

Scenery improved as tree planted in actor's honour

by **Tricia Jamieson**

tjamieson@thekmgroun.co.uk
@triciajamieson1

A tree in memory of the late actor Sir Donald Sinden has been planted by members of Tenterden and District Residents Association.

The gleditsia was put on the grass verge of Appledore Road, Tenterden, close to Shrubcote.

It was one of four trees – the others are English walnut, Turkish hazel and Princeton Elm – planted by the association in the road on Monday.

Chairman Soggi Nepp wielded the spade, watched by members.

Sir Donald, who lived at Ebony, was president of the association when he died in 2014.

The ceremony was attended by present and former TDRA committee members, including the organiser, Bill Chantler, and town councillor Lisa Lovelidge.

Mrs Nepp said that, with members' contributions and support from Tenterden Town Council, the association had been able to fund the planting and maintenance of the four new trees.

She said: "This is a key, tree-lined route into our picturesque and historic town, much admired and appreciated by both visitors



Residents association chairman Soggi Nepp plants the tree in Appledore Road in memory of Sir Donald Sinden, right

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and local residents.

"We hope that we may continue this endeavour to ensure these important features are retained for the enjoyment of all and contribute to the quality and uniqueness of our town.

"We support good design and quality of environment of our

public realm and are extremely thankful for all our members' support to enable us to play a proactive role in this."

Association members were disappointed that the Mayor, Cllr Pam Smith, who had been invited to the planting ceremony, did not turn up. Mrs Nepp said:

"When she did not arrive, we were disappointed but hope to see her at a future event."

Cllr Smith said she had apologised.

"It was a mix up," she said. "There was an invitation which I accepted, but I did not get any more information.