4. *Gold Coins*

(a) We took out from each of the twenty packets of gold coins one sovereign.

(b) We weighed in bulk the sovereigns taken out and ascertained that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from standard weight, the amount of the variation being point two one (+0.21) grams above standard weight.

(c) We then melted those sovereigns into an ingot and assayed it, comparing it with the standard trial plate of gold produced to us by officers of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, and we found that the ingot was within the permitted variation from standard fineness, the amount of the variation being point two five (-0.25) parts per thousand below standard fineness.

(d) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of gold coins and ascertained that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from standard weight, the amount of the variation being four point seven nine (+4.79) grams above standard weight.

(e) We then took out from that residue six sovereigns and weighed and assayed them separately. We found that each of the sovereigns so weighed was within the permitted variation from standard weight, the amounts of the variations being point nought nought two three (+0.0023) and point nought nought nought eight (+0.0008) grams above standard weight and point nought nought two (-0.0020), point nought nought six five (-0.0065), point nought nought five three (-0.0053) and point nought nought seven seven (-0.0077) grams below standard weight. We also found that each of the sovereigns so assayed was within the permitted variation from standard fineness, the amounts of the variations being point one seven (+0.17), point one nine (+0.19), point nought five (+0.05) and point nought seven (+0.07) parts per thousand above standard fineness and point one one (-0.11) and point nought three (-0.03) parts per thousand below standard fineness.

5. *Silver Maundy Coins*

(a) We weighed in bulk all the silver Maundy coins produced to us and ascertained that they were not on the whole within the permitted variation of point three six (0.36) grams from standard weight, the amount of the variation being point seven seven (+0.77) grams above standard weight.

(b) We then assayed those silver Maundy coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver produced to us by officers of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, and we found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from standard fineness, the

amount of the variation being one point five (+1.5) parts per thousand above standard fineness.

6. *Cupro-Nickel Coins*

(a) We ascertained that the coins of each of the denominations of fifty, ten and five new pence contained in the packets of cupro-nickel coins produced to us weighed more than one kilogram.

(b) From each packet of cupro-nickel coins we took out sufficient coins and grouped them into twenty one lots so that each comprised coins of the same denomination and weighed not less than nine hundred and eighty grams nor more than one kilogram.

(c) We then weighed each of those lots in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from standard weight, the amounts of the only variations being as follows:

for three lots each of seventy four coins of fifty new pence.	point two (+0.2) grams above and point seven (-0.7) and point three (-0.3) grams below standard weight;
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for thirteen lots each of eighty eight coins of ten new pence.	point four (+0.4), point nine (+0.9), point two (+0.2), one point one (+1.1), one point three (+1.3), two point three (+2.3), point two (+0.2), one point four (+1.4), point six (+0.6), two point eight (+2.8), three point three (+3.3), one (+1.00) and two (+2.0) grams above standard weight.
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for four lots each of one hundred and seventy six coins of five new pence.	point six (+0.6), one (+1.00) and two point three (+2.3) grams above and one point eight (-1.8) grams below standard weight.
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(d) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of cupro-nickel coins and ascertained that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from standard weight, the amount of the variation being eight hundred and thirteen (+813.0) grams above standard weight.

(e) We then assayed cupro-nickel coins not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plates of copper and nickel produced to us by officers of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, and we ascertained that the coins were on the whole within the permitted variations from standard composition, the amounts of the only variations being as follows:

for coins of fifty new pence.	minus point two (-0.2) per centum of nickel;
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for coins of ten and five new pence.	minus point four (-0.4) per centum of copper and plus point three (+0.3) per centum of nickel.
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(f) Finally, we measured the diameters of twenty cupro-nickel coins of each denomination and ascertained that the average diameters of those coins were within the permitted variations from standard diameters, the amounts of the only variations being for the coins of fifty new pence point nought two (-0.02) and for the coins of five new pence point nought one (-0.01) of a millimetre below standard diameter.

Dated 21st May 1976.

TRIAL OF THE PYX 1976

THE JURY

Mr. Robert Yorke Goodden, C.B.E.
Sir Harald Peake.
Sir Owen Haddon Wansbrough-Jones, K.B.E., C.B., Ph.D. (Sick in hospital).
Sir Alan Herries Wilson, F.R.S.
Mr. Norman Alfred Vanderpump, O.B.E.
Mr. Cyril Thomas Smith.
Mr. Arthur Girling Grimwade (Sick in hospital).