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THE ULVA STORY- PART 1

By Sally Ramage

This case study illustrates financial misfeasance, taxation avoidance, arguable voidable contracts, reckless litigation, opulence, and high living leading to murder, arson and suicide. Four dogs, three horses and three people were killed, the stables were burnt down, the house was completely burnt out and four expensive cars were completely burnt out, a total destruction and annihilation of Christopher Foster, his immediate family and all his tangible property within the United Kingdom.

The Scenario- Family, friends and colleagues

Surviving family are Anne Giddings, Christopher Foster's sister-in-law and Jill Foster's brother. Among neighbours is a car dealership businessman named John Hughes. Former colleagues are Giuseppina Beardsmore and US citizen Dan Sherrill. The Fosters' former accountant is Terrence Baines, from Tamworth, Staffordshire. Deceased persons in the Foster arson are presumed to be Christopher Foster, Jill Eileen Foster and Kirsty Foster. The domestic property concerned is Osbaston House in Maesbrook, near Oswestry, Shropshire, United Kingdom.

The Administrator of Ulva Ltd is the legal firm *Butcher Woods* of West Midlands, UK. Former colleagues Mark Bassett and Peter Grkinic are now employed by SWP Construction Group as directors in the new Ulva business operations.

ULVA Ltd. in Administration

The website of the business claims its operations as "*Investigating corrosion under-insulation. The world's leading provider of non-metallic thermal and acoustic cladding, ULVA are the preferred choice for the oil and petrochemical industry*".

Mr. Foster's business developed from home cladding to developing insulation technology for oil rigs, a quantum leap. The director of ULVA Ltd of Unit H, Horton Enterprise Park, Telford TF1 7GZ, is recorded as Mr. Christopher Foster and UK Companies House records show that Mrs. Jill Eileen Foster was the company secretary. However, the debts at Ulva were so large as to make it no longer a "going concern" business. In 2005 the company owed nearly £2.8m to creditors, including tax avoidance estimates by the HMRC. Ulva Ltd. had loaned about £160,000 to one of the company directors, in breach of company law. Ulva Ltd had a main supplier, namely *DRC Polymers Ltd.* a Cambridgeshire company, now owned by the *SWP Construction Group*. Litigation ensued in September 2006 after it was discovered that Ulva Ltd. was using another supplier, in breach of a contract between Ulva Ltd and *DRC Construction Ltd.* The contract in question was actually between the two

Special Purpose Vehicles of Ulva Ltd and DRC Polymers Ltd., respectively. However the courts recognized these two Special Purpose Vehicles as legitimate even though at the time of the court case, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs of the United Kingdom has already calculated these two Special Purpose Vehicles as instruments for the purpose of taxation evasion, an English criminal offence.

Mad killers

by **Sally Ramage**

Introduction

Before an examination of insanity in killers under English jurisdiction, it is useful to examine criminal homicide, the backdrop against which to make any coherent argument. To this end this article argues for a prescriptive model of 'a legally insane person' to be strictly adhered to in all future murder cases in which the insanity is put forward with a model protocol of assessment based on criminal investigative analysis or profiling and legal and medical awareness, not hankering back to discrepancies in past cases, but realistically, culturally aware, legally astute and comparing with other jurisdictions' laws.