## **Alastair Wilson**

Alastair Wilson has a passion for the Antarctic, with a deep family history associated with the continent. His great-great-uncle, Dr Edward Wilson, was the artist, zoologist and chief of scientific staff aboard the Discovery and Terra Nova expeditions led by Captain R.F. Scott. Alastair has spent a lifetime studying nature, and is also a photographer, zoologist and scientific explorer. He has completed a Masters in Conservation and Land Management, monitored seabirds in Wales, Scotland, the Falklands, New Zealand, South Georgia, and worked for the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) for four years. He is a licensed bird ringer/bander with 30 years experience handling and tracking a multitude of avian species.

Whilst at King Edward Point (South Georgia) for 2.5 years Alastair monitored Antarctic fur seals, gentoo penguins and wandering albatross, spent time aboard Krill fishing vessels, and performed boating operations for the South Georgia Government. During 1.5 years on Bird Island (South Georgia) as a zoologist and winter station leader he monitored giant petrels, penguins, albatross, and managed the research station.

Alastair currently works as an ecologist and professional drone pilot in Wales, UK, which he also calls home. Using the drone he regularly surveys large sections of protected land in Wales, using the data for active conservation projects. His deep interest in the natural world and species conservation continually drives him to protect the natural spaces he's in charge of.

His heart remains in the polar regions though, and values the opportunity to use his professional skills to support conservation and research on Viking/Oceanities expeditions in the Antarctic.