



The wild true stories behind the 21 funniest animal photos of all time: 'It only lasted half a second, but I was ready'

From a smelly fish to howling mice and a curious monkey, why do people who capture images of wild animals often get the shot?

by G. J. R. ...

Portrait of an Arrogant Beagle, Patrick Reymer, 2018



Photograph: Patrick Reymer/evanscoast.nl

Buffalo Having a Bad Day, Tom Stables, 2016



Sheepish Smile, Charlie Mackinnon, 2014



Photograph: Charles Mackinnon/Solent News & Photo Agency

It was just another day at the sheep yard for Izzie the black kelpie until, as Tasmanian farmer Charlie Mackinnon put it, his "best dog" got caught. Izzie was helping herd sheep on Mackinnon's family farm when she slipped and got stuck, Mackinnon has said. "Izzy just sat there like in the photo looking at me, so I whipped out my phone and took this shot." She was quickly rescued. A single print of the photo was pinned on Mackinnon's fridge for years before he entered it in a sheep photography competition - it soon won the hearts of thousands when it went viral on social media.

Station Squabble, Sam Rowley, 2016



The Big Boss, Kenichi Morinaga, 2023



Photograph: Kenichi Morinaga

News of the large feral feline population on Japan's Ainosima island acted as catnip to professional cat photographer Kenichi Morinaga. "My shooting style is walking from morning until sunset, without lunch, to find lazy cats," he says. This heavyweight individual lounging harbourside with a mafioso air immediately caught his eye. "This big boss makes us smile ... Maybe he has a good build. That, and his way of sitting is so embarrassing and lazy. That's why it is funny."

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/dec/09/wild-true-stories-21-funniest-animal-photos>