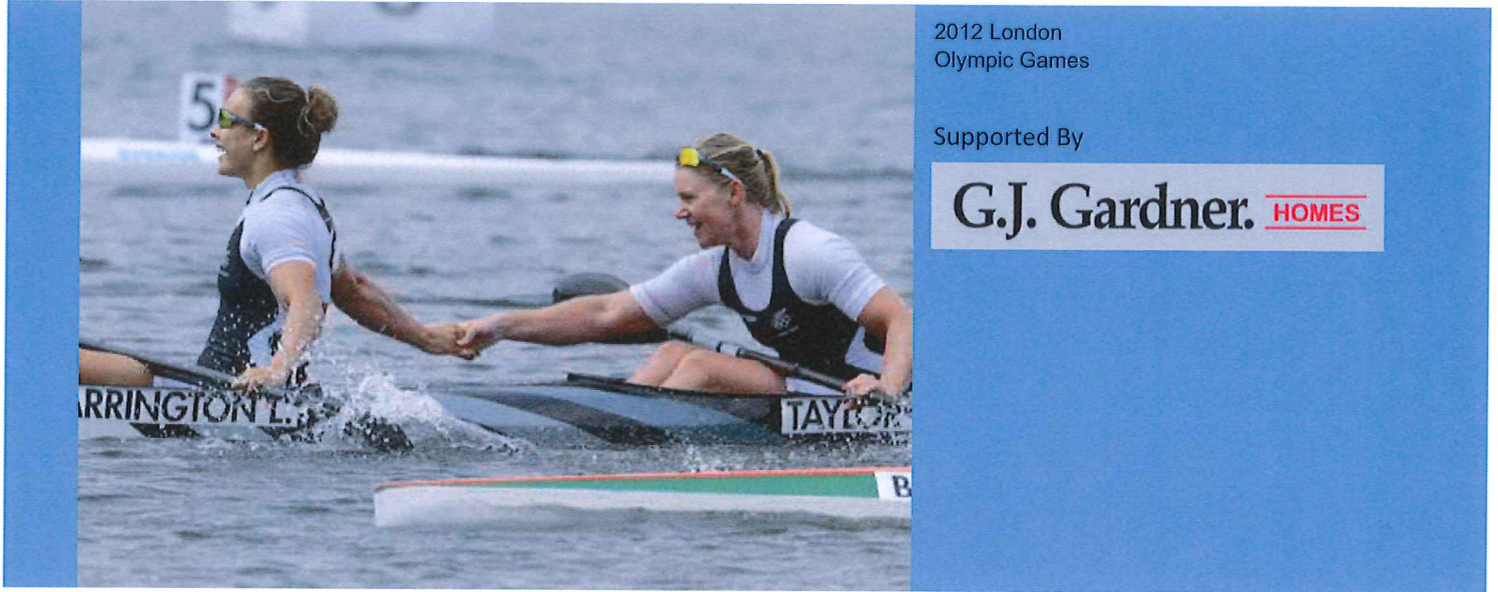


Erin Taylor & G.J. Gardner Homes



“...the photo on the front page I really love. It captures the essence of Erin and the relationship with Lisa, and the emotional engagement of sport and the Olympic Games.” -Marisa Carter

Athlete Review

Erin Taylor - Kayaker

“2012 was a pretty incredible year for me. Basing ourselves away in Munich in the build up to the Olympic Games provided us with an amazing training facility- a beautiful 2km regatta course, warm weather, consistent winds and some amazingly generous and friendly locals!

As a team, heading into London we all felt very well prepared and confident in our preparation and just excited about getting into the racing. Of course there were some nerves, but overall it was the most prepared I had ever felt for an event.

Being in London it felt like the whole country really got behind the games - from spectators to organisers to volunteers – which really made it a great environment and event to be part of. It was also extra special for me to have so many friends and family there supporting me!

The racing started really well for us. We raced a good heat then a really strong semi-final to qualify for the final. We were particularly proud of our semi final performance as we knew we had drawn quite a difficult semi and that we

needed to race exceptionally to make the final! In the final we raced a strong race, perhaps not quite as out of our skins as we managed in the semi but we came away with 7th and this was an improvement from the previous years’ World Championships where we finished 9th.

Having the support of GJ Gardner for the last two years has been a great experience. I feel like I have really become part of the GJ family and it’s a real honour to be supported by them. In particular Grant and Ellie have been amazing! Not only do they get right behind me in supporting my kayaking goals but equally in everything else that I do. They have been so welcoming on a personal level and I feel completely at home popping in to visit them at work and also hanging out with the family outside of the work environment. The monetary support has been incredible and enabled me to prepare in the best way possible for the Olympic Games and no doubt contributed to me feeling the best prepared I have ever felt for an event. However, it is definitely the personal side of the sponsorship and becoming part of the GJ family that I value the most and I’m sure that whatever the future holds, I will continue to stay involved with Grant and Ellie and the GJ team!

The support GJ Gardner has provided Erin over the past two years has been not only financial, but emotional as well, bringing her into their team and the GJ family, which I believe will be a relationship that lasts well beyond this contract. This is what SportConnect aims to achieve, relationships that will be mutually beneficial within, and beyond sport.

Erin has goals outside her sport that she will now move towards, and it is obvious by her achievements as an athlete, and within this relationship, she will continue to bring her best and be successful at whatever she sets her mind to.

We wish her well and look forward to watching her journey from here, thanks for being part of the SportConnect team, we were proud of being part of yours.

-Marisa & Hamish Carter

Result Highlights

Double Olympian 2008 & 2012

7th Olympic Games London 2012

5th World Cup Poland 2012

9th World Championships 2011

Oceania Champions in the K2500 and K2200 2012

