

ACTIVITY: Fishing

CASE: [GSAF 1985.11.11](#)

DATE: Monday November 11, 1985

LOCATION: The accident took place on Mackerel Reef on the Great Barrier Reef, 240 km north of Gladstone, Queensland, Australia.

NAME: Richard Lynch

DESCRIPTION: He is a 36-year-old male from Noosa Heads.

BACKGROUND

TIME: Afternoon

NARRATIVE: As Lynch pulled the shark onboard his dinghy, the shark grabbed his leg.

INJURY: Laceration to lower left leg.

TREATMENT: He was airlifted from his small dinghy to Gladstone Hospital.

SPECIES: Not identified, but the shark was about a metre in length.

NOTE: This was a provoked incident; it involved a hooked shark

SOURCES: Courier Mail, November 13, 1985, page 2; R. McKenzie, Sunday Mail, September 6, 1987, page 11

SHARK VICTIM FLOWN TO HOSPITAL

A FISHERMAN injured when a shark grabbed his leg was flown by helicopter from his dinghy off Gladstone yesterday.

Richard Lynch, 36, of Noosa Heads, was in a satisfactory condition in the Gladstone Hospital last night recovering from a gash in his lower left leg.

He had caught a 1 m shark on Monday afternoon when fishing from a small dinghy, Spellbound, at Mackerel Reef, about 240 km north-east of Gladstone.

As he pulled the shark on board, it opened its mouth and grabbed his leg.

A decision to send a rescue boat on Monday was aborted and a helicopter rescue collected the fisherman late yesterday afternoon.

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