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the middle of nowhere, the laughs, the
moment during an expedition across A
year. "It was about 5pm, the sun was going
I really didn't want to be stuck there. But s
helped us get out of the situation quite qu
Moustafa – a camping novice who left
division director at Macquarie Bank in
work on the museum – and three of
Muslims" travelled 13,000 kilometre
Australia. They met a 101-year-old woman
from Afghan cameleers; learned about th
the Makassan fisherman who traded with
people of Arnhem Land from the 17th
found out about Malaysian pearl divers i
Film footage from the expedition will
educational programs at the new \$8-mil
Museum of Australia, to be built on the si
warehouse in Thornbury, with Moustafa
Australia Post chief Ahmed Fahour, as
Moustafa's wife, Maysaa, 27, who is exp
couple's third child, as chairperson. "T
tenacity and persistence," says Mous
organise the meetings and set them up."
Maysaa, who has a background in teach
the museum to be "fun as well as educatio
the technology that kids love." The centre
other things, showcase Islamic art and a
(including a portrait of commentator Wale
was runner-up in the 2011 Archibald), exp
and practices to non-Muslims, such as the
between a niqab and a burqa, and tell th
Muslims in Australia (the first mosque w
brick dome near Maree built by Afghans v
the Central Australian railway). A "billab
feature will demonstrate the ancient
technique of using air passing over water
environmentally friendly air-conditioning
artist, I'm a banker by background," says
"Establishing a museum, setting it up... I car
But when it actually comes to the detail... I'l
to put my hand up and say, I didn't know
however, I'm always up for the challenge of

032

Hyder Gulam

community leader

Making it count: When census time came round in August, Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) president Hyder Gulam urged Muslims to stand up and be counted by indicating their religion. Gulam, a 40-year-old human rights lawyer, suspects that Muslims under-reported themselves in the last census. "A lot of Muslims have come from countries where there've been fairly autocratic governments and to disclose too much about yourself was really to give too much information." Gulam also urged Muslims to report any aggression they encountered on the street, such as being jeered at for wearing the hijab, to police and their local mosque.
Good work: As ICV head, Gulam made new links with the Jewish community in 2011, agreeing to work together to educate the community on kosher and halal slaughter, and he set up prayers for 2000 people in the Flagstaff Gardens for the Eid festival. He also visited asylum seekers detained in Maribyrnong. "There's a group of us who go out and remind them they haven't been forgotten."



033

Gerard Vaughan

NGV director

The social web: To successfully run a world-class public gallery you need to be a master at making useful connections – with potential benefactors, other gallery heads and audiences. Gerard Vaughan, who in September announced he would step down from leading the gallery after 12 years, is accomplished at all three.
The legacy: Under Vaughan, the NGV broke attendance records with its Winter Masterpieces exhibitions including The Impressionists, Picasso: Love & War and Salvador Dali; it redeveloped the St Kilda Road building and built an Australian art gallery at Federation Square; and since 2008 has raised more than \$100 million in its Masterpieces for Melbourne fundraising drive. "The NGV is now regularly buying the finest works available, competing with the rest of the world and often winning, something we haven't done for half a century," he says.
Most satisfying exhibition? "Munch in 2004. None of the overseas directors could believe that the Norwegians had lent such major works so generously."



034

Halina Wagowska

inspiring a new generation

The story: Born in Poland, Halina Wagowska fled her family and suffered innumerable horrors in concentration camps. She arrived in Melbourne in 1948, worked as a medical scientist for 44 years since dedicated her life to helping others.
Inspiring: In August, Wagowska, now 81, signed a Hardie Grant to publish her memoir, The Testimony, adamant the book (out in March) is about more than her own life. "I hope the reader will focus on what happened during this most horrible time and not just away a few homilies. One is, don't remain a victim if catastrophes happen. You mustn't let them define you. Royalties will go towards bursaries for Aboriginal children."
Remarkable woman: Wagowska has written 200 submissions to Senate inquiries for the Australian Society, organised 5000 books for Black and White survivors, helped found two houses for homeless people and raises funds for bursaries for Aboriginal students.