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SHAME HIM; APPEAL BY BRAVE VICTIMS OF DEAF CLUB SEX BEAST

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THREE men who were sexually abused by a kids' club leader more than 30 years ago yesterday urged other victims to come forward.

The trio were targeted at youth camps organised by Colin MacDonald. He plied his victims - children from a deaf club - with drink before pouncing on them.

Outside the High Court in Glasgow yesterday, Jim Colhoun, 48, George Drinnan, 45, and Joseph McIntyre, 46, told how they were abused by MacDonald, 61, on camping and ski trips during their school holidays.

All three had waived their right to anonymity before speaking out.

MacDonald, who is also deaf and without speech, was convicted of 10 charges after a trial at the High Court in Kilmarnock.

He was found guilty of sexually abusing 10 boys over 10 years up to 1983 but his victims believe there could be up to 100.

Jim Colhoun said: "He ruined my childhood. I just hope I can get closure when he is jailed."

George Drinnan said: "I hope others who've been abused will come forward.

"Some don't want to. They are ashamed.

"I'll never forget it. It's always on my mind. I still get flashbacks."

Joseph McIntyre said: "At night, MacDonald plied us with alcohol and abused us. We couldn't tell anyone.

"I have suffered for over 30 years. It ruined lives."

MacDonald, now of Wakefield, Yorkshire, but formerly of Glasgow, denied the charges, forcing his victims to give evidence with the help of signlanguage interpreters.

One victim told the court that when MacDonald attacked him, he screamed out but no one could hear him because all his companions were deaf.

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The attacks took place on trips to Aviemore, Glencoe, Mallaig, Harris, Rum and Sutherland and at addresses in Glasgow and Ayrshire.

Victims were aged 10 to 15.

The abuse came to light two years ago when Mr Drinnan went to police.

Yesterday's court appearance was marred by the absence of a psychiatric report, which meant MacDonald could not be sentenced, as planned.

Two victims had travelled from London, and others from various parts of Scotland, to see him jailed.

Judge Lord Malcolm said this delay was "unfortunate and unsatisfactory".

MacDonald was held in custody and will be sentenced next month.

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