

Love me tender, love me Jew

TALIA JACOBS

IN celebration of Tu b'Av, known as the Jewish festival of love, Young Adult Chabad is holding a function for young couples and singles to explore aspects of spirituality and intimacy.

Taking place on August 5 at the Hakoah Club's Gold Star Room, the event will feature a talk by counsellor Raphael Aron about Jewish spirituality and its connection with couple's intimacy, as well as an album launch by musician Michael Bloom.

"Tu b'Av is celebrated in Israel as the equivalent of Valentine's Day and is in contrast to all the mourning we

do on Tisha b'Av," said Young Adult Chabad coordinator, Rabbi Eli Feldman. "I am surprised the festival hasn't quite spilled over into the Diaspora."

Rabbi Feldman said his organisation aims to bring young Jewish adults together.

"This is a nice, fun event in celebration of that."

The author of several books, Melbourne-based Aron will speak about bridging the gap between spirituality and intimacy.

"Raphael Aron is a world-renowned expert on relationships," Rabbi Feldman said.

"I hope that people will be inspired by what he has to say in their own relationships".

The event will also feature musical entertainment by Michael Bloom, who will be using the event to launch his love-themed album, *Barrich Hashem*.

"Most of Michael's album is about love and its different forms," Rabbi Feldman said.

Feldman says he expects the Jewish celebration of love to be a big hit with Sydney's young adults.

"It's a nice fun event where I hope that people will have a good time. I really hope that at the function people will find a match."