

## **Trans Pennine trial**

I can't remember what made us decide to raise money for charity but after doing a Google search I came across the Orphan Trust website. I was inspired by the charity and all the good work that it does, so I, along with my friend Syed decided to do a sponsored work. After much hesitation it was agreed that we would walk from Sheffield to Manchester along the Trans Pennine Trail!!!!

The Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) is a route for walkers, cyclists and horse riders linking the North and Irish seas, passing through the Pennines, alongside rivers and canals and through some of the most historic towns and cities in the North of England.

We had no concerns about my fitness levels for walking however, I was very concerned about my map reading skills. We therefore decided to leave navigation to Syed. As for training, on the weeks running up to the big day we did some walking just to ensure I had worn in my "fashionable" walking boots.

The day before the walk we had to make a late change of route. Due to excessive rain and poor weather conditions, it was not safe to walk across the Pennines. Bad weather was not going to hold us back! We decided to walk the A57 route.

The walk itself was a success. It consisted of Syed experiencing blisters for the first time and I conquered my fear of sheep (sort of). The best part of the day was when we made it to Glossop as it meant we were half way. In celebration we treated ourselves to a nice Costa Coffee but then hit a massive low as the walk out of Glossop was a long stretch. When we did eventually get to the city of Manchester we were over the moon, thinking it was all over, but we were so wrong. We still had another hour to go! We completed the 42 mile walk in 14 hours and 8 minutes. Throughout the walk, the fact that we were doing this for a greater purpose was good motivation. The thought of the children that we were helping was what kept us both going and made it all worthwhile.

A big thank you to everyone who sponsored us and helped me conquer my fear of sheep (sort of)

**Orphantrust**

the poorest countries in the world with over half the population living on less than \$1 a day  
<http://orphantrust.co.uk>

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Aalia and Syed