

David Onslow and his business interests

Back in the early 1960s, there was a man called David Onslow, who joined a company called **Gibbs Palmer** in Norfolk. In 1964, David married Margaret, the daughter of the wealthy man who had set up a company. David ultimately took over as the Managing Director.

Unfortunately in 1986, David and Margaret divorced. David continued to work for Gibbs Palmer. In 1987, David married a lady called Judy Powlesland, who was the daughter of the company's accountant. Judy had 3 children by her first marriage.

By 1994, David had converted his shares in Gibbs Palmer to voting shares – ones that control the company. Margaret still had shares in Gibbs Palmer that earned her interest, but her shares had no voting rights. With his control over the company, David arranged lots of loans from banks and opened lots of branches of Gibbs Palmer throughout England, each as a separate company within the group. They all borrowed lots of money from the banks and all the companies guaranteed each others' loans.

In the meantime David paid himself lots of money.

In June 1997, David set up another company called **Glow Nollis** whilst he was still the Managing Director of Gibbs Palmer. David owned all the shares in Glow Nollis. It is not known why this name was used but, quite coincidentally, it is an anagram of the name Gill Onslow.

One of the profitable companies within the Gibbs Palmer group was called **Frank Edwards**. Frank Edwards was an old company that Gibbs Palmer had bought and was well known in the Norwich area. As a company, Frank Edwards had assets of £900,000. In March 1998, David sold Frank Edwards from the Gibbs Palmer group for £125,000. The buyer of Frank Edwards was David Onslow.

In August 1998, David resigned from Gibbs Palmer and left the company to the bankers. However, according to his lawyers he remained a consultant to Gibbs Palmer. Unfortunately, none of Gibbs Palmer companies could pay their bills and the guarantees were worthless, so the group went into liquidation.

One of the companies within the group was a company called **G&F Distributors**. In November 1998, David bought G&F Distributors from the Gibbs Palmer group for £100,000. He put this company into Glow Nollis.

By this time David and Judy lived at Farm Cottage in the village of Greatham, Hampshire. David was a District Councillor in Petersfield, but in March 1999, David said that he had moved to Millers Hall, Dublin, and he resigned as a district councillor. Judy Onslow took the seat over from David Onslow and became a District Councillor.

However, David didn't live in Dublin for long. Some people say that it was only for 3 weeks, but he probably had a lovely time there. A search on the internet showed several companies operating from Millers Hall, Dublin:

- One was a funny travel company that was also advertising a lovely waterfall and a smiley face. According to the HM Customs this was pure cocaine and amphetamines.
- Another was a dating agency for gays, lesbians and transvestites. Some of the people advertising were offering relationships with very young people.
- A physical check on Millers Hall also showed a very hard working young lady who walked the streets plying her wares.

Fortunately for David, whilst he was in Dublin, he was not domiciled in Britain so he did not have to pay tax here.

By September 1999, David had secured significant bank loans for Glow Nollis and had created a loan account for himself of over £70,000 and a trust of £30,000.

In October 2000, Gibbs Palmer went into liquidation owing £14 million pounds. Fortunately, David Onslow didn't lose any money as he had set up a trust fund for himself and collected £1.25 million.

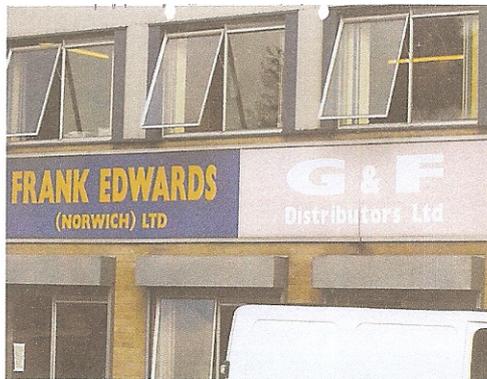
One of the sites owned by Gibbs Palmer was located in Alton, Hampshire. In November 2001, David Onslow helped Gibbs Palmer to sell this site to a French company called Onyx. Onyx was going to collect the rubbish from people's houses in East Hampshire and recycle some of it, but to do this they needed support from the District Council to get planning permission to build their big new recycling plant in the countryside on the A31 between Farnham to Alton. In 2002, Onyx received the necessary planning permissions, the chairman of the EHDC planning committee being David Onslow's very good friend, Patrick Burrige. By then, Onyx had paid £1.7 million for the site, over £1 million more than David had paid for the site (without planning permission) just 5 years earlier.

By May 2003, David Onslow had returned from his latest trip to Millers Hall, Dublin and was re-elected as a District Councillor in East Hampshire, alongside his wife. Because David was good with money and very popular with many people in the Petersfield area who did not know, or did not mind, that one of his businesses had lost £14 million for ordinary people and traders and bankers, the councillors put him in charge of the finances for East Hampshire District Council!

In February 2004, David set up another company called **Kamax Ltd.** This company was also based in Norwich but was registered at Farm Cottage, Greatham.

By this time, Judy was the Company Secretary for Glow Nollis and she became a director of Kamax. Glow Nollis and Kamax started trading together while Frank Edwards was listed as not trading. Under company law the value of purchases and amounts owing between the companies have to agree. However, in this case, they didn't.

A visit was made to the premises of Glow Nollis and Kamax, and some photos were taken :



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Laminate Flooring
Worktops
Sinks

Glow Nollis Ltd
T/A Frank Edwards
21 Concordia Rd
Norwich
NR6 6BJ
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Fax: 01603 787023
www.frankedwards.co.uk

FRANK EDWARDS

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Fitted Kitchens
Laminate Flooring
Worktops
Sinks

Kamax Ltd
T/A Frank Edwards
148 Cromer Rd
Norwich
NR6 6XA
Tel: 01603 426519
www.frankedwards.co.uk

This one is GLOW NOLLIS

This one is KAMAX

Both companies had the same email address and the same website www.frankedwards.co.uk

In November 2005, Glow Nollis went into liquidation and ceased trading. At the time, it had over £500,000 of stock that the administrators said they sold to someone for £59,000, but they did not say who. One wonders whether this buyer could have been Kamax?

Anyway, lots of people had paid deposits for new kitchens and other home improvements and they seem to have lost their money, which totalled about £500,000. Fortunately, Kamax continued to trade.

Unfortunately, David Onslow sadly passed away in June 2005. This must have been quite upsetting for Michael Mates MP, in particular, as he had described David and Judy Onslow as being his “very good friends” in a letter he had sent from the House of Commons a few months earlier.