

SPOTLIGHT



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NO PROBLEM HOUSTON

Exclusive

WHEN a frantic transAtlantic telephone call came into Prestwick marketing administrator Shirley Sloan it was all in a day's work.

Texan party planner Danielle Pendergraft was desperate to arrange a luxury hamper of foodstuffs to get to a local business at short notice.

And with the Houston-based company boasting a motto of "Events Planned Perfectly", Danielle was under pressure to pull it off.

Danielle gets taste of Ayrshire

But Shirley said: "She needn't have worried and we saved the day for her. It's not the sort of phone call I usually get but I was happy to help.

"I got her the details of the Ayrshire Food Network and that day a hamper was eventually arranged."

Due to the time difference and availability it wasn't without solid effort in Ayrshire that Danielle's hamper was delivered.

Howard Wilkinson of the Ayrshire Food Network was dealing with the enquiry after 9pm at night after getting home from Perth.

He received the following email from her:

"Dear Mr. Wilkinson – I write to you from Houston, Texas USA. I would like to send an assortment of cheese, fruit, confections and possibly meats to a family in Ayrshire. I need to send this delivered tomorrow and was told you might be able to direct me to a source who can provide very upscale, gourmet products to send."

He then contacted the Thains who run Fencebay at Fairlie who as well as stocking their own fish produce, stock much of the speciality food of the AFN including Howard's Petrie Fine Foods.

Howard told Spotlight: "I took up the story at 9.30pm that evening emailing Danielle and Jill Thain at Fencebay who responded at twelve minutes past midnight!

"The hamper was delivered that day and as to the exact contents I am not sure, though it would have been the finest Ayrshire has to offer.

"Our Houston based customer was very pleased and I am only too glad to help our international relations. Bizarrely the same day my company Petrie was dealing with a lady in Switzerland who wanted a delivery to a relative in Ayr."



It's Hampertime.