

## **£2,500 RAISED BY WALKERS**

Over £2,500 pounds was raised by walkers on the AQUEDUCT CHALLENGE 2008. in support of the local, East Grinstead based, charity Aqueduct which helps the poor and marginalised of Pakistan. "I never thought that so much would be raised" said John Clay one of the Aqueduct trustees. "The people of East Grinstead and indeed further afield have been so generous."

Opened by the mayor of East Grinstead on the Saturday morning a crowd of walkers set off in the first glorious sunshine that we had had for quite a few weeks. Spirits were high as they set off on the first leg of 8 miles to Horsted Keynes. The ages ranged from 14 to a number in their sixties. There was a welcome break at the Green Man pub at Horsted Keynes then for some the 14 miles on to Lewes.

It was a really enjoyable day. "I'd like to say a big thank you to all those who gave up their Saturday to be marshal etc" said Claire. "Your friendliness and encouragement helped me to keep going Thank you for organising it so well."

Sharon was another of the stalwarts who made the full 22 miles to Lewes arriving in the dusk to a welcome cup of tea and cake provided by Southover church. "My legs are fine now and I am fully recovered. I enjoyed the walk immensely; the weather was great, there was a good atmosphere and I personally experienced a real sense of achievement. "

With comments like that Aqueduct plans to hold the event next year. This time it will be early summer and with a family length walk / cycle ride for those who don't want to be challenged quite so far. A gallery of pictures taken during the day is on the web site [aqueduct.org.uk](http://aqueduct.org.uk). Aqueduct will use the money to pay its teachers that give nearly 200 children and adults the opportunity to learn to read and write, which they would never otherwise have had. It will also provide a commodity that is beyond price – hope. Aqueduct has great plans for the future such as starting up small businesses and showing how to build home water filters. Some of the money raised will also go into these projects. Learn more about what Aqueduct does on their web site [aqueduct.org.uk](http://aqueduct.org.uk).