

David Weir

Thanos Papageorgiou

Antonis Mourtopallas

About him:

- **David Russell Weir** was born 5 June 1979 and he is a British Paralympic wheelchair athlete. He has won a total of six gold medals at the 2008 and 2012 Paralympics Games, and has won the London Marathon on six occasions. He was born with a spinalcord transection that left him unable to use his legs.

Personal life

- **Weir** was born in Wallington, part of the London Borough of Sutton. As a child he was a talented wheelchair athlete, representing Sutton in wheelchair athletics at the London Youth Games, and won the junior event at the London marathon (the mini wheelchair race) seven times. At school **Weir** was frustrated by a lack of sporting activities for wheelchair users, but after years of persistence he developed a skill for wheelchair racing that would define his career and lead to multiple Paralympic successes.

- **Weir** is in a relationship with Emily Thorne with whom he has a son, Mason, and a daughter, Tillia Grace London Weir. He also has a daughter, Ronie, from a previous relationship. After winning the 800m at the 2012 Paralympics, Weir said "I have really got to thank Emily for calming me down, and this one is for my kids tonight."



Professional life

- In 2002, **Jenny Archer** became **Weir's** coach and was thanked by **Weir** after his first London marathon victory in 2002. They have had a long and fruitful sporting relationship, and Jenny was acknowledged again in 2012 as the "best in the world by far" by **Weir**.

- Along with coach **Jenny Archer**, **Weir** runs the *Weir Archer Academy* (launched April 2013). The Academy's goal is to increase participation in disability sport and nurture the next generation of Paralympians.
- In 2007, **Weir** joined *Lucozade Sport* as an Ambassador for their line of energy drinks.

- **Weir** has often acknowledged the help that Lottery funding has given him in being able to compete as an elite athlete. He told the *Telegraph*: "For me personally, Lottery funding through UK Sport for 10 years has been life-changing and has helped me become the best wheelchair racer in the world." **Weir** trains at Kingsmeadow athletics stadium, in Kingston upon Thames.

His Medals!

- **Gold** 2008 Beijing 800 m T54
- **Gold** 2008 Beijing 1500 m T54
- **Gold** 2012 London 1500 m T54
- **Gold** 2012 London 5000 m T54
- **Gold** 2012 London 800 m T54
- **Gold** 2012 London Marathon T54
- **Silver** 2004 Athens 100 m T54
- **Silver** 2008 Beijing 400 m T54
- **Bronze** 2004 Athens 200 m T54
- **Bronze** 2008 Beijing 5000 m T54



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THE END**