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Uni honours for a legend and a Dragon

Stars all set to line up for the honorary university awards

By **NEIL ATKINSON**

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TOWN legend Andy Booth will rub shoulders with Dragons' Den star Theo Paphitis in Huddersfield next month.

Both will be on stage at St Paul's Hall to be given honorary awards by the University of Huddersfield.

They are two of the top names from the fields of business, sport, the arts and academia who will be among the recipients of honorary awards at the university's November Awards Ceremonies.

High-profile entrepreneur Theo Paphitis will become an honorary doctor of business administration.

Paphitis is one of the UK's most famous businessmen and his senior management expertise spans finance, property, retailing and consumer goods.

But the Cyprus-born multi-millionaire is probably best known as a star in the highly popular BBC

series *Dragons' Den*.

Theo moved to England in the 1960s when his formal working career started as a junior clerk

with Lloyds of London.

Andy Booth, who will receive an honorary fellowship, has been one of Huddersfield's favourite sporting icons for nearly two decades.

Signed on schoolboy forms for Huddersfield Town, Andy was quickly given a full professional contract and made his Football League debut against Fulham on March 10, 1992.

He scored the first of more than 140 senior-competition goals for the club in a 2-2 draw at Blackpool the following November. He retired last season and is now a club ambassador for Town.

Another award goes to celebrated poet Lemn Sissay, who will become an honorary doctor of letters.

He is artist in residence at the South Bank Centre in London and is also patron, along with Jacqueline Wilson, of The Letterbox Club – a book trust initiative to get books to children in care of the social ser-

VICES.

Sissay is the author of five poetry collections and is also the editor of *The Fire People: A Collection of Contemporary Black British Poets* (1998).

Mona Siddiqui, professor of Islamic studies and public understanding at the University of Glasgow, will be conferred a doctor of civil law.

Prof Siddiqui is director of the Centre for the Study of Islam, and her research and publication areas are in the Qur'an, classical Islamic law and theology and contemporary ethics.

She lectures internationally on inter-religious issues in addition to legal and ethical dimensions of Islam.

Also honoured is the "father" of genetic fingerprinting, Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys, who will become a doctor of science.

He was one of the first to discover inherited variation in human DNA, then went on to invent DNA fingerprinting.

Experimental classical composer



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Christian Wolff will become a
doctor of letters.



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■ **HONOURS:** Theo Paphitis (main), Prof Mona Siddiqui, Lemn Sissay and Andy Booth (left) will receive honours

