

Rt Hon Ann Widdecombe



No-nonsense politician, celebrity, writer and agony aunt – always true to herself.

Ann graduated from Birmingham in 1969 with a BA Honours in Latin.

Why she is outstanding

The Right Honourable Ann Widdecombe was the Member of Parliament for Maidstone and The Weald for more than 20 years.

During John Major's first administration, she was Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Social Security and specialised in pensions. In 1994 she was appointed Minister of State, Department of Employment, and became Minister of State at the Home Office a year later with responsibility for prisons and immigration. She has also been both Shadow Home Secretary and Shadow Health Secretary.

Apart from her distinguished political career, Ann has become something of a media celebrity in recent years after starring in ITV's *Celebrity Fit Club*, being a guest host on *Have I Got News for You*, revealing her quick wit and sense of humour – and her role as an agony aunt in the programme *Ann Widdecombe to the Rescue*.

Ann is also an accomplished author and her first novel *The Clematis Tree* rose to number eight in *The Times* Best Seller List.

Did you know?

In the early 1970s, Ann worked in marketing at Unilever and from 1975 to 1987 she was the Senior Administrator at London University.