Messing about on the River  (Sailing through the Keys)

(Tony Hatch)

Intro [C] [C] [C] [C] – a pulsing ¾ rhythm ↑↓↓

When the [C] weather is fine you [G] know it's a sign
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
So [C] take off your coat and [G] hop in a boat

There are [D] boats made from kits that'll [A] reach you in bits
Or you might want to scull in a [A] fibre glass hull

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

There are [E] skippers and mates and [B7] rowing club eights
There are pontoons and trots and [B7] all sorts of knots

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

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
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)