

The Host musicians, including (l to r) Pete Glenister, Tom Rowland and Emily Keefe



# Music creatives aim to reach spiritual seekers

IT'S a chance to reach those with a passion for music, faith and life – but who might not feel comfortable in a traditional church setting.

A group of creative Christians have put together a digital community that aims to share original new music, talks and testimony as a way of reaching out to those seeking more. It's called 'Host' and one of the core members is one of our clergy, the Rev Dom Clarke.

Blackmoor clergyman Dom, who also trained as a pioneer minister, spent his recent sabbatical helping to form this new Christian collective.

It includes Bordon music producer Tom Rowland, 1980s musician Pete Glenister and singers Emily Keefe and Nika Piasecka.

Pete's career includes performing and touring with Kirsty McCall, Alison Moyet, Terence Trent D'Arby and Pop Idol finalist Darius. Tom, Host's lead singer, owns and runs UnWolf Studios in Bordon after a life in the music industry that included drug and alcohol addiction. And

Nika was worship leader at Beacon Church, Bordon, which Dom helped to create to serve a brand new housing development there.

They released their first single – entitled 'OMG' – in June, which was available on Spotify and other platforms to download. Their most recent single, called 'Light is you' was released in August – it's an uptempo pop number based on real-life experience.

Dom said: "It's really exciting to spend my sabbatical supporting the collective. Together we aim to reach out to the wide community of searchers, who don't know yet what they're for. They are often reaching out for a power greater than themselves, but perhaps don't know where to start.

"We believe that we have great crossover appeal to people of all faiths and none. This is because we write songs that come from our own experiences and lives, where faith has not always been easy. In fact it's still a real journey for us all.

"Our songs are a way of sharing

that journey with a wider audience who are maybe experiencing the same issues that we do."

Co-writer Pete Glenister said: "Host, through its website, podcast, on-line interviews and more, is a real landing ground for all sorts of people who are seeking something with deeper meaning or purpose in their lives.

"Lots of people struggle with the idea of church and would never turn up for a service on a Sunday morning.

"Every song that Host releases also has an accompanying talk or discussion that, in hopefully the most straightforward way possible, explores the theme of each song and can be accessed anytime. With Host the Church has left the building to enter a virtual space."

Host is also collaborating with other local musicians and hopes to tour with some live dates. You can find out more at [www.hostmusic.co.uk](http://www.hostmusic.co.uk), or via Spotify, Instagram or Twitter.