



**ACTIVITY:** Spearfishing

**CASE:** [GSAF 2016.01.02](#)

**DATE:** Saturday January 2, 2016

**LOCATION:** Miall Island off Yeppoon, Queensland, Australia.  
23°9'7.34"S, 150°54'2.96"E

**NAME:** Allan Countryman

**DESCRIPTION:** A 31-year-old male.



*Allan Countryman*

### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** Yeppoon is 48 km from Rockhampton and 676 km from Brisbane. At 11h30, YBRK (Rockhampton) recorded clear skies. The air temperature was 89.6°F, heat index 90.1°F, dew point 62.6°F, humidity 40%, sea level pressure 29.77 inches (falling), wind direction West at 4.6 mph.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The sea surface temperature was 26.1°C (79°F) with an East to Southeasterly swell.

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Gibbous, 51% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, January 2, 2016.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Miall Island part of the Keppel Bay Island National Park and can only be reached by boat. The island has only one campsite and is located 11 km east of Keppel Bay Marina in Rosslyn Bay, Yeppoon. The south-eastern and northern sides of Miall Island are rimmed by fringing reefs.

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Three metres

**TIME:** 11h30

**NARRATIVE:** Allan Countryman said he speared a trout which attracted a school of mackerel and the shark which was chasing the mackerel attacked him. He punched the shark repeatedly before it swam away and the diver was helped back to the boat.

**INJURY:** Laceration to upper right arm, cuts to arms and legs.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** Friends helped him back to his boat and a good samaritan stepped in to provide first aid before emergency crews arrived. The Yeppoon Coast Guard boat was nearby on a training run and was able to reach Mr Countryman within minutes. He was transferred to the Coast Guard boat and then transported to the pontoon at Rosslyn Bay Harbour where the Coast Guard boat was met by Queensland Ambulance Service paramedics and the RACQ Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service. The patient was transported to Rockhampton Base Hospital and next day he was transferred in a stable condition to a Brisbane hospital.

**SPECIES:** The shark was said to be up to three metres in length.

**SOURCES:** Brisbane Times, January 2, 2015

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/swimmer-injured-in-qld-shark-attack-20160102-gly5b1.html>

Courier Mail, January 2, 2016

<http://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/person-injured-in-shark-attack-off-queensland-coast/news-story/b0d3ba8b4fcb81e279e75dcd9cab35f9>

ABC.net, January 2, 2016

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-01-02/doctors-fight-to-save-arms-of-spearfisherman-who-fought-shark/7064400>



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*Miall Island*