**The DEFINITE ARTICLE**

We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. **This week it’s ITV newsreader Julie Etchingham**

The prized possession you value above all others... A pillow with a speaker inside, which my husband Nick gave me. I have insomnia, so when I wake up at 3am I can listen to the World Service without disturbing him for an hour and a half until I drop off again.

The book that holds an everlasting resonance... The Diary Of A Young Girl by Anne Frank which I read when I was ten. I wrote a diary from the age of six to 21, so it had a deep impact on me.

The temptation you wish you could resist... Giving unsolicited advice and drinking white wine – especially both combined!

The pet hate that makes your hackles rise... Tangled wires behind TVs or computers. I have to sort them out.

The film you can watch time and time again... The Pink Panther movies – Peter Sellers and Herbert Lom still make me howl with laughter.

The biggest regret you wish you could amend... Going up ballet when I had glandular fever at the age of 16. I wouldn’t have made it as a ballerina, but it’s such a joy to dance.

The priority activity if you were the Invisible Woman for a day... I’d watch the dancers of the Bolshoi Ballet rehearse and then stand beside them on stage during a major performance.

The person who has influenced you most... My mum Sheila. She saw my love of writing and said when I was 12 or 13, ‘Maybe you’d like to be a journalist?’ I thought, ‘That’s it!’ If it wasn’t for her I might not be doing what I do now.

The piece of wisdom you wish you could erase... The treasured item you lost and wish you could have again... Head space. At university I could spend all day in the library, but life’s so busy these days that I find myself longing for solitude.

The poem that touches your soul... I Love Digging by Seamus Heaney, which is about heritage. It makes me contemplate where I’ve come from.

The figure from history for whom you’d most like to buy a pie and a pint... Don’t bother about selfies – look beyond yourself and concentrate on putting other people in the frame.

The event that altered the course of your life and character... Going to Cambridge to study English after my year and I still love all things German.

The song that means most to you... Bridge Over Troubled Water by Simon and Garfunkel. It was playing in the delivery room when Leo wriggled out during the Caesarean. I still can’t hear it without crying.

The happiest moment you will cherish forever... The surprise ride in a hot-air balloon over the Leicestershire countryside that Nick organised during our wedding day in 1997. We had an hour together, which was heaven.

The saddest time that shook your world... I’m blessed not to have suffered a life tragedy yet. I’ve seen a lot of sadness as a journalist, especially in Thailand after the 2004 tsunami, but that’s different to a personal sadness.

The unfulfilled ambition that continues to haunt you... I’d love to go to Australia and India – and to finish the pile of books by my bed.

The philosophy that underpins your life... Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

The order of service at your funeral... I’d have a Catholic service, including my grandfather’s favourite hymn, Soul Of My Saviour. I’d then like a rauous wake with plenty of Blondie, The Boomtown Rats and The Jam.

The way you want to be remembered... She gave it her best shot.

The Plug... Julie Etchingham presents News At Ten and the Tonight programme on TV.

**PS...**

Michelle Pfeiffer stars in psychological thriller *Mother!* – in cinemas Friday. Ringo Starr’s new album, *Give More Love* featuring Sir Paul McCartney, is out the same day. And Juliet Stevenson opens in Wings at London’s Young Vic on Thursday