

## Ulkomuototuomari, bullterrierikasvattaja ja kolumnisti Tom Horner 1936-2006

Few people can have experienced such a wide-ranging life connected with pedigree dogs. For almost 60 years they had been a major part of his life, except while he was serving in the army during the war.

Starting out as a kennelman, he achieved distinction as a breeder/exhibitor, judge, journalist, author, breed club and Kennel Club committee man.

His interest in dogs began as a child but it was not until his majority at 21 that he was able to put it into practice. Deciding to learn as much as he could, he spent short periods with a number of leading kennels of the day, such as the Ouborough Danes and Wolfhounds, Falconers Cockers, Leodride Bulldogs and Firs Dachshunds.

Most influential was a period with the Velhurst Bull Terriers owned by Stephen and Peggy Phillips and run by the latter's sister, Eva Weatherill, who remained a friend until her death this year. This breed became Tom's passion and in 1937 he became manager of the Ormandy kennel, founded shortly before by Raymond Oppenheimer, playing a big part in this outstanding kennel's early triumph including Ch Ormandy's Mr McGuffin.

After six years in the army, Tom joined Mrs Kitty Guthrie's Maspound kennel of Boxers and Danes (winning the first post-war Boxer dog CC with Monarchist of M), also serving an apprenticeship on their farm. Soon he bought his own farm in Kent.

### All-rounder

The subsequent years were marked by success as a Bull Terrier breeder (his most notable achievement the Regent Trophy winner, Ch Titania of Tartary), and marriage to Pat, herself a Bull Terrier enthusiast.

In the '60s Tom retired from farming to join DOG WORLD for whom he travelled to hundreds of shows around the country, and later worked in the paper's Ashford office.

Already (since 1947) a ch show judge of Bull Terriers, he began to be asked for other breeds, gradually building up to become one of Britain's leading all-rounders. At the time of his death he was passed to give CCs in 66 breeds and to judge all bar the gundog group.

He travelled far and wide to judge and, apart from BIS there this year, had one the terrier, toy, hound and utility groups at Crufts and chose the Dog World/Spillers Winalot Pup of the Year (which award he gave to the future Crufts BIS, Ch Viscount Grant), a competition which he had previously played a big part in running.

### Author

On the administrative side he was for many years a committee member of the Bull Terrier Club, serving also as chairman and president, and had also been on the Kennel Club Standards Committee.

DOG WORLD readers will know him from his *It Seems to Me* column, dealing with many topics, but especially conformation, movement and type, though before that he compiled the *Rambling Around* feature.

He wrote three highly acclaimed books, *Take Them Round Please* (on the art of judging), *All About the Bull Terrier*, and *Terriers of the World*, as well as a valuable illustrated Standard of the Bull Terrier and a biography of Miss Weatherill.

Paitsi bullterrierien kasvattajana ja ulkomuototuomarina niin Tom Horner toimi kolumnistina vuosia Dog World lehdessä palstalla "It seems to me"

*alla olevasta voi lukea hänen kirjoituksiaan Dog World lehdestä vuosien varrelta:*

<https://www.dogjudging.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/It-seems-to-me-...-di-Tom-Horner.pdf>