Ashford Castle Potato Cheese Soup

(authentic Irish Potato Soup recipe given to us by Four Shillings Short!)

Serves 4 people Adjust amounts for larger batches

- 2 tablespoons Butter
- 3 celery stalks, chopped
- 1 large onion, coarsely chopped
- 4 cups stock (you can use chicken stock, vegetable stock or plain water)
- 1 pound potatoes (any kind will do)
- 4 ounces Blue Cheese crumbles
- 2/3 cup heavy cream, or half & half
- salt & pepper to taste.

In a large sauce pan, melt the butter over medium heat. Sauté the celery and onion for 4 or 5 minutes, until onion is translucent and celery is tender.

Stir in stock and bring to a boil. Add potatoes, reduce heat and simmer for 45 minutes. Remove from heat and puree in a blender or food processor.

Return to low heat and slowly add the blue cheese and cream, stirring constantly.

Season with salt & pepper to taste.

Note: If you prefer a chunkier soup, only puree 1/2 or so of the potato/celery/onion mixture, and add this back to the reserved batch in your sauce pan. Continue with the next step, adding the cheese and cream, stirring constantly. Then add the salt & pepper to taste.