



RECORD CYCLE . . . Erik Straarup visits the Douglas Donor Centre

Erik's record ride aims to cause chain reaction

A DANISH man on a mission cycled into Townsville this week.

Erik Straarup's assignment is clear – he wants to break a world record by cycling around Australia, while simultaneously raising awareness for the Australian Red Cross Blood Service.

The Danish national left Sydney on June 24, and arrived in Townsville early Tuesday afternoon after spending the night in Bowen.

Mr Straarup took time out from his world-record breaking attempt to visit Townsville's Douglas Donor Centre.

"I promised to visit as many blood services as possible, but I keep missing business hours so this is only number two," he said on Tuesday.

The super-fit 51-year-old intends to smash the world record by six days, and has set himself a 74-day deadline to return to Sydney where his journey began last month.

— RACHELLE CHAPMAN