BOWKETT William Imprisoned in Tree Trunk 1935

An extract from the newspaper, The Canberra Times, Tuesday 4 June 1935.

CLIMBER'S ORDEAL

Imprisoned in Tree Trunk The remarkable story of a man's 45 hours' imprisonment in the trunk of a hollow tree was revealed in Gloucester recently. Mr. William Bowkett, of Overton, near Gloucester, climbed an old tree to cut a stick. The tree trunk was hollow, and while he was reaching for the stick he slipped and fell feet first into the hole.

Mr. Bowkett was wedged so tightly in the tree that he could not move and his arms were held fast. He shouted and called for a long time, but no one passed the lonely, spot, It was not until the afternoon of the third day that Mr. George Webb, of Highley Farm, Minsterworth, passed the tree and heard groans and then a voice.

Mr. Webb climbed up and saw Bowkett wedged in the trunk, but was unable to pull him out. Then he obtained help of two salmon fishermen, who, with other assistance, carried block hoistingtackle to the field. After a long 'struggle, in which Mr. Bowkett's clothes were completely torn off his back and he was badly scratched, they hoisted him out of the trunk. Mr. Bowkett, exhausted and famished, took many days to recover from his ordeal.

Article Transcribed by Don Cameron

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