

# Retiree's barking mad for big trees

By **JOE FLYNN**

HOW big is yours?

That is what tree lover Derek McIntosh has been asking Queenslanders this week. The retired Sydney developer has been touring the Sunshine State this month, looking for Queensland's biggest trees and urging locals to get behind him.

The trip is part of the South African expat's lifelong ambition to see a National Registry of Big Trees, similar to the American model that has been running for over 40

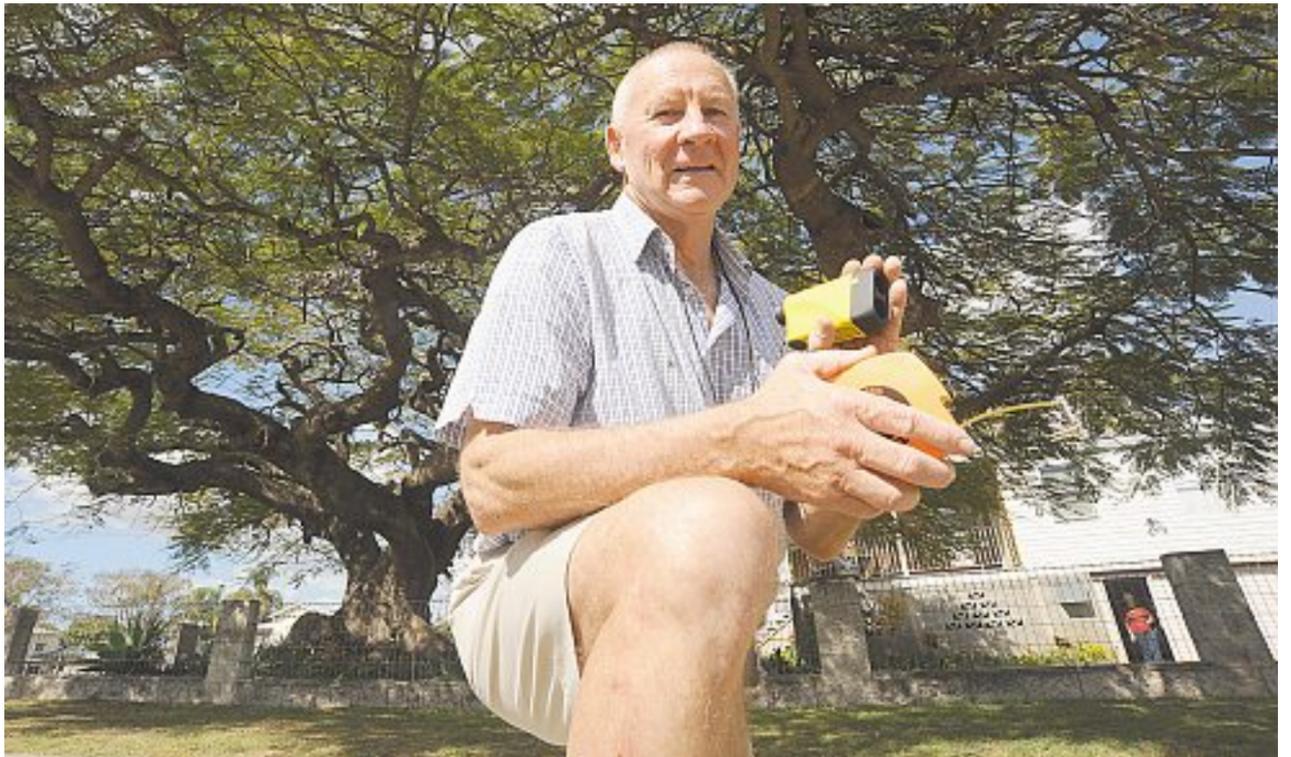
years, established in his adopted home.

"I just love trees and I think it's a wonderful thing to have a registry where people can see where the biggest trees are," he said.

More importantly, Mr McIntosh wants people to follow him on his journey.

"I can't measure every tree in Australia, I need people to go out and register their trees," he said.

To help his cause, Mr McIntosh has developed an online registry where residents can photograph their big trees



National Register of Big Trees co-ordinator Derek McIntosh wants Bundaberg residents to add their big trees to the online database. Photo: MAX FLEET tre2907c

and post them on the internet.

And wherever he goes, people are responding.

After a recent visit to Cairns, where he featured in Cairns Post, Mr McIntosh's website received more than 600 hits.

He had similar results after appearing in the Rockhampton media.

"Hopefully it creates a point of interest for people," he said.

In Bundaberg, Landcare

workers showed Mr McIntosh some of Bundaberg's biggest trees in Queen's Park.

The cabbage palm, grub ironbark, burdekin plum and hard quandong at Queen's Park will feature on the register.

So will the poinciana at Mario and Annamaria D'Addario's Targo Street property.

For more information, or to register a tree, go to [www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au](http://www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au).

## SPREADING THE WORD



Register your favourite big tree in Bundy, like the quandong (left) and plum tree (right) here in Queen's Park.

**Nielson's LLC**  
MUSIC STORE

An Evening with  
**The Man beside John Farnham**  
**BRETT GARSED**

Where: Nielsons Music Store 11 - 15 Targo St  
When: 5th August Time: 6:30 pm Cost: \$5 Admission Refreshment Served  
Phone: 07 4151 2882 Email: [info@nielsonsmusic.com.au](mailto:info@nielsonsmusic.com.au)

ESP logo and CMI logo

## A NIGHT WITH BRETT GARSED

For those who enjoy top guitarists on August 5th, you will be able to share, "An Evening with Brett Garsed". To the uninitiated that name, just "pulled out of a hat", so to speak, may not mean a lot, but the enormous amount of people who include John Farnham's, "Whispering Jack", album, in their collection, would be very familiar with his work. He toured, and recorded with Farnham, as lead, or rhythm guitarist, until 1989, when he decided to try his luck in the land "Under the Double Eagle".

The "big move", was made as the result of an invitation to audition for, "Nelson", a band which featured Gunnar, and Mathew, sons of early rock superstar Ricky Nelson. He breezed through the audition, claimed the vacant spot in the band, and went on to feature on the album, "After The Rain", which sold in excess of three million copies, one track from which topped the American charts, and another two found themselves in the top ten. He spent fourteen years in America, before returning to Australia, to once again link up with John Farnham on his record breaking, "Last Time" tour which ran for an incredible seven months.

You can catch up with Brett during his brief Bundaberg stopover when he appears at Nielson's Music Store, at 6:30pm on August 5th. Admission only \$5, with refreshments also served.

Brett plays ESP/LTD Guitars, (there is even a Brett Garsed signature model available). There will be a range of over 50 LTD Guitars and Bases on display, with unbeatable discounted prices.

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Article by  
Burt Everett  
"Country Pickings"

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