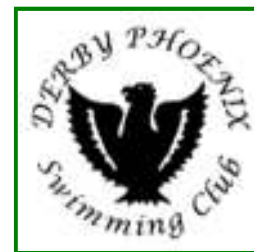


# DPSC NEWS



June 2011

## **New Chief Coach at Derby Phoenix...**

After 20 years as Chief Coach at Derby Phoenix Swimming Club, Doug Whitlam has decided it is time to step down. At the club committee meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> June, Doug told the committee: *"after 30 years as a coach, with 20 of these as Chief Coach, it is time for me to step down. I still have a great passion for swimming, for coaching and for Derby Phoenix and therefore I do plan to continue coaching, but want to do this with the younger swimmers in the club. I will do this to fit in with the wishes of the new Chief Coach"*.

Doug said that the main reason for his decision was a desire to spend more time with his family, which has recently expanded again with the arrival of grandchild number four.

The committee thanked Doug for his tremendous contribution as Chief Coach. They are delighted that he is planning to stay on as part of the new coaching set-up as his wealth of experience remains an invaluable asset to the club.

Doug made a strong recommendation that Dave Pratt, the current Lead Age Group Coach, should step up to become Chief Coach. This recommendation was unanimously and wholeheartedly accepted by the committee.

Doug will step down as Chief Coach at the end of the current season and Dave will move into his new role over the summer, taking up the reins fully when the new season starts in September. The committee feel very fortunate to have been able to appoint such a strong candidate. Dave's long association with the club provides a great continuity and stability through the transition phase and also a great understanding of the ethos at Derby Phoenix. We have total confidence in Dave and wish him well in his new role.

**Sue Wisdich**  
**Chairman**



**Club continuity assured: Doug and Dave poolside 11 June 2011**