



### Three Lions: The Trio Of British F1 Hopefuls Battling In GP2

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All the attention at the British Grand Prix this weekend will be on home heroes **Lewis Hamilton** and **Jenson Button**.

But also on track at Silverstone will be the three Englishmen who've been fighting it out in the GP2 Series this season as they try to impress the people that matter in Formula 1.

**James Calado**, **Max Chilton** and **Jolyon Palmer** have all enjoyed some success already in 2012, and as they enter the second half of their campaigns they'll be hoping to add to their silverware on home soil this weekend.

Calado comes into the weekend third in the standings in what is his rookie campaign in GP2. It's an impressive achievement, particularly given the two men ahead of him – **Davide Valsecchi** and **Luiz Razia** – are in their fifth and fourth years in the category respectively.

From the village of Crophorne in Worcestershire, Calado finished runner-up to **Jean-Eric Vergne** in British Formula 3 in 2010 and then second to **Valtteri Bottas** in the GP3 Series in 2011. While Vergne will line up on the F1 grid and Bottas contest Friday practice this weekend, Calado is still working hard to get his place on the top table.

But while his two previous campaigns have certainly been good, he's performing even better having stepped up to GP2 with the Lotus GP operation run by the highly-successful ART Grand Prix firm.

After his reverse grid win in the non-championship race at Abu Dhabi at the end of last year, Calado repeated the feat at the 2012 season opener in Malaysia – another venue he'd never raced at before.

After a further podium finish during the Bahrain double-header, he claimed a maiden pole position at Barcelona, but would have to settle for second in the feature race after being overtaken through the mandatory pitstops.

Monaco should have produced another podium finish in the sprint race, but contact with another driver at the narrow entry to Ste Devote at the start of the race gave him a damaged front wing, and although he escaped the incident in second place he would have to retire from the race – his first non-finish in 57 races.