THE MAPLETON HISTORY GROUP

The first meeting of the Mapleton History Group, sponsored by Talking Country – Building Bridges, was held last week in the Mapleton Library and Community Centre.

Tony Millroy engaged the attendees with his broad knowledge of Australian history as he presented a timeline focusing on events and missed opportunities that have taken us backwards and occasionally forward on the



pathway to recognition and reconciliation with the First Nations of this land. It was an opportunity to openly question and discuss issues that do not usually surface. Did you know that Australia is the only developed country that does not recognise its Indigenous People in it's constitution?

Policies that affected Aboriginal People were explained in relation to the thinking of the time. This was also demonstrated in the written archival material on the Aborigines of the Sunshine Coast that was discussed. The veil of silence is being lifted and these are important discussions to have in this year of the referendum on Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians.

Tony has very generously offered to lead this group in gatherings at two monthly intervals. If you would like to join the Talking Country – Building Bridges email list and receive details of our next meeting please email <u>info@talkingcountrybuildingbridges.com</u>

