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Western Australia

Actor Myles Pollard braves hypothermia for art

- by: Fleur Bainger
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Myles Pollard at Cowaramup Bay where he filmed scenes from his new film Drift.

SURFERS braved thumping waves in the Drug Aware Margaret River Pro yesterday, but the star of the big-budget surfing movie Drift reckons his life was repeatedly in danger during filming in the South-West.

(#)

Myles Pollard, who plays Andy Kelly in the \$11.4 million film that premiered on Thursday, said he had hypothermia after shooting an ocean scene in winter.

"The character I was playing was poor, so we decided he wouldn't have had a wetsuit. I was in the water for three hours," he said.

"It was absolutely freezing. I went back to my trailer and I went into a deep sleep, which they say is one of the symptoms of hypothermia. My core body temp had dropped so much, I crashed. I was shaking.

Pollard also filmed surf scenes in Bunker Bay the day before a shark killed bodyboarder Kyle James Burden.

Meanwhile, yesterday morning, Gold Coast ace Josh Kerr, pictured, flew like a seagull in the 3m waves.

The 27-year-old, who won the event in 2010 with three high-flying manoeuvres, relied on his spectacular aerial ability to beat Brazilian Caio Ibelli with a score of 12.93 winning by just 0.03 points.

"He was going for it. The surf is solid eight-foot-plus not the conditions you normally see guys chucking big airs," contest spokesman Jason Dover said.

WA favourites and past winners Taj Burrow and Jake Paterson were bundled out of the competition early

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2/3

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