



ADVICE: Peter Holmes a Court (with daughter Madison) and Russell Crowe at a South Sydney rugby league match this year. Crowe and Holmes a Court feature in a DVD on parenting tips.

Stellar cast in baby DVD

By **ANTHONY DECEGLIE**

FILM star Russell Crowe and football legend James Hird are among the famous faces offering parenting tips in a DVD that will be supplied free to all new parents.

The Raising Children interactive DVD will be available later this year. It's a Federal Government initiative and will also be available by order to parents with children under five.

Filmed in a documentary style, the DVD includes tips and strategies from 85 parents from all over Australia, with 18

demonstrations to help parents learn skills for the often stressful early years of a child's life.

The DVD is narrated by actor Deborah-lee Furness, with comedian Dave Hughes playing the navigator as a 3-D cartoon character.

Former Perth businessman Peter Holmes a Court is featured on the DVD. He and his wife Divonne, who was one of the DVD's producers, are parents of two sets of twins, aged three and eight.

"Everyone can do with some help when it comes to raising children," Mr Holmes a Court said.

"Parents leave the hospital and then they realise children

don't come with instruction manuals.

"We are all looking for help, especially with the breaking down of the traditional structures of family.

"This DVD helps parents learn and for busy people it is much more convenient than a 700-page book."

Raising Children was five years in the making and its five hours are divided into segments covering Newborn, Baby, Child and What About Me?

It is the Raising Children Network's official companion to the Raising Children website launched last year.

The website will feature clips from the DVD. Visit www.raisingchildren.tv