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MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW BOWRAVILLE MEMORIAL UNVEILED

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Leslie Williams today attended a ceremony to unveil the Bowraville Memorial and to present memorial plaques to commemorate the disappearance of three Aboriginal children at Bowraville.

Mrs Williams said the unveiling of the memorial was an important day for the families and the local community.

“The memorial provides a safe and welcoming place to unite, honour, and reflect on the loss of the three children, Colleen Walker-Craig, Evelyn Greenup and Clinton Speedy-Duroux,” Mrs Williams said.

“Healing is a long journey and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, together with other Government agencies, will continue to work with the family members to support this process.”

The Speedy-Duroux family said: “Clinton’s family appreciate the efforts of all those involved in making Memorial Park a special place of remembrance for us all. This has been a long journey and we feel after many years, we have finally been taken seriously by the NSW Government.

“The implementation of these recommendations will play a significant role in our healing. As important as this is to us, we will not lose sight of the end cause — justice for our children.”

Rebecca Stadhams and Michelle Jarrett said: “We are very happy with the park. It is a beautiful place to reflect on Evelyn and our journey for justice over the past 25 years. Rebecca and family would like to also voice their appreciation to both the NSW Government and Nambucca Valley Shire Council for all their support.

“We are especially grateful to the staff of the Coffs Harbour Aboriginal Affairs for their support during the implementation of the recommendations, especially during the construction of the Memorial Park.”

Attorney General Gabrielle Upton said the unveiling of the Bowraville Memorial delivers a key part of Recommendation 15 of the NSW Parliament’s Standing Committee on Law and Justice Report *‘The Family response to the murders in*

Bowraville'.

“At the heart of the NSW Government’s response to the Report is a commitment to better help those affected by crime. That is why, we are working with the families and communities affected to implement the NSW Government’s response as soon as practically possible,” Ms Upton said.

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