

office of the
CHIEF RABBI

RABBI DR JEFFREY COHEN

Throughout the whole of his long and highly distinguished career, Rabbi Dr Jeffrey Cohen has been a role model of rabbinic leadership at its highest. He has been a magnificent teacher, through his finely-honed sermons, erudite lectures and shiurim, and the many books which have enriched the library of Jewish thought. He has been a pastor, caring for the members of his congregation in their hour of need, comforting the bereaved, giving strength to people in sickness or crisis, and sharing their joys and celebrations. There are few rabbis anywhere in the world who share the sheer range of his talents and gifts.

Never has he lacked the courage of his convictions which have always been generous and wise. He has stood for tolerance and inclusivity, and for a Judaism unafraid to confront the challenges of the contemporary world. He is a passionate spokesman for Israel: the land, the people, and the State. His has been a voice of clarity in the midst of confusion, and of strength in difficult times. I have counted it a privilege to be his colleague, and have learned much from him.

In all his work he – and we – have been blessed by the contribution of his wife Gloria, whose warmth and wisdom we have cherished. Elaine and I wish them both, continued blessing and fulfilment, health and strength, and with a full heart we thank them both for all they have given our community.



Chief Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks
July 2005