

Spring Update - Mid April 2025

Spring has fully arrived at Quarry Moor: across the whole Reserve everything is bursting into life. The trees are coming into leaf, and the grasslands are turning from the brown of winter dormancy into bright, fresh green. Spring flowers are at their best at the moment, with violets, primroses, wood anemones and bluebells either in flower or coming into flower.

The cherry, black thorn and crab apples are blossoming, soon to be flowered. Already there are signs of the grassland flora beginning to appear, with cowslip leaves starting to emerge amongst the new growth of grasses.

The warm dry weather of early April has brough a sudden mergence of a number of butterflies: orange tips are showing well, as you would expect of this first of the Spring species.



There have also been sightings of the over-wintering types such as small tortoiseshell and peacock.

The tree blossoms are being visited by numerous bees, hopefully fertilising them, leading to a good crop of fruits later on.

The summer-visiting birds are starting to arrive in considerable numbers, especially chiffchaffs which seem to be signing from every other tree at the moment.

The amount of birdsong to be heard at Quarry Moor is worthy of special mention: the surrounding, intensively farmed agricultural land is by and large silent these days, making the Reserve a place to visit to enjoy a variety of birds in full song.