

**Honorable Tony ABBOTT** (Australia) *Minister of Health and Ageing*

Tony Abbott was a journalist with 'The Bulletin' and 'The Australian' before becoming press secretary and political adviser to the Leader of the Opposition, Dr John Hewson. He was elected Member for Warringah at a by-election in March 1994. After March 1996, Minister Abbott was Parliamentary Secretary and then junior Minister in the Employment portfolio before becoming Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations. In November 2001 he became Leader of the House of Representatives and was appointed Minister for Health and Ageing on 7 October 2003.

Minister Abbott is married to Margaret and has three daughters. He was educated at St. Ignatius Riverview and Sydney University where he played rugby and was President of the Students' Representative Council. At Oxford University, which he attended as a Rhodes Scholar, he was awarded "blues" in boxing. He has written two books in defence of the existing constitutional system.