The Loop Programme – also known as ‘T’!

One very useful feature which has been included in hearing aids for many years, is a “telecoil”. Traditionally this has been known as a “T” Setting; nowadays it is more commonly called a Loop Programme.

This offers a quick and easy way of listening to all sorts of audio equipment with good sound quality.

Most hearing aids (except for particularly small ones) have a Loop Programme, but sometimes it hasn’t been activated – your audiologist will be able to tell you if a Loop Programme is available on your aids.

When you switch your hearing aid/s to the Loop Programme, a receiver is turned on in the hearing aid which will pick up the sound signal from an induction loop. Loops come in different sizes but they all work in the same way – you switch your hearing aid/s to the Loop Programme to hear the sound.

Public loops are often found in large public buildings (theatres, churches, etc). You will also find them at counters in banks, advice centres or shops. Buildings display a standard sign to show when a loop system installed.

Room loops are great for use at home, such as in a living room, for the TV – see page 11. All hearing aid users in the room would be able to hear through the loop.

You can also get personal neckloops which are worn around your neck and will provide sound only for you. These are great for listening to music – see page 10.

You can also get “Hearing Aid Compatible” (HAC) telephones which have a very small loop built into the handset – see page 20.

Cochlear Implants & BAHAs – access to ‘T’ and special accessories

Just like conventional hearing aids, most cochlear implants and BAHAs can be used with loop systems. However, sometimes you may need a separate accessory, such as a plug-in telecoil.

If you are able to use the telecoil with your cochlear implant or BAHA, you will be able to use any of the equipment we supply as ‘hearing aid compatible’.

Once you have your processor, your clinic will support you with essential spares. There are also a variety of options to customise your system which you can purchase yourself. Items range from stylish covers to iPod audio cables.