

## Mr Tibbs







Hello everyone and welcome to my first column of 2012. I thought I would start off by asking my good friend and #wlf comrade, Tarmac the Cat, to tell you a bit about himself and his family.

"Hi, I'm Tarmac and I live in Ireland. My sisfurs, Lydia Kitteh and Boudica are all members of #wlf on Twitter. #wlf (Whiskers Liberation Front) is a great way to meet other kittehs and anipals who are hell bent on world domination). We discuss the best way to annoy our hoomans, the best noms (translates as food – Ed.) and we talk about our daily routines. It is also a force for good and we have fund raisers to help other cats and hoomans who are less fortunate than ourselves. We have made many good furriends via the #wlf.

My mom, Wendy, wasn't a cat person until Bramble arrived; she found him in a bramble patch. After that, she was hooked so now she is staff to 6 cats, Simba, Spanner, Zoot, Lydia, Boudica and of course, me. Sim, Spans and Zoot are now 7, Lyds and I are 1 and Bou is 7 months old. All were taken in off the street except Sim who was a present. Zoot was a tiny kitten with half his ear missing when

Mom found him following two young lads up the road. Lyds used to hang around the garden and was found one morning with an empty can stuck on her head. Soon after she moved in, the poor girl had pneumonia and we nearly lost her. Spanner was brought to us by one of Mom's friends. Mom thought Bou was dead when she first saw her lying at the side of the road but she recovered when brought home and me, well, I was found one morning with the colony of ferals that Mom feeds.





requesting legislation to protect cats as we are unfairly classed as vermin in Ireland, whether we are domestic or feral (see details of the petition below\*).

She started feeding the ferals after she saw them whilst on her morning walk. They were living in a garden that belonged to an elderly man and were in a terrible state. They used to belong to an old lady who had to go into care and after that they moved to the next house down. It broke Mom's heart to see them hungry so she just had to help. There were 15 of them originally but unfortunately some had to be PTS and some have been killed on the road. Thanks to ISPCA they were all neutered except 1 female who had kittens. At the moment there are 6 that Mom feeds and the kind lady at the Carlow branch of the ISPCA is going to get them neutered for her. The lovely members of the #wlf raised over €500 to help Mom get food for the ferals. Mom also took part in the recent 'Forgotten Felines Protest' when a 4000 signature petition was handed to the Government

2 of my brofurs, Sim n Zoot, are gingers, Spanner is black & white, Lyds is white & tabby, I am grey & white and Bou is tabby & white. We all consider ourselves very fortunate to have such a wonderful, caring Mom who does so much to help as many cats as she can."

Well that's a nice story to start the year with. I'm going off to play with my new squeaky mouse on a stick toy which arrived at Christmas so I'll see you all next time.

Mr Tibbs



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\*You can sign the petition at www.thepetitionsite.com/2/funds-for-irelands-feral-cats-and-kittens