

The French Connection

The success of the four-yearly Celebrity Lunch format that brings top flight speakers from Britain to Monaco for business networking events appears not to have gone unnoticed in the Principality.

Now the *Chambre de Développement Économique de Monaco* (CDE) has entered into a partnership with organisers Azur Productions to bring the concept to the Monégasque and French communities.

The first one is on March 31 and kicks off in style with a man who is very much in the news at the moment. He is Pierre Berbizier, a rugby legend in France and current coach of Italy's national team that is fighting it out in the Six Nations tournament.

The French Celebrity lunch

follows the same format as the anglophone event - with a three course lunch in the Café de Paris followed by the speaker at 2pm. Berbizier forms a double act with Estelle Denis, the lively presenter of 100% Foot on France's M6 TV channel.

CDE sees a bridge

Commenting on the CDE's involvement, its President Michel Pastor said that the 'CDE sees this type of event as a way to create a bridge between the English, and the French speaking communities - and the best way to introduce the concept is to have one in French.'

Both Mr Pastor and CDE's Director General, Jean-Pierre Fonteneau, say they are confident that the lunches 'herald the start of a more



Estelle Denis and Italy's current national rugby team coach Pierre Berbizier in a double act

multi-cultural networking base in Monaco which the CDE views as vital if the Principality is to successfully counter the challenge of globalisation.'

All nationalities

The French Celebrity Lunch is open to all nationalities, and Azur Productions reports that many of its clients have already expressed a keen interest in attending to network with their French speaking colleagues and clients. For more details call +377 93 30 08 75. CL