

*High, or bill
or jutting out spur,
but probably not woe,
is Hoo.*

Lookers
overseers
muddies
and smugglers

Waders
grazers
trail bikers
and wildfowlers

Birders
boaters
anglers
and caravanners

Mudflats
to saltmarsh
to cliff
of chalk ridge

Launching
of seaplanes
and assembly
of airships

Summer walkers
overwintering waders;
spring onions year-round
and autumnal intermittents.

Lime working, pot baking, salt panning, brick making
Chipping of chalk, digging of clay and shipping of flint
Ragstone cargoes in the Yantlet Channel
And cement from Cliffe, selected to strengthen the lighthouses at Lizard, Needles and Eddystone.

Decoy airfields and threats of airports;
Peaks and plummetts in experimental aeronautics:
The Sopwith Pup and Grain Kitten seaplanes
Submarine Scout and Astra-Torres airships
And the turbo jet Swallow, split in Britain's first supersonic boom
With the speed of sound reached, high over Hoo.

A dummy battery, demolition ranges
Sentry boxes and gunpowder bunkers;
Explosives disposal, bomb recognition
Torpedo experiments and military engineering;
Mushrooming ranks of gas-holding tanks
Electrical networks, chimney stack landmarks
A spate of rust spots, soot drops and holed tights -
With suspicions of emissions from Kingsnorth at night.

The Hallows Flyer and Tubby Slater's Land Yacht
Dismantled stations at Beluncle, High Halstow,
Sharnal Street, Milton Range, Stoke and Uralite Halt;
Night mail and royal rail via Port Victoria
And imports to Thamesport
On Evergreen's red and green container-carrying couriers.

Cliffe Temperance Club, Clubb's Grain Pit
The army's Plant Branch, and the Chattenden Syndicate;
The Montyzoomer, Frostbite and Hoo Freezer –
Upnor Yacht Club winter water speed teasers;
The Sound Hole hosting The Phonetics, Fatal Fools, Final Daze, and The Band who Fell to Earth
And Dr Who chose Hoo to shoot *Inferno* at Kingsnorth and *The Mutants* near Strood.