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Gun accident kills deer hunter

A man has died after accidentally shooting himself while clearing deer from a woodland.

Donald Thomson was found by his three brothers after the accident on land at his home in Grandtully, Perthshire.

Tayside Police say his death is being treated as a tragic accident, and there are no suspicious circumstances.

The 34-year-old was shooting deer with his brothers Sandy, Roddy and Hugh when the accident happened on Monday afternoon after the party had split up.

He is thought to have been killed after the gun fired as he climbed over a fence, which had been put up to cordon off the deer.

A search was launched after Mr Thomson failed to rejoin the party, and his body was found at 11.26pm.

A police spokesman said: "We understand he was climbing a fence when the gun was discharged. It appears to have been a tragic accident.

"It seems that he had tried to put the gun down so he could climb the fence, but the safety catch was not locked on and the gun went off."

He added that a report would be submitted to the procurator fiscal at Perth.

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