

The young Peter Maclure

Motoring ran through the veins of Peter Maclure's family. His father, Gustave, was an engineer for Rolls Royce and Riley. Peter's brother, Percy, was a famous Riley racing driver.

Peter with his older brother Percy in around 1935

Racing driver Percy Maclure had established an impressive reputation with Riley. If it had not been for his untimely death he may have gone on to be one of Britain's greatest drivers.

Like his brother, Peter loved to carry out his own repairs.

The Maclures had a large garden with a track so, even at home, Peter took every opportunity to practice his driving skills.

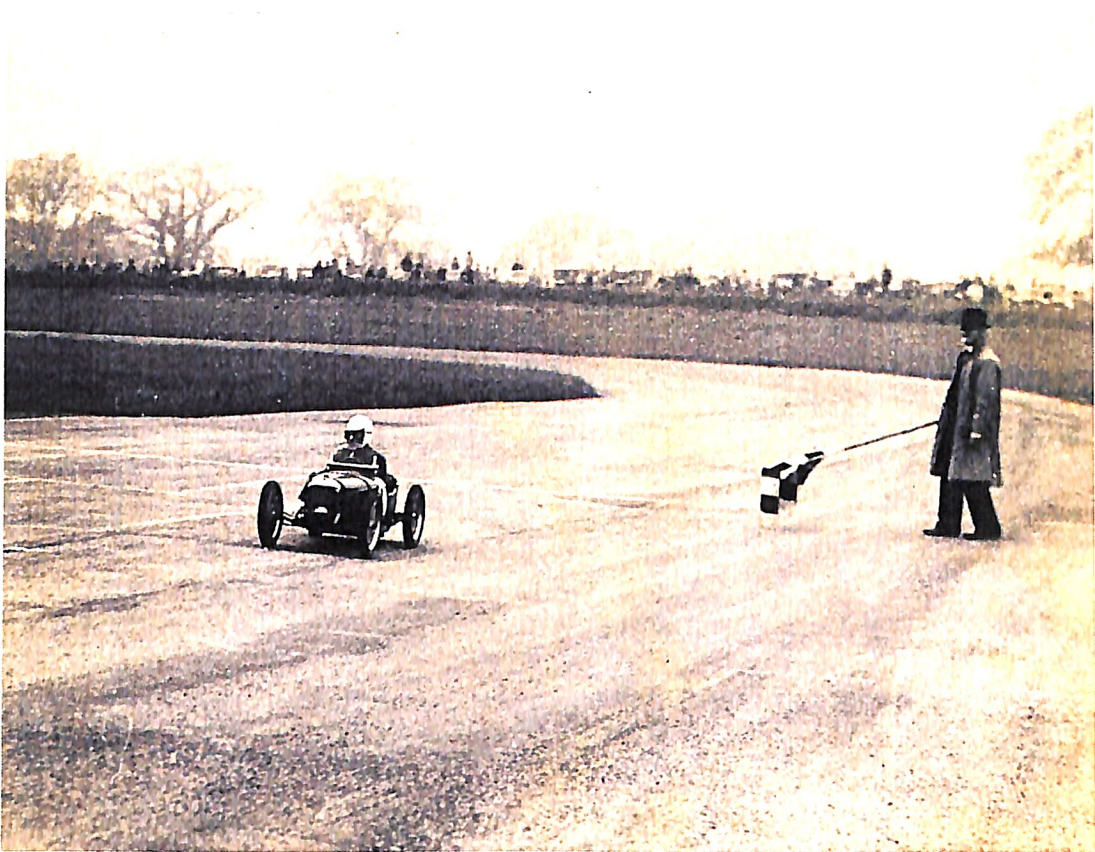
On the track

Peter and the 'baby' Brooklands Riley participated in a number of events during the 1930's.

Crowning Glory

Most significantly Peter, aged 10, set the track record for miniature cars at Donnington on Coronation Day in 1937.

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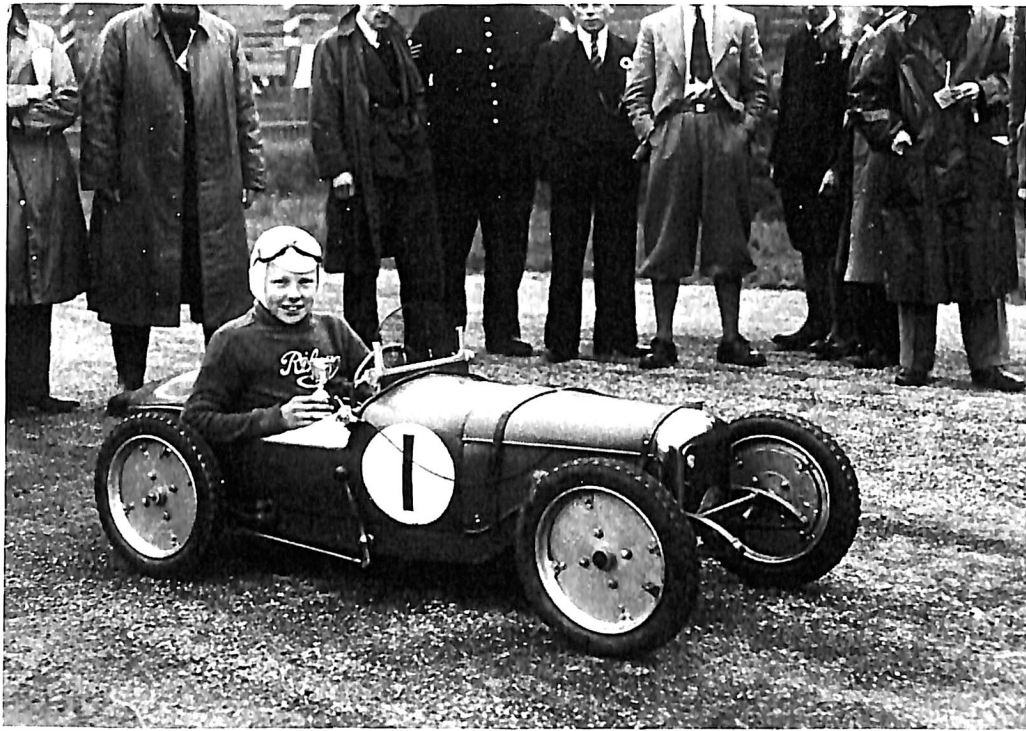
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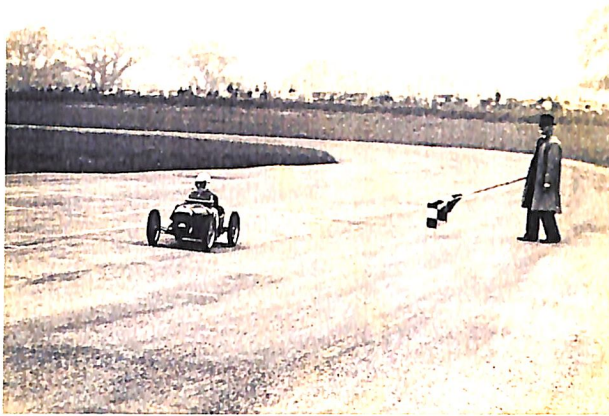
Peter with his older brother Percy in around 1935

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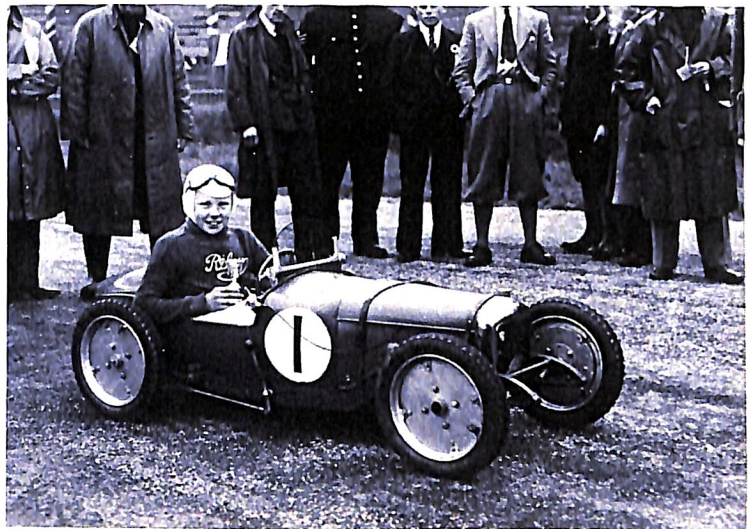


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He drove this car at over 30 MPH.



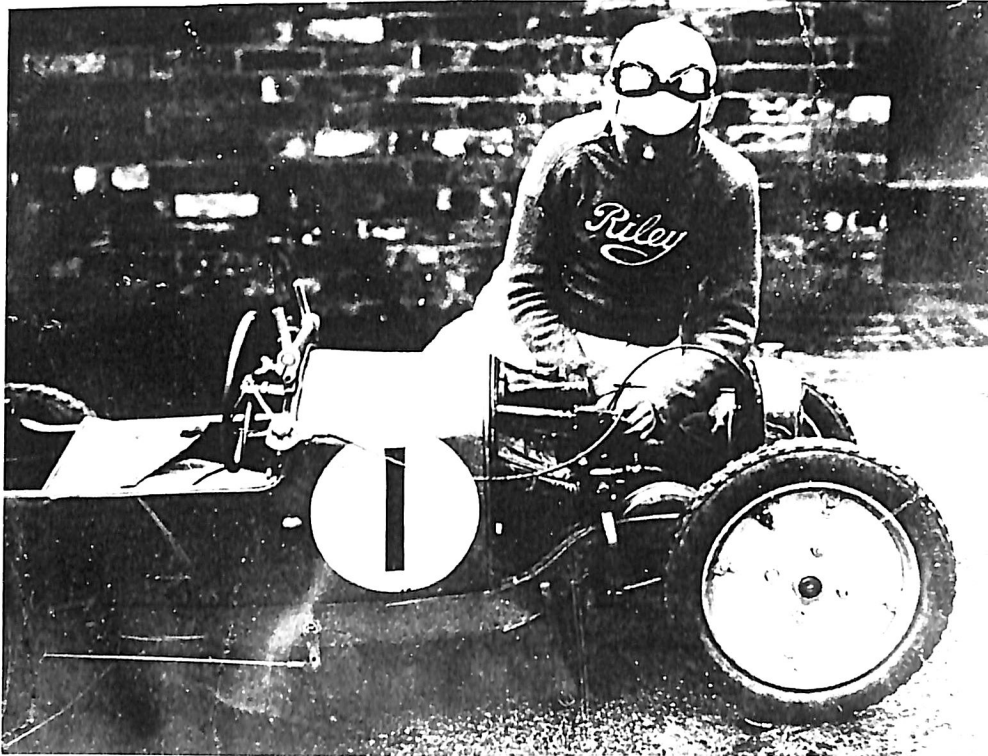
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Crowning Glory

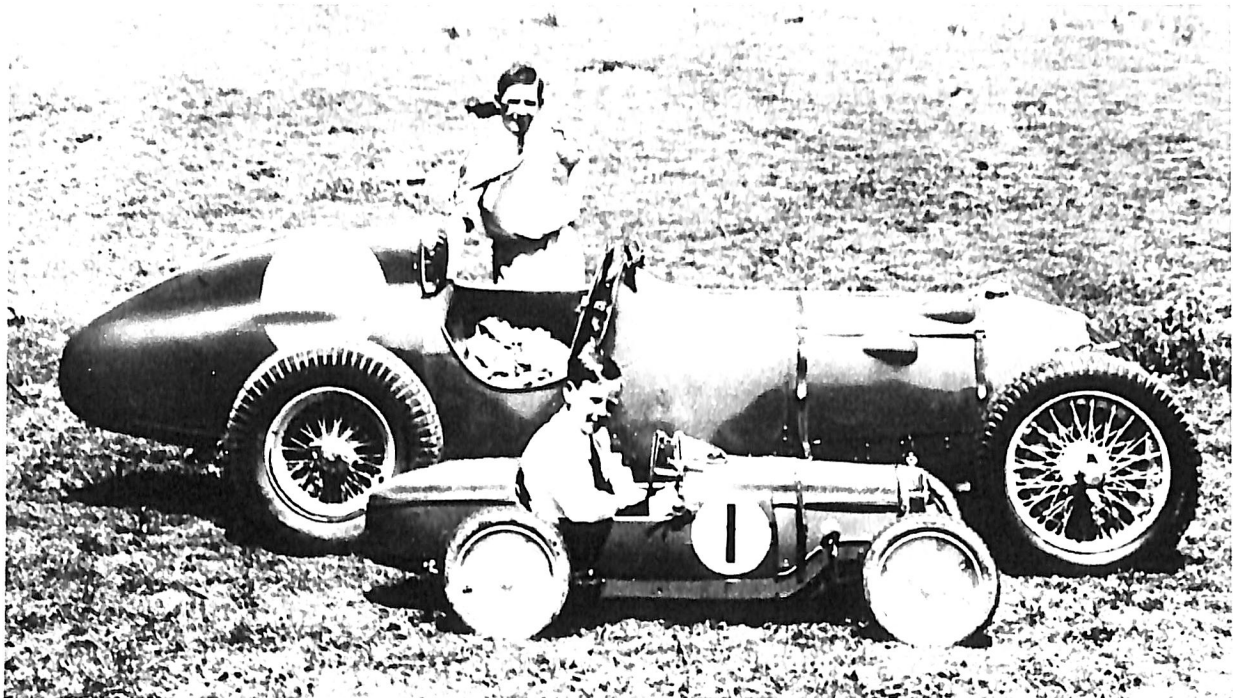
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Why worry about the brakes??

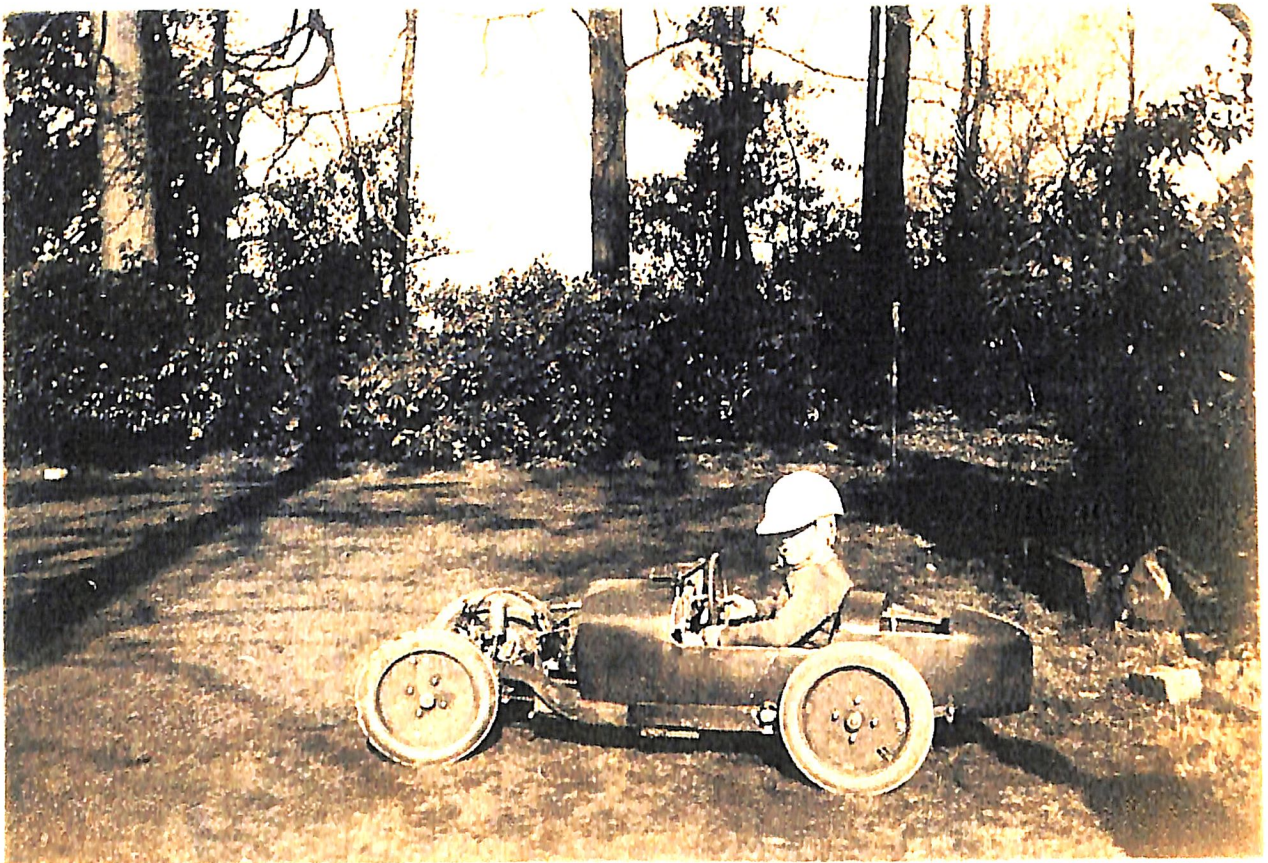


The car is a scaled down version of Percy's car. It was powered by a 47cc Villiers two-stroke engine. The gearbox had two forward speeds plus reverse. Oh, and there was a brake operated by hand to just one of the wheels.

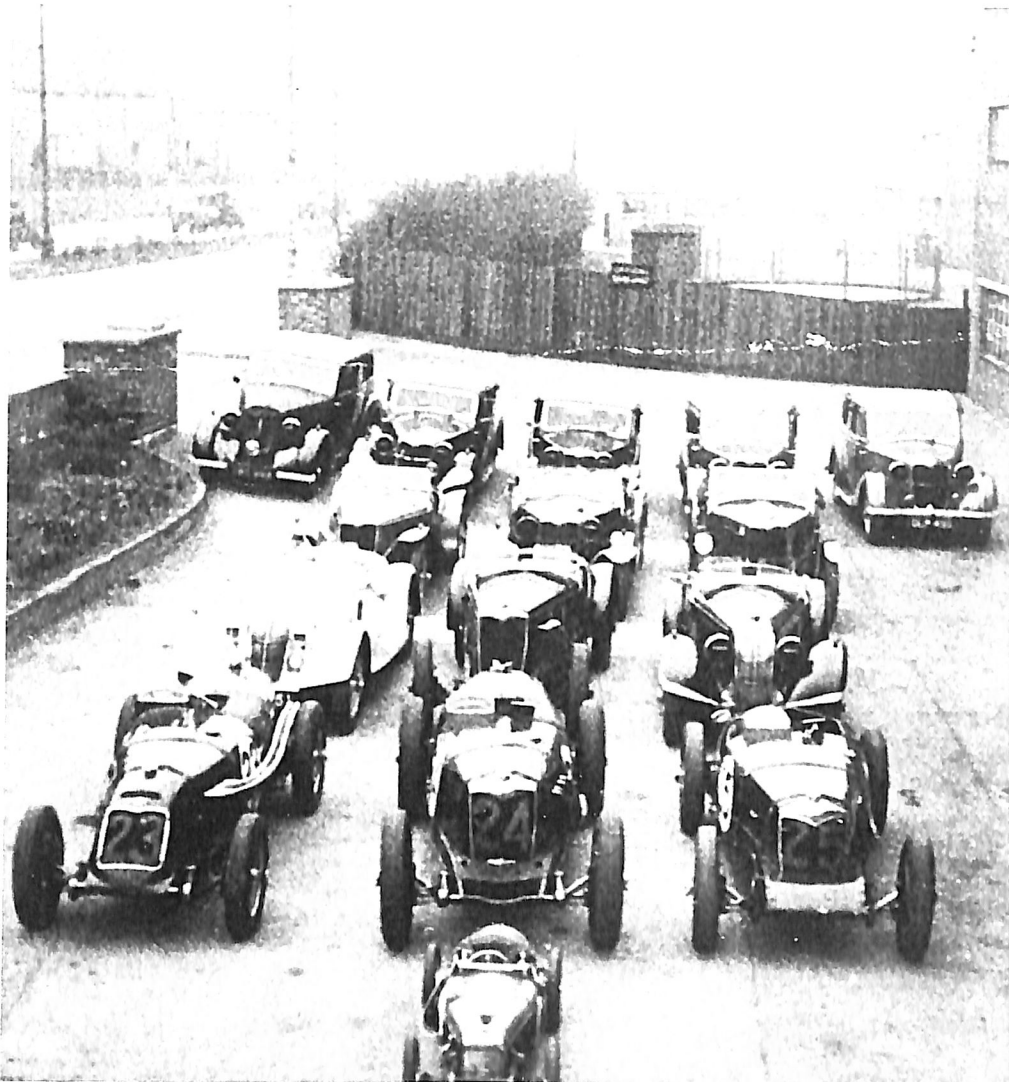
Peter with his older brother Percy in around 1935



Taking her for test drive



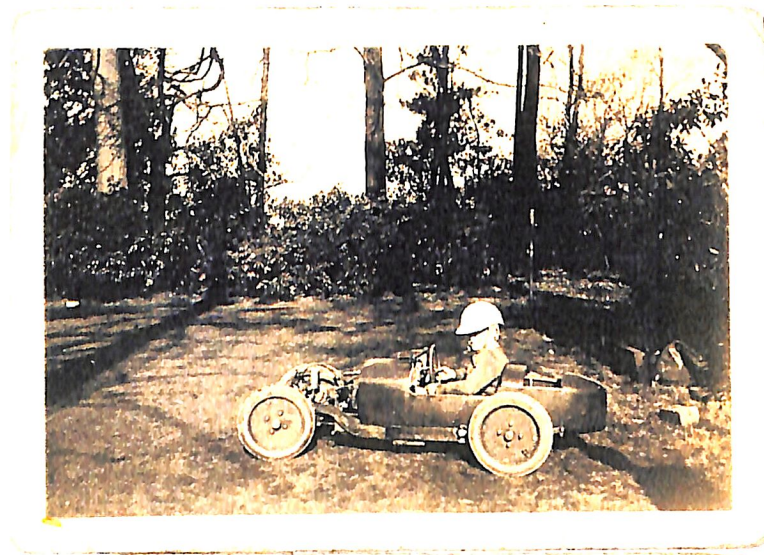
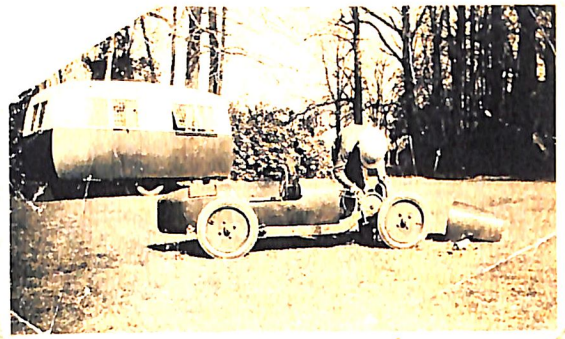
The 'baby' Brooklands Riley seen here leading the pack



Riley had an enviable reputation both on and off the track. They lived up to their slogan 'As old as the industry, as modern as the hour'.

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with many thanks to David Higgs and the
Cotswold Motoring Museum & Toy Collection
(<http://www.cotswoldmotoringmuseum.co.uk>)