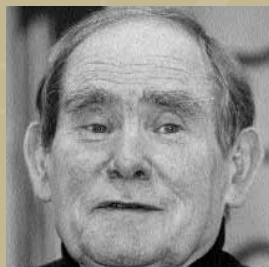


# *Sydney Brenner (1927 - )*

## THE ORDER OF MAPUNGUBWE IN GOLD



**AWARDED TO SYDNEY BRENNER  
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION  
IN THE FIELD OF MEDICINE  
AND FOR PUTTING SOUTH AFRICA  
ON THE WORLD STAGE**

Sydney Brenner was born on 13 January 1927 in Germiston. Brenner went to Germiston High School where he matriculated in 1941. Having developed an interest in chemistry while still at school, Brenner gradually accumulated enough test tubes and other glassware to do chemical experiments at home, using small quantities of chemicals purchased from a chemist. He soon graduated to biochemistry and tried to discover what gave flowers their distinctive colours, making his first discovery in his home-made laboratory that the pigments he extracted changed colour when the pH of the solution was changed.

Brenner went to the University of the Witwatersrand to study medicine, graduating with the degree of MB BCh in 1951. He spent two more years doing an Honours degree and an M.Sc. in the field of cytogenetics – a subject which he essentially taught himself – and which was the beginning of his research in the field of genetics. Thereafter he went to Oxford to do a Ph.D. in physical chemistry.

Brenner's scientific bibliography began well before he had his first degree. In 1945 he co-authored a scientific paper with two others. His first paper as sole author appeared in 1946.

On his return from Oxford he set up a laboratory in the Department of Physiology at the Medical School in South Africa and set himself the task of developing a bacteriophage system which could be used to solve the genetic code. He continued to work on theoretical aspects of the genetic code and during this period was able to prove the impossibility of all overlapping triplet codes, a discovery which was circulated in the prestigious journal of the RNA Tie Club and later communicated to the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

In December 1956 Brenner was offered work at the esteemed Cavendish Unit in the United Kingdom where he continued his work on molecular genetics, initiating groundbreaking research into the genetic make-up of the *C. elegans* there. He became director of its successor, the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, in 1977. In 1995, he founded the Molecular Sciences Institute set up with funds from the industry. Brenner retired from the Institute in 2000 and in 2001 was appointed a Distinguished Professor at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, USA.

Sydney Brenner's long and distinguished career as a first-rate scientist and his innovative scientific contributions have made him one of the world's leaders in scientific research.

# *The Executive Committee of the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA)*

THE ORDER OF THE COMPANIONS OF O R TAMBO IN GOLD

AWARDED TO THE FIFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
FOR ITS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPORT OF FOOTBALL  
ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT,  
THE CONSOLIDATION OF DEMOCRACY  
AND DEVELOPMENT IN A FREE SOUTH AFRICA

Our history has recorded the bold stand taken by FIFA at a time when the apartheid government had many international friends and its isolation was not yet a foregone conclusion. When FIFA imposed a sports boycott against South Africa in 1976, it was one of the first world sporting bodies to distance itself from the apartheid state and its odious policy of racial segregation in sport.

That singular action of refusal to sanctify apartheid in sport, by such an eminent organisation, emboldened the world campaign to isolate the regime and gave the lie to the bigoted logic of apartheid ideology.

Equally important was the effect of this action on the oppressed masses of South Africa, who, secure in the knowledge that they had international support in their struggle for justice, equality and democracy, fought ever more fervently for their own liberation.

FIFA has played a major role in the development of football in the developing world and on the African continent. Through the Goal Programme initiated by President Joseph S Blatter it has funded many projects across the continent, including South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho and Malawi, to enable financially hard-pressed football associations to build headquarters, lay grass or artificial turf pitches, establish technical training centres, or provide other basic amenities. This decisive intervention in the interests of the development of soccer has had a major impact on the game on the continent of Africa and beyond.

FIFA has also made gigantic strides towards the ideals of gender equality in sport by initiating and supporting women's football throughout the world, including competitions such as women's World Cup Soccer. An active programme to empower women in football has also seen their participation in high soccer-governing administrative structures, as well as the ownership of professional teams in many countries, a phenomenon absent from many other sporting codes. For South Africa and for the African continent, the greatest accolade paid to the continent was to select an African country to host the 2010 World Cup Soccer Competition. It is a moving and fitting tribute to the contribution to the game by countless soccer legends from this continent, past and present.

In the annals of sporting history FIFA stands out as one organization which stood up for the essential spirit and ethos of sport, for the inalienable right of all – irrespective of origin, gender, class, colour or creed – to engage in sport. Its steadfast commitment to the ideal of fairness in sport helped render apartheid unviable, and assisted decisively in undermining the apartheid state. For that determined stand, FIFA will have high honours in our history and will forever be firmly ensconced in our collective consciousness.

# Lennart Johansson (1920 - )

## SUPREME COMPANIONS OF O R TAMBO IN GOLD



**AWARDED TO LENNART JOHANSSON  
FOR EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RECONSTRUCTION  
AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN CONTINENT  
THROUGH FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE  
IN THE WORLD CUP SOCCER BID PROCESS**

Lennart Johansson was born on 5 November 1920 in Stockholm, Sweden.

A lover of the “beautiful game”, Johansson started his career in football administration in 1962 with Alk Solna (a Swedish Football Club) where he stayed until 1984, when he began to serve the European Football Association (UEFA).

Under his leadership he managed to build UEFA into the strongest confederation in the world, responsible for the Euro finals, the Champions League as well as the European Cup, universally regarded as the most attractive continental competition in the world.

In addition, Johansson has served as vice-president of FIFA for the past 14 years. As chairperson of both the Organising Committee of the World Cup as well as the World Cup Bureau, in Italy in 1990, the USA in 1994, France in 1998, Korea-Japan in 2002, Germany in 2006 and – soon to be – South Africa in 2010, he has been instrumental in transforming the World Cup Soccer Competition into the biggest sporting event on earth. Moreover, Johansson has over the years gained a reputation for his unquestionable pedigree in the knowledge of the game. He personifies all the fundamental values of sport such as honesty, transparency, trustworthiness and integrity.

Shortly after South Africa's failed bid to host the 2006 World Cup, he publicly expressed his support for South Africa to host the 2010 World Cup. He furthermore undertook to persuade as many other administrators as possible of South Africa's worthiness and preparedness. When he was later reminded that South Africa did not support him in his bid for FIFA chairmanship, and may have contributed to his defeat, he was not dissuaded from his word.

No doubt Johansson's understanding of South Africa's struggle against racism and apartheid, and his own country's historical support for the struggle and the importance for South Africa and Africa's development of hosting the World Cup soccer competition were uppermost in his mind during the decisive moments of voting for the winning bidder.

Lennart Johansson's highly principled and exemplary leadership has withstood the severest test, and he has not been found wanting. This fair-minded sportsman and administrator who refused to compromise even at his own expense, has stood up for honesty and justice in sport. He is honoured as a true friend of South Africa and Africa. He remains an inspiration to football players, administrators and the masses of supporters throughout the world.

# *Gamal Abdel Nasser (1918 – 1970)*

**SUPREME COMPANIONS OF O R TAMBO IN GOLD**

**AWARDED TO GAMAL ABDEL NASSER  
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION IN THE  
STRUGGLE AGAINST COLONIALISM  
AND FOR A BETTER AND PEACEFUL AFRICA AND THE WORLD**



Gamal Abdel Nasser was born in Alexandria, Egypt, in January 1918. Inspired by a nascent sense of nationalism then sweeping Egypt, the young Nasser joined the army of the 11-year old independent country at the tender age of fifteen.

Having graduated from the Royal Military Academy in 1938, Nasser rose rapidly through the ranks. Yet, Nasser considered the relationship between the house of the royal family of King Farouk and the former colonial government of Britain to be unnecessarily servile.

In the face of overwhelming poverty, socio-economic and political needs, the royal house began to be seen as self-serving, corrupt and venal, more concerned with its own importance and wealth than with the development needs of the nation. When in 1948 Egypt was defeated as part of the coalition of forces against the unilaterally declared independence of the State of Israel, it was the last straw. The military defeat was seen as a national dishonour and directly placed at the door of a monarchy that was seen as out of touch with the people of Egypt and responsible for failing to arm Egypt's soldiers properly. These views were to shape Nasser's perspective on the politics of his country and mould his vision for the future of Egypt.

In 1952, Nasser was part of a group of soldiers at the head of a popular national uprising which overthrew the monarchy in a bloodless coup. When the leader of the revolution proved indecisive, the popular and charismatic 34-year-old military officer was called on to take over. He immediately proceeded with a revolutionary programme to overhaul his country.

Nasser began to undertake real social and political transformation, bringing about revolutionary reforms to the feudal agrarian system and implementing hugely popular socialist policies. Nasser's astute leadership through two decades of post-colonial, post-monarchical rule restored his nation's sense of self-confidence and honour and laid the foundation of the modern Egypt. Freed from the limitations of a feudal society, Egypt underwent a period of rapid growth and development from which millions of Egyptian peasants benefited. His far-sighted policies and revolutionary practices raised the poorest of the poor out of the mire of poverty.

A true champion of anti-imperialism, Nasser rejected neo-colonialism. He set about to assert Egypt's independence when he nationalized the Suez Canal, a stand for which he received much support throughout the Middle East. Together with India's Nehru and Indonesia's Sukarno, Nasser founded the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). At the same time Nasser actively propagated the right of all people to freedom and supported liberation movements in the colonies.

Nasser falls into that category of rare breed of principled internationalist revolutionaries. His steely resolve to carve out an independent foreign policy and his far-sighted international initiatives were way ahead of their time and ultimately paved the way for the current movement to redefine the relationship of nations of the South with each other and with the North.

He elevated the poor yet proud nation of Egypt, into a major international power-broker. He remains a highly revered figure in Egypt, the Arab world and among the people of the South. His legacy is forever etched into the popular consciousness of humankind.

# Trevor Richards (New Zealand) (1946 - )

## ORDER OF THE COMPANIONS OF O R TAMBO IN GOLD



AWARDED TO TREVOR RICHARDS  
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE STRUGGLE FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF A NON-RACIAL,  
FREE AND DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA THROUGH  
CONSISTENT ADVOCACY OF NON-RACIAL SPORT  
AND THE BOYCOTT OF APARTHEID SPORT

Trevor Richards was born in 1946 in New Zealand. As a young student leader at Auckland University, Richards was deeply disturbed by the oppression and exploitation of black people in South Africa and joined the ranks of the Anti-Apartheid movement.

Incensed by the apartheid regime's use of sporting exchanges and international sport to attempt to give what was in reality a tyrannical society a veneer of normality, Richards, together with Ton Newnham, John Minto, David Nickham and others formed the organization called Halt All Racist Tours (HART) in 1969, initially to co-ordinate opposition to the 1970 All Black tour to South Africa.

Over the next twenty years, HART – of which Richards was national chairperson for ten years – actively contributed to the international campaigns to stop all sports tours to and from South Africa, establishing close working relationships with the South African Non-racial Olympic Committee (SAN-ROC), the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity and the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa. In 1973, when the New Zealand Government insisted that South Africa compete in the Softball World Championships in New Zealand despite HART's campaign, it caused world outrage. HART's campaign to prevent the New Zealand rugby tour to South Africa resulted in 17 African countries and Guyana and Iraq withdrawing from the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal in protest against the New Zealand Government's intransigence. In 1981 HART organised country-wide protests against the South African rugby tour to New Zealand, resulting in a national outcry when demonstrations of thousands of New Zealand marchers were met with a violent response from the police, leaving hundreds of protestors injured.

Eventually the moral strength of the argument of the small lobby group of Anti-Apartheid campaigners developed into an unstoppable worldwide movement to ban apartheid sport. In 1977 the United Nations Declaration against Apartheid in Sport – which Richards helped to draft - was endorsed by the majority of member countries. In 1988 Richards became the first Africa Programme manager for New Zealand's Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA). In 1992 he finally visited South Africa for the first time and the following year he established the VSA programme in South Africa in which New Zealand volunteers assisted in voter education to prepare for South Africa's first democratic elections.

Trevor Richards was one of the early campaigners against apartheid in New Zealand. His unflinching resolve and indefatigable efforts to undermine the abhorrent apartheid system by campaigning relentlessly for a sports boycott, has made him an icon of the Anti-Apartheid campaign in New Zealand and South Africa, and a world symbol of selflessness in defence of equality, justice and the inalienable rights of all humanity.

South Africans stand in awe of this man who fought so gallantly on behalf of a people so far away.

The role that Trevor Richards played in the Anti-Apartheid movement has earned him wide acclaim and many awards, both in New Zealand and internationally. He served as the Chair of the Africa Centre (1996 – 2003) and currently serves as a trustee of the Nelson Mandela Trust. From 1988 to 1990 he served as a member of the New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs' Advisory Committee on South Africa and in 2002 he was appointed to the New Zealand Government's Pacific Development and Conservation Trust. His account of the history of New Zealand's contribution to the fight against apartheid was published as *Dancing on our Bones: New Zealand, South Africa, Rugby and Racism*, in 1999.

# Ahmed Sékou Touré (1922-1984)

ORDER OF THE COMPANIONS OF O R TAMBO IN GOLD

**AWARDED TO AHMED SÉKOU TOURÉ  
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION  
TO A FREE, UNITED, PEACEFUL  
AND PROSPEROUS AFRICA**



Ahmed Sékou Touré was born in 1922, in Guinea, the son of a Muslim peasant farmer. One of seven children, he attended a school of Koranic studies at Kankan in Guinea, eventually graduating from a French technical school. As a young worker in the French colonial administration, the young treasury clerk became a trade union activist.

He became general secretary of the Postal Workers' Union in 1945 and organised the Union Générale des Travailleurs d'Afrique Noir in 1956, later becoming the full-time head of the Guinea branch of France's Confederation Générale du Travail.

Touré was a key player in the massive strike in 1953, which resulted in the first decisive victory of African workers over their colonial masters. This workers' victory held out great promise for larger political triumphs under Touré's able political leadership, which had begun in 1946 when he, together with other nationalist leaders, founded the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain.

In 1956 Touré was elected Guinea's deputy to the French National Assembly in Paris, a member of the Guinea Legislative Assembly and the mayor of the city of Conakry.

After campaigning successfully for independence during the De Gaulle Referendum in 1958, he led his country out of the French Community saying that, "The notion of a continuing French community would maintain our status of indignity, and our status of subordination. We prefer poverty in liberty, to riches in slavery."

As first President of independent Guinea, Touré, a brilliant organiser and planner, introduced far-reaching reforms to his country. He brought the notorious landlords under the control of the Guinean government and oversaw the distribution of land (and thus effectively, wealth). To combat the debilitating effects of extreme underdevelopment in his country, Touré first introduced socialist measures and later, in the 1970s, he undertook an extensive programme of economic liberalization. Although modest in comparison to the needs of his people, the progress he facilitated endeared him to his compatriots who in turn continually returned him to power in democratic elections until his death in 1984.

Touré was a strong champion of African unity and Pan-Africanism. He wasted no time in attempting to strengthen ties with neighbouring and other African countries and thus lessen their collective dependence on former European colonisers. Moreover, to put these ideas into practice, he initiated the Guinea-Ghana-Mali Union, a proposal of union between African countries which preceded the idea of the African Union by 40 years.

Essentially the founder of the trade union movement in Guinea, Ahmed Sékou Touré's name resonates in the hearts of the three million Guineans as the man who led them to freedom and for three decades thereafter. This great African intellectual, thinker, patriot and leader, eloquent poet, and brave freedom fighter, remains the idol of countless millions across the continent, commanding respect, awe and veneration. His contribution to African unity and the formation of the OAU and inspired leadership still serve as a beacon for the continent.