

Messing About On the River

Intro: C// | G// | C// | /// | 3 beats to the bar

When the [C] weather is fine you [G] know it's a sign
 For [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 If you take my advice there's [G] nothing so nice
 As [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 There's [F] long boats and [C] short boats and [G] all kinds of [C] craft,
 And [F] cruisers and [C] keel boats and [D7] some with no [G7] draught;
 So [C] take off your coat, go [G] jump in a boat,
 To go [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.

There are [C] boats made from kits that [G] greet you in bits
 For [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 Or you might like to scull in a [G] glass-fibre hull,
 Just [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 There are [F] tillers and [C] rudders and [G] anchors and [C] cleats,
 And [F] ropes that are [C] sometimes [D7] referred to as [G7] sheets;
 With the [C] wind in your face, there's [G] no finer place
 Than [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.

There are skippers and mates and [G] rowing club eights
 Just [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 There are pontoons and trots, and [G] all sorts of knots
 For [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 With [F] inboards and [C] outboards and [G] dinghies you [C] sail,
 The [F] first thing you [C] learn is the [D7] right way to [G7] bail!
 In a [C] one-seat canoe you're both [G] skipper and crew,
 When you're [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.

There are [C] bridges and locks and [G] moorings and docks
 When [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 There are whirlpools and weirs that you [G] mustn't go near
 When [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river.
 There are [F] backwater [C] places all [G] hidden from [C] view
 And [F] quaint little [C] islands just [D7] waiting for [G7] you;
 So I'll [C] leave you right now to [G] cast off your bow
 to go [F] messing a-[G7]-bout on the [C] river! 3 4

