

APRIL 2001

We have a strong sense of community in Great Hinton - look at the reports to see all that's been going on in the new Memorial Hall. And in a small village there is a greater sense of loss as we all feel a sadness for Terry and Sandy in their bereavements. Thank you Jean and Chris for all that you contributed to our community. We are lucky to have people who want to take the lead in organising events for our enjoyment, so do get involved. If you have any ideas for interests which are not catered for (and we do have a reputation for enjoying our food!) please tell the Community Committee. Richard Clarke Editor

GREAT HINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chris Munday Chairman

870912

In the last edition of the Grapevine I reported that the County Council had granted planning permission for the Semington By-Pass, and I promised that your Parish Council would continue to monitor events. Shortly after that article was written The Department of Transport and the Regions (DETR) published the formal orders required under highways legislation.

Publication of these orders gave The Parish Council the opportunity of submitting to DETR details of our objection to the southern extension, beyond the A361 Devizes Road. The objection submitted reflects the views expressed at the Parish Council's annual meeting in 1999 and the subsequent exhibition and consultation held in the old village hall. We now understand that there is at least one other objection to this section of the route and, as that has come from an affected landowner, DETR must hold a Public Inquiry.

Whilst the Parish Council is regarded as a "non-statutory" objector we hope that an inquiry will provide the opportunity for our objection to be



considered in detail. In the last few days I have received from the County Council a copy of its "statement of case", which explains the scheme and includes a summary of their reasons for the extending the route south of the A361. I shall be liaising throughout the process with the professional advisers supporting the landowner in order to maximise the impact of our objection.

If you would like to see any of the documents which the County Council are relying upon in support of their case then these are now available for public inspection at The County Council Offices (Corporate Services Department), The District Council Offices, Melksham Library and Semington Post Office. I will also arrange for copies of the Parish Council's correspondence to be available in the new Memorial Hall, from Monday 26th March onwards. I will also ensure that the date of the inquiry is published on the village notice board.

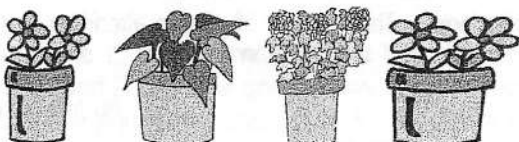
I make no apology that this report is only about the By-pass but if the Southern extension is built in the proposed form it will have a permanent and very serious, adverse affect on the quality of life in Great Hinton.

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

Mo Laycock

May I please remind anyone who has a child who is due to start school in September 2001, that these children should have been registered at County Hall by 9 March - even if you live in our catchment area. This is a new initiative and forms are available at school if you need them; please contact me as soon as possible as places are very limited already.


It's the 'collecting season' yet again; we have saved Nestle vouchers and recently 'Books for Schools' tokens (Sun newspapers and Walkers crisps) and Tesco vouchers have started again! Last year we had 87 free books for our school through these tokens; its amazing how quickly they add up. Can we beat that this year? We are also aiming at 10,000 Tesco vouchers in order to collect a Camcorder... this would be about the same as we collected last year, so it is possible.....but only with your help! You can drop the vouchers into school or to Carol Burch at Barn Cottage.



Now, dates for your diary:

Saturday 31 March: PTA Jumble Sale at School 11am

Saturday 19 May: PTA Plant Sale at School 11am



December brought great sadness to the village when Jean Hallam died on the 16th,
and five days later Christopher Salmon died on the 21st.

A Tribute to Jean

Jean was a quietly vital person, working extremely hard for her family and friends. She gave so much of herself to the life of this village. As a member of the Ladies Club she joined enthusiastically in all activities from Gourmet evenings to skittles, from summer fete to carol singing, not forgetting the Christmas dinner. In latter years Jean instigated the Ladies Club support for Operation Christmas Child, a charity involved in sending shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in Bosnia, Romania, etc. We aim to make an even greater effort with our boxes this year, in Jean's memory. Jean loved the Summer fete, especially dressing up for whatever theme we had chosen to follow.

For fifteen years Jean had worked tirelessly and efficiently as Treasurer to the Great Hinton Memorial Hall and Community Committee. At Agony Run time Jean executed her duties with great proficiency distributing and collecting money, acting as time-keeper and in 1997 she even found time to join the village ladies in the tug-of-war. Yes, Jean was always ready, willing and able.

From its inception fifteen years ago until last year, Jean had helped Min to run the 100 Club - spending many hours collecting annual subscriptions, then organising the monthly prizes, a job which she continued to do even after relinquishing her role as treasurer.

Jean had a great love of the natural world, particularly bird life. She was so excited the first year we became aware of a pair of blackcaps visiting our bird-tables. She loved to see the long-tailed tits and goldcrests which are about from time to time..

As a neighbour Jean was very caring and had been a great support to me personally. At least two or three times a week she would appear at my back door checking that I was OK. Like many of you in the village I shall always remember Jean's warm, cheerful personality and I shall miss her for a long time to come.

A Tribute to Chris

Perhaps not so many people in the village knew Chris as well as they knew Jean. But Chris was always there, giving support when it was needed.

Unfortunately, Christopher's retirement was dogged by ill-health. The very week Chris retired he contracted double pneumonia and pleurisy, followed very shortly by shingles, all of which was very debilitating. In spite of this he was always quietly supportive of Sandy in all her activities.

Whenever Sandy served teas and refreshments at both the Ladies Club fete and the Agony Run, Chris would be there unobtrusively in the background, lifting, carrying, transporting etc. When Sandy entertained Dorothy House patients to lunch Chris would be seen negotiating wheelchairs in and out of confined spaces and escorting patients to and from their transport.

Chris was a stalwart member of the British Legion, for the last few years chairing the local branch. He worked hard to maintain an active, lively branch with a good membership.

For several years Chris was treasurer to the Charity Card Shop in the six week run-up to Christmas. Chris was always ready to put pen to paper, to whoever it concerned to protect our rural life and for the benefit of our village in particular. He organised the petition in aid of our beautiful new Village Hall.

Chris loved his garden and spent many hours tending his particular interest - his vegetable plot. His other great interest was fishing and many a fresh trout found its way to a local event as a raffle prize.

In the last five years Chris had suffered from various forms of cancer - I say suffered in the strictest sense of the word as I think Chris had much more pain than anyone realised, particularly in his last few months.


On a personal note I had great support from Chris over the last sixteen years, particularly when it came to writing official letters - he always knew exactly the right thing to say. And who will sharpen my knives now - a job Chris always performed excellently!

As with Jean, Chris will be sadly missed and long remembered by all who knew him.

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Our thoughts and prayers are with Terry, Mark and family, and Sandy and family. The number of people attending both the thanksgiving services were an overwhelming tribute to the respect and love felt by all for both Jean and Chris.

Audrey Plummer



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I am retiring from the above, Mr David Harnott will be taking over, I wish him every success. I would like to thank my fellow co-ordinators for their help over the past years.

-O-O-O-

I would like to take this opportunity through the Grapevine to thank all villagers whom I haven't managed to see since the death of Chris in December, who sent me such lovely cards and messages, and all who attended the Thanksgiving service in February and gave so generously to our chosen charities in his memory. A sum of over £900 was collected - a grand amount. He would have been justly proud. Many, many thanks for your kindness and support.

Sandy Salmon.

WILTSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Hello, I am Mark Gale, your new Community Beat Officer.

I would like to take a few moments of your time just to explain what my role is and what we can do to help each other.

As the Community Beat Officer, my role is mainly involved in dealing with local issues which affect your particular area and quality of life. I am also involved in Public Consultation such as Parish Council meetings and Neighbourhood Watch. I also look at how to deal with ongoing matters on a long-term basis, not just to deal with each incident as a single problem.

If you are experiencing problems where you require the assistance of the Police, it will not always be me who will come and see you or be dealing with the incident. You will still receive a visit from another officer from Trowbridge, and I will then be made aware of ongoing matters and may be responsible for any necessary follow-up enquiries.

Should you wish to report a crime, a road traffic collision or something suspicious, you should telephone *Trowbridge Police Station on 01225 763101, or Police Headquarters on 01380 722341*. You will normally be connected to our Crime Desk who will record the details from you, or to the Control Room who can send an officer should it be felt necessary to do so.

If you are reporting something suspicious, please try to tell us exactly what makes the person or incident suspicious. An example, for instance, may be that a house in the area has recently been burgled and there is now a person sat in a car sat outside unoccupied premises. Please tell us exactly that, and not like some people do just saying there is a suspicious car in the road.

If you witness a crime that requires immediate and urgent attention, for example someone breaking into a house or a car, **phone 999**.

If you have witnessed something that is not urgent but wish to pass on information, please phone Trowbridge Police Station or **CRIMESTOPPERS** on **0800 555 111**. You can remain *anonymous* should you wish, and *you may also be entitled to a Crimestoppers Reward*.

If you wish to speak to me personally, please contact me at Trowbridge Police Station or leave me a message and I will contact you.

Don't forget, Neighbourhood Watch Schemes are an excellent way of preventing crime, so if you are not in one, why not get together with your neighbours and start one? I can provide you with details of your local co-ordinator and send you all the details you will need

Mark A. GALE

Police Constable 616

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

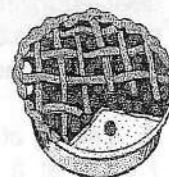
LUNCHEON CLUB

Audrey Plummer 870586

There have been four lunches since the report in the last Grapevine. The December lunch was very successful with 21 members enjoying a full Christmas menu with wine. January- March inclusive saw between 17 and 19 members in attendance for a variety of menus.

The April lunch will have an Easter theme and will be on **Thursday 19th at 12.30 for 12.45**. We have decided to call a halt during the summer, when people are busy gardening or drifting away on holiday. We shall resume activities in September.

We'd like to say many thanks to Les Stimpson for donating some large saucepans and a really big colander. Gwen and Doris have donated some cruet sets. Hilary and Anne have given serving dishes surplus to requirement at home and David and Sylvia & Stan have donated wine glasses - many thanks to all these generous people. Added to this we have purchased from various funds tablecloths, three extra serving dishes and serving spoons. This all helps to make life easier at our various events.



The Trust is the small group that is responsible for the financial management and upkeep of the Memorial Hall.

Since the new Hall was built the use being made of it has increased significantly, which is clearly what we had all hoped for. Finishing off the Hall is not yet complete however. There are two aspects to this; firstly work still to be completed by the builder and secondly work we need to complete ourselves.

We have not yet paid the final instalment to the builder. This is normal in a project of this kind. After the building is handed over by the builder we wait for a period of about six months during which we identify 'snags' or problems with the building. We have identified a number of these, the major ones being:

- the wooden Hall floor lifting slightly because of expansion

- the steps of the main stairs up to the Hall being of different heights
- a faulty fire alarm.

Some of these have already been sorted out by the builder and the remaining ones are soon to be done.

Meanwhile we have made our final claim for grant funding for the building from the Lottery Commission. This leaves us with around £1900 to undertake some work we have to pay for ourselves. This includes putting up a safety rail to the front of the building, and a fence along the path to the side of the Hall.

In addition we still need to complete the internal painting of the Hall. Much of this is done but we still need a final effort. Please note the dates for decorating 'parties' and give a few hours of your time.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Can you help us to finish off the internal painting of our new Hall? There will be working parties at the following dates and times. One final push and we should be able to finish off this work. All materials will be supplied but if you have a favourite brush do bring it! Please come if you can for whatever time you can manage.

Sunday 1 April 9.30 - 12.30 and 1.30 - 4.00
Saturday 21 April 9.30 - 12.30 and 1.30 - 4.00

TRUST AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2001

8.00 pm Wednesday 25 April 2001 in the Memorial Hall

The AGMs of both the Trust Committee and the Community Committee will be held, one following another.
After the business of the AGMs is over there will be refreshments (wine and snacks).

ART CLUB IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Mike Truman 870607

Thursday night is Art Night, and what great nights they have been. Twelve villagers, most of whom declared to me that they couldn't draw or paint, are suddenly discovering an artistic talent they didn't know they had.

Meeting at 7pm for two hours, which seem to fly by at a rate of knots, helped by an optional break for a glass of wine (courtesy of David Harnott, or tea or coffee, all at 50p). Most people seem too absorbed in what they are doing to stop! The ambience of the new hall is perfect offering good lighting and warmth, which has been very

welcoming on the winter frosty evenings we have had.

Newcomers to the Art Club will be very welcome.

It is planned to stage an exhibition of work at the hall in the Autumn, watch for details in the next Grapevine.

Arrangements have been made for all club members to attend the Art Exhibition 2001 preview evening at **7.30 pm on Thursday 12th April** at the Trowbridge Civic Hall. This is an Annual Exhibition of local artists' work arranged by the Trowbridge Rotary Club.

This Committee sets out to organise events and activities for the village, and at the same time to raise funds to maintain the Hall, run events and sometimes to raise donations for charity. The Committee is the main user of the Hall and also takes responsibility for private bookings of the Hall.

The Hall is being used far more now than for some years. We have had a series of successful social events recently including a Skittles Evening and the traditional January Hangover Party.

After the success of the Hangover Party of 2000, Kevin Crumpler agreed again to organise the party of 2001. Once more it was a great success thanks to Kevin's efforts. There were some puzzling moments; learning semaphore late on a Saturday evening proved quite a challenge. The sight of some blindfolded villagers with torches attached to their heads and holding bicycle handlebars, steering their way through a route of cones with confused team members directing them with bells and hooters, will live in the memory. (Luckily I don't think anyone had a camera with them.)

Audrey's Lunch Club and Mike and Carol's Thursday

Art Group are a great success.

Audrey's Saturday Soup Kitchen was a culinary triumph but attendance was very disappointing. We hope to improve the publicity of forthcoming events but are always dependent upon villagers joining in.

Our next event will be a **Quiz Evening on Saturday 28 April**. As usual there will be teams competing against one another but don't worry if you do not have a team. We are expecting many people to turn up on the evening and we will put teams together 'on the spot'. This will be a fun evening - we will not take the competition too seriously, but there will be prizes! For more details and how to book a place see the box below.

Finally we will be holding our Annual General Meeting at the same time as the **Trust Committee's AGM on 25 April at 8.00 pm** in the Hall. Remember that we are always looking for people to help out with activities and events. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee or have ideas for activities in the village and are willing to help with their organisation, please come along and speak to a Committee member.



To book the Hall contact David Harnott 871196



GREAT HINTON QUIZ EVENING

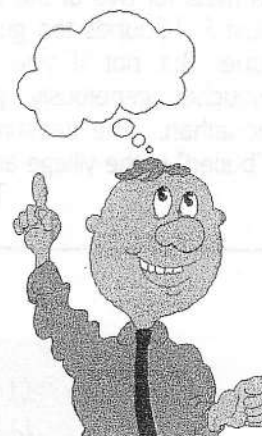
7.30 pm Saturday 28 April 2001

All are welcome to this Quiz Evening - bring your friends.

Teams will compete for 'big' prizes. Either form a team of between four and seven people before the evening, or come along and teams will be made up on the evening.

Bring your own drinks - supper will be provided. Cost £4 per person.

If you are coming, please complete the form below and post it in the Hall letterbox, or telephone Neil Haynes on 870153. Replies by 22 April would be appreciated.



Since the last Grapevine, the ladies have continued to meet monthly, on the third Wednesday. We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas meal at The Linnet - probably the best ever - and because we were so well behaved we look forward to returning next year. It was however, ironic that having chosen The Linnet because it is the best food around and because the ladies could walk there, we should all need to be safely delivered by our brave men because of the police warning of "possibly dangerous men at large in the village" who had unsuccessfully tried to burgle the pub on that evening.

January was our first opportunity to have the Ladies' skittles night using our own alley. Sandra organised a fish and chip supper brought in from The Topsy Toad, and with a few guests from the village, the hall was packed. Sandra was the winner - with 30 pins, including 14 on one leg which none of the men could match!. Well done Sandra. We hope to organise a challenge match with the ladies of Steeple Ashton some time in the future.

In February we had a very funny talk by Mr John Girvan on The Life and Times of the Garden Gnome. Only one person in our midst owned up to having a gnome in their garden, but John assured us that a home with a gnome is a happy home! Is that true Diane?! Actually I have spotted a gnome in Maureen's front garden also. John told us of other gnomes in front gardens that have gone on holiday, sent postcards and returned six months later. He had the photos to prove it!

March 21st was Gourmet Night - the occasion when the ladies' culinary skills are shown off - this year with a French theme: coq-au-vin; beef bourgignon, crepes suzette, tarte tatin, and plenty more. Delicious fare and a great atmosphere - plenty of garlic!

April 18th will be our AGM and the last meeting before the summer break, although we will be planning a summer fete in Audrey's garden some time in June which we hope you will all come to. Our fund-raising will continue to be for Wiltshire Air Ambulance for another year, in memory of Jean whom we miss very much.

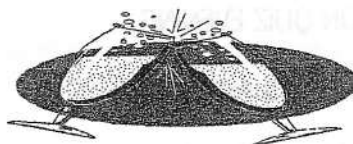
At present we number about 20 ladies, but would love to see some new members.



Our congratulations to Mark and Elena on their marriage on Saturday 17th March. Elena is from the Ukraine and has been working as an English interpreter.



A meal for two at the Linnet for just £1? Sounds too good to be true! But not if you win the voucher generously given by Jonathan. The treasure will be "buried" in the village and at the



Quiz Evening you will have the chance to buy a plot for £1 to see whether you are the lucky prospector. All proceeds will go to the Community Committee for hall equipment.

THANK YOU JON AND THE STAFF AT THE LINNET FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE VILLAGE

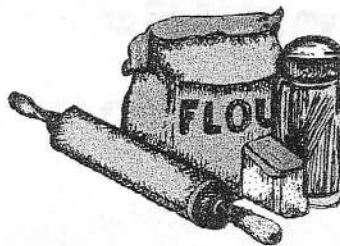
100 Club Winners

	December	January 2001	February
£14	Mrs McDonic	Mrs Mills	Sam Killingback
£12	Mrs Mills	Diane Norris	Golly Burston
£10	Jillian Fennell	Kevin Crumpler	Matthew Hallam
£7	Hannah Brown	Richard Newman	Dorothy Young

ANNE TRUMAN'S YUMMY TREACLE TART As requested by Village Lunch Club

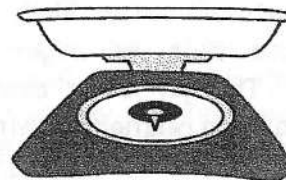
For 10" Flan dish. Serves 8-10

1 Jar of Golden Syrup (680gms)
Approx 3/4lb rich short crust pastry
Breadcrumbs from small un-cut white loaf - minus crusts
Juice and zest of 1/2 lemon



Line flan dish with the pastry - not too thinly rolled out - lightly prick base.
Put crumbs in largish basin, add syrup, lemon juice and zest and mix very well. Add more crumbs if necessary - make sure all coated with syrup.

Put into pastry case and decorate with pastry lattice pieces
Bake 30-40 mins in hot oven - approx 180deg.C
Serve hot with Bird's custard or cream. Freezes well.
All amounts approximate - I rarely measure anything!!



SAFARI DINNER

The profit we made from last year's Safari Dinners was not given to the hall fund, but spent on something tangible for use by people using the hall. The Luncheon Club discovered the need for some dessert dishes and some serving dishes, therefore being related to food (ie. Safari Dinner) I thought that this would be a worthwhile expenditure! If any one sees anything which they think may be of use to the hall in the future please let me know and we can use this year's profits similarly.

The next Safari Dinner (No. 19) will be on Saturday 19th May.

We would like to welcome any new villagers to join us as we progress around the village, being entertained by different hosts all evening.

Please let me know by **Saturday 4th May** whether you will be participating and I will organise the courses etc during the week and let you know by Friday 11th what you are doing.

See you there.

Sandra 870906

B.Y.O. Evenings at The Linnet

Buy Your Own drinks is proving to be a popular Tuesday evening rule when villagers meet at the Linnet. The Tuesday evening get together, from about 8.30pm, is all about having a good natter, and not about being landed with a large round of drinks, and with a group of sometimes sixteen, you know it makes sense.



Come and join in, but don't offer to buy me a drink!! - well not on Tuesdays!

Mike Truman

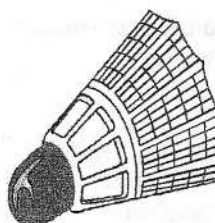
THE FEATHERS ARE FLYING ON FRIDAY NIGHTS

Some two years ago four neighbours got together once a week to play Badminton. These modest beginnings gave birth to a thriving weekly session involving around a dozen villagers augmented by three "out of town" guests. Two courts are booked each week at the Christie Miller Sports Centre, and mixed doubles are played for one hour.

Not only is the sport and exercise thoroughly enjoyed but also the half hour in the bar afterwards is both needed and appreciated. Some of us need more recuperation than others.

Apparently 19th Century illustrators depicted Badminton as, I quote, "a languid game for the elegant and wealthy".

Contributed by Colin and Ken



Well, we are not convinced that elegance plays much part in our activities, although Neil was once accused of gliding gracefully across the court, a charge which he vehemently denied claiming that he had never "glid" in his life.

The degree of expertise is varied but the high levels of expended energy consistent. No-one is allowed to be languid. As for the wealthy bit, the weekly fee of £1.50 ensures that the only one with any money is the treasurer.

A letter from our Vicar at Steeple Ashton

Dear Friends,

Rejoice in the Lord always

I wonder why it is that people seem to think that living the Christian life means being gloomy and dull. I am writing this as the season of Lent begins, which tends to be associated in people's minds with giving up things, e.g. sweets, or visits to leisure pursuits of various kinds. In fact Jesus says to us, "I have come that you might have JOY and have it in abundance". This joy is not associated with possessions, but comes from a living relationship with Jesus himself. The purpose of Lent is that we might give more time to looking at that relationship and to ways in which it can be deepened. This will mean time and effort and it may mean that we have to give up other things for a while in order that this can happen. It really amounts to giving up things which may well be good in themselves, so that we can possess something which is even better, and will last for ever.

Lent is also a time when we prepare ourselves to look more closely at the meaning of Good Friday and to enter afresh into the JOYFUL time of Easter and resurrection and new life. There may be trials and tribulations to face in our daily lives, but Jesus promises to be with us in these. One of the most joyful letters in the New Testament is the one Paul wrote to the Philippians. He was in prison at the time and facing possible death. He longed to go on living and caring for others, but he could also write that 'to depart and to be with Jesus would be far better'.

May you experience something of the joy Jesus came to bring.

David Hart.

CAREWATCH

CARE SERVICES

Whether at home recovering from a major operation or just starting to find certain jobs around the house more difficult, Carewatch can help.

As a major provider of care throughout the UK, we already help thousands of people daily to live comfortably and securely in their own homes.

We provide a wide range of practical support services, including:

- Help with shopping, collecting pensions, and prescriptions, etc
- Help with the preparation of meals
- Personal care, including help with bathing, washing, dressing
- Support in overcoming problems of poor ability such as getting up, going to bed, and getting up and down stairs
- Support for existing carers who may not otherwise get a break

Our services range from a few hours help around the home each week to 24 hour live-in support.

If you would like to find out more about our services or discuss specific needs in absolute confidence, please call us on:

01225 719333

Carewatch

(North West Wiltshire)

Pitman Mews, 10a Silver Street,
Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8AA

Chicken Bake Serves 4-6 people *This recipe was in the Grapevine some years ago but members of Lunch Club have requested a re-print*

Anne Truman

4 large chicken breasts - cut into bite size pieces
Approx. 4 ozs thickly sliced mushrooms
1 large onion sliced
Clove of garlic crushed, if liked.
1 can Campbells condensed soup - chicken, mushroom or celery are very nice.
3 tablespoons double cream (or yoghurt)
4 tablespoons Chicken stock (approx)
3 ozs grated cheese
Large packet of crisps, broken up (Kettle or Pringles good, any flavour)
Parsley, salt and pepper to taste.
Broccoli, slightly steamed and/or frozen corn, peas, cooked carrot or own choice of vegetables (courgettes not good)

Lightly cook chicken pieces in olive oil, put in large bowl.
Fry off onions and garlic and mushrooms (if required) add to bowl.
Add corn and other veg. (not broccoli) to bowl. Mix well.
Then mix in condensed soup, stock, cream and seasonings until everything is well coated. Check consistency - doesn't need to be too liquid.
Put in large gratin dish, then add broccoli florets.
Cover with grated cheese and crisps. Finish with grated parmesan if liked.
Bake in moderate oven approx 35-40 minutes.
Freezes well - but don't add the crisps and cheese at this stage.
Defrost completely before baking.

This versatile recipe can be adapted to any ingredients you like - amounts not important. I've just mentioned the ones we like!