



Kelly was born on 11th August 1972 in Harrogate. Growing up above the hairdressing salon that her father owned, Kelly often found herself helping out in the salon and quickly learned that a good scalp massage whilst washing clients hair, was a sure-fire way to earn that extra bit of pocket money soon to be spent on the latest shade of lipstick and eyeshadow at the local Boots. At the age of 18 Kelly then moved to Newcastle-upon-Tyne to study Business Studies at Newcastle Polytechnic and after she graduated was then elected as Deputy President of the Students Union. This paid-for sabbatical position enabled her to organise music and charity events, promote student life to neighbouring colleges as well as get involved in the welfare of students and any accommodation issues they were experiencing, plus more importantly it bought her time to decide what job she actually wanted to do.

In 1994 Kelly made the decision to head down to the Big Smoke in the hope of landing a job organising events for charities. Alas this didn't happen, but instead Kelly started working for the football agent First Artist who also had a sister company called Double Impact that specialised in music PR. When not looking after footballer diaries and helping to arrange sporting events, Kelly was also learning the fine art of how to become a TV plugger which would soon play a big role in her life. It was this side of the business that really fascinated Kelly and after 5 years at First Artist, the record label Jive Records approached Kelly about working for them to become their Head of TV Promotions.

Based in a small unassuming office in Willesden Kelly worked with some of the biggest names in pop at that time: Britney Spears, Justin Timberlake, BackStreet Boys, Steps and R Kelly and clocked up the air miles with frequent trips to the USA to film with them. Kelly describes it as "an incredibly exciting time in my life. Not only was I working with some of the biggest stars on the planet, but I was getting a great insight into celebrity life: travelling to fantastic cities abroad and being invited to fun parties and events, Some of my memorable moments include hanging out with Howie from the Backstreet Boys' at his home in Puerto Rico with his family, filming with Steps in Hong Kong and Britney Spears birthday party in LA.

Although, Kelly had some of her happiest memories working for Jive it also took its toll on her work life balance, with little free time to do anything other than work, Kelly realised that she need to take time out and find a job that gave back some of her much needed social life.

After a short stint of freelance work and with renewed energy she was then approached to work for Polydor Records and once again had the pleasure of working with some of the biggest talent in music: Snow Patrol, Eminem, Gwen Stefani, Snoop Dogg, Nelly Furtado. It was whilst working here that Kelly met her soul mate and partner Geoff

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Harris and it was during this time that Kelly also embarked on an Indian head massage and Swedish massage course. *"I really felt that I wanted to learn a new skill and after my days of working for my father at his salon, an Indian head massage course seemed appealing. I loved it so much that I then enrolled for a Swedish massage course. It was tough trying to juggle my full time job, with my anatomy and physiology homework, as well as my case studies, but it just felt the most natural thing to do".* Once qualified Kelly then started to research how she could use her skills and make a living out of it. It soon became clear how tough it was to find work for a qualified massage therapist. It was at this point that Kelly dreamt up the idea of creating an agency for mobile therapists. With her network of holistic therapists, a black book of corporate contacts and strong organisational skills it felt like the perfect opportunity to create her own business, but what she really needed was a kickstart to get this off the ground. This came in the form of Charlotte Maxwell, a friend of her partner's, who expressed interest in going into business with Kelly and who shared the same vision. By 2006 Glo was born. Initially it was a part time business as both Kelly and Charlotte ran it alongside their jobs. Kelly says *"like any new business you do wonder whether you are going to be able to make it work, there was a moment when Charlotte was ill when neither of us were sure what the future of the business was, but with determination and very low overheads we started to see how much we were growing and the reality that this could be become a full time proposition for us both kicked in".* The business started initially with a mainly holistic offering, but for the business to fully grow Charlotte and Kelly diversified into beauty and other complementary therapies as well as deciding to offer it on a national scale. With low overheads and the ability to base themselves from home it meant that even during the recession they were still able to hold their heads above water.

The business has now evolved into three main areas: Pamper Parties, Events and Corporate health and with over 500 therapists on their database, over 500 pamper parties booked a year and some great corporate clients, Kelly is satisfied with the way the business has progressed. Having given birth to twins in April 2012 she is also seeing the benefits of the way the business is structured and although she says *"that being a working mum is the hardest job ever, I do feel that currently I have a fantastic work life balance. I spend 4 days a week working from home on the business and 3 days a week spending time with my children. Work is definitely much easier than looking after the twins and being a mum has definitely made me utilise my time better, but all in all I feel really lucky with the set up we have".*

Contd

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In 2013 Kelly's husband was offered a job in Los Angeles and after much deliberation, the lure of sunshine and outdoor living Kelly and her family moved Stateside. Kelly still resides in Los Angeles and remarkably is still able dedicate her time to glo – even with an 8 hr time difference. Kelly says *“the move wasn't something I was prepared for or expected and I have definitely had to overcome some challenges with working in a different country, but Charlotte and the glo team have really helped make this work for the company and me and for that I am grateful”*