We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. This week it’s actor and TV presenter Ross Kemp

The prized possession you value above all others… My golden retriever Bruno. Even if I get home in the early hours he always has a wag in his tail and is happy to see me.

The biggest regret you wish you could amend… Not talking to my grandparents more about the family’s history before they died. You can’t get those days back, so I really regret it. My one remaining grandparent is Irene, on my mum’s side. She’s 97 and I see her as much as possible.

The book that holds an everlasting resonance… War by Albert R Levinthal, which contains photos from the Crimea up to Vietnam. I bought it with book tokens I’d got for Christmas when I was nine and I still have it.

The film you can watch time and time again… A Bridge Too Far from 1977 with Michael Caine. Richard Attenborough, who directed it, was a hero of mine. It’s a stand-out classic.

The pet hate that makes your hackles rise… People not picking up after their dogs.

The priority activity if you were the Invisible Man for a day… I’d sit in a meeting of the Government’s emergency committee Cobra to see who makes the decisions in a terrorist situation. I hope it’s the unelected officials, not the politicians.

The unlikely interest that engages your curiosity… I love old ruins, churches and graveyards. We always visited them on family holidays when I was a kid.

The person who has influenced you the most… My father John. He’s always been there for me, even when I’ve made life decisions he wasn’t happy with, that have ended up going wrong. He’s 80 now and I love him beyond belief.

The treasured item you lost and wish you could get back… A cold bar of Galaxy out of the fridge with a cup of tea. I’m 53 now and it packs the weight on.

The unending quest that drives you on… To find the truth in my documentaries. I’m very driven to bring great stories and bring them to an audience.

The figure from history for whom you’d most like to buy a pie and a pint… Winston Churchill. I’d like to know how he coped with the disappointment of losing a general election just after the war.

Right: Michael Caine in A Bridge Too Far. Above right: Galaxy chocolate and a cup of tea. Far right: The ruins of Holy Cross Church in Bristol.

The poem that touches your soul… The Soldier by Rupert Brooke is a timeless piece that sums up the loss of war.

The song that means most to you… Empire State Of Mind by Alicia Keys. It was being played a lot when I proposed to my wife Renee in New York in 2011 and it reminds me of that.

The crime you would commit knowing you could get away with it… I’d do whatever I could to rid the world of the greed gene.

The philosophy that underpins your life… Never waste a day, never give up.

The happiest moment you will cherish forever… Nothing can beat the births of my kids, but I was also pretty happy to escape when I was filming in the war zone of the Congo in 2012.

The saddest time that shook your world… Filming the people who flee Libya on boats for the new series of Extreme World was terrible. I spoke to one woman who survived a capsized boat, but had watched scores drown. I felt powerless to comfort her.

The way you want to be remembered… Loved by my family, respected by my peers and, hopefully, forgiven by anyone I’ve upset with my misdemeanours.

The Plug… Ross Kemp: Extreme World continues tomorrow at 9pm on Sky 1 and NOW TV.

As told to Rob McGibbon

The definitive answer. This week it’s actor and TV presenter Ross Kemp

The people not picking up after their dogs.

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