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JAMIE DURIE, landscape designer, TV host, book publisher extraordinaire.

Nowhere is there a more enduring symbol of hope for a better future than the incredible return from the dead of the Wollemi pine, says TV's gardening guru Jamie Durie, host of the Nine Network's *Backyard Blitz*. The passion with which the prehistoric tree, long assumed extinct, has been cherished, nurtured and cultivated since its chance discovery 12 years ago, fires him with optimism for the future of the world.

Yet Jamie's dearest Christmas wish is still that we would extend all that love and care to the environment in general. "The way Australians have embraced this ancient tree is incredible," he says. "Now, if only we could have the same attitude towards all facets of the world around us ..."

"The success of the Wollemi pine gives me great hope for all our futures. I think we now have a much greater awareness of how precious *all* growth is on our planet and how it all serves together to make up the lungs of the earth."

Yet that does not mean we can rest on our laurels. "We have to go further and sign the Kyoto Protocol to get real about saving the whole environment," says Jamie.

Jamie is photographed in the Wollemi pine enclosure at Mt Tomah Botanic Garden in the Blue Mountains, NSW. >>>

