

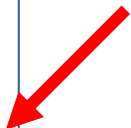
**ACTIVITY:** Diving  
**CASE:** [GSAF 1882.05.12.R](#)  
**DATE:** Reported May 12, 1882  
**LOCATION:** Western Australia pearling grounds

**NAME:** Unknown  
**DESCRIPTION:** He was a Malay pearl diver.

**NARRATIVE:** No details

**INJURY:** Fatal. His "left breast and side [were] torn away by a shark, exposing his heart, which was seen beating during the five or six hours the poor fellow lingered."

The Eastern pearling fleet has done well. By latest reports I hear that the *Dawn* (D. McKrae) had got 42 tons shells, the *Amy* (J. McKrae) and *Water Lily* (M. Price) each 30 tons; the *Harriet* (Wrightson) 17 tons. The boats from the Western ground had also done well during the short time they had had been out. Several pearls valued at fabulous figures have, according to rumour, been secured. The weather had latterly been too unsettled for continuous diving, and the high spring tides (equinoctial) so muddied the water as to prevent diving. There were plenty of dugong, and the natives were in luck's way, having many a good gorge. A Malay diver had his left breast and side torn away by a shark, exposing his heart, which was seen beating during the five or six hours the poor fellow lingered. Dynamite has been employed with some effect to scare the sharks, which swarm in those waters. The pearling season is now nearly over, and the boats are daily expected.



*The West Australian (Perth), Friday May 12, 1882, page 3*

At Perth, Western Australia, a Malay was killed by a shark whilst diving, and two others were seriously bitten.

*Wanganui Chronicle (Wellington, New Zealand), August 11, 1882, page3*