

**ACTIVITY:** Sitting on dinghy.  
**CASE:** [GSAF 1875.00.00](#)  
**DATE:** Ca mid-1870s  
**LOCATION:** Shark's Bay, Western Australia.

**NAME:** Andrew Farmer

**NARRATIVE:** He was sitting on the stern gunwale of his dinghy, enroute to the steamer *Rob Roy* with his mail for Perth.

**INJURY:** Fatal

**SPECIES:** Not identified.

**SOURCE:** Western Mail (Perth), Friday June 27, 1919, page 42, excerpt from article titled "Old Time Memories, Old Freemantle History" by Hugh Kalyptus

Mr. Frank Bibra held extensive pearling and other fishing interests at Sharks' Bay, and, during the middle 'seventies, he expended considerable sums of money, with the object of placing dugong oil upon the European and Australian markets, in the hope of rivalling the cod liver commodity, as a remedy for tubercular and other chest ailments. For this enterprise he gained the sobriquet of Dugong Bibra; but he lost his money. His son, Ernest Von, was also engaged in the fishery business at Sharks' Bay; during which he married the eldest daughter of temperance reformer Thomas Farmer, whose eldest son, Andrew, while assisting his brother-in-law in the work of the fishery, was bitten in two by a shark, while he was seated upon the stern gunwale of his dinghy, en route to the steamer *Rob Roy*, with his mail for Perth. The late Mr. Andrew Farmer was one of Perth's earliest telegraph operators. He resigned from the

