

Papua New Guinea Coins/Banknotes

Brief History/Background of New Guinea's Coinage

During the later part of the nineteenth century an international agreement recognized the claim of the German New Guinea Company to the north-east part of the island of New Guinea

In 1889 these lands were transferred to the German government, which issued distinctive copper and silver coins in 1894. Gold coinage was introduced in 1895. These coins were all struck in Berlin and have the mintmark A.

These German issues, in denominations of pfennigs and marks, circulated during the period of German control, which ended in 1914. At the outbreak of World War I Australian troops landed in New Guinea and took possession of the German protectorate. The German New Guinea coins circulated for some time thereafter during the early years of the Australian possession.

The League of Nations mandated the Territory of New Guinea to Australia in 1920 where it remained until it became an independent self-governing state in 1973.

The Currency, Coinage & Tokens Act of 1928 provided for a distinctive issue of nickel bronze penny and halfpenny to supplement the Australian coins then in use in the territory. These were struck at the Melbourne mint and were perforated (holed) for ease in stringing the coins together by the natives.

Unfortunately, the new coins were the same size (and similar colour) as the current Australian shillings and sixpences, and they were being substituted for the Australian higher denominations in rolls. For this reason they were withdrawn and most of them were melted.

Another ordinance in 1935 provided for six denominations including the florin, shilling, sixpence, threepence, penny and halfpenny. Only the shilling was struck in 1935, while the sixpence and threepence dated 1935 were struck in 1936. It is of interest to note that the shilling is the only Empire silver coin issued in perforated (holed) form.

Dies for the Edward VIII coins in the four regular denominations were received in Melbourne, but only pennies were struck. After 1945 the minting of distinctive New Guinea coins were discontinued in favour of Australian coins.

Papua New Guinea began issuing its own coinage after gaining full independence in 1975.

German New Guinea

Please send your "want" list with grade/s required.

New Guinea Coins

Shillings.

1935, 1936, 1938, 1945 VF.....ea.	\$ 9
1935, 1936 EF.....ea.	12
UNC.....ea.	20
Choice UNC.....ea.	30
GEM UNC.....ea.	45
1938, 1945 EF.....ea.	12
UNC.....ea.	18
Choice UNC.....ea.	25
GEM UNC.....ea.	35

Sixpences

1935 VF.....\$	12
EF.....	20
UNC.....	45
Choice UNC.....	65
GEM UNC.....	90
1943 VF.....	10
EF.....	18
UNC.....	50
Choice UNC.....	75
GEM UNC.....	110

Threepences

1935 VF.....\$	9
EF.....	12
UNC.....	30
Choice UNC.....	40
GEM UNC.....	60
1944 VF.....	5
EF.....	10
UNC.....	25
Choice UNC.....	45
GEM UNC.....	65

Pennies

1929 UNC. or PROOF.....	POA
1936 VF.....\$	4
EF.....	7
UNC.....	12
Choice UNC.....	20
GEM UNC.....	35
1938 VF.....	8
EF.....	10
UNC.....	20
Choice UNC.....	30
GEM UNC.....	50
1944 VF.....	5
EF.....	8
UNC.....	20
Choice UNC.....	35

Halfpenny

1929 UNC. or Proof.....	POA
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Complete Set : As per above (11 coins) in special Dansco album. VF-EF..\$ 95

As Above, but in presentation pack with descriptive sheet. VF - EF.....\$ 75

As Above, High grade. EF – aUNC...\$ 145

As Above, Scarce grade. UNC.....\$240

As Above, Rare grade and extremely difficult to source. GEM UNC....\$525

New Guinea Tokens

Badges & Tokens.

"TUL TUL" badge. Copper uniface
(Scarce Thus) EF.....\$ 195

Brief Background/History on "TUL TUL" Badges

Rank Badge produced for the local New Guinea tribes under Australian administration post WWII. Struck by Amors in Sydney they were worn attached to the headdress of the natives.

"Head Tax Tokens"..... POA

Brief History/Background on "Head Tax Tokens"

When Australia was given the League of Nations Mandate in 1914 over what had been German New Guinea, it became the Australian Territory of New Guinea. Australia introduced a system of indentured labour in the Territory at time when the British Government was recommending its abandonment in the colonies.

With mining operations in New Guinea gearing up and as a shortage of labour was becoming a problem, a form of indentured labour was introduced. The intention of the system was to force those not working to pay for and carry a Ten Shilling "Head Tax" token every year. At the time New Guinea's minimum wage for native labour was just 5 shillings a month. It is easy to see how a head tax of 10 shillings per year coerced many natives into joining the labour force.

The Ten Shilling Head Tax Token is usually pierced so that the natives could wear it around their necks, as the owner had to display it at all times or he was imprisoned.

Papua New Guinea Proof/Mint Sets

Please send your "want" list with year/s required.

Papua New Guinea Banknotes

Please send your "want" list with banknotes required.