

junkie

AS THE YOUNGEST BRIT TO CONQUER BOTH POLES, TOM AVERY HEADS UP A NEW BREED OF UK ADVENTURERS. NOW HE'S RELISHING THE CHANCE TO TEAM UP WITH HIS HERO IN A NEW CHALLENGE A LITTLE CLOSER TO HOME. INTERVIEW BY **OLLY HEMANS**

Verbier, where he works as a ski guide. "I've been to the ends of the earth but Skye still takes my breath away."

The Talisker Trek will cover the northwest coast of the Isle of Skye, in order to raise money for The Woodland Trust. In small teams, trekkers will clamour over coastal, forest and hilly terrain – ending rewardingly at the Talisker distillery.

On top of the daily trekking, special events will give those who yearn for a trial of strength the opportunity to see how tough they really are.

These have been devised by Avery and his able assistants on the trek; none other than "Ran" (legendary solo explorer, marathon runner and frostbitten finger-lopper Sir Ranulph Fiennes to you and me) and England and British Lions rugby great Dean Richards.

The mighty triumvirate will test trekkers' wits, strength and endurance. One particular trial will involve the same training Avery and his team members used before they and their Canadian Inuit dogs followed Peary's route to the North Pole.