**Albert Wilson – Champion Shearer ?**

Hi Laurie

Wondered if the Albert Wilson referred to in the shearing record near the end of this obit might be Albert Edwin, 6th child of JBW?

DEATH OF PENINSULA PIONEER. THE LATE MR  JAMES CONNELL. MEMORIES OF BAXTER'S FLAT RACECOURSE. The passing away of the late Mr. James Connell on June 10 has left a blank in the Tuerong district, and he will be greatly missed by all neighbors around that part.  His death came as a surprise, as only the day  before he was engaged in doing some fencing.   Awakening at daylight he spoke to Mrs. Connell but shortly afterwards he drew a long breath and passed away.  The esteem in which he was held was shown by the very large attendance at the funeral on Saturday afternoon.  The members of the Foresters' lodge (of which deceased was a member) joined the funeral at the Point Nepean road, and marched to the graveside in advance of the hearse.  Archdeacon Aickin, of the Church of England, read the burial service, and Bro. F. Berglund the last rites of the Foresters' lodge. The pallbearers were members of the lodge - Bros. J. and E. Turner, H. Downward, P. Olsen, C. Parsons and W. Cavell.  The deceased was a native of the Peninsula, having been born at Kangerong 73 years ago.  He was associated in the early days with the first racing club of the Peninsula at Baxter's Flat, and acted as starter there for many years.  He was also starter at Mornington until 1919, when the   V.R.C. officials filled all the important positions at that course;  he acted as starter at Emu Plains and Moat's Corner right up till the last meeting held this year, also at Flinders ever since the race club was re-formed there in 1906. He was, with the Hon. A. Downward and Mr. J. C. Griffeth, senr., of Dromana, one of the last three surviving members of the first Baxter's Flat Racing Club.  Being of magnificent physique, he was an athlete of no mean repute, and took part in the first historic football match-played on the Peninsula.  This was when two teams, captained by the Barker brothers, of Barker's station, Flinders, just home from college - from the Flinders and Balnarring districts met at Balnarring. Football was played for ten minutes and then the two teams fought each other until dark, some players even being chased to their homes. He then took up land at "Tuerong" and by energy and perseverance had at one time 1000 acres of land and a large number of stock.  In recent years he sold 408 acres at Kangerong to Mr. Matthewson and 200 acres near Hastings to Mr. Heggan and lived a quieter life.  As a shearer in the "nineties" he used to shear along the Darling and the Murrumbidgee Rivers. In later years he and Mr. Albert Wilson, formerly of Moorooduc, put up a record at John Cleeland's, Phillip Island, which his not since been beaten on the Peninsula.  They shore 292 come-back wethers in one day - Mr. Wilson 150, and "Jim" (as he was known all over the Peninsula) Connell 142.  He was one of the leading stone contractors of the Peninsula - all the first metal roads were made by Messrs. J. Connell, T. Male and J. Turner.  His declining years were cheered by an affectionate wife and a united family, consisting of Messrs. James and John G. Connell, of Brunswick; William, of W.A.; Albert and Louis, of Green Island, Mornington; Mrs. M. Mooney, Brunswick; Mrs. A..Simpson, Brunswick; and Mrs. J. McNulty, Echuca.

Frankston & Somerville Standard (Vic.) Friday 25 June 1926

Cheers, Jennie