grade. The road (fortunately) did not take over the tunnel, but after topping the escarpment it picks up the old railway formation again at the lower points and descends the hill on the Bottom Road of the Zig-Zag, crossing the beautiful Knapsack Gully viaduct to pick up Mitchell’s Road of 1834 for the last part of the descent to Emu Plains. (The present road is the fourth, Cox’s [1814] and Lawson’s [1824] preceding Mitchell’s. The latter remained open as an alternative to the present road until damage by heavy vehicles forced the closing of Lennox Bridge, now being restored).

A further detour took in some of the historic buildings and sites of Emu Plains; then we crossed by the old Victoria Bridge (opened 1867 as a combined road and rail bridge) to Penrith, where we said goodbye to Mr. Maddock, to whom we were indeed grateful for a most interesting and expertly-guided tour, as we are also to the Excursion Sub-Committee for the work put into its organisation and running.

APRIL MEETING:

As mentioned in the last Bulletin, Dr. Dennis Jeans’s talk at our April meeting was, by request, a repetition of that which he gave to a handful of members at the virtually washed-out meeting last July. This was reported in the August 1975 Bulletin.

FAMILY HOTEL, BULLI:

Following requests by a number of local people, Mr. Les Johnson, M.H.R., has made submissions to the National Trust of Australia for classification of the Family Hotel at Bulli. Its admirers claim that the building is of architectural and historical merit, and it has been suggested that in the event of its restoration some of the building should be used as a museum featuring historical documents, photographs and relics of the coal-mining industry.

Has anyone any other nominations for submission to the National Trust?

WINDFALL:

No doubt most members have seen in the Mercury or heard on the grapevine that the Society has received a grant of $2000 from the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation through the Committee of New South Wales Museums and Galleries. Careful consideration is being given to the application of this most welcome windfall to the best possible advantage. The Council and Museum Committee are open to suggestions, but please remember that the grant has been given for specific purposes. Any suggestions should be in the categories of repair of showcases, provision of display equipment, and the reproduction and display of photographic material. Projects, however meritorious, cannot be considered if they are outside the range of purposes for which the grant has been given.

NEW MEMBERS:

The Society welcomes as new members Mr. and Mrs. D. Baker of Wollongong, and Mr. B. Perrotta of Fairy Meadow.