

POPE BENEDICT XVI might raise a Papal eyebrow at being mentioned in the same sentence as Alex Reid, the cage fighter and ex-squas of Jordan, aka Kulie Price. The connection is His Holiness's London barrister Mark Watson-Gandy, who is letting Alex prepare for the London Marathon at his home, just a jog from the starting line at Blackheath. Says Mark, who has been honoured with a Papal knighthood and who helped with the formalities for the Pope's visit to Britain two years ago: 'I am hosting Alex at my home because he is raising money for the British Heart Foundation, a charity close to my own heart.' However, Mark will not be supporting Alex when he begins a stage tour with 'extreme stunt duo' Wildboyz the day after the race.

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