

Yacht 'Marie'

North Fambridge

25th June '57

Dear Mrs Shuttlewood,

~~Yore ole man~~ yore respected usban sed 'Ow did you get on after we done the bottom larst time'.

I sed orlright Frank.

E sed 'we aint ad no report abowt it'

I sed O well I can soon tel you.

E sed No, that aint no good, shove a propper report in a letter, a propper progres report, so then the missis can read it.

E noes very well I cant rite very much an the spellin is no cop bekaus my ejjerkashun wos broke orf short like Gotty's wen is farther sed ' I know a better school than wot that is'

So you will av to allow a bitt for a pore ole arf ejjerkated saler.

It woz very kind of im to shove is uther klientz an kusstumers orn one side an tell em to wate wile e done the "Marie"

Ov korse e noes thee old boat cant gett along very good at the besst of times but wen there iz grass an weads an barnikuls an oisterz orn thee bottom she is just orful.

Orl iz klientz noes this ov korse so praps thay diddnt mind bein done larst.

E woz very kwick too. No angin abaht. Gott their wun day, on thee bloks thee nexst and orf and away thee nekst arternoon. E sed theres surviss fore yer an so itt woz an mutch erblijd.

She diddn arf go kummin bak.

I woz up att Barling an thee wind kum awa easturlic just arter i worter wich woz abowt a kworter ter five upp their. So she kum down Barling Creek verrie nice an I kep er rite over orn thee sowth side as I kum roun thee korner an dojjed er erlong slydin erlong over the shallers.

Bi doin thiss an lettin er shaik inter thee wind now an agin she slydid along fine an a long wai parst Paglesham an I gott to thee Potton Ilan boy beefore I ad to tak.

My dear Mrs Shuttlewood. If you can read the above and make any sense of it, you are clever. But I can assure you that it contains or expresses one of the chief pleasures of sailing a boat of this sort. If I tell you a secret, it was done without lowering the leeboards.

Of korss i ad to putt inn a few tax to gett down to the Quay butt wen she gott their she pikked upp er skirtz an shootid fore thee Brankflete Boy.

Which she parst att a kwartur parts siks

Arter thatt I kum wun of my ole trix. Ilett er role acrost thee Crouch an she did role a bit with thee wind againstt thee strong ebb untill she gott to thee shaller worter. Thenn I skwaired er orf with the mainsal stikking owt wun side an thee mizen thee uthur side. While I oped that nithur ov em would jibe bekawz bi now it woz bloin abitt fresh.

Itt woz nek un nek with ernuther bote witch woz a bitt ov a raser butt e giv it bestt att Birnum an az I went parst imm e sed I mene the bloke orn itt sed Yore oile bote karnt arf go

I woz verrie glad to gett through Birnum bekaws itt woz beginnin to gett twilite with sunsett att seven a klok butt thee tide woz eezin uppa bitt an i kud av gott to Fambridge a cuppler ours before lo worter butt thort itt besst to anker at Canewdon justt before eight er klok. So I let er kum into thee wind an slide erself orn to the mud an she lade their as kwiet as kwiet wile i tided upp thee sales an slung thee anker over with a bitt ov chane.

So then I lytid thee cabbin lamp an I thort I fansid a pankake an a potter tee arter avin add such a good sale. An the pankake woz orlrite with an egg init an a nise kleen fryin pan with justt a spott ov lard to greese it. An some shuger on itt an a lemmun skweezd over itt an a cuppler lavlee cupser tee.

And if you kan tell me a bote witch can sale from Barlin round to Canoodon an lay kwietlee orn thee mud fore thee nite orl in three ours and orlso av a luvlie pankake for tee I shud like to see itt bekaws there aint one.

With my best respects and sincere apologies.

Yours Truly

W. Hyde