

# THE AMBERS DAY HIKE – SUNDAY 13 JULY

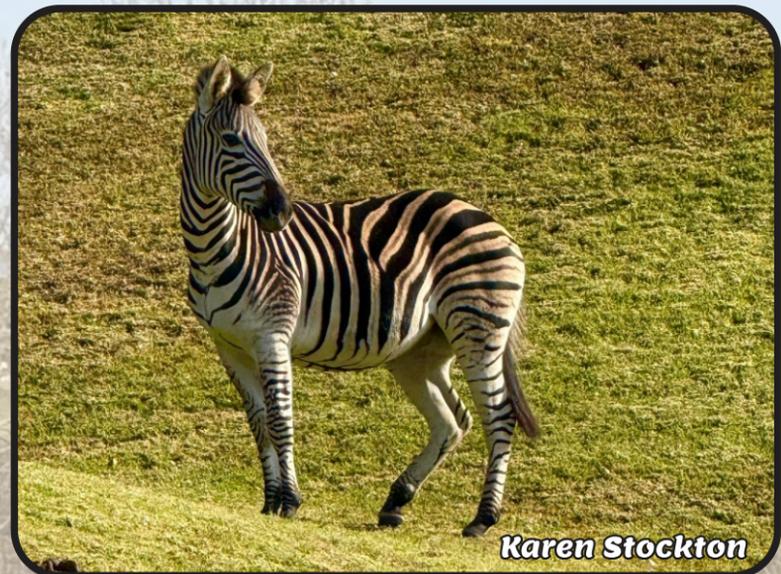
## LEADER: Keith Ashton

This hike gave our 12 members a detailed experience of mainly the wilder parts of Amber Valley, Amber Ridge, Amber Lakes & Amber Lee.

Our hike started from our house (Keith & Margaret) in Amber Valley just after 08h00 on a cool but beautiful morning towards the fence line between Amber Valley & Amber Lee. Then continued inside Amber Valley down to the lowest point, before our first steep climb over rough ground causing some heavy breathing & quickly warming up our bodies. We continued less steeply up towards the Kwawula Game Estate after already seeing several blesbok, impala & warthogs in Amber Valley.



Karen Stockton



Karen Stockton

Continuing upwards, parallel to Kwawula, we were soon stripping off our outer clothes as we heated up with the sun & the climb. Shortly after, we reached the highest point in Amber Valley at a convenient bench which we donated in 2014. From this vantage point is a lovely view of most the Ambers & beyond.



Kalina Kerr



Kalina Kerr

Descending from this point we crossed Falcon Dam wall in Amber Valley before heading upwards & into Amber Ridge & climbing up via the Cherub Trail to the highest point in Amber Ridge where there is a high transmission mast. From here it was down & up a few times before reaching the fence line corner near the entrance to Kwawula. From here we headed across the rest of Amber Ridge back into Amber Valley.

As we were now getting hungry, we made our way to a lovely quite spot with sunshine, or shade if preferred, next to another bench for lunch.

After enjoying lunch, we meandered along a lovely wild valley, which we named The Serval Track, as a serval spent about 3 months in the area some time ago.

Soon we were passing all the facilities in Amber Valley, including tennis courts, bowling greens, two indoor swimming pools, the Main Centre comprising reception, library, café, restaurant, bar area, care center etc.



Keith Ashton

After passing the Auditorium & Step-Down Units we made our way up & into Amber Lee, circumnavigating the perimeter with lovely views over several dams. Then had we had a short stay at a comfortable boma on the edge of another dam.



Kalina Kerr



Sue Gow

Next, we made our way parallel to Karkloof Road & then towards Amber Lakes & past several other dams, with a rest at a bench & table with a lovely view over Heron Dam. Next to the bench was an unusual Globe-Type Sun Dial.



Keith Ashton

We then returned into Amber Valley for tea/coffee & cakes & biscuits in our enclosed veranda to finish off an enjoyable day.

We did 15 km & climbed about 300 metres. Thanks, it was a pleasure for us to share our area with you all.

Keith & Margaret