



The all-Aboriginal bronze medallists with their instructors (back row); the boys are (left to right) James Ballangarry, Ken Ballangarry, Louis Ballangarry, Terry Donovan, Richard Donovan, Albert Donovan and Joe Donovan. (Coff's Harbour Advocate Photo.)

Bronze Medals for all-Aboriginal Squad

An all-Aboriginal squad of seven surf lifesavers has passed the Bronze Medallion examination at Scott's Head beach, near Macksville.

It was the first full squad of Aborigines ever examined by the North Coast branch of the life-saving movement and probably first in Australia.

After passing the examination the boys, from the Stuart's Point-Eungai area, became members of the Macksville-Scott's Head Surf Lifesaving Club.

The boys are members of the Ballangarry and Donovan families—three sets of brothers (with twins thrown in) and a cousin.

The squad was examined by Mr George Storm of Nambucca Heads, and instructed by members of the Scott's Head club. The instructors said the Aboriginal squad was the keenest they had ever seen.

One of the boys is Joe Donovan, current Australian and Asian flyweight boxing champion and a strong contender for the Mexico Olympics.

Joe's twin brother Albert, their cousins Terry and Richard Donovan (brothers), and James, Louis and Terry Ballangarry (brothers) comprise the squad.