

# Priest and Muslim leader speaking at Anzac event



**Peaceful future:** Fr Paul Glynn with Sabina Baltruweit after presenting her with a traditional Japanese framed scroll seen here on the wall of her house.

MARIST Father Paul Glynn will be among speakers at Lismore gatherings seeking to make Anzac Day relevant to multicultural Australia and to reflect a peace-oriented society.

He will speak alongside Australian Muslim theologian and academic, Associate Professor Mehmet Ozalp, at Anzac Day events organised by Remembering and Healing.

The organisation is holding the gatherings on the eve of Anzac Day, Friday, April 24 at Lismore Uniting Church and on the morning of Anzac Day, Saturday, April 25 at Lismore Peace Park.

RaH co-ordinator Sabina Baltruweit said Fr Glynn would speak about “his life-long commitment to the healing of the Australian-Japanese relationship”.

“He will be sharing his deep knowledge and appreciation of Japanese culture,” she said.

“Fr Glynn will also challenge some stereotypes by speaking about his experiences while living and working in Japan for decades after World War Two.”

Turkish-born Prof Ozalp will speak about the different perspectives on Anzac Day of his mother country and his adopted country.

He was awarded Australian Muslim Role Model of the Year in 2012.

RaH events have been held in conjunction with Anzac Day commemorations for the past seven years.

“To respect and honour the sacrifice and suffering of all those afflicted by war, we need to strive for a future where conflicts are resolved without violence,” Ms Baltruweit said.

“The values of Anzac Day need to be critically examined and adjusted through a vigorous, public discussion Australia-wide,” she said.

“We work to have RaH’s values, inclusiveness and peace-orientation, integrated into the official program for Anzac Day.”