FRANCE HERO THURAM HONORED AFTER STIRLING DEGREE AWARD

FRANCE’S most-capped footballer and World Cup-winner Lilian Thuram said he was ‘deeply honoured’ yesterday after receiving an honorary degree from Stirling University.

The former defender received his recognition alongside Alison Brittain, chief executive officer of Whitbread and Pete Cheema, chief of the Scottish Grocers’ Federation.

Thuram – who played for Barcelona and Juventus – earned 142 caps for France between 1994 and 2008. The Unicef ambassador (pictured) set up the Lilian Thuram Foundation, which educates against racism and promotes equality.

He said: ‘Football brings us closer. Whatever the colour of our skin, sexuality or religion, we share the same emotions.’