



**ACTIVITY:** Body boarding

**CASE:** GSAF 2011.09.04.a

**DATE:** Sunday September 4, 2011

**LOCATION:** The attack took place in the Indian Ocean at 'The Farm', a popular surf spot in Bunker Bay, Western Australia.

**NAME:** Kyle James Burden

**DESCRIPTION:** He was a 21-year-old male. His friends described him as a "free-spirited conservationist."

#### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER / SEA CONDITIONS:** Dunsborough Sgt. Craig Anderson described the weather and sea as "perfect shark conditions: "It was dark and gloomy water, overcast skies, light rain falling, there was whale action in the bay and some seals about."

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Crescent, 44% of the Moon was illuminated. First Quarter, September 5, 2011.

**ENVIRONMENT:** There is a "big seal colony right around the corner," according to manager of the Beach Café, Hamish McLeay. Surfer Barnaby Mills said, "We've seen a lot of big sharks lately, we go out on the jet ski and tow-in a lot. We've seen great whites, five metres long. Maybe it's the whales; a local fisherman told me there were big whales out there this morning. They were probably following them."



**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 50 metres

**TIME:** 13h26

**NARRATIVE:** Bunkers Beach Cafe employee Deb Pickett said there had been "quite a nice swell" on Sunday morning, which meant that at one point there had been up to 30 surfers in the water. There may have been about 20 people in the water at the time of the accident. The man was bodyboarding with five friends when was bitten by the shark. Nobody actually saw the shark itself, but they saw the man's body in among some blood. At least five other surfers were just metres from the man but the shark struck so swiftly nobody saw the attack, said Sergeant Craig Anderson, from Dunsborough police. His mates pulled his body to shore.

**INJURY:** The man died in the water. The shark had bitten off the lower part of his body, according to police. Ms Pickett told AAP she called for police and an ambulance and Ms Pickett said there had been "quite a nice swell" on Sunday morning, which meant that at one point there had been up to 30 surfers in the water. She said helicopters were still searching the area for the shark, while rescue staff searched for the man's arms and legs, which she believed had been taken by the shark.

**SPECIES:** According to Sergeant Anderson no one saw the shark in the water prior to the attack but the man's injuries signified a shark attack. Onlookers told the media that they



*Kyle James Burden*



*Bunker Bay*

**SOURCES:** Lloyd Jones, Sydney Morning Herald, September 6, 2011  
<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/shark-victims-mother-pays-tribute-to-son-20110906-1juzn.html>

News.com.au, June 11, 2016  
[www.news.com.au/lifestyle/parenting/kids/shark-attack-victims-mother-disgusted-by-newspapers-front-page/news-story/b3e509cf2589cc9c6c85c21c60d0c751](http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/parenting/kids/shark-attack-victims-mother-disgusted-by-newspapers-front-page/news-story/b3e509cf2589cc9c6c85c21c60d0c751)

