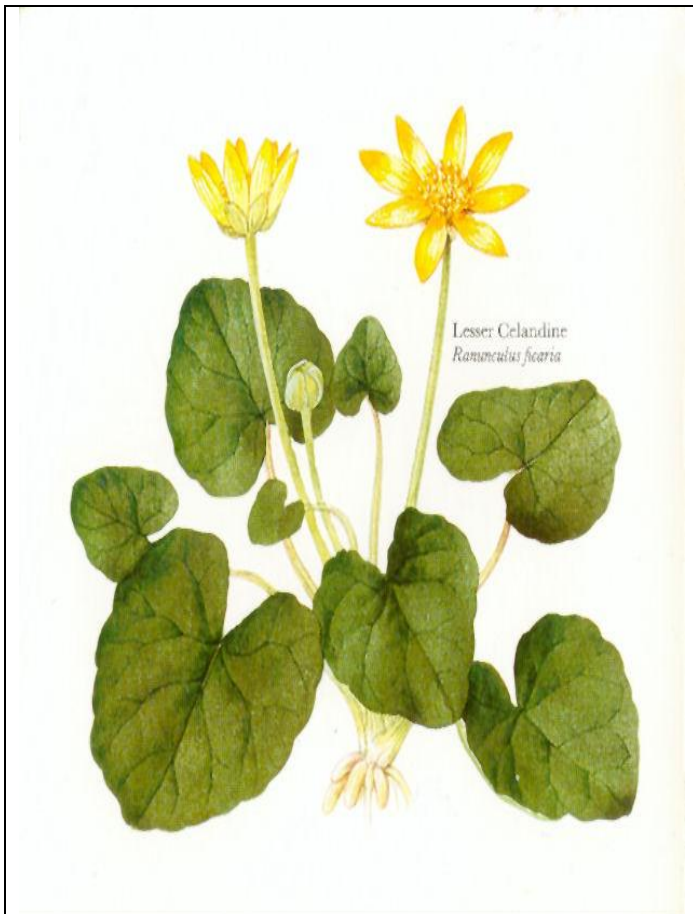


## WOOD ANEMONE (*Anemone nemorosa*)

Wood Anemone occurs throughout Britain, but is absent from the Orkney and Shetland Islands and the East Anglia fens. It grows in a wide range of ancient woodland habitats but is most abundant on acid or base rich clay soils where the ground is very damp or waterlogged. It is often very common where woodlands are regularly coppiced, and can form extensive carpets. It often survives woodland clearing in hedgerows and on acid grassland. Wood Anemone flowers in late April and May, often in association with Lesser Celandine and Primrose. The leaves are delicate dissected and dark green with characteristic delicate white flowers. The flowers last only a week or so, and are pollinated by bumblebees, honeybees and a wide variety of flies. The seeds are green bourn in clumps with a hook present on the end of each and fall readily from the old stigma when ripe.



## LESSER CELANDINE (*Ranunculus ficaria*)

A very common perennial herb which occurs throughout Britain, and is a characteristic plant of deciduous woodland, hedgerows, road verges, stream sides and damp pastures. It has bright yellow star shaped flowers and bright green fleshy leaves and flowers from February to May. It is a common plant of ancient woodlands especially on wet and boggy soils. The Latin Genus name is derived from 'Rana' a frog, where it occurs in wet and marshy ground. The ficaria refers to the Latin 'ficus' (a fig) which relate to the fig like shape of the plant's white tubers. The plant is also known as 'pilewort' where it was used extensively to cure haemorrhoids by medieval herbalists. It was also used to treat varicose veins. The seeds are bourn in green clumps on the stigma and are hooked at the end and are ripe in May and June. They are distributed mainly by animals when they brush past the seed head and the seeds stick to the fur.