

NOMINATION FOR FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

1. Name of the person or organisation being nominated for Freedom of the Borough.

MR DICK GUY

2. Freedom of the Borough is a high honour which should only be awarded in exceptional circumstances where the prospective recipient is an individual or organisation of distinction and has rendered eminent services to the borough.

Candidates should have a strong and continuing connection with and commitment to Merton or have made a major contribution to national life and in doing so have enhanced the reputation of the borough.

Candidates should have made a substantial contribution to the borough in any area of activity, which could include:

- artistic and cultural endeavours
- business, economic growth and prosperity
- charitable work
- improvement to the built and natural environment
- religious and spiritual life
- sports activities
- civic service

The award may be granted posthumously.

3. The award of the Freedom of the Borough requires support of 2/3 of Council. Nominations should therefore first be discussed within your political group and, where appropriate, with other group leaders. In your opinion, is the nomination likely to achieve the required 2/3 support at Council?

YES

NO

4. Please use the box below to outline your nominee's outstanding achievements in the Borough or on the international stage which have brought pride and satisfaction to the Borough. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

I have been approached by many people now re putting forward former Wimbledon FC goalkeeper, Mr Dick Guy for Freedom of the Borough. Many are aware of the famous FA Cup tie of 25/01/1975 when non-league Wimbledon were playing Leeds United at Elland Road. There was a penalty. Lorimer (nicknamed "Lash" because of his hard shot) stepped up to take it and Guy saved it. Keith Macklin (Yorkshire TV) was the commentator and he famously said "Dick Guy can have the freedom of Wimbledon this weekend. They can make him the freeman of the borough" If you google "Guy saves Lorimer penalty" it comes up on You Tube at just 105 seconds total and the Macklin statement is at 53 seconds. It is not just about that moment. Guy has stayed loyal to the club and his outstanding achievements in Merton are set out below:

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'Dickie Guy had been our much-loved president since 2004 and remains a true club legend. *He first joined the club in 1967 from Tooting & Mitcham and made nearly 600 first-team appearances in goal over the following 11 years. At one point he played in 275 consecutive games - and only missed one game in a run of 449 matches between January 1970 and August 1977.* Dickie shot to national acclaim in 1975 when Wimbledon, then playing in the non-League, faced the mighty Leeds United in the FA Cup at Elland Road. The reigning First Division champions were awarded a penalty in the dying minutes but Dickie famously saved Peter Lorimer's spot kick to clinch an heroic 0-0 draw. To this day, the result remains one of the tournament's most-cherished moments. In the previous round, Dickie also kept a clean sheet as The Dons beat First Division Burnley 1-0, becoming the first non-League team for 54 years to defeat a top-flight team away from home. Although Dickie spent most of his career playing in the non-League he was part of the Wimbledon team that won promotion into the Football League and continued playing at that level.

He eventually left to join Maidstone, but his heart and soul remained at Plough Lane. He carried on supporting the club and stood shoulder to shoulder with fans when they launched AFC Wimbledon in 2002. In recognition of his loyalty and service, Dickie was invited to become club president two years later. In a recent interview in the club's official history, *We Are Home*, he said: "I fell quiet for a few seconds; I honestly felt humbled to have been asked. It remains a deep honour for me to still be in the role." Dickie remains an ardent supporter and an ever-present at matches home and away to this day.

NOMINTED BY CLLR ALAMBRITIS on MONDAY 22 MARCH 2021