

NERO

C O R S A I R Y A C H T S

C R E W P R O F I L E



CAPTAIN

ADRIAN ROCHE - SOUTH AFRICAN

1st season on board
Languages: English

Nicknamed "Zulu" Adrian hails from the kingdom of Zulu tribesmen, on the east coast of South Africa. Born and raised in the African bush, Adrian is sure to lighten up any conversation with tales of his colourful and untamed life growing up. From game capture to hunting for his next meal and fishing in the open water, he can tell a good sea story or two as he claims to have seen a few sea monsters along the way. Maybe he's just been at sea too long? Yes, Nero has its very own Steve Irwin on board! Out of the wild and into the deep blue.

Adrian has since spent 15 years in the yachting industry making his way up the ranks and has commanded vessels, both charter and private, from 40 to 65 meters in length. Having just completed a fantastic 2015 season on board the 50m M/Y Nassima, where the client feedback was amazing. Prior to that he spent two years on board M/Y Mi Sueno, another successful charter yacht, completing both Mediterranean and Caribbean seasons.

When he's not busy on board Adrian can be found on the golf course, relaxing, or catching up on global affairs whilst listening to country music.

Adrian loves a challenge and working under pressure. He is without doubt a fantastic, hands-on Captain with a great emphasis on crew dynamics and a happy and safe work environment, making for a greater guest experience.

Adrian will ensure that your experience on board Nero will be a truly memorable one.

Previous yachts include: M/Y Nassima, M/Y Mi Sueno, M/Y Sea Bird M/Y Lady Lau, M/Y Sunrise, M/Y Happy Days, M/Y Barbara Jean, M/Y Sea Jewel etc.



CHIEF OFFICER DAVID PIDGEON - NEW ZEALANDER

4th season
Languages: English

David was born in Auckland and is the oldest of 6 children. He started sailing as a teenager with the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron Youth Training Programme and studied Law at the University of Auckland. David practiced as a commercial lawyer for 4 years before returning to University to study for a Master of Commerce degree. In 2002 he discovered the yachting industry in the South of France and decided to pursue a career in yachting.

He started as a Deckhand on M/Y Va Bene. He moved to M/Y Lady Ann Magee as Chief Mate in 2007. After qualifying as a Yacht Captain, he joined M/Y Meamina in 2010 as Chief Officer/Relief Captain before joining M/Y Nero. David has 12 years experience on charter yachts and he Captained M/Y Meamina on charter in the Mediterranean, Caribbean, and Maldives, as well as for an Atlantic crossing and two crossings with armed security in naval convoys from the Suez Canal to the Indian Ocean. Prior to yachting, he competed in Ironman triathlons and occasionally played golf. David now enjoys following football, cycling, and Formula 1.



2ND OFFICER - DECK LUKE CAGNEY - SAINT MAARTEN

1st season
Languages: English

Island life is the only life for me says our ever capable and seasoned beyond his years 2nd Officer (Deck) Luke. Originally from Ireland, Luke and his family set sail for the Caribbean island of St Maarten or more affectionately known as "The Rock" many years ago and being that St Maarten is the Mega Yacht capital of the Caribbean, Luke was exposed to the industry at a very early age and spent many a day washing down, scrubbing decks and driving tenders as a "day worker", he has since refined his skills to a fine art.

Luke is truly career orientated and is working towards his Master's licence, looking forward to one day captaining his own ship. He has previously worked on some of the most prestigious charter yachts in the industry such as M/Y Balaju, M/Y Dream, M/Y Ellix Too.



2ND OFFICER - NAVIGATION LEIGH LOVE - SOUTH AFRICAN

1st season

Languages: English

Leigh has been in the yachting industry for the past 12 years, she started as a stewardess but quickly realised that she loved being on deck, working her way up the ranks to become Chief Mate, she is now gaining sea time for her Master 3000gt ticket.

Leigh has great knowledge of the USA Coasts, Bahamas and the Caribbean. Prior to joining NERO she has worked on board yachts such as M/Y Echo, M/Y Avante V and M/Y Netanya 8.

When Leigh has any spare time she enjoys paddle boarding, wake boarding and cycling.



THIRD OFFICER KRISTINA LONG - CANADIAN

2nd season

Languages: English

Kristina was born in Canada and grew up racing skiffs for the Royal Victoria Yacht Club on Vancouver Island. Studying Economics and Environmental Science at University, Kristina spent every morning and evening on the volleyball court and after university turned semi pro, winning 3 national gold medals.

Since 2009 Kristina has worked on deck aboard a number of sailing and motor vessels both private and charter including S/Y ATHENA (90m), M/Y VAVA II (96m) and M/V Pacific Yellowfin, a 1943 converted coastal freighter that chartered in BC's Desolation Sound and Inside Passage. Kristina has sailed extensively in Mediterranean, US, Caribbean and Alaskan waters. When not busy on deck Kristina enjoys kitesurfing, diving and beach volleyball.



CHIEF STEWARDESS SVETLANA BUKUROVA - BULGARIAN

2nd season

Languages: English, conversational Russian and German.

Bulgarian born Svetlana joins NERO for the 2015 season. Having joined the yachting industry in 2006 Svetlana brings with her tons of experience in hospitality from her previous positions on large yachts such as M/Y Kaiser (60m), M/Y Air (81m) and M/Y Ilona (74m). Studying at the University of Varna, Svetlana achieved an Engineering degree in Machine Building Technology.

Svetlana is happy when she sees that the guests are sad to leave as she knows she has done a fantastic job. When not busy on board Svetlana loves diving as she is a certified dive instructor, snowboarding, and yoga, she is also passionate about food and wine tasting.



2ND STEWARDESS JOY MIDDLETON - BRITISH

2nd season

Languages: English

After completing a BA honours in Psychology and Criminology, British born Joy decided to join the yachting industry in 2012.

Joy's hospitality background lies in waitressing in the UK and later as Chalet Manager of a 900 sq/m, five floor, 5* luxury private chalet in Courchevel, France. Here Joy served up to 22 Guests, including Russian and British diplomats and aristocrats. Joy is also experienced with Sede Kosher dietary requirements. Bringing with her a wealth of experience in hospitality shore to ship, she is very excited to have joined the M/Y NERO.



STEWARDESS MYLAH T. DESCARTIN - FILIPINO

7th season

Languages: English, Japanese

Mylah is from Bantayan Island, Cebu, Philippines. She completed her degree in Bachelor of Science in commerce, majoring in computer science in 1994. She started working in the cruise line industry starting on M/Y Asuka I and M/T Asuka II, which were both based in Japan and travelled around the world.

Mylah can speak Nippongo, a Japanese language. In 2005 she got a chance to work on National Geographic Endeavor and then National Geographic Explorer until 2009. Both are expedition yachts and travelled to the Antarctic, Baltic, Svalbard, South Africa and Somalia. Mylah started her yachting industry career on M/Y Lady Christine in 2010 and M/Y Berzinc before joining M/Y NERO in 2011. She enjoys reading books, watching movies and going to historical and religious places.



STEWARDESS CHERYL ANN NEPOMUCENO - FILIPINO

2nd season

Languages: English and basic German

Cheryl joined the yachting industry in 2006 and has worked on large yachts such as M/Y Annaliese, M/Y Lauren L and M/Y Lady Lau which gave her a lot of experience in service and silver service. She is very excited to have joined M/Y Nero.

Cheryl has cruised the Med, Caribbean, Asia and Antarctica, she still has a desire to cruise in US waters.

Hobbies include swimming, reading and baking cakes.



STEWARDESS/MASSEUSE ALEXANDRA ZADERER - SOUTH AFRICAN

3rd season

Languages: English, German & Afrikaans

Alexandra was born in Cape Town and is a qualified Somatologist. She takes great pride in her work and loves to make people happy and relaxed. Before studying Alexandra's desire was to work on cruise ships and travel the world, she is passionate about giving great service and making sure that she does her best in everything.

Directly after finishing her studies she pursued her career on cruise ships and worked as a Beauty Therapist at the onboard spa's. Alexandra's wish was to go back home to take up a new position at the One & Only Spa where she became Head Therapist. After a few years, Alexandra searched for a new challenge and was asked to manage a 5 star guesthouse which she took on with great enthusiasm and creativity. Alexandra loves to be in nature and is passionate about animals. She also enjoys great food, loves to do ballet and is very interested in the arts, culture and beautiful things.



LAUNDRY JOVEN JUDRIASEN - FILIPINO

5th season

Languages: English

Joven is from Manila in the Philippines and has been in the yachting industry for 10 years. Prior to this he studied Marine Engineering in the Philippines. He then moved across to the hospitality industry where he worked as a butler in high class hotels as well as on cruise ships for the 'P&O' line.

Before joining M/Y NERO, Joven worked on board M/Y Michaela Rose and M/Y Lady Feryal. It's his 4th year that he is delivering an excellent laundry service onboard M/Y NERO. In his spare time Joven enjoys rowing and basketball.



HEAD CHEF

MICHAEL SAVVA - BRITISH

2nd season

Languages: English & Greek

Chef Michael, was classically trained in the kitchens of some of London's leading hotels, having worked his way up he was appointed Senior "Chef de Partie" at the Trump International Hotel & Tower in New York. Armed with an abundance of experience Michael headed to France to the 5* Hotel Martinez, Cannes and their multi award winning La Palme d'Or Restaurant. He then worked his way across Europe as "Chef de Partie" at some of the most prestigious restaurants and hotels. With a wealth of European experience Michael took on his first "Chef de Cuisine" position at the Deluxe Victoria Park Plaza in London, Michael then moved to the multi-award winning Hempel Hotel as Executive Head Chef, responsible for a brigade of 16 where his culinary skills were soon recognised by many of the UK's leading food critics. Prior to joining NERO Michael worked as head chef on board M/Y Talitha G (79m), M/Y La Mirage (54m) and M/Y Paramour (45m).



SOUS CHEF

ROGER GANTUANGCO - FILIPINO

4th season

Languages: English

At the age of 17, Roger started a computer science course, then he gained the Associate's Degree in radio communications, however the culinary arts was something he wanted to do for his career. Roger completed a Culinary Arts Course a few years later in his hometown. In 1997 he started working at various five stars hotels and restaurants in Cebu and continued for 8 years preparing international cuisine. In 2004 he joined the luxurious Norwegian Cruise Liner for another 6 years cooking for people from all over the world. Roger joined the yachting industry in 2010 on a 75m Sailing Yacht Phocea and he discovered his passion for private dining. He was on M/Y Maridome for a season, before joining M/Y NERO in 2013. He enjoys cooking for the NERO crew during winter time and assisting the Head Chef during the season.



CHIEF ENGINEER - ROTATIONAL FERNANDO DUMAGPI - FILIPINO

9th season
Languages: English

Fernando is one of NERO's longest standing crew members. It's his 7th year onboard. He has a class 1 Marine Engineering degree. After his studies he became an engineering cadet onboard commercial cargo ships. He stayed on cargo ships for 9 years progressing to a Motorman and then to a Port Engineer. He then worked as a Third Engineer on board large commercial cruise liners, a part of the 'V-Ships' fleet. He was then promoted to Second Engineer and in 2007 made the move into the super yachts industry. He spent a year on board M/Y Lauren L as Second Engineer prior to joining M/Y NERO in 2008. He was a part of the NERO build team in China and in 2010 was promoted to the Chief Engineer's position. In his spare time Fernando likes to sing Karaoke, play basketball. He is also a keen fisherman.



CHIEF ENGINEER - ROTATIONAL FELIX DE LIRA - FILIPINO

6th season
Languages: English

Our Chief Engineer Felix has worked onboard Nero for three years. He gained many years experience at sea, working as a 3rd engineer for Stena line in the Baltic Sea, on an Oil Rig in the North Sea and a cable laying vessel across the Atlantic. After gaining further sea time on livestock courier ships he decided to use his extensive marine engineering knowledge in the more luxurious industry of yachting! Felix loves the excitement and possibilities of meeting people from all walks of life. His hobbies are reading books, cooking and playing basketball.



ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

RAUL CELMAR - FILIPINO

12th season
Languages: English

Raul is from Cebu in the Philippines. He has a degree in Electronics and prior to working on super yachts had spent 10 years as an Electrician on board commercial vessels cruising worldwide.

He was a member of an original M/Y NERO building team in China in 2006 and has been staying onboard for 9 years now. He is the administrator of all the IT and communication systems on NERO. In his spare time he enjoys Karaoke, water sports and Sky TV.



DECKHAND

CALVIN JANOS - SOUTH AFRICAN

2nd season
Languages: English

South African born Calvin is new to the yachting industry having just completed 3 months on the 47m M/Y Yalla before joining the M/Y Nero. Calvin is a professional tennis coach and spent two years in schools and tennis clubs around Cape Town teaching children and adults, prior to that he was a tennis coach at a summer camp in the USA.

Calvin is also a qualified life guard and fitness is very important to him, he plays 5 aside football, doubles and singles tennis, and is a keen runner regularly running half marathons.



DECKHAND SHAUN DALTON - SOUTH AFRICAN

1st season
Languages: English

Shaun joins NERO for the 2015/16 Caribbean season, only joining the yachting industry in the summer of 2015 on the 99m M/Y Christina O.

Shaun's goal is to continue to progress in his career as a deckhand/watersports instructor working towards his Yacht Master Offshore. Describing himself as dedicated, disciplined, fast learning and always looking for ways to improve.

When not busy on board he is a passionate sportsman and enjoys DJing.



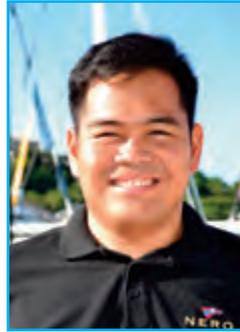
DECKHAND FRANCIS CABATUAN - FILIPINO

1st season
Languages: English

Francis joins Nero for the 2015/16 season. His previous experience he has been on cargo ships, container ships and bulk carriers.

He studied for a Bachelor of Science and Marine Transportation degree and also has qualifications in crisis and crowd management and passenger and cargo safety.

When not on board Francis enjoys swimming, fishing and listening to music.



DECKHAND/ETO

LYLE CELMAR - FILIPINO

6th season
Languages: English

Born in Cebu City in the Philippines, Lyle obtained a degree in Electrical Technology. His first job was as a cook in a famous restaurant in the Philippines, called Jollibee.

Before joining M/Y Nero he worked in a Keppel Shipyard in Cebu City as an electrician. In 2009 Lyle joined M/Y Nero as an assistant electrician and during the charter season he works as a deckhand on board. In his spare time, Lyle likes playing basketball, listening to music, watching movies and loves cooking especially during the low season when he gets to show his culinary skills to the other crew members.

