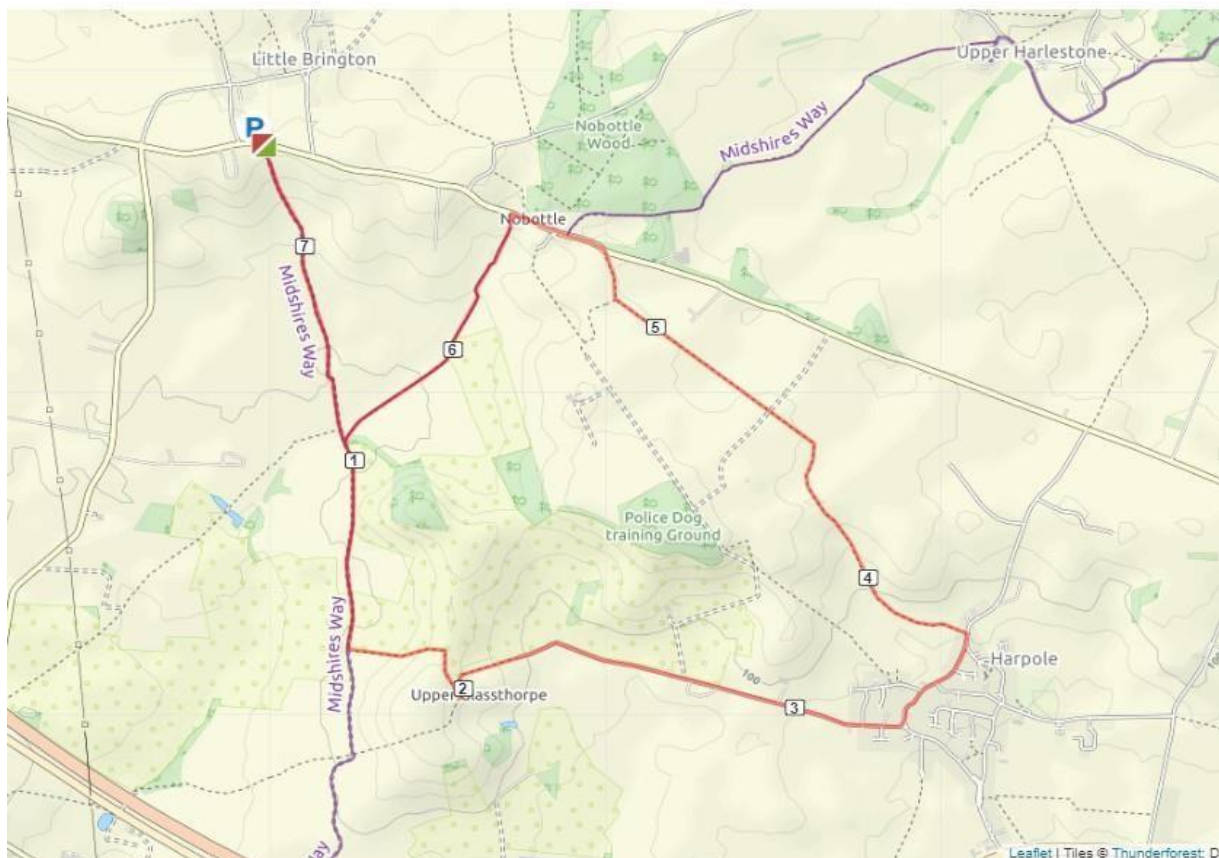


Harpole, Glassthorpe Hill (BR3)

WNBG 10TH MAY 2021



Directions

Parking is available at a layby near Little Brington on the road between Duston and Whilton Locks. **GR. SP660634**
Sometimes space is available in the village e.g., alongside wall near to church GR. SP691609

Following the byway down the hill and then turn left through a gate.

Follow the track across the field with hedge on your right.

At the end of the field, you will meet the junction of the bridleway coming from Nobottle.



RIDE left going through a gate up a stony track and over three fields

At the far boundary of the third field turn left **(GR. SP665611)**. You should now be climbing Glassthorpe Hill



Left turn GR. SP665611

At the farm boundary gate turn left following the bridleway down to Glassthorpe Lane.

This is a long lane towards Harpole village with Farms along its length

This was the original start point suggested from the book 'Northamptonshire on Horseback' as it has large verges, but apparently can be busy at times with farm traffic



Follow road through village past the church, and just before the road bends to the right in front of Harpole Grange Farm (GR.692612) turn left up the lane, through a bridleway gate and ride straight ahead climbing up hill.

Go over a grass field to a hand-gate, over another grass field and an arable field. Go through a gate leading to a small covert. Go across the next field towards a chain linked compound. Go right up the side of the fence and the Lodge **(GR.SP685622)** an old farmhouse.



Photo by Philip Jeffrey Geograph.co.uk

When you come to a concrete road follow this until you cross over a tarmac road. You will then go straight up a track passing Nobottle House to your right. When you come to the road turn left to go down into Nobottle village.

Follow the road into the village past the telephone box, take the second turning on the left down past Townsend Farm.

Nobottle gave its name to the Anglo-Saxon administration area 'the Nobottle Grove Hundred'. Hundred Courts met monthly to adjudicate on legal and religious matters. Such gatherings were often in the open air; Harrow Hill immediately west of Nobottle Wood is believed to have been the Court's 'chamber'. In the 19th century, like Harlestone, the hamlet was part of Althorp Estate.

The road becomes a track, and you are still following Midshires Way. Follow the bridleway markers across four grass fields, passing over a disused rifle range.

To finish where you started turn right at the end and back along the track to the Byway and follow back up hill to start point



Back up byway to top of hill