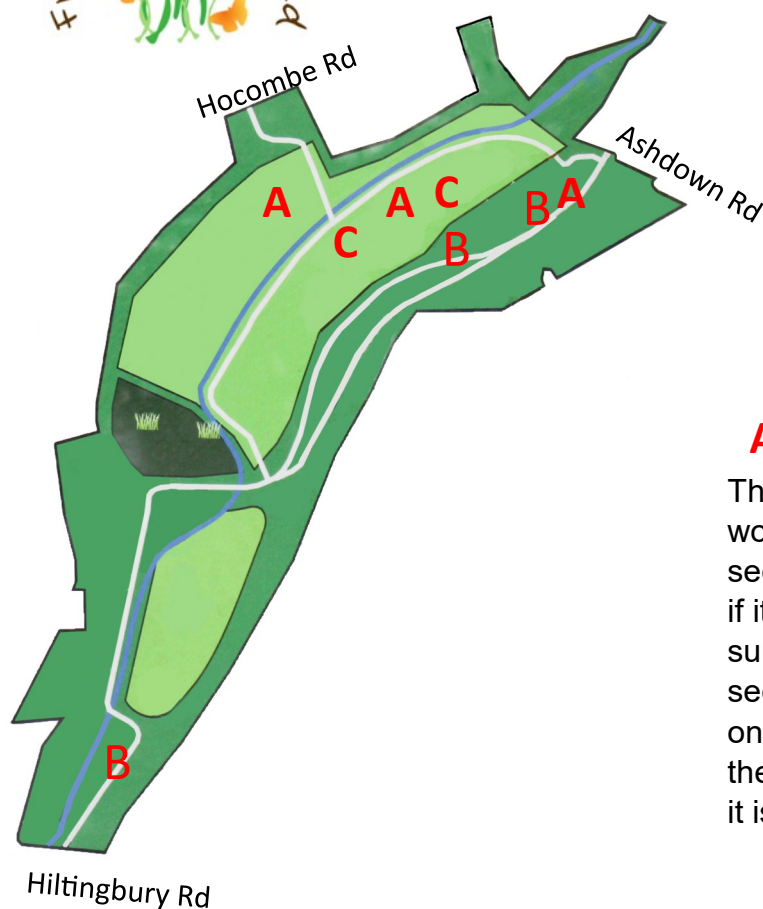




What to see in April 2020



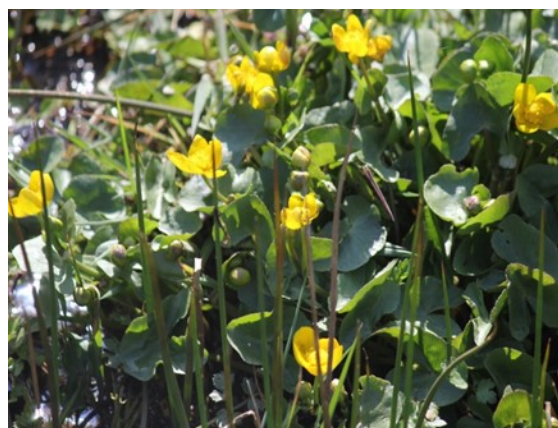
A Brimstone Butterfly (*Gonepteryx rhamni*)

The Brimstone likes open meadows and open woodland paths. If you live locally you may have seen one in your garden. They like the sun and if it clouds over they shelter until it is warm and sunny again so you need a bright sunny day to see them. The caterpillars of the butterfly feed on Buckthorn and Buckthorn Alder. Both of these trees can be found in Hocombe Mead so it is a good habitat for the Brimstone.



B Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*)

The Wood Anemone is a plant of ancient woodlands and the fact that it is found in Hocombe Mead is an indication that the Mead still exists as it did hundreds of years ago. It blooms in woodlands before the canopy of leaves becomes too dense and deprives it of light. The coppicing of the Hazel Coupes is important to sustain this plant and others that need higher levels of light in the Spring.



C Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*)

This is a plant of wetlands like swamps, marshes and damp meadows. Hocombe Mead has damp meadows and in the past drainage ditches were dug to help drain the meadow. If you look carefully you can see where the ditches were because the Marsh Marigolds grow where the ditches still hold water and remain the wettest parts of the Mead.

See our downloadable children's I Spy chart on www.hocombe-mead.org