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## PALMER WEATHERS THE STORM TO SCORE CAREER BEST RESULT AT THRUXTON



Southwater schoolboy Will Palmer drove two excellent races at Hampshire's Thruxton circuit last weekend (28-29 April) in difficult conditions, including a career best fourth place finish in round five of the British Touring Car Championship-supporting Ginetta Junior Championship.

A good qualifying performance in the wet saw the 15-year-old son of former F1 racer Jonathan line up seventh on the grid for race one. He followed this up with a fifth place for the second encounter in the sportscar series aimed at drivers aged between 14 and 17.

In a dry race one, Will lost two places off the start, but the HHC Motorsport driver was back into seventh by the end of the first lap after passing both Keith Donegan and Ollie Chadwick at Church, the fastest corner on any English race track.

Will then repeated the move on Sennan Fielding and Pepe Massot to move up to fifth. Two laps of dicing with Andrew Watson ended with Will passing him around the outside of Campbell corner. In the remaining laps Will closed the gap to the leaders and finished in a superb fourth place.

An extremely wet second race started under the safety car, with Will challenging Sennan Fielding as the event got under way, but a collision between the two cars lost Will two positions.

Fighting back, he threatened Nathan Harrison for fifth towards the end of the race, eventually finishing just three tenths behind him. Will was classified seventh in the final result following a time penalty for the earlier incident with Fielding.

"Saturday was really good," said Will, who studies at Cranleigh School. "The race was really fun, with a lot of racing with other cars, and to come away with a fourth place finish is really good.

"Sunday was a satisfying end to a very positive day; it was a shame we couldn't move up from sixth, as we had the pace to at the end of the race and given a few more laps I'm sure we could have been fourth. Overall, it has been very good to get some decent points following on from Donington."

*Article provided by Will Palmer*