



**What do you want to ask? Oh no, not that...**

Aaron Taylor-Johnson on why he certainly won't be starring in his wife's 50 Shades movie »p35-36

# Power profits rise 74% in 48 months

**British acid victims targeted before**

British volunteer teachers Kirstie Trup (left) and Katie Gee, who had acid thrown in their faces in Zanzibar, were attacked before on the holiday isle  
 PICTURES: CATERS/ENTERPRISE »p7



**PROFITS** at the big six energy companies have shot up 74 per cent since 2009 – dwarfing inflation's rise of 13 per cent. British Gas, E.On, EDF, npower, ScottishPower and SSE have enjoyed a £3.3billion surge in profits as households have been hit by a 29 per cent rise in bills. Profits from the groups – which provide energy to 98 per cent of homes – rose from £2.15billion in 2009 to £2.22billion in 2010, £3.87billion in 2011 and £3.74billion in 2012. The typical domestic dual fuel bill now stands at £1,420 a year, compared with £1,100 in May 2010, according to regulator Ofgem. 'With news of multi-million-pound profits, and spiralling energy prices consistently one of people's top concerns, it's no surprise that just a quarter of us trust energy companies,' said Which? executive director Richard

by **JOHN HIGGINSON**  
 Lloyd. 'People will not feel confident that they are getting a fair deal unless energy prices are simplified and the costs that make up our bills are open, transparent and subject to robust scrutiny.' Shadow energy secretary Caroline Flint added: 'The public have been left with a £3.3billion price tag for David Cameron's failure to act on rip-off energy bills. 'He's totally out of touch with millions of people and small businesses who are struggling with soaring energy bills.' But Energy UK, which represents the industry, said the companies needed to make profits in order to invest for the future. Chief executive Angela Knight said:  
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# METRO word of mouth

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## Skating hotspot is back on a roll



JOHN STURROCK

**F**OR many Londoners of a certain age, Thursday nights, roller discos and King's Cross are forever linked, and we wept actual tears when Canvas – the site of many a tipsy trundle – closed five years ago. So the news that a pop-up roller disco has arrived this summer in the rapidly redeveloping area will have many former skate fans pulling on the legwarmers.

Skate King's Cross, open until September 6, is in a covered space next to the Granary Building, the new home of Central Saint Martins. The roller rink holds up to 100 skaters per session, while another 200 can pack into the adjacent bar and viewing area.

The temporary rink is designed

**THIS WEEK: DUST OFF THE LEAGWARMERS AS ROLLER DISCO MANIA RETURNS TO LONDON'S SKATING MECCA, KING'S CROSS**  
BY JANE MULKERRINS

by boutique London architects Feix&Merlin, whose assignments include beach huts, theatre sets and warehouse renovations.

'We've really been able to have fun with this project and I think this comes through in the final design,' says Tarek Merlin. 'We've used raw, heavy materials, in keeping with the industrial heritage of the area, but we've also used gold chainmail and custom light installations to reference the recent past, when King's Cross was a mecca for clubbers, ravers and skaters.'

During the day, the rink welcomes families and children, while at night, DJs including Hannah Holland and Damon Martin of Disco Bloodbath will provide the soundtrack.

And since this is a roller disco 2.0, greasy chips will not do; the food is provided by pop-up masters Disco Bistro, along with guest chefs including Gizzi Erskine, Yum Bun, Chef Jocky, Street Kitchen and Lucky Chip.

Tickets £5.50 to £14.30.  
[www.kingscross.co.uk/skate](http://www.kingscross.co.uk/skate)

### ALSO CHECK OUT

A Pullman pulls into Phuket Perching on the headland overlooking the Andaman Sea, Pullman Phuket Arcadia Naithon Beach Resort on the island of Phuket off the south-west coast of Thailand has 277 rooms, villas and pool villas. Adults can go diving, waterskiing, or play golf on one of the island's eight



courses, while the resort's kids' club keeps the juniors entertained. Rooms from £108. [www.pullmanphuketarcadia.com](http://www.pullmanphuketarcadia.com)

Spa treatments in the open air Heading to a spa to unwind with a massage is all very well but when the weather is glorious, it seems a shame to stay



cooped up in a darkened treatment room. At Ockenden Manor Hotel and Spa in West Sussex, you can now have a massage among the wild flowers of the 19th-century walled garden. Other treatments from the spa menu can also be arranged alfresco on request. Massages from £51.50, rooms from £190. [www.hshotels.co.uk](http://www.hshotels.co.uk)

### TRAVEL NEWS

■ The Foreign and Commonwealth Office has launched a Twitter account to help Brits while they are abroad. The FCO says the new service will help ensure a trouble-free trip for British people travelling overseas. They will advise immediately on passport issues, visas and travel safety. It will also help those living abroad. @FCOTravel



■ A one-day trip to Finnish Lapland in the Arctic (pictured) has been launched by independent tour operator Transun. The day starts at 7.30am with a flight to Enontekiö, deep in the Arctic Circle, where visitors will be met with snowmobiles, followed by lunch in a forest, snow-shoeing and a husky-led safari before returning to the airport. The Arctic Explorer day costs £499. [www.transun.co.uk](http://www.transun.co.uk)

■ Virgin Atlantic is partnering with Dr Hauschka skincare to offer its products and treatments in four of its Clubhouse Spas. Passengers will be able to experience treatments including a Radiant You Facial and a hot stone back treatment when travelling through Clubhouses at Heathrow, Gatwick, JFK and also in the Revivals lounge in Heathrow arrivals. [www.virginatlantic.com](http://www.virginatlantic.com)

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