

# Sixth games is such an honour for Munn

**PARALYMPICS**  
by MIKE LEGG

SIMON MUNN says he is honoured to have been selected for his sixth Paralympic Games.

Munn, 44, from Peacehaven, is in Great Britain's 12-strong men's wheelchair basketball team for the London Paralympic Games.

He said: "It's a real honour to have been picked for the team to compete at London 2012 and I'm also thrilled for the others who have been selected for the team.

"I feel for those who have just missed out as we have all worked and trained especially hard for the past four years to be there.

"It is definitely a special achievement for me to be able to compete in my sixth Games, especially with the competition and depth in the current squad.

"Hopefully with the support of the British public we can be a real force to be reckoned with in London."



**SIXTH GAMES:** Simon Munn is honoured

Munn competed for Great Britain at the 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008 Paralympics.

The team have high hopes of a third successive podium place, having already won bronze medals in Athens

and Beijing, while they put in a strong performance at the BT Paralympic World Cup last weekend when they lost to the USA in the final.

At the other end of the experience spectrum will be Crawley shooter Benjamin Jesson when the Paralympics kick-off in August.

Jesson is delighted to have earned a spot in the 12-strong target shooting team.

He said: "I was completely overwhelmed to find out that I had been selected.

"It feels like a real achievement to reach a home Games after being part of the squad for a relatively short period of time.

"It has taken a lot of work to get to this point but it is amazing to know I will be representing my country later this summer and I'm looking forward to getting to the range, ready to compete at such an impressive venue."

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**LIKE FATHER LIKE SON:** Jolyon Palmer with his father, Jonathan, at Monaco

# Palmer streets ahead of the rest in Monaco

JOLYON PALMER is hungry for more after claiming his first victory in the Formula One feeder series GP2.

The 21-year-old from Southwater followed in the footsteps of the likes of Lewis Hamilton by winning a GP2 round on the iconic Monaco street circuit.

Palmer put behind him a difficult start to the season to dominate the sprint race on the undercard of the Formula One event won by Mark Webber.

The West Sussex racer is in his second season in GP2 with iSport International, having previously finished as runner-up in the 2010 FIA Formula two Championship and risen the ranks of the single-seater ladder.

Until now, Palmer, who is the son of ex-Formula One driver Jonathan, has had his season blighted by a persistent electrical problem which denied him the results his pace and potential deserved.

But it all came good at Monaco as he stood on the podium and celebrated with his proud father.

Palmer said: "It was just incredible. I think we were pretty quick all weekend and confident.

"It was an incredible track to take my first win on. It was my

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**HOWARD GRIGGS**

first main series podium as well and I'm really thankful for the team. The car was really quick, finally it has been reliable and it really paid.

"We've been really quick over the four GP2 weekends so far but we've had the worst luck ever in motor racing history and I had only started three races before this weekend. So to have this weekend – and with my teammate Marcus Ericsson on form as well – it puts us back in the mix for the rest of the season, so hopefully we'll be up there at the end of the season."

Palmer began the weekend with a superb sixth place in the opening feature race, meaning he started the 30-lap sprint race from third on the grid under the championship's reverse grid system.

He made a blistering start and stormed into the lead at turn one, making a brave move up the inside to pass pole-sitter Stéphane Richelmi.

Richelmi then collided with James Calado leaving Palmer clear to pull away at the front,

while behind Johnny Cecotto Jr spun going up the hill to Casino Square and collided with several cars that forced a three-lap safety car period.

Palmer then sat patiently behind the safety car until it came in and immediately launched into a 0.6second lead and stretched that to 1.8seconds by the end of the first racing lap.

In clear air, Palmer increased his lead further and by halfway was almost ten seconds ahead of second place man Max Chilton.

Chilton began to close the gap in the closing stages but Palmer remained unfazed to cross the line and claim his first GP2 win at the most glamorous venue on the calendar.

He said: "I pushed quite hard early on to build the gap and my tyres were suffering a little bit towards the end.

"I was confident of making no mistakes and it was easy with Chilton not being there really so I just had to keep a gap."

Palmer will now prepare for the next GP2 rounds which take place in Valencia, Spain on June 22-24.

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