



Commonwealth Day Council *Newsletter* Issue Number 1, January 2024

Commonwealth Day 2024

Our celebration annual lunch will be held at NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney on **Monday 11 March 2024.**

Our guest speaker is **Hon Tony Abbott AC, former Prime Minister of Australia.**



Tony Abbott AC was elected prime minister by the Australian people on September 7, 2013, and served for two years.

In that time, the carbon tax and mining tax were repealed, free trade agreements were finalised with China, Japan and Korea; the people smuggling trade from Indonesia to Australia was halted and Australia became the second largest military contributor to the US-led campaign against Islamic State in Iraq.

As well, the largest ever Commonwealth infrastructure programme began, including funding for the Western Sydney Airport. In 2014, and again in 2015, he spent a week running the government from a remote indigenous community. Prior to entering parliament, he was a journalist with The Australian, a senior adviser to opposition leader John Hewson, and director of Australians for Constitutional Monarchy.

He has degrees in economics and law from Sydney University and in politics and philosophy from Oxford which he attended as a Rhodes Scholar. From 1998 to 2018, he convened the Pollie Pedal annual charity bike ride which has

raised nearly \$7 million for organisations such as Soldier On and Carers Australia.

He still surfs near Queenscliff and volunteers with the Davidson Rural Fire Brigade.

In 2020 he was appointed as a Companion of the Order of Australia, and in 2022 he was awarded the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun. Currently, he is a director of the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation, serves on the council of the Australian War Memorial, is a visiting Fellow of the Institute of Public Affairs and the Danube Institute, is an honorary adviser to the UK Board of Trade, and is on the board of the Fox Corporation.

He's patron to several charities, including Soldier On.

He is married to Margaret and they are the parents of three daughters: Louise, Frances and Bridget.

Ticket Prices and Booking Form

Cost: \$105 per person.
Corporate Table (10) \$1,200.

Corporate bookings are welcome with special acknowledgements at the function.

Avoid disappointment: Bookings are essential.

Booking form:

<https://www.commday.org.au/events/booking-forms-for-lunch/>

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