

# SCRAPBOOK

**SOUTHERN CROSS REGION ARRANGER'S PROGRAM NEWSLETTER**

November 2004

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## SCRAP GOING WELL!

Hi all!

Its been so nice to receive many tests from most of you this year, and great to put faces to some names at Convention in Adelaide.

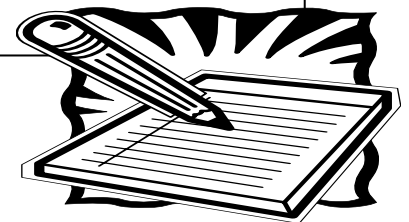
At the current time the number of active enrollees in our program are :

<b>Level 1</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>5 (three on the final test)</b>

That leaves 16 that are still on the books but have not been active this year. There have been 11 new enrollees this year. From these numbers we can deduce that there is a natural drop out rate for the program and the missing element for many is – TIME!

The early tests are easier and not time consuming. As you progress, the lessons become a little more challenging and gee its hard to find that time each week isn't it? But, stay with it! By the end of the course you won't know it all (who can?) but you will be a long way along your arranging pathway, with lots of useful skills.

Sadly, there is a limit for how long we can "keep" you if you aren't able to send lessons in. For those I haven't heard from this year at all, I'll give another 6 months and then I will be dropping from the mailing lists etc. I'd rather that you picked up that lesson again if its possible! It is time consuming managing the mail lists, and some aren't on email. Sorry!

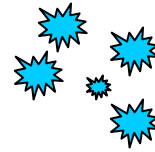


## Voices Down Under

This event in Perth was a great experience, both socially and educationally. Suzi Lobaugh was very generous and enthusiastic in her teaching, running two general arranging classes and then also some individual time for those that had brought arrangements with them. Notes from one of Suzi's classes are included with this newsletter, and more will follow in future editions.

I found a couple of new recruits, and I was also very glad to meet Louise Hamilton, a talented arranger in New Zealand, who runs the equivalent of our SCRAP Program.

Of course, Fanatrix and Saturday Evening Post were all present and oh so talented as well as being nice people! Brian Beck (bass of SEP) did not take an arranging class in the end, but what a talented man. Wouldn't all quartets like to have someone like that with them?!!



## Arrangement Checklist

(from Suzi, for looking at an arrangement, but also useful when you are choosing songs to arrange, or looking over YOURS)

1. Is there a memorable singable melody within the range of your lead (s) – usually one octave plus one or two additional tones?
2. Does the implied harmony call for strong BBS chords -- major triads, BBS sevenths, dominant ninths – with a sprinkling of secondary chords to enhance appeal? Do phrase endings, points of resolution, and emphasis words have strong chords?
3. Is the arrangement in a comfortable singing range for all parts?
4. Is there a natural rise and fall of chords that suggest appropriate dynamics?
5. Are the lyrics interesting? If uptune, they should be fairly easy to articulate while sung at a fast pace. If ballad, a dramatic or poignant story should be told.
6. Is it a creative arrangement? Does it utilise appropriate chord voicings to reinforce dynamic patterns, appropriate embellishments to enhance the rhythm/story line, interesting swipes to add excitement?
7. Can you plan phrasing to accommodate your group's breathing capacity? (for your own arrangements – plan it for beginners!)
8. Does the INTRO adequately set up the story? Does the TAG finish the song in a dramatic and exciting way?

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9. Where is the musical high point of the song? Does it coincide with the lyrical high point? (Ed: this is a commonly asked question! The high point of the melody is the point where it sounds dramatic – usually towards the end. But if the words here are something like “I’m going to the shop” then that’s not a matched lyrical and musical high point (unless it was an argument about you going shopping I guess!)

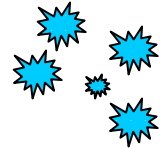
10. If a key change is utilized, are the chord progressions logical and easy to hear? Does the key change add an exciting dimension to the arrangement?

11. Is the composition of the arrangement interesting and satisfying? Not too short, or too long?

12. If the arrangement contains more than one song, is there a basic theme present? Is it logical and musically satisfying with continuity?

If in doubt, consult another musical expert!

Other Suzi lessons coming up ... “Finding Danger Zones”  
 “Making Your Manuscript Meaningful”  
 “Keeping the Composer Happy”



All interesting arranging topics!

### COMING UP IN 2005

A reminder that Jo Lund, SAI Certified Arranger, is the Music Judge at our Regional Competition in Adelaide, May 13 – 16th 2005.

Jo is a wonderful arranger and keen to offer her services. I know of at least two SCRAP enrollees in NSW who would like individual time with her. Jo is traveling from NZ, through Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide prior to our competition. If you would like to have a session with her (individual payment may be required) please let me know. RMT and Jo Oosterhoff will be deciding on classes in Convention time.

From: Jenny Fay SCRAP Coordinator  
 6 Waugh St, North Perth, WA 6006

**TO:**