## Indigenous Community Volunteer Foundation

## Eight experienced librarians required

he Indigenous Community Volunteers Foundation (ICV) require the assistance of eight experienced librarians to participate in an innovative pilot project in the Cape York and Torres Strait regions.

ICV is assists Indigenous communities by supporting skills transfer projects that have lasting value. It links skilled volunteers with communities. ICV fills a gap in services to Indigenous communities, many of whom do not have access to business, trade and professional skills that most Australians take for granted.

ICV has been approached by State Library of Queensland to assist with an innovative strategy which includes the development of Indigenous Knowledge Centres (IKCs) in remote communities. Initially these IKC's will function as public libraries, but in the longer term, the strategy aims to include other functions such as keeping places, arts and cultural centres and incubators for economic development.

To date five IKCs are open, and another three are ready for opening. To address concerns about viability and effectiveness of the IKCs, the communities are request-

ing the assistance of experienced librarians to work with local staff. These volunteers would live in the communities (for varied periods of time), and act as mentors. They would also assist the local staff in the development of library programs.

ICV provides cultural training, ongoing support and mentoring to the volunteer. All travel and accommodation is arranged and costs are covered by ICV. The volunteer is also paid an initial engagement fee, and thereafter a weekly allowance which covers the cost of food and incidentals. ICV is aware that many volunteers can

only spend a limited amount of time in the communities. Projects can be staged, and volunteers are able to negotiate timing with ICV and the communities.

This project is a new and exciting concept. The facilitation of access to information, training and technology is a critical component to the furthering of self-determination for Indigenous communities.

If you are interested in participating in this project, further information can be found at http://www.volindigenous.org.au. Or contact Angela Barry on 02 6200 0864 or toll free on 1800 819 542.

## Queen Salote College, Tonga, South Pacific

This FreeWesleyan (Methodist) Church girls secondary school in Nuku'alofa, the capital needs an interested library officer to consolidate the new library collection in their new library building. Bookmark software, SCIS based cataloguing. Networked library computers. Duties: to continue collection building and cataloguing, operate loans system and conduct information literacy programs with students in consultation with staff. We would like you to feel 'at home' with the Christian ethos of the school and island culture.

Salary: \$T5755pa. (Graduate teachers salary scale \$T3670-\$T5570). Own travel costs to and from Tonga. Rent-free housing available; no utilities bills. Short- or long-term appointment considered.

If interested contact: Mrs Lyn Greenall, Melbourne, greenall@smart.net.au; or Robyn Whitefern, Melbourne, past librarian, 03 9877 5717. Principal: Sela Latu, sela@qsc.to.



