



ACTIVITY: Rowing across the Atlantic Ocean
CASE: **GSFA 2015.02.15**
DATE: February 15, 2015
LOCATION: Mid-Atlantic Ocean

BOAT: The *Avalon*, a carbon kevlar monohull
OCCUPANTS: James Robins, a 26-year-old doctor from Yorkshire, England, and his eight-man crew.

BACKGROUND

ENVIRONMENT: It was during a 2,986-mile (4,700km) crossing of the North Atlantic.

NARRATIVE: The *Avalon* slipped her mooring during the night of January 25, 2015. Dr. Robins writes: “A shark attacked our rudder today and it hit the boat with one hell of a belt. I was having a break eating some food in the bow cabin. All of a sudden there was a huge bang and the whole boat shook. I rushed out on deck and was told a shark had attacked the boat, biting into the rudder.

“The rudder was made of solid steel and the shark was seen swimming off immediately after – perhaps to see a dentist. This reminded us how dangerous the expedition could be, not least if someone fell overboard.”



INJURY: No injury to occupants

DAMAGE: “The Avalon is undamaged as far as we can see (thanks Rossiter’s for our strong boat)”.

SPECIES: Said to involve a white shark.

SOURCES: <http://www.atlanticfantastic.com/>
Yorkshire Post, March 16, 2015, <http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/news/main-topics/general-news/yorkshire-doctor-overcomes-shark-attack-and-near-miss-collision-on-atlantic-row-1-7158113>

