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# Scaling new heights of adventure

A British climber is trekking to the Arctic Circle in search of the ultimate thrill, writes **Nicholas Roe**



**C**hampion speed climber Leo Houlding famously raced television's petrol-head Jeremy Clarkson to the top of the Verdon Gorge in France, pitting hands and feet against the power of a fast car, and he won. Now Houlding is attempting an adventure that makes even that *Top Gear* challenge seem like a muggy afternoon's doze.

First, the Cumbrian-born 28-year-old will trek 30 miles into an inhospitable canyon on remote Baffin Island, in the Arctic Circle near the north-east coast of mainland Canada. He



breathtaking adventure is the next logical step in



wilful and undeniably

## INSID

A round-up of endurance and adventure news from Tarquin Co

❖ The Royal Parks marathon has open applications. The marathon (sponsored by the *Daily Telegraph*) is one to go through of London and last year was a great success. This time, organisers expect 15,000 runners will take part and raise £2.5 million for charity. But you'll need to hurry, there are only a few places available.

**Master stroke:** Sara Campbell, the world's top female freediver, training ahead of her bid to take the world record to 100m

quicker than tick Michael Jackson Zac Goldsmith, and the Royal Parks said "And it's