

# PLANET NINE

## **CAPTAIN | ROB WILLIAMSON | BRITISH**

Rob's early interest in sailing, racing and yacht design led to him studying Naval Architecture at Southampton University in the south of England. He then embarked upon a career working as a water sports instructor and in boatyard and sailing charter management. Since then he has worked as a professional yacht Captain, gaining his Master 3000GT license in 2003 and running a variety of successful charter yachts over the years. His engineering background gives him a unique edge when it comes to providing an amazing yachting experience with the importance of yacht reliability recognized as one of the keys to success. His wider ranging experience serving charter and private yacht clients over the last 20 years has equipped him with the skills and knowledge to run perfect and unforgettable charters for guests.



## **CHIEF OFFICER | PHILIP ATKINSON | AUSTRALIAN**



Growing up on the Eastern Seaboard of Australia, Philip has been in and around the water his entire life, enjoying everything from diving and free-diving to fishing and sailing Hobie-cats. Before yachting, Philip worked as a commercial diver, mainly off the Tasmanian coast in the Abalone industry, and had a short stint as a Jackeroo on a ½ million acre Station, running twenty five thousand sheep and five thousand head of cattle. Working in yachting since 2004, Philip enjoyed some time away for a much dreamed about motorcycle adventure. In 2012, his trusty BMW 1200 left tracks in the dusty roads from above the Arctic circle to the bottom of Argentina before crossing the Antarctic Circle on a small Expedition cruise ship some 10 months and 72,000km later.

## **CHIEF ENGINEER | NICK SCOTT | BRITISH**

After a successful career in the automotive industry in Scotland and America, working on high-performance race cars, Nick sought new challenges at sea. Rapidly progressing to Chief Engineer, he now has fifteen years' experience working on superyachts. He has constantly updated his skills and qualifications and holds a Y1 Engineering license, the highest level of certification for yacht engineers. His enthusiasm and knowledge are a welcome asset on-board where he aims to ensure that guests enjoy themselves in absolute comfort and safety. When Nick is not at sea he enjoys country sports in the remote wilderness and ocean around New Zealand, where he lives with his wife and young son.



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## CHIEF STEWARDESS | LYDIA WOOD | BRITISH



Lydia has been in the yachting industry for almost 9 years and loves her job, which leads to constant changes of destination and usually a great team to work with! She has worked on all variety and sizes of vessels, from 25-110m and has travelled a large portion of the world and has many stories – including once being shot at by Somalian pirates! Lydia originally grew up in the very green English countryside along with her sister and 3 brothers before moving to London to study Fashion Design. She then went on to travel on and off for a few years around Asia and Australasia. Being a ski enthusiast led her to completing two ski seasons in France, one in Val'Disere and one in Avoriaz. She really enjoys cooking for friends and travelling and tries to make the most of her time off visiting other destinations such as South Africa, Bali and kitesurfing in Tarifa. Nicaragua and skiing Japan is next on the list!

## HEAD CHEF | STEPHANIE GRAVIER | FRENCH

Steph began her career as a chef at the age of 17 and initially specialised as a pastry chef, a grounding which allows her to produce ever more amazing deserts to this day. Subsequently she went on to work in numerous Michelin star restaurants throughout Europe including La Truffiere and La Lorraine in Paris as well as Thornton's in Dublin where she fine tuned her craft in producing fine cuisine. Steph found her way into yachting in 2008 and has worked on yachts such as Twizzle, Palladium, Mondango and 777. She is naturally creative when it comes to preparing delicious food for our guests and perfectly comfortable working with the days natural fresh produce wherever we may be in the world. When she is not busy in the galley, Steph can typically found relaxing in her enjoyment of yoga, kite surfing or photography



## SOUS CHEF | EDWARD LAWRENCE | BRITISH

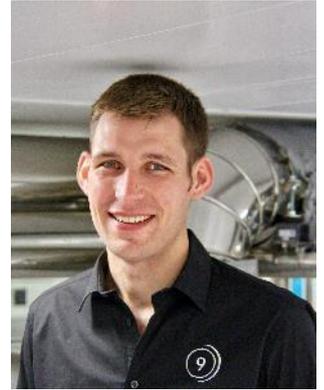


Edward was born and raised in south Wales where he found a passion for food at a young age. After finishing collage he trained in a number of award winning restaurants. Needing new and exciting challenges, Ed successfully ran his own restaurant for many years. A chance reunion with his first head chef piqued Edward's interest in yachting. He has worked the last three seasons, indulging his love of travel while satisfying his appetite for knowledge of world cuisines.

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## SECOND ENGINEER | STEPHEN JOHNSON | BRITISH

Stephen is from Skegness in Lincolnshire, a small town on the north-east coast of England. Stephen grew up around the family manufacturing business making springs for a variety of industries, from deep sea oil exploration to high-performance car racing. Living by the sea, Stephen got involved with his local volunteer lifeboat, which together with his inquisitive nature and desire to understand how things work, led him into marine engineering, first as a cadet on a 185-meter cruise ship and then on large private yachts where he has recently gained his Chief Engineer 3000GT licence. In his spare time Stephen enjoys playing rugby, running, skiing, and keeping fit.



## SECOND OFFICER | DAVID THOMAS | BRITISH



David is from Buckinghamshire, England. After leaving university, David worked in the Houses of Parliament for a year before taking a master's degree in Criminology at the University of Cambridge, where he also competed for the University's lightweight rowing team. Deciding to put academia on hold for a while to travel the world, David turned to a childhood passion for sailing for inspiration and completed his Yacht Master qualification on the Isle of Wight. He got his first job on the renowned 52-meter motor yacht Ressalas and was most recently the mate and sole engineer on a 33-meter 1963 Feadship. He gained his Chief Mate 3000GT licence last year. In his spare time, he is restoring a loch-side cottage in the Scottish Highlands, where he can indulge his passions for sailing, rowing, and photography.

## BOSUN | CHAD WUTH | SOUTH AFRICAN

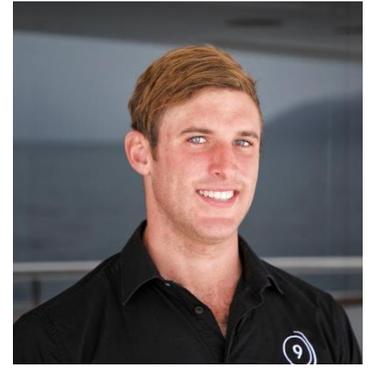
Having grown up in the small coastal town of Bazley Beach, on the east coast of South Africa, Chad has always held a passion for all things ocean. At school, Chad excelled in rugby union, representing his province in his final year. After high school, Chad completed his bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Economics and Financial Management at Rhodes University and had his heart set on a job in finance, until a good friend introduced him to the yachting industry. Very quickly his passion went from punching numbers to exploring the open waters. Chad has experience on private and charter yachts, in the Mediterranean, East Coast of America and the Caribbean. When not at work, Chad spends his time surfing, fishing, spearfishing, and trying to keep fit and active.



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## LEAD DECKHAND | DAMIEN CRAIG | SOUTH AFRICAN

Damien grew up in Kokstad, South Africa on a dairy farm where he learnt to ride horses from a very young age. This led him to becoming a keen polo player, he then went on to play at an international level and even played for his country against Prince Harry! He spent many years on his farm hunting and fishing and is an avid off-road biker. High school was just as active as he competed on the rugby and hockey team as well as playing squash to a high level. Post education and at the tender age of nineteen Damien left South Africa to find work in as a mariner and has since been fortunate enough to work on several well-known large yachts before finding employment on Planet Nine.



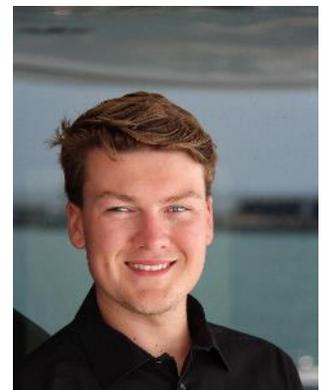
## DECKHAND | ISOBEL HASSALL | BRITISH

Isobel comes from Plymouth on the south coast of England. After school Isobel worked in a ski chalet as a hostess and as a skipper for Medsailors holidays, where she gained great experience leading guests on unforgettable holidays sailing around the Mediterranean. She joins Planet Nine from the 156m Dilbar, where Isobel gained her Helideck assistant qualification and further refined her boat handling skills on their large tenders. In her spare time Isobel enjoys snowboarding, art and cooking. With a fantastic sense of humour, Issy is an asset to the deck team.



## DECKHAND | WILLIAM BAILLEY | AUSTRALIAN

Will is from the Northern Beaches of Sydney in Australia. From the age of 14 he had his sights set on a career in yachting, having taken a keen interest in environmental science and marine studies at school. After completing his studies, he booked a one-way ticket to the Mediterranean to land his dream job. Will's love of travelling has taken him to some amazing places including Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, but it was India with its vibrant culture and hospitality that left the biggest impression on him. At home Will enjoys keeping his three dogs entertained with runs along the local beaches, and volunteering for his local fire-fighting service, where he has enjoyed learning some invaluable skills and giving something back to the local community.



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## DECKHAND | GEORGE SUNDERLAND | BRITISH

George is from the Cotswolds in the UK. After school he studied outdoor education for two years where he was able to try all sorts of sports from canyoning to caving and hiking. Prior to joining Planet Nine, George took a summer off to travel Europe, citing breath taking Lake Bled as one of his favourite spots. In his spare time, he loves white-water kayaking, photography, exploring new places and discovering hidden gems. For George, joining Planet Nine provided a means of continuing his love for exploration and an opportunity to meet different nationalities and cultures. George played cricket at a high level as a child and went on to coach his local youth team.



## DECKHAND | VICTOR GERARD | NEW ZEALAND

Victor was born in Auckland, New Zealand. After graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce and trying out the '9 to 5' for a few years he eventually felt the need to change his surroundings and in 2015 relocated to the South of France in search of work aboard yachts. In 2016 he secured a position on M/Y Dilbar (156m) currently the world's largest private yacht. Fitting in some travelling and snowboarding when free time allowed, he left after almost 2 years, gaining his Yachtmaster Offshore and joined Planet Nine towards the end of the 2018 Med season.

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## SECOND STEWARDESS | FIONA LEWIS | BRITISH

Fiona is originally from the north of England and grew up spending most of her time dancing and performed contemporary dance and ballet competitively. She then went on to complete a Sport and Exercise Science degree. After graduating she became a freelance personal trainer and worked as an instructor of fitness, for a well known gym franchise in the UK. Fiona then wanted to branch out to experience the yachting industry where she joined her first boat five years ago as a stewardess/personal trainer.

Wishing to seek out even more travels and thrills, Fiona joined three more boats before joining M/Y Planet 9. Her passion for travel and hospitality makes her an excellent addition to the team.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> STEWARDESS | HANNAH STOTTER | NEW ZEALAND



Born and raised in a small coastal town of New Zealand, Hannah led a very active lifestyle from a young age. Growing up, summers and family holidays were spent traveling and hiking around NZ, which naturally led to a strong desire to explore the world around her and immerse herself within other cultures. After finishing high school, Hannah spent a year abroad in Europe where she taught English in Poland, before moving back to NZ to complete a bachelor's in educational psychology. Through friends, Hannah discovered the wonderful world of yachting and after spending the past three and a half years working and experiencing different parts of the world, she has never looked back! By combining her extensive background in hospitality and customer service, a passion for travel and the ocean, and more recently, an intensive yoga teacher training in the Himalayan Foothills of India, Hannah hopes to make your time onboard a memorable one!

## STEWARDESS | SOFIA PROTOPSALTSIS | BRITISH

Sofia is from England and grew up by the beaches of the south coast. After studying Business, she joined her family business managing the office of their jewellery workshop. Later, Sofia spent some time travelling around Australasia, which is where she found a keen interest in travel and culture thus leading her to the yachting industry combining her love for the sea and exploring. Sofia loves the outdoors, staying active and learning new things about the world. With a bubbly and positive character, herself and the rest of the crew will make your stay on board Planet Nine a great one!



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## STEWARDESS | SHAYNA RICHARDSON | NEW ZEALAND



Shayna grew up by the shores of Waikanae Beach in Wellington, New Zealand alongside three older brothers. She had a very active and outgoing upbringing and once she finished school, she went travelling by herself through Europe, an experience she'll never forget! Her favourite destinations were Budapest, Prague and beautiful Poland. Having returned she decided to move to Australia and spent several years working in hospitality whilst setting herself up alongside the beaches of Melbourne. Travel was calling to her again and she heard about the yachting industry through a friend and decided to book a one-way flight to France. Planet Nine is Shayna's first yacht and we couldn't be happier to have her fun can-do personality on board!

## STEWARDESS | KATE POTTER | BRITISH

Kate is our masseuse on board, her career started out in London where she studied and went on to work as a masseuse and skin care specialist in some of the top spas across the South East of England. Kate originally grew up in the very British and colourful coastal town of Brighton. Before going on to further education, at the young age of eighteen Kate decided to go and teach English in a tiny village in Southern India. The following year she left again to teach in Tanzania, Africa.. Little did she know that the travel bug would take hold and that those three weeks would turn into 18 months travelling Central and South America. She landed up in Guatemala where she helped build a hostel over 6 weeks for a BBC documentary, she then flew to California where she purchased a truck and travelled back down through Mexico where she worked in a dive shop and continued down through South America working as a masseuse along the way. Kate's love of the ocean and travel bought her into yachting which she's very much making the most of! Kate enjoys scuba diving, yoga, expanding her Spanish and exploring new destinations.

