

# 2020 Annual Report





FRIENDS OF THE  
**larapintatrail**

**An overview of the 2020 walking season, including summary of events, fundraising activities, promotion of the Larapinta Trail and assistance with Trail maintenance.**



# President's report:

## Achievements and year ahead



On behalf of the Friends of the Larapinta Trail committee I would like to welcome you to our AGM and thank you for taking the time to support our group.

Despite the challenges that we all faced in 2020 the Friends were still able to host a variety of walks, working bees and markets throughout the season:

- We had a superb overnight hike on Section 4, camping at Brinkley Bluff. We could not have asked for more favourable weather conditions with mild day time temperatures and barely a breath of wind overnight.
- We experienced the new alignment of Section 7, with some of us camping overnight at the new Ellery Creek North campsite
- We hosted 2 working bees, which was less than usual due to the disruption to the start of the season, and the closure of the trail for a period of time. I am however pleased to report that we have already exceeded that number for 2021, with Katie having already taken working bee groups out on 3 occasions
- We attended 3 Todd Mall markets which enabled FOLT to interact and inform locals and visitors (albeit fewer than normal) about the trail and raise money via donations and selling of merchandise. In addition to this we attended 1 ASTC Night Market & the Christmas Carnival
- We hosted 3 day walks (Woodlands Trail, Ochre Pits & Inarlanga Pass and the Ormiston Pound Loop)
- We produced our annual calendar. Thanks very much to the wonderful Andrea who again took the reins on the production of the calendar. It came out beautifully and is hanging on walls all over Australia, and even a few across the world.
- We were lucky enough to be able to host a couple of social events which included a BBQ at the Telegraph Station and the end of year Christmas celebrations at the Dust Bowl
- The FOLT is in a strong financial position with \$15,047.65 in the bank. We are continuing to liaise with NT Parks & Wildlife to ascertain where's best for this money to be spent. We look forward to contributing financially to the trail this year
- Our long time treasurer Emil Mavilio is this year stepping down from his role. We can not thank him enough for his contribution to FOLT over the years. Even after moving away he continued to look after our financials, and it's been such a weight off the committees' shoulders to know that we had a very reliable and competent person sitting in the role of treasurer. Thank you Emil! We will miss you and hope to see you up on the Larapinta again soon
- I also wish to send out a huge thank you to NT Parks & Wildlife and their staff for all the work and time they put into the trail, and for the encouragement and support they provide to FOLT.
- We had two sponsors who despite the difficulties of 2020 were able to continue their support. So a big shout out to Brian Blakeman Surveys and Trek Larapinta
- Thank you to all our members who help out whether it be by volunteering at the markets, volunteering on the trail, providing transport to our walkers, submitting pictures for the calendar, or supporting our walks. It's a privilege to be involved with such a positive, friendly and supportive crew.

Finally, I would like to personally thank all of the committee members for working so hard to keep the FOLT going and growing. The time and brain space you donate is greatly appreciated. I look forward to a successful season in 2021, which is set to see many many people out enjoying our beautiful back yard.

Kind Regards

Clare Drabsch  
President, Friends of the Larapinta Trail.

## Our Members:

We currently have 505 members

## Your Committee:

President – Clare Drabsch

Vice President – Megan Hatton

Treasurer – Emil Mavilio

Secretary – Tamara Siemionow

Public Officer – Clare Drabsch

Committee Member – Su Sze Ting

Committee Member – Rebecca  
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see you on  
the trail  
in 2021!



## Friends of the Larapinta Trail Inc.

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