

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** GSAF 2013.10.24

**DATE:** Thursday October 24, 2013

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Tasman Sea at South Narrabeen Beach, New South Wales, Australia.



**NAME:** Anthony Joyce

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 41-year-old male, 193 cm tall, and weighing 107 kg. He was wearing a black and grey wetsuit, long leg, short arm. He was wearing a clear surfboard leash attached underneath his right knee.

**BOARD:** A 9'2" brown NSP longboard with three fins. The center fin is clear and the two outside fins are black.



## BACKGROUND

**WEATHER:** The sky was partly cloudy and the air temperature was about 24°C.

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Gibbous, 76% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, October 27, 2013.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The sea calm but green and wave height was 1- to 2-feet. The sea surface was 19°C, estimated. A channel was present and the depth of water in the channel was about six to eight feet.

**ENVIRONMENT:** South Narrabeen fronts the busy Pittwater Road. Narrabeen is best known for the world famous North Narrabeen break, breeding ground of some of the world's best surfers, including world champions. It is also the site of numerous local, national and international events. No sharks were seen prior to the incident but many dolphins had been observed days prior to the incident.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 70 metres

**DEPTH OF WATER:** 1.8 to 2.5 metres?

**TIME:** 18h15

**NARRATIVE:** Three people were on the beach and two were in the water. Anthony Joyce had been in the water just 15 minutes. He had fallen off his board and was treading water, facing seawards with his legs hanging down, when he felt two hits. With the second hit he felt his leg "being pulled down by the foot with severe pressure on the foot," he remembers. He pulled his foot up out of the water, saw the injury to his foot and yelled for help to Mark, another surfer who was 30 metres from him.

**INJURY:** Lacerations and multiple puncture wounds to right foot.

**FIRST AID:** Mark paddled Joyce and brought him to shore. "Bob was walking on the beach and helped me up to Bob's house. Bob saw what was going on and came down and assisted up to his house," said Joyce. The patient was transported to Mona Vale hospital, arriving there 40 minutes after he was bitten. At the hospital he was cared for by Dr.

Carmody and underwent 3.5 to 4 hours surgery to repair the injuries to his foot which included a 10 cm laceration.

**SPECIES:** The incident involved a wobbegong shark.

**REPORTED BY:** Al Brenneka, Shark Attack Survivors

**SOURCES:** Anthony Joyce; New South Wales Department of Primary Industries; Australian Shark Attack File