

# Tom Cunliffe



## Roz's Recipes

### Pace Eggs



Easter will have gone by the time you read this, but save the recipe for next year, or use it on a special picnic. It comes from Tom's family and it is a north of England tradition, said to represent the rolling away of the stone at Christ's Tomb.

Every year when Tom was young, he would go to Roker in the northeast to visit his grandparents. On Easter Sunday morning, Pace Eggs were produced to be rolled along the ground. The person whose egg went furthest got good luck all year.

We've rolled eggs together now for half a century, in all sorts of places – sometimes we've been at sea and used the deck. This can be a bit dodgy with the eggs ending up with Davy Jones. Sometimes we've gone ashore to a beach, but you have to watch out that a passing dog doesn't make off with your beauty! This year the grandchildren joined us in the garden.



*Left: Peeling back the outer layers*

*Above right: All tied up and ready to boil*

---

### Here's what you do:

1. Peel the outer skins away from either red or yellow onions. This is best done by cutting a ring around the top and the bottom of the onion, then carefully peeling away the two outer papery skins.
2. Wrap the skins around the eggs as best you can.
3. Tie some string around the eggs to keep the skins on. Tom's aunt used cotton, but I find it's easier with string or wool. Your knot skills will be needed here!
4. Place in cold water and bring to the boil.
5. Boil the eggs gently for about 10 minutes. It's worth doing more than you need, as some might crack in boiling.
6. Take off the heat. Leave overnight in the water for best results.
7. Gently peel away the string and arrange in a bowl. The patterns are wonderful and look stunning.
8. Each person picks an egg and gives it a name – eg: 'Smasher', 'Sunny', 'Speedy' etc.
9. Roll the egg underarm. It's best to put a line on the ground to indicate that the egg must touch the ground before then.
10. See who is the winner. This year it was our 7-year old grandson, who was mighty pleased to beat 'Poppa'.

