

ACTIVITY: Spearfishing

CASE: GSAF 2005.01.19

DATE: Wednesday January 19, 2005

LOCATION: The incident took place near the Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron, south of Rickett's Point in Port Phillip Bay, Victoria, Australia.

NAME: Julian McLaughlin

DESCRIPTION: He is a 30-year-old male, a carpenter from Sandringham.

NARRATIVE: Julian McLaughlin was spearfishing when the shark swam underneath him. "It kept going about three or four metres then did a U-turn and came straight at me," he said. The diver tried to deflect the shark with his spear, but the fish rolled and kept coming towards him. "So I speared it ... and then it's just taken off and taken me with it. ...It took off like a freight train. For about three seconds I was pulled behind it – it was like I was water-skiing. It towed me along like I was a mouse." Eventually the spear gun was ripped from his hand. McLaughlin said despite the scare, he would return to the water after replacing the \$300 spear gun. "I'll be a little bit apprehensive but I'll get back in."



Rickett's Point

INJURY: No injury

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified. According to the spearfisherman, the shark was three metres in length.

REPORTED BY: Holly Ife; James Eager

SOURCE: Herald Sun,

http://www.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,4057,11991919%255E26462,00.html