

## Phil Morris

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**From:** Karyn Collie [kbc\_butterfly@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2005 2:39 PM

**To:** Tom Allen; Donald Allred; Howard Arbuckle; Wayne Barnett; Douglas Brown; John Capps; Rebecca Cipriani; Bryan Collie; Bryan and Tracey Collie; Mark Collins; Mom and Dad; Patrick Eakes; Mitzi Ellis; David French; Weezie Glascock; Ephraim Grubbs; Ed and Barbara Gunn; Dwight Hall; Lisa Hanks; Mandy Harris; Louisa Hopkins; Ted Hopkins; Ellen Ishmael; Brian Kennedy; Arnold King; Ms. Laster; Nancy Marlowe; Aunt Mary; Michael McCollum; Phil Morris; Kathy Morrow; Kathy Page; Sam Page; George Penn; Justin Pridon; Chuck Rhodes; Susan Richardson; Bill Riggs; Brigadier General Bill Riggs; Eden Rotary; Madison Rotary; Stoneville Rotary; Tony Santoro; Sue and James Sharpe; Mac Sims; Dee Spencer; Angela and Bentley Stadler; Bill Stone; Carol Summerlin; Fred Timper; Butch Trent; John Womack; Tim Wray; Dan Zeller; Meredith Alenky; Leah Barefoot; Sarah Brady; Melissa Demko; Keller Dunaway; Lindsey Ellerson; Yancey Ingle; Shannon Litalian; Stacey Meiggs; Becca Page; Kim Page; Vicki Price; Ashley Pridon; Susan Pridon; Morgan Rupert; Tommie Sears; Jonathan Teague; Neel Thomas; Megan Wallace; April Wilson; Debbie Howard; Jordan Lewis; Matt and Regina Laws

**Subject:** Saying Farewell to Bonnie Scotland

Greetings everyone!

Wow! What can I say? This year has flown by and I can hardly believe that I leave Glasgow for Reidsville on Thursday morning, September 1. It is a little bittersweet as I pack (or at least try to pack all my stuff in two suitcases that must have shrunk since I arrived here last September ;-)). I have so many great memories of Scotland. It is amazing how quickly a place very different from the one you grew up in can become like a home to you. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in North Carolina when I return, but I am also going to miss a lot of people from here. I have found the people in Scotland to be friendly and welcoming and I will miss their culture and way of life.

Last night, I had the perfect send-off from Scotland. I attended the Edinburgh Military Tattoo with Douglas, my host Rotarian, and a couple of other people. Listening to the bagpipers and watching the military bands play in front of Edinburgh Castle was the perfect culmination of my year here. It combined traditional Scottish customs, modern Scottish customs, and several international dance troupes and military bands. My year here has been the same combination of tradition, modernity, and world culture. As the lone bagpiper played "Lest We Forget" from the top of Edinburgh Castle, I realized what an amazing time I've had here and how lucky I have been to have this opportunity. It has truly been an experience that I will never forget.

Apart from packing and preparing for the big homecoming, I finished my dissertation and did a little traveling, both in Glasgow and outside. I won't go into too much detail about those trips, because they are pretty self-explanatory when you look at the numerous pictures on my website! Earlier this summer, my parents and my aunt and uncle came and we traveled from London into the Scottish Highlands, and then back into Glasgow. It was really wonderful seeing them and showing them around Glasgow. Then I went to Ireland with one of my friends from here. We went to Dublin and Cork, and I kissed the famous Blarney Stone (which was pretty scary!) and received the "Gift of Gab". Both trips were really nice and I got to see some beautiful countryside while enjoying some wonderful company! My Romanticism Class also went on a day trip to Abbotsford (former home of Sir Walter Scott), Melrose, Dryburgh Abbey, and Tibbie Shiel's Inn (a favorite pub of writers James Hogg and Sir Walter Scott) in the Scottish Border Country. It was a really fun trip and a much-needed break from all of our dissertations!

Well, I guess that is about all I have to say. I will write one more time once I get settled back into life in the United States. I want to thank each of you for your support this year, especially when I first arrived in Glasgow. I remember musing in my first email whether or not Glasgow would become as much of a "Dear Green Place" to me as it is to the locals, and now I think I may hold it even more dear than do some of them. As I say farewell to Bonnie Scotland, I know that Glasgow will be as much a part of who I am as is my hometown of Reidsville, North Carolina.

Love,

Karyn

PS Please feel free to look at the pictures of my travels. The only pictures that are not on my website are the ones from the Edinburgh Military Tattoo because I have already packed up the equipment to transfer them to

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my computer. I will put those up once I return home.

View my pictures at:

<http://community.webshots.com/user/karync91>

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