

## **Tony Blair**

### **Prime Minister of the United Kingdom**

Born in Scotland on May 6, 1953, Tony Blair was educated at Durham Choristers School and Fettes College in Edinburgh. He studied law at Oxford University and was called to the bar in 1976.

A barrister specializing in employment and industrial law, Mr. Blair ran as a Labour Party candidate in 1983 and was elected the member of Parliament for Sedgefield. The following year he was named Opposition spokesman on the treasury and on economic affairs.

In 1987, Mr. Blair became Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, and in 1988 he began work as the shadow secretary of state for energy. He was made shadow secretary of state for employment the following year, and in 1992 he became Opposition spokesman on home affairs.

Mr. Blair was elected to the national executive committee of his party in 1992 and has chaired the party's commission on constitutional reform. He was elected Leader of the Labour Party and Leader of the Opposition in 1994.

First elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom on May 1, 1997, Mr. Blair was re-elected on June 7, 2001.

Mr. Blair is married and has four children.