Three arrested over tourist death

Three people have been arrested in connection with the death of a County Durham tourist in India, Foreign Office staff have said.

David Green, 53, a freelance illustrator from Darlington, was shot at a festival in the town of Orchha in central India on 15 January.

Family and friends attended Mr Green's funeral on Monday, where he was described as "an unassuming man who embraced nature".

Mr Green was found with bullet wounds to the back, in woods near Orchha.

Initial reports suggested he could have been killed by a stray bullet from a poacher's gun.

But authorities in India have said they have insufficient evidence and are continuing to investigate.

No charges have yet been brought.

Mr Green was a regular visitor to the area and arrived for his latest trip in December.

A spokeswoman for the Foreign Office said: "Our information is that three people have been arrested in connection with the death of Mr Green.

"At the moment we are unaware of any charges in relation to the arrests."

"We would not normally be made aware of further details unless those arrested were British nationals. They do not appear to be in this case."

No-one at the Indian High Commission in London was available to comment on the investigation.

More than 100 friends and relatives attended Mr Green’s funeral in Darlington.

Among the mourners was naturalist Dr David Bellamy, who praised the artistic work of Mr Green.

Mr Green’s reed coffin, decorated in painted butterflies and fresh leaves, was buried in new community woodland, near Skerningham Manor.

Six native black poplar trees were planted in a circle around him and a seventh directly over his grave.

Earlier this month an inquest was opened and adjourned into the Mr Green’s death.