

## Editorial

It is pleasing to see an ever-widening representation of the many facets and potentialities of music therapy in *The Australian Journal of Music Therapy*. Surely this reflects the development and explorative spirit of music therapists both in this country and overseas.

There is a continued interest and concern regarding the future directions of music therapy as a profession. This is, indeed, a healthy interest if music therapy is to continue to make meaningful and relevant contributions to the community's needs. In this issue, future directions are discussed in light of the relationship between music and medicine. Another new direction for music therapy in this country is the Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music, which is both discussed in its clinical applications and illustrated with a case study.

Modern technology also opens many avenues of exploration for the music therapist and, in turn, many potential benefits for clients. One of these many avenues is Vibroacoustic Therapy which is investigated in the first of the Keynote addresses from the 1991 AMTA National Conference.

The concern for the future is balanced against a renewed appraisal of tenets long regarded as essential and vital to the processes of music therapy – the Isoprinciple, and the role of music in people's spiritual support. Such re-appraisal is necessary to avoid complacency in our attitudes and ensures the continued relevancy of our contributions.

It is of vital importance that music therapists continue to manifest this balance in their professional lives – to look to future directions and avenues of exploration, to re-assess the continued relevance of values long held, and continue to make meaningful contributions in the present. For this ensures a truly healthy and exciting future for the profession of music therapy.

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