

Secretary
Glen Waverley Church Council

53/100 Harold Street
Wantirna Vic 3152
2 May 2012

I attended Peter Barr's funeral this afternoon.

Since I have a severe hearing loss, I followed my practice of enquiring whether there was a hearing loop in the church. I had a recollection from some years back that there had been one. A person with a name tag confirmed that there was, he told me where the best location was and indeed showed me to a seat which he said was in the looped area.

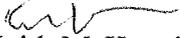
Soon after the service started, to my disappointment, it seemed that the loop was not functioning. I had no alternative but to use the aid and implant; they were inadequate.

After the service, I spied what I guessed correctly was the sound booth and went in to enquire about the status of the loop. I was told that the loop was no longer used at Glen Waverley. The rationale was that with the modern hearing aid technology, this superseded the need to use a loop.

I also ran into the person who has shown me to a "looped seat". He enquired how the loop been; I told him the situation. He was very apologetic, having not been aware of the current position.

I add a couple of points. Some time back Peter and I had worked closely on the Maroondah Presbytery for well over a decade. Second, it is not the most welcome situation having to sit through an hour without understanding anything except the hymns on the screen and the Lord's Prayer. For me, the audio loop is not perfect but it is usually an improvement.

Yours sincerely


Keith McKenzie