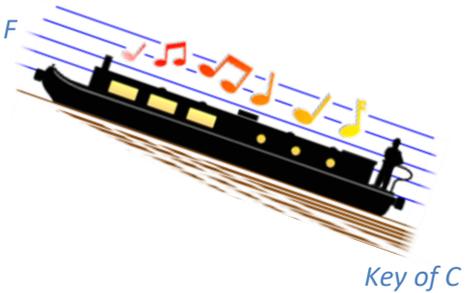


# Messing about on the River (Sailing through the Keys)

(Tony Hatch)

Intro [C] [C] [C] [C] – a pulsing  $\frac{3}{4}$  rhythm  $\uparrow \downarrow \downarrow$

Key of F



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] draft  
So [C] take off your coat and [G] hop in a boat  
Go [F] messing a[G7]bout on the [C] river [C] [A7]

There are [D] boats made from kits that'll [A] reach you in bits  
For [G] messing a[A7]bout on the [D] river  
Or you might want to scull in a [A] fibre glass hull  
Just [G] messing a[A7]bout on the [D] river

There are [G] tillers and [D] rudders and [A] anchors and [D] cleats  
And [G] ropes that are [D] sometimes re [E7]ferred to as [A7] sheets  
With the [D] wind in your face there's [A] no finer place  
Than [G] messing a[A7]bout on the [D] river [D] [B7]

There are [E] skippers and mates and [B7] rowing club eights  
Just [A] messing a [B7]bout on the [E] river  
There are pontoons and trots and [B7] all sorts of knots  
For [A] messing a[B7]bout on the [E] river

With [A] inboards and [E] outboards and [B7] dinghies you [E] sail  
The [A] first thing you [E] learn is the [F#m] right way to [B7] bail  
In a [E] one-seat canoe, you're the [B7] skipper and crew  
Just [A] messing [B7]bout on the [E] river [E] [C7]

There are [F] bridges and locks and [C] moorings and docks  
When [Bb] messing a [C7]bout on the [F] river  
There's a whirlpools and weir that you [C] mustn't go near  
When [Bb] messing [C7]bout on the [F] river

There are [Bb] backwater [F]places all [C] hidden from [F] view  
And [Bb] quaint little [F] islands just [Gm7] waiting for [C7] you  
So I'll [F] leave you right now, to [C] cast off your bow  
To [Bb] messing a[C7]bout on the [F] river (C7)(F)