



# URBAN SAINTS

presents

## “Totally Wired”

An essential seminar for all parents, teachers, church leaders, youth and children's leaders, and anyone who cares about young people and the technology revolution

### **Background**

They have their first mobile phone at the age of 7 and, by the time they are teenagers, half of all their written communication will be by text message.

They spend more time online than watching TV and seven out of ten have their own website or social networking profile. They are as likely to upload their own videos as download music and they spend up to three hours a day talking in internet chat-rooms and instant messaging.

This is where young people 'live' in 2012, a new digital world that is changing what it means to be a teenager in Britain today.

For many young people, the digital world is where they explore and experiment, create and consume. In this virtual environment they feel more real than anywhere else, and more able to be themselves. "We are competing with the real world", says Philip Rosedale, creator of the online 3-D world Second Life, "to be a better place for your mind to live."

But it's a world with dangers as well as possibilities. Nearly half of young people have talked with a stranger online and a quarter, have met someone face to face they first met on the internet. Cyber bullying is increasing, violence and pornography is only a click away. Young people have access to experiences and images, good and bad, unlike any generation before them. For every new creative possibility, there is a potential vulnerability.

Perhaps it's no surprise that this digital life is also having a profound impact on how young people form their identity and beliefs. Image and reality are being increasingly blurred. Your online self can be very different to who you are in person. It is in this world that the Christian faith must learn to communicate, express and explain itself in new ways.

And yet this world is alien to many of us who are responsible for safeguarding and caring for young people. How can parents, churches and youth workers not only understand what is happening, but also change the way we work with young people to take account of it?

### **The Seminar**

Chris Curtis and Matt Summerfield present this high-quality, interactive, enjoyable and challenging evening event which aims to explore some of these key questions:

- What should parents and youth workers know about the digital world?
- How are young people spending their time online?
- What impact are online social networking sites having on young people?
- How will mobiles and the internet develop over the next few years?
- How can we help young people to stay safe online?
- How can Christian youth and children's work adapt to the online world?

The evening programme is presented in two halves, each lasting around one hour, with a 20 minute interval in between. This will include an opportunity to hear about how Urban Saints can serve churches in their work with children and young people, plus the chance to look at various resources during the interval.

### **The Speakers**

Chris Curtis and Matt Summerfield have both been working with children and teenagers for the past twenty years.

Chris Curtis works for Youthscape, a community of Christian projects working with young people all over the UK. He's been involved in working with young people for the past 25 years. He and his wife have two young children of their own and foster two older teenagers.

Matt is the Chief Executive of youth and children's missionary movement Urban Saints (formerly known as Crusaders). Prior to his arrival at Urban Saints, he co-led the youth and children's work of his local church whilst working in IT and mobile telephony as his day job.

### **Cost**

The cost of this seminar is £300. The church is welcome to charge for the event a maximum of £5 per person. All ticket sales are kept by the church.

### **Timings**

It is recommended that the seminar event will run from 7:30pm to 10:00pm.

### **Dates**

*We are currently looking for bookings on the following dates:*

#### ***Matt. Summerfield and Chris Curtis can attend together:***

- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2012
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2012
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2012
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2012
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012

#### ***Matt Summerfield can attend on his own:***

- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2012
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2012
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2012
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2012
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2012
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

### **Urban Saints will bring the following:**

- Laptop to run presentation
- Exhibition materials and resources

## How can I host this event?

'Urban Saints' would love to partner with churches/organisations that are willing to host this fantastic event. We truly believe this seminar carries an important message that many people are ill-informed about. To host an event, simply complete the 'tour booking' form enclosed with this pack and return it to us.

In order to make this a great evening for all, we need hosting churches/organisations to be aware of the following requirements:

### Staging and Equipment

- The venue must be able to hold a minimum of 100 people – preferably much more.
- The venue must be able to achieve a black-out of windows – or at least dim the normal lighting.
- At least four power sockets should be accessible from the stage.
- It would be ideal, although not essential, if the venue has the facility to spotlight the stage.
- The church needs a PA which can take sound from a laptop that will be positioned at the front of the stage. Clip on microphones will be required for the two speakers, plus projector and screen.
- In our experience a neutral venue (e.g. school hall) works well.

### Team Support

- We will bring a team of up to 5 people who will require light refreshments (e.g. sandwiches, cake etc.) at around 6:30pm (time based on the event starting at 7:30pm).

### Promotion

- The church/organisation will commit to actively promote the event across their geography, particularly in schools, churches, community centres and Christian bookshops. Urban Saints will provide 2,000 A6 postcards 8 to 12 weeks before the event date. Additional publicity required will be charged for at cost.

### Refreshments

- The church will provide refreshments for people during the interval.

### Welcome Team

- The church should provide a stewarding team to offer a warm welcome to people and help them find seats.

### Other Requirements

- The church should have sufficient space (e.g. in the foyer or where refreshments are served) for Urban Saints to erect an exhibition stand. Minimum space required is 3m by 4m with at least two power sockets.

### Fee

- The cheque for £300, made payable to Urban Saints, should be paid at least 7 days before the event.

# **'TOTALLY WIRED'**

## **Seminar Booking Form**

<b>Contact name</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Telephone (daytime)</b>	
<b>Your address</b>	
<b>Host church</b> (name and address – please include website or directions)	
<b>Church capacity</b> (approximate)	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> choice seminar date</b>	
<b>2nd choice seminar date</b>	

### **Tour Checklist – are you able to provide the following?**

The following requirements are essential to running a successful event. Please tick to confirm that you are able to meet these. If you have any questions, please contact Virginia Boakes – tel: 01582 589851 or e-mail: [vboakes@urbansaints.org](mailto:vboakes@urbansaints.org)

- Staging and equipment requirements
- Refreshments for seminar team and at interval
- Commitment to promote event to churches in local area
- Venue capacity at least 100
- Space for exhibition stand
- Provision of welcome team (at least 4 people)

### **What to do next?**

**Complete this form by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2012** and send it to Virginia Boakes at: Totally Wired, Urban Saints Support Centre, Kestin House, 45 Crescent Road, Luton, Beds, LU2 0AH

### **Any questions?**

Please contact Virginia Boakes on 01582 589851, or email [vboakes@urbansaints.org](mailto:vboakes@urbansaints.org)