We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. This week it’s cricketing legend Sir Viv Richards

The prized possession you value above all others... My gold medals for winning two World Cups. I grew up dreaming of playing for the West Indies, so to achieve wins like that makes me proud. I keep the medals safely hidden at my home in Antigua.

The biggest regret you wish you could amend... Not being with my mum Grathel when she passed in 2015 because I was working in Australia. She was 91 and hadn’t been well, but I was devastated. I was with my best mate Beefy Botham and we had a few drinks that night. I flew home the next day – it was the longest journey of my life. Mum was the most beautiful woman on Earth.

The priority activity if you were the Invisible Man for a day... I’d listen to what some people say behind my back.

The book that holds an everlasting resonance... The Learning Tree by Gordon Parks, about a young African-American man living through racial prejudice in the 1920s. I read it when I was 16 and it helped motivate me to make something of my life.

The pet hate that makes your hackles rise... When people don’t control their dogs. I have two Dobermanns, who I love, but you must respect others.

The person who has influenced you most... My dad Malcolm. He was assistant governor at Antigua’s prison and brought some of that discipline home. It felt a little tough, but he was a fair man who put me on the right road. He died in 1984 in his 70s.

The film you can watch time and time again... The Godfather trilogy. Something new takes my fancy each time.

The figure from history for whom you’d most like to buy a pie and a pint... Muhammad Ali in his prime. I met him in Lahore in 1988 and he had such a powerful presence. He said, ‘I don’t know much about cricket but I know you look like Joe Frazier!’


The temptation you wish you could resist... Vanilia or strawberry Häagen-Dazs ice cream. I’m 65 now and have to take care of my body, but that stuff is too delicious.

The song that means most to you... One Love by Bob Marley. The lyrics mean more to me than ever, when I see so much nastiness in the world, like the far right being against black people.

The philosophy that underpins your life... Keep it simple.

The order of service at your funeral... I want a steel band, and for calypsonian Lord Short Shirt to sing the song he wrote about me. I hope Beefy will say a few words too, if he’s still around!

The way you want to be remembered... As a good person who helped others.

The Plug... Sir Viv Richards is tourism ambassador for Antigua. Go to visitantiguabarbuda.com.

As told to Rob McGibbon

Cedar Valley course with my golfing buddies, and enjoy a few beers at the 19th hole, then go for lunch at a little cafe in Brixton in London – I love it there and always have stewed fish or oxtail. I’d see my team, Liverpool, win at Anfield then have dinner with Beefy and some old cricket friends at Cambio de Tercio, a great Spanish restaurant in London’s South Kensington. I’d end the day at a calypso show in Antigua.

The happiest moment you will cherish forever... Scoring what was then the fastest Test century, off 56 balls, at the Recreation Ground in Antigua in 1986. My childhood dream had been to play at my home ground, so to achieve something that big there felt pretty good.

The saddest time that shook your world... I lost a little bit of me when we buried our mum. I sobbed all day.

The unfulfilled ambition that continues to haunt you... To tour Africa to get a sense of my ancestors.

A very HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all!

Get 2018 off to the best start possible with Weekend magazine next Saturday – all your essential viewing including Sarah Lancashire on her gritty new adoption drama Kiri

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