

THE REFRESHMENT TABLE OVER THE YEARS

Sandra Brown recently sent me this absolutely fantastic photo from England. She commented:

Dear Tim

Inspired by your marvellous report on Australian 50 miles records, we thought you would like to have a copy of this fantastic period piece photo. It shows Tommy Richardson, UK Centurion no 100, setting a new world 50 mile racewalking record at the old White City stadium in west London in the 1930s. We fear we don't know who the supporter is, but they don't make them like that any more, even down to the gold chain in his waistcoat pocket. We have had this pic in the bathroom in London for many years to inspire us for our morning walks, and of course we remember Tommy as he was President of Centurions when we joined in 1982 and 1984. We thought you would like to add this to your collection.

Kindest regards ... Sandra and Richard



Anne Sayer further identified it as follows

Tom Richardson's son, Peter, has sent me a leaflet he has just found listing exhibits in a photographic exhibition held at the National Portrait Gallery in 1985 entitled "The Sporting Thirties". The front cover is dominated by a very evocative photo of Tom being fed by Alf Pope at White City in 1933.

Not to be outdone, I thought I would add the following photo of 1936 Olympic champion Harold Whitlock on his way to setting a new 4 Hour World record at White City in London in 1933.



The humble refreshment table has certainly changed over the years! Now the walkers fly by at such speed that it is an achievement in itself to successfully hand over the required items.

Tim Erickson, April 2010