

**BUILDING COMMUNITIES**

# James Pender

**Mission Companion in Bangladesh**

**In their own words**

*‘I visited badly-affected villages and heard first-hand from wives who had lost husbands, fathers who had lost children and many who had lost friends to arsenic poisoning. I knew this had to be my main priority’* James Pender  
 USPGE Mission companion



**Country? factfile**

**Capital:** Dhaka  
**Languages:** Bangla (official, also known as Bengali), English  
**Religion:** Muslim 83%, Hindu 16%, other 1%  
**Export:** Garments, jute and jute goods, leather, frozen fish and seafood  
**Further reading:**  
<http://www.bangladesh.gov.bd/>

**USPG in Country?**

In 1842, USPG sent its first missionary to north-east India, the region that is now Bangladesh. USPG supports both Mission Companions and Project work as part of the Church outreach programmes.



## About this Project...

▶ **Target: £3,340 / €4,450 | Project 380**

Water poisoning with naturally-occurring arsenic has put almost 40 million people in Bangladesh at risk of illnesses that can lead to cancer. In the district of Meherpur the church has been digging new wells so that villagers have access to clean water. Working alongside the Church of Bangladesh on this programme, James Pender has been involved in its mission to share Christ’s love with some of the nation’s most deprived people.

His appointment is supported by a number of agencies working together, including

USPG. The district of Meherpur is on the western border with India. James has been employed to advise on the natural resource aspects of rural development, including the problem of arsenic contamination. He is also involved in aspects of the church’s outreach programmes, including human trafficking. The church has been working primarily with those who have escaped trafficking and need to be reintegrated into their community.

▶ **Project supporters will receive three newsletters a year and other resources to help promote your Project.**

To fund this Project contact our Supporter Care team  
**0845 273 1701** [projects@uspg.org.uk](mailto:projects@uspg.org.uk)

Registered charity  
 in England (234518) and in Ireland (CHY 7998)



Your donations will help us to cover the full costs of the Project, including a direct grant to the partner church and the cost of monitoring the Project and sharing regular news. Any money received over the Project target will be allocated to where the need is greatest.