

The postcard is undated but probably from around 1910 (the "New Bridge" was built in 1909 and King Edward VII died in 1910). It has six views of Great Ayton. The two cyclists, most clearly seen in the lower right-hand picture, appear in most of the other views. They must have accompanied the photographer on his visit to the village, perhaps to enhance scenes where there were few local people visible.

The card was sent by Bertha to her Aunt May Clare at 103 Scrafton Place, Marske by Sea. The writer is on holiday in lodgings at Hill House, Little Ayton, and is clearly very pleased with her accommodation. Hill House no longer exists, but was probably a previous property adjacent to Woodhouse Farm, in the area of today's Newfield House and The Orchard.

"Dear Aunt May,

I hope you are having a nice time. It's lovely here. We could not have wished for nicer digs. We have a lovely bedroom & sitting room. We even have a piano. There is a big garden at the front of the house & they have about fifty fruit trees. We can have as many eggs, apples, pears & plums as we like, so you can see I am landed. Bertha.
P.S. I'll change you jobs for 2 or 3 days if you like."





