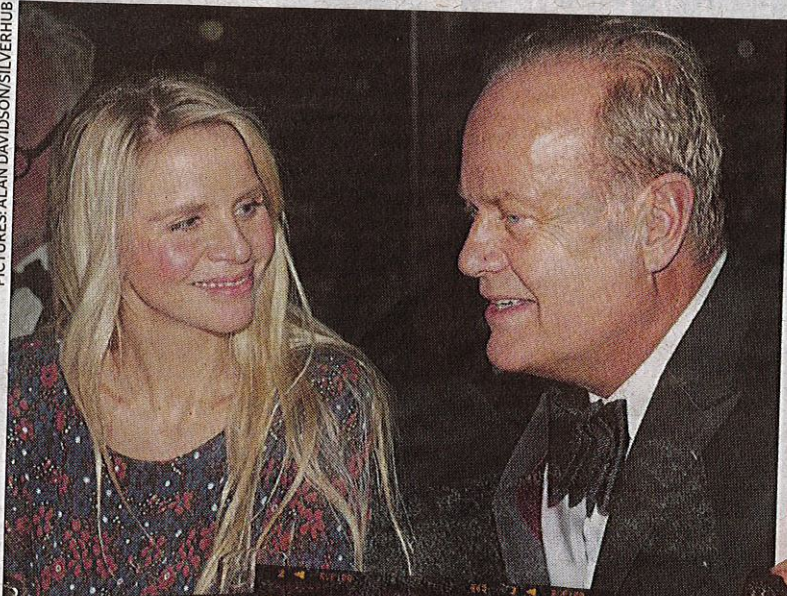


Out last night...

PICTURES: ALAN DAVIDSON/SILVERHUB



Star smokers: clockwise from main, Kayte Walsh and her husband Kelsey Grammer; singer Natasha Hamilton; actor Tamer Hassan; Nigel Farage; chef Mark Hix, Nancy Dell'Olio and David Burnside



Cigars, cognac, Farage and a saucy lasagne

SCOTTISH bar and restaurant Boisdale held its annual Cigar Smoker of the Year awards last night in its Canary Wharf digs. The Duchess of Cornwall's food critic son, Tom Parker Bowles gave Football Factory actor Tamer Hassan the prize, Kelsey Grammer charmed the crowd, Natasha Hamilton crooned. And then there was Nigel Farage.

Over Courvoisier cognacs, The Londoner asked him about glamour model Valerie Fox's claim that a shared vegetarian lasagne with Farage in a

Virgin Upper Class cabin led to a steamy encounter. "That was unbelievable," said Farage, who denied her account. "I met someone on a plane but the trouble is, and what I've learned from my lawyers is: if you engage with somebody, talk to somebody, even shake somebody's hand, you then are in a position where they can say what they like. My lawyer says, 'for goodness sake don't speak to anybody'." The Londoner is sceptical of Fox's story — Farage would never eat a vegetarian lasagne.