

## **PRESS CUTTING SERVICE**

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# A ROOM FOR ALLSEASONS

Village set to become £100m tourist mecca

By CATRIONA STEWART

A SLEEPY Scots village looks set to be transformed into a £100million environmentally-friendly tourist mecca creating hundreds of jobs.

The development near Galston in Ayrshire will include a 25-acre man-made loch, a 40-bedroom hotel and 100 luxury holiday lodges.

It's hoped Allseasons at the Meadows, the brainchild of Andrew and Jennifer Malcolm, will attract thousands of tourists and create 400 new jobs.

Andrew owned a landscaping business but

found the industry was becoming overly competitive and decided to take his passion for the environment in a different direction.

The couple bought the plot of land in Galston in 1996 and began turning it into a holiday retreat that also supported wildlife.

The man-made loch

**66 This development will be an environmental first for Scotland**

forms the centrepiece to Allseasons and was the starting point of the development.

Jennifer said: "We knew we wanted to create a really beautiful area that would maintain the local wildlife."

Now the loch, which boasts an island, wetlands and grasslands, has

been completed the couple hope to attract the interest of hotel chains.

This week they have presented final plans for Allseasons to East Ayrshire Council for approval. They include proposals for the 40-bedroom hotel and 100 New England-style lakeside holiday lodges.

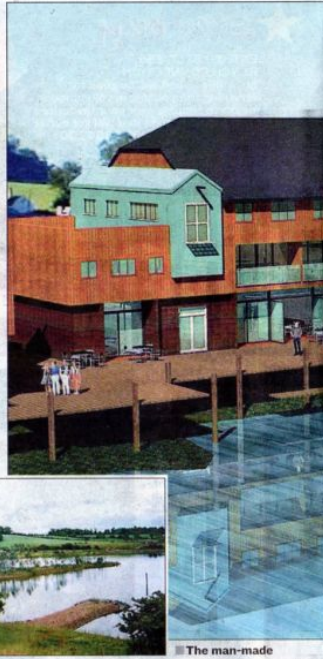
The pair, from Ayrshire, are hoping the second phase of the development would then involve a modern harbour with moorings, coffee shops, a garden centre and wildlife watching areas.

The completion date for the first phase of the ambitious development has been announced as 2009 to coincide with the Open at nearby Turnberry.

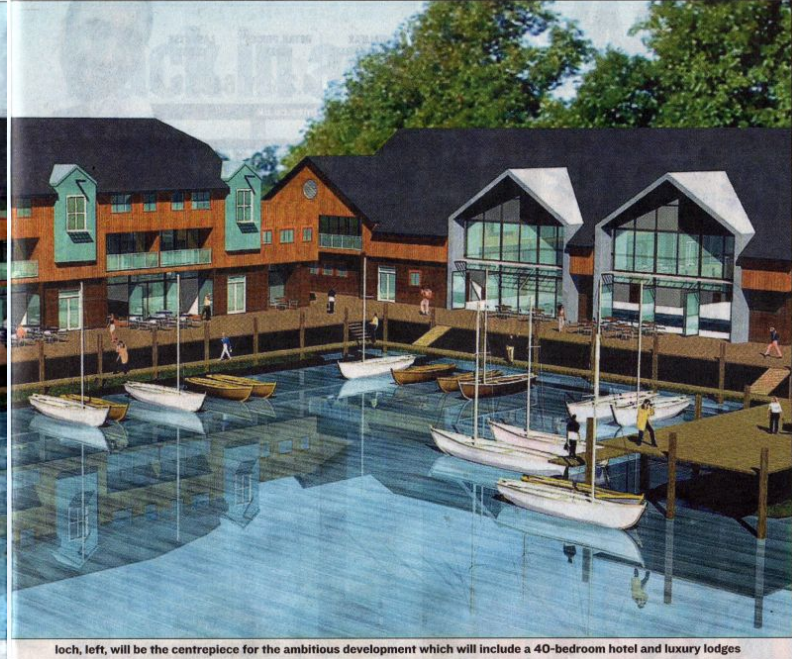
Jennifer hopes the resort will offer a place for city-dwellers to relax and unwind.

Andrew said: "This development will be a first for Scotland in terms of providing an environmentally-led tourist destination."

"It has its roots in green tourism - the loch will have islands and roosting sites for the hundreds of birds that already visit the site and all the lakeside lodges will have nesting boxes incorporated into their design."



The man-made



loch, left, will be the centrepiece for the ambitious development which will include a 40-bedroom hotel and luxury lodges





