



Karl Williamson

Hello, my name is Karl Williamson and I'm a proud father of 2 daughters. I am 42 years old and currently reside in enemy territory in the Northwest in a town called Warrington, known for Rugby League, Chris Evans and Sadly Kerry Katona. I have lived out of Newcastle for 21 years, but my heart has never left the Northeast. I'm a proud North Shields lad. Where I was from, as soon as you could walk, you were a NUFC fan that's just how it is. We bleed black and white!

As far as my memory can go back, I have always been a passionate supporter of the club. My early memories of getting in to watch a game when they used to open the turnstiles at the Gallowgate 10 mins before the end of the game and I'd run in to see if I could watch the last few minutes. Most famously managed to sneak in and watch us beat Leicester 7-1 in 1993 and win the first division trophy. Memories of games like Sheff Wed away in that famous away shirt to beating Man U 5-0 and then Barcelona in the CL always come to mind. However, what really makes my hairs stand up is being with friends and family at the match whether it's in the pub or the hallowed SJP. Nothing beats the roar and build up when local hero is blasted out. Now almost 40 years on from being a supporter I get to do the greatest thing of all and that is go to the games with Alivia 17 and Lillyana 7. They are both born out of the area and were both the only kids at School supporting the Toon. As non-season ticket holders (but members) I had one of the greatest days in my life where for the first time me and my 2 daughters attended a game against Man City.



I said to the little one did you enjoy the game she said, "Yes Daddy". I said, "what was the best part of the match for you?", her response "when we scored dad I had a funny feeling in my tummy". That says it all for me and this is one of the main reasons I want to join the Trust.

As you may be able to tell so far, I'm really passionate about things I love and NUFC is one of them. I always give 100% to anything I do in life and focus and work with people to make sure the goals that are set out are achieved. I have worked with the Warrington Wolves Foundation in the past and I'm huge on doing things for charity. I raised over 6K for a hospice climbing Kilimanjaro in the past and next year I'm running the GNR for Cancer Research UK. I am currently a Treasurer for a charity that is linked to my youngest daughter's school which shows I'm trustworthy. In my day role I work as an Account Director for a managed IT company, so I look after some large accounts and meet with C Suite individuals on a regular basis. That skill set is transferable to the Trust in where we would be holding meetings and

keeping to agendas, all what I currently do in my work role. Being a democratic voted in role I'm more than aware that we need to focus on the needs of our members, but also work with the wider fans base to listen to views from all sides to try and close down the divide and the reputation the Trust may have to some sides of the fan base. We all have our own views on things but it's how we listen and act which shapes what kind of Trust we want to be moving forward.

I want to be part of the board that does do just that. I'm not afraid to challenge upwards but can take onboard reasons why decisions are made.

Lastly things I'd love to focus on help the trust develop would be as follows:

- It's no surprise as a father of 2 girls I'd love to help the trust form a better relationship with the women's team and shine a light on them. This may be the only way some supporters can see the famous black and white stripes live.
- More charity support and engaging to help our members feel like they are making a real difference to our chosen charities we support. (As a non-board member, I'm hosting a quiz night on behalf on the Trust helping raising funds for the Newcastle United Foundation.)
- With me not currently living in the region I want to be a beacon of support for all those members who don't live in the area and may feel their voice is not heard as much.

Regards Karl,