

Anthony John ABBOTT

Prime Minister 18 September 2013 -

- Anthony (Tony) Abbott became the 28th prime minister following the 2013 Federal election victory for the Liberal National Coalition. He replaced the Australian Labor Party's Kevin Rudd.
- Member of the House of Representatives for Warringah NSW since 1994.
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs 1996–98. Minister for Employment Services 1998–2001. Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business 2001. Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations 2001–03. Minister for Health and Ageing 2003–07. Leader of the House 2001–07. Shadow Minister for Families, Community Services, Indigenous Affairs and the Voluntary Sector 2007–08. Shadow Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs 2008–09.



Main achievements (1996 to 2013)

- As Minister for Health introduced the Medicare Safety Net and the capping of annual out-of-pocket medical expenses for Medicare cardholders.
- As Minister for Employment Services he presided over the development of the Job Network and a major expansion of Work for the Dole program.
- As Leader of the Opposition led a stable and effective shadow ministry, almost defeating a first-term government at the 2010 federal election.

Key election commitments

In the 2013 Federal Coalition Campaign Launch, the Coalition committed to:

- achieving recognition of Indigenous Australians in the constitution
- introducing legislation to abolish the carbon tax and the mining tax
- implementing a revised National Broadband Network (NBN) business plan
- introducing legislation to enable Australian victims of overseas terrorism access to victims of crime compensation
- introducing *Operation Sovereign Borders* to combat people smuggling
- implementing a paid parental scheme
- increasing the focus and spending on key infrastructure projects



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Personal life

- Born 4 November 1957 in London, United Kingdom.
- A Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University.
- Married Margaret 'Margie' Aitkin 24 September 1988. Three daughters.
- Worked as a journalist for *The Bulletin* and *The Australian*.
- Press Secretary to Liberal Leader John Hewson 1990-93.
- Executive Director, Australians for a Constitutional Monarchy 1993-94.

Character

Mr Abbott rarely minces his words; he is candid, provocative, and a proper conservative who does not adjust his views to account for what he judges to be the fancy of his audience...

Annabel Crabb, *All aboard the 'People Skills' wild ride*, ABC Online, 1 Dec 2009

Tony Abbott deserves hero status amongst Liberals. His high intelligence and superb discipline in the campaign confounded his many patronising critics. No other person leading the party could have achieved what he did.

John Howard, *Lazarus Rising: A Personal and Political Autobiography*, Harper Collins Publishers, Sydney, 2010

For all his reputation as a man of zeal, Abbott is very much a pragmatist. There are those moments when pragmatism meets conviction, and Abbott will pounce on them much like any politician, but he very rarely indulges in moral idealism.

Waleed Aly, *Inside Tony Abbott's mind: this is serious*, The Monthly, No 91, July 2013

Did you know?

- Abbott was an amateur boxer during his time at Oxford.
- Abbott is a volunteer member of the NSW Rural Fire Service.
- He has spent time each year since 2008 volunteering on community projects in remote Indigenous communities.

Sources

Tony Abbott MHR, Leader of the Opposition, Federal Member for Warringah
www.tonyabbott.com.au/

Tony Abbott – Address to the 2013 Federal Coalition Campaign Launch – Speech
<http://www.tonyabbott.com.au/LatestNews/Speeches.aspx>

Duffy, M., *Latham and Abbott: The lives and rivalries of the two finest politicians of their generation*, Milsons Point, NSW: Random House Australia, 2004.

Abbott, T., *Battlelines*, Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 2009.

Further reading

Abbott, T., *The minimal monarchy: and why it still makes sense for Australia*, Kent Town, S. Aust. : Wakefield Press, 1995.

Abbott, T., *How to win the constitutional war: and give both sides what they want*, Adelaide: Australians for Constitutional Monarchy in association with Wakefield Press, 1997.

Tony Abbott, in full Anthony John Abbott, (born November 4, 1957, London, England), Australian politician who served as a member of the Australian House of Representatives (1994–2019), leader of the Liberal Party of Australia (2009–15), and prime minister of Australia (2013–15). Abbott attended the University of Sydney, where he earned a B.A. in economics (1979) and a law degree (1981). So to fill this gap there's a little potted family background included in this brief profile of that notorious discount immigrant Anthony John Abbott, Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia and Leader of the Opposition in the Australian Parliament. Father At sixteen years of age Richard Henry Abbott, (Ernest Henry Abbott- father and Jane Elizabeth Abbott née Keir - mother) arrived in Sydney, Australia on 17th... Birth Name. Anthony John Abbott. Nickname. The Mad Monk. Tony Abbott was born on November 4, 1957 in London, England as Anthony John Abbott. He is known for his work on Four Corners (1961), The Chaser's War on Everything (2006) and Ten Eyewitness News: Sydney (1973). He has been married to Margie Abbott since September 24, 1988. They have three children. Spouse (1). Margie Abbott. (24 September 1988 - present) (3 children). Trade Mark (2).