

# Tree search grows

## Tableland girths attract national attention



Derek McIntosh with his son Andrew, 11, measuring a large red penda at Kuranda.

DEREK McIntosh has a big task in front of him.

He is on the hunt for Australia's biggest trees to add to his national register.

"I have always loved big trees and I want to share that love with the world," Mr McIntosh said.

Since setting up the register in May last year, more than 430 massive trees have been listed online.

Mr McIntosh told the *Tablelander* he had travelled from NSW searching for the biggest cadaghi and red penda. "I am self-funded and there is

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a lot of ground I can't cover so any help is appreciated."

He said you didn't have to be an expert to nominate a tree with specific guidelines for nominations and measurements listed on his website.

"Take a good look at the trees in your backyards, on pavements, in community parks and wilderness areas and you will be stunned what you discover," he said.

Nominated trees are graded based on a formula includ-

ing girth, height and crown spread. Already included on the register are the kauri pine and rose butternut at Lake Barrine and the cadagi tree outside the Ravenshoe visitor information centre.

"I dare say there is a bigger cadagi nestled in the hills here somewhere," he said.

The register works with all Federal and State Forestry and Environmental Departments as well as with city councils, Greening Australia and the National Trust of Australia.