

1
00:00:05,980 --> 00:00:13,679
welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

2
00:00:09,099 --> 00:00:13,679
from Australia for science and reason

3
00:00:22,530 --> 00:00:29,050
hello and welcome to the skeptics iron

4
00:00:25,059 --> 00:00:31,719
episode number 414 for the 22nd of sep

5
00:00:29,050 --> 00:00:33,910
tember 2016 Richardson is here with you

6
00:00:31,719 --> 00:00:35,920
from Sydney Australia and now you don't

7
00:00:33,909 --> 00:00:37,839
have to check your clocks or make sure

8
00:00:35,920 --> 00:00:39,850
you haven't fallen backwards into some

9
00:00:37,840 --> 00:00:43,629
sort of weird time warp and ended up in

10
00:00:39,850 --> 00:00:46,390
the future the skeptic zone is early

11
00:00:43,628 --> 00:00:48,820
normally comes out on the weekend as you

12
00:00:46,390 --> 00:00:52,268
know this week is coming out early to

13
00:00:48,820 --> 00:00:54,700
help to help our friend Ben Goldacre who

14
00:00:52,268 --> 00:00:58,058
is currently touring australia and new

15
00:00:54,700 --> 00:01:01,329
zealand and those people in Brisbane he

16
00:00:58,058 --> 00:01:04,269
is appearing tonight tonight you have

17
00:01:01,329 --> 00:01:05,969
time to get tickets to see Ben Goldacre

18
00:01:04,269 --> 00:01:08,439
coming up at the top of the show an

19
00:01:05,969 --> 00:01:11,079
interview with Ben Goldacre a couple of

20
00:01:08,439 --> 00:01:13,509
days ago here in Sydney I met up with a

21
00:01:11,079 --> 00:01:16,618
man at last been wanting to meet been

22
00:01:13,509 --> 00:01:18,700
for many years and we had a good chat

23
00:01:16,618 --> 00:01:21,399
it's interesting Ben what are

24
00:01:18,700 --> 00:01:23,409
interesting man barriers he likes to say

25
00:01:21,399 --> 00:01:25,359
he's an equal-opportunity quack buster

26
00:01:23,409 --> 00:01:27,368
in other words he doesn't confine

27
00:01:25,359 --> 00:01:29,469
himself to the outrageous claims and

28
00:01:27,368 --> 00:01:32,290
foolery of quacks and sharks and

29

00:01:29,469 --> 00:01:35,500
charlatans he also applies his critical

30
00:01:32,290 --> 00:01:37,710
thinking to a much broader scope really

31
00:01:35,500 --> 00:01:40,688
to pharmaceutical companies and other

32
00:01:37,709 --> 00:01:43,688
people who sadly from time to time

33
00:01:40,688 --> 00:01:45,309
indulge in dodgy science find out more

34
00:01:43,688 --> 00:01:47,399
in a couple of minutes with that my

35
00:01:45,310 --> 00:01:50,290
interview with Ben Goldacre and

36
00:01:47,400 --> 00:01:52,270
information also there about how you too

37
00:01:50,290 --> 00:01:56,140
can get to see him in Brisbane or

38
00:01:52,269 --> 00:01:58,298
Melbourne Auckland and Sydney following

39
00:01:56,140 --> 00:02:01,540
that it's our reporter shelly stock and

40
00:01:58,299 --> 00:02:03,579
with a piece about dr. google now this

41
00:02:01,540 --> 00:02:07,450
is something of course dr. HC a long

42
00:02:03,578 --> 00:02:12,209
time and noted reporter tackles shelly

43
00:02:07,450 --> 00:02:15,489

will bring us um her angles her view on

44

00:02:12,209 --> 00:02:17,199

dr. Google should you google dr. Google

45

00:02:15,489 --> 00:02:20,519

then to round off the show another

46

00:02:17,199 --> 00:02:23,199

report with the help of our friend

47

00:02:20,519 --> 00:02:25,930

reasonable Hank at the reasonable Hank

48

00:02:23,199 --> 00:02:29,919

blog and if you haven't checked out that

49

00:02:25,930 --> 00:02:34,540

blog you should because in the past week

50

00:02:29,919 --> 00:02:36,548

news came to us of a film

51

00:02:34,539 --> 00:02:40,840

of all in the state of Victoria who have

52

00:02:36,549 --> 00:02:43,420

slated the movie vax to be shown early

53

00:02:40,840 --> 00:02:46,150

next month I think needless to say this

54

00:02:43,419 --> 00:02:48,669

has caused great concern amongst her

55

00:02:46,150 --> 00:02:52,390

many members of the community we were

56

00:02:48,669 --> 00:02:55,089

contacted by somebody who was very

57

00:02:52,389 --> 00:02:57,969

concerned about this I help spread the

58
00:02:55,090 --> 00:03:01,060
word and pretty soon pretty soon

59
00:02:57,969 --> 00:03:03,430
reasonable Hank got onto the job and he

60
00:03:01,060 --> 00:03:05,859
and his team have uncovered some very

61
00:03:03,430 --> 00:03:09,519
disturbing information about that whole

62
00:03:05,859 --> 00:03:11,019
sorry affair but find out more towards

63
00:03:09,519 --> 00:03:14,889
the end of the show where we will be

64
00:03:11,019 --> 00:03:18,310
reporting about the proposed viewing

65
00:03:14,889 --> 00:03:20,919
those screening of the movie vax to next

66
00:03:18,310 --> 00:03:23,560
month here in Australia now let me bring

67
00:03:20,919 --> 00:03:26,469
up a bit of music here oh yes that's

68
00:03:23,560 --> 00:03:28,840
just that's just delightful if you

69
00:03:26,469 --> 00:03:30,188
haven't heard the Blue Castle podcast it

70
00:03:28,840 --> 00:03:32,530
might be of interest to you there's a

71
00:03:30,188 --> 00:03:36,250
link right on the homepage at skeptic

72
00:03:32,530 --> 00:03:38,500
zone TV now this is a podcast put out by

73
00:03:36,250 --> 00:03:40,658
my very own sisters and I'm very proud

74
00:03:38,500 --> 00:03:44,709
that I've done this and this is all

75
00:03:40,658 --> 00:03:47,250
about artistic women in Sydney who have

76
00:03:44,709 --> 00:03:50,709
made a business out of their artistic

77
00:03:47,250 --> 00:03:53,348
talents and skills nothing to do with

78
00:03:50,709 --> 00:03:54,819
skepticism but since it's my sisters I'm

79
00:03:53,348 --> 00:03:57,399
not allowed to promote it the Blue

80
00:03:54,818 --> 00:03:59,228
Castle podcast I think it will be of

81
00:03:57,400 --> 00:04:03,129
interest to many people check it out at

82
00:03:59,229 --> 00:04:04,659
skeptic zone TV I'm looking forward to

83
00:04:03,128 --> 00:04:06,399
meeting some skeptics and fans and

84
00:04:04,658 --> 00:04:09,478
others at the Australian skeptics dinner

85
00:04:06,400 --> 00:04:11,620
meeting with Lynn Kelly the noted author

86

00:04:09,479 --> 00:04:13,419
and I don't know if there are still

87
00:04:11,620 --> 00:04:14,709
tickets available but those people in

88
00:04:13,419 --> 00:04:17,739
Sydney if you're quick and go to

89
00:04:14,709 --> 00:04:22,000
skeptics condo day you you may be able

90
00:04:17,738 --> 00:04:23,978
to snap some up also this Saturday zone

91
00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:27,180
reporter Maynard and I and a couple of

92
00:04:23,978 --> 00:04:29,500
friends will be heading out to a

93
00:04:27,180 --> 00:04:32,280
paranormal convention for a couple of

94
00:04:29,500 --> 00:04:35,348
hours to do some interviews and

95
00:04:32,279 --> 00:04:37,209
reporting it's always a lot of fun i do

96
00:04:35,348 --> 00:04:39,430
enjoy going to paranormal conventions

97
00:04:37,209 --> 00:04:41,489
well maybe they should all be simply

98
00:04:39,430 --> 00:04:44,110
reabeled claims of the paranormal

99
00:04:41,490 --> 00:04:45,879
conventions maybe whenever you hear the

100
00:04:44,110 --> 00:04:48,430

word paranormal maybe if you put the

101

00:04:45,879 --> 00:04:51,519

words claims of the

102

00:04:48,430 --> 00:04:53,410

in front of it I'm a paranormal

103

00:04:51,519 --> 00:04:55,029

investigator well no actually you're a

104

00:04:53,410 --> 00:04:57,760

claims of the paranormal investigator

105

00:04:55,029 --> 00:05:00,099

does that work and now indulge me folks

106

00:04:57,759 --> 00:05:04,709

along the same line of thinking

107

00:05:00,100 --> 00:05:08,110

sometimes I wonder if homeopathy is real

108

00:05:04,709 --> 00:05:11,799

then what what I mean what I mean by

109

00:05:08,110 --> 00:05:15,449

that if if a homeopathic pill or liquid

110

00:05:11,800 --> 00:05:18,879

or whatever is simply the lack of

111

00:05:15,449 --> 00:05:20,800

ingredients so it's a sugar pill with no

112

00:05:18,879 --> 00:05:22,689

ingredients in it because after the

113

00:05:20,800 --> 00:05:26,259

homeopathic processing all the

114

00:05:22,689 --> 00:05:29,139

ingredients are removed oh if they were

115
00:05:26,259 --> 00:05:30,550
even there in the first place then and

116
00:05:29,139 --> 00:05:33,129
you're presented with a pill and they

117
00:05:30,550 --> 00:05:37,030
say this is a homeopathic pill is it

118
00:05:33,129 --> 00:05:41,649
does it even exists can a homeopathic

119
00:05:37,029 --> 00:05:43,719
pill actually be a thing hmm I should

120
00:05:41,649 --> 00:05:46,659
have asked Ben Goldacre that but now

121
00:05:43,720 --> 00:05:49,840
it's time for me to run downstairs run

122
00:05:46,660 --> 00:05:52,390
out the door run to my car drive to the

123
00:05:49,839 --> 00:05:54,969
tram now I'm letter to be lazy I just

124
00:05:52,389 --> 00:05:58,269
walk to the tram station or the light

125
00:05:54,970 --> 00:06:01,600
rail as they call it here travel to

126
00:05:58,269 --> 00:06:03,719
glebe get off their walk up the hill

127
00:06:01,600 --> 00:06:07,030
ugly point road and find myself in

128
00:06:03,720 --> 00:06:09,280
madame frou frou cafe madame frou frou

129
00:06:07,029 --> 00:06:10,989
on Glee Point Road where I often go for

130
00:06:09,279 --> 00:06:13,029
a coffee and meet up with me not to chat

131
00:06:10,990 --> 00:06:16,120
about the skeptic zone and other things

132
00:06:13,029 --> 00:06:19,229
and where may not and Tim Ferguson

133
00:06:16,120 --> 00:06:23,740
record the bunga bunga podcast at

134
00:06:19,230 --> 00:06:25,750
Maynard calm not a you big shout out to

135
00:06:23,740 --> 00:06:28,180
all my friends at Madame frou frou I'll

136
00:06:25,750 --> 00:06:30,220
be there soon and I'll order my favorite

137
00:06:28,180 --> 00:06:32,680
and they know that which is a flat white

138
00:06:30,220 --> 00:06:38,530
coffee with a lovely coffee aren't made

139
00:06:32,680 --> 00:06:40,240
by barista Ritu and oh I think some

140
00:06:38,529 --> 00:06:41,919
peanut butter toast on sourdough bread

141
00:06:40,240 --> 00:06:45,009
please if you can have that order ready

142
00:06:41,920 --> 00:06:47,290
for me I'll be there soon and while i'm

143

00:06:45,009 --> 00:06:50,579
enjoying thinking about that i hope you

144
00:06:47,290 --> 00:06:50,580
enjoy the skeptics am

145
00:07:12,120 --> 00:07:16,930
delighted to be here in Sydney to talk

146
00:07:14,439 --> 00:07:19,449
with the a man are wanting to a meet in

147
00:07:16,930 --> 00:07:20,949
person for many years now man has

148
00:07:19,449 --> 00:07:23,740
appeared on the skeptic zone but not

149
00:07:20,949 --> 00:07:26,439
since 2009 all the way from the UK it's

150
00:07:23,740 --> 00:07:27,908
been going hello Ben hey hello I mean

151
00:07:26,439 --> 00:07:30,728
you say all the way from the UK I've

152
00:07:27,908 --> 00:07:32,319
just been there for a few decades but it

153
00:07:30,728 --> 00:07:34,269
was still it's all the way from the UK

154
00:07:32,319 --> 00:07:37,030
I'd say I say that because it sounds

155
00:07:34,269 --> 00:07:39,068
exotic for the showing well you know I

156
00:07:37,029 --> 00:07:40,809
I'm traveling on an Australian passport

157
00:07:39,069 --> 00:07:42,430

in fact I'd like to do this interview in

158

00:07:40,810 --> 00:07:45,038

my Australian accent if that would be ok

159

00:07:42,430 --> 00:07:47,590

not deserve ok well let's go good luck

160

00:07:45,038 --> 00:07:51,189

ok well it's great to see you you're

161

00:07:47,589 --> 00:07:53,679

here brought out by the people at think

162

00:07:51,189 --> 00:07:55,538

ink thinking lovely people who I've

163

00:07:53,680 --> 00:07:57,069

worked for before number years about go

164

00:07:55,538 --> 00:07:59,620

about two years ago I was lucky enough

165

00:07:57,069 --> 00:08:01,598

to be the host interviewer for James

166

00:07:59,620 --> 00:08:04,269

Randi oh great for the James Randi to it

167

00:08:01,598 --> 00:08:07,240

and you're touring in fact you kick off

168

00:08:04,269 --> 00:08:08,918

on thursday night in Brisbane correct

169

00:08:07,240 --> 00:08:11,439

then you go to Melbourne Auckland and

170

00:08:08,918 --> 00:08:13,060

Sydney it's quite a busy schedule back

171

00:08:11,439 --> 00:08:14,908

to back yeah it's a real shame I was

172
00:08:13,060 --> 00:08:18,069
hoping to see more of Family and

173
00:08:14,908 --> 00:08:19,598
Australia but there it is there it is so

174
00:08:18,069 --> 00:08:21,960
folks there's the word before we get

175
00:08:19,598 --> 00:08:25,329
further on if you go to thinking dot org

176
00:08:21,959 --> 00:08:27,908
dot a you you can see the tour details

177
00:08:25,329 --> 00:08:29,378
and still have time to buy your tickets

178
00:08:27,908 --> 00:08:31,389
I'm certainly going to be turning up at

179
00:08:29,379 --> 00:08:33,990
the Sydney your Sydney talk and I'm

180
00:08:31,389 --> 00:08:36,278
looking forward very much to that Ben

181
00:08:33,990 --> 00:08:38,500
will be following you for years of

182
00:08:36,278 --> 00:08:40,778
course with bad science and things like

183
00:08:38,500 --> 00:08:42,339
that what was the genesis of putting bad

184
00:08:40,778 --> 00:08:44,139
in front of everything because it's

185
00:08:42,339 --> 00:08:47,829
wrong there's a lot of people now who do

186
00:08:44,139 --> 00:08:51,819
that uh I guess at the time I wanted to

187
00:08:47,828 --> 00:08:53,169
I wanted a label that turn to make sure

188
00:08:51,820 --> 00:08:55,720
you know it did what it said on the tin

189
00:08:53,169 --> 00:08:57,969
and bad science is fundamentally what

190
00:08:55,720 --> 00:09:01,680
I'm all about i I'm interested in how

191
00:08:57,970 --> 00:09:05,800
people misuse and misrepresent evidence

192
00:09:01,679 --> 00:09:07,929
in every possible sector so I'm not just

193
00:09:05,799 --> 00:09:08,639
after quacks 90 vaccination conspiracy

194
00:09:07,929 --> 00:09:10,739
theorists

195
00:09:08,639 --> 00:09:14,009
I'm an equal opportunities quack Buster

196
00:09:10,740 --> 00:09:16,230
so I go for dodgy politicians and PR

197
00:09:14,009 --> 00:09:18,600
people dodgy journalists but also bad

198
00:09:16,230 --> 00:09:20,850
behavior by drug companies bad behavior

199
00:09:18,600 --> 00:09:25,170
by academics themselves academic journal

200

00:09:20,850 --> 00:09:26,670
editors and so on so the beds really is

201
00:09:25,169 --> 00:09:28,139
the crux of what you've been

202
00:09:26,669 --> 00:09:30,509
concentrating on over the last few years

203
00:09:28,139 --> 00:09:32,549
and I think it is catchy isn't it to put

204
00:09:30,509 --> 00:09:35,189
something bad in front of of something

205
00:09:32,549 --> 00:09:38,699
you really it's for the media to I think

206
00:09:35,190 --> 00:09:40,620
it's it stands out yeah but also I mean

207
00:09:38,700 --> 00:09:43,950
um although all of my books have

208
00:09:40,620 --> 00:09:45,240
slightly smarmy titles and I'm not I'm

209
00:09:43,950 --> 00:09:47,250
not in the business of just going around

210
00:09:45,240 --> 00:09:49,440
saying what's why what's right and

211
00:09:47,250 --> 00:09:52,860
what's wrong yeah i'm interested in

212
00:09:49,440 --> 00:09:54,360
unpicking evidence and explaining how it

213
00:09:52,860 --> 00:09:55,950
falls short so really it's just a

214
00:09:54,360 --> 00:09:58,200

gimmick for explaining how science

215

00:09:55,950 --> 00:09:59,310

really works you take examples and

216

00:09:58,200 --> 00:10:00,780

people getting stuff roll and actually I

217

00:09:59,309 --> 00:10:03,139

think that matches the structure of

218

00:10:00,779 --> 00:10:05,220

science itself because science is about

219

00:10:03,139 --> 00:10:07,169

critically appraising the evidence for

220

00:10:05,220 --> 00:10:09,629

somebody else's position yeah you know

221

00:10:07,169 --> 00:10:11,429

it's a it's a bloodbath it's a fight but

222

00:10:09,629 --> 00:10:13,559

it's a professional one with rules and

223

00:10:11,429 --> 00:10:15,209

structures around it and actually with

224

00:10:13,559 --> 00:10:17,729

my more recent work like for example the

225

00:10:15,210 --> 00:10:20,210

compare trials project tracking how

226

00:10:17,730 --> 00:10:22,200

academic journal editors respond to

227

00:10:20,210 --> 00:10:24,870

notifications that we've been writing a

228

00:10:22,200 --> 00:10:26,790

batch of correction letters to academic

229
00:10:24,870 --> 00:10:29,310
journals where they've misreported

230
00:10:26,789 --> 00:10:31,049
clinical trials and this has been a

231
00:10:29,309 --> 00:10:32,939
really big project huge team of people

232
00:10:31,049 --> 00:10:35,579
in Oxford and that we've been running

233
00:10:32,940 --> 00:10:38,430
over the last nine months and it's

234
00:10:35,580 --> 00:10:40,050
really interesting to see how the

235
00:10:38,429 --> 00:10:41,489
structures of science themselves aren't

236
00:10:40,049 --> 00:10:43,500
working as advertised so

237
00:10:41,490 --> 00:10:45,899
post-publication peer review isn't

238
00:10:43,500 --> 00:10:47,789
really working properly journal editors

239
00:10:45,899 --> 00:10:50,429
and try lists behaving in really

240
00:10:47,789 --> 00:10:51,809
fascinating and often quite unimpressive

241
00:10:50,429 --> 00:10:54,120
ways when presented with these

242
00:10:51,809 --> 00:10:56,669
Corrections so I guess over the course

243
00:10:54,120 --> 00:10:59,190
of the last decade my work has moved on

244
00:10:56,669 --> 00:11:00,659
and got nerdier an earlier as time

245
00:10:59,190 --> 00:11:03,270
passes and got into more and more

246
00:11:00,659 --> 00:11:05,699
technical corners but I think you know

247
00:11:03,269 --> 00:11:07,559
the kind of traditional skeptic audience

248
00:11:05,700 --> 00:11:08,550
and I'm not sure identifies the

249
00:11:07,559 --> 00:11:10,349
scripting own because I'm just not

250
00:11:08,549 --> 00:11:12,479
really a joiner you know no I'm not a

251
00:11:10,350 --> 00:11:13,860
member of a golf club either I mean I

252
00:11:12,480 --> 00:11:17,580
don't know why I pick that example I

253
00:11:13,860 --> 00:11:21,029
think but right yeah you know it's all

254
00:11:17,580 --> 00:11:24,030
the same stuff it's all people misuse

255
00:11:21,029 --> 00:11:27,000
science misusing evidence just it with

256
00:11:24,029 --> 00:11:28,860
different scales of difficulty I suppose

257

00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:30,809
this whole thing I'm earring out up

258
00:11:28,860 --> 00:11:33,899
about peer review because it's often

259
00:11:30,809 --> 00:11:36,179
held up to be some mythical gold

260
00:11:33,899 --> 00:11:38,129
standard of everything BP it hasn't been

261
00:11:36,179 --> 00:11:39,659
peer-reviewed then then we don't want to

262
00:11:38,129 --> 00:11:41,879
know about it but as you point out

263
00:11:39,659 --> 00:11:43,620
that's problematic yeah I mean I've

264
00:11:41,879 --> 00:11:45,779
always been quite queasy about people

265
00:11:43,620 --> 00:11:48,750
saying I've always been quite queasy

266
00:11:45,779 --> 00:11:50,579
about any actual kind of fur hey dr. Ben

267
00:11:48,750 --> 00:11:53,279
what are your top five ways that people

268
00:11:50,580 --> 00:11:54,840
consumers can spot bad science and I and

269
00:11:53,279 --> 00:11:57,750
I think when you give people shortcuts

270
00:11:54,840 --> 00:11:59,280
like oh is it peer reviewed and I think

271
00:11:57,750 --> 00:12:01,139

that's almost an authority play I mean

272

00:11:59,279 --> 00:12:04,319

there's a huge amount of evidence from

273

00:12:01,139 --> 00:12:08,429

the research about research literature

274

00:12:04,320 --> 00:12:09,629

showing that and the actually academic

275

00:12:08,429 --> 00:12:11,639

journal editors and peer reviewers

276

00:12:09,629 --> 00:12:13,080

routinely fail in their duties and

277

00:12:11,639 --> 00:12:14,519

obligations and it's it's the least

278

00:12:13,080 --> 00:12:16,620

worst game in town but the academic

279

00:12:14,519 --> 00:12:19,350

literature is a buyer beware environment

280

00:12:16,620 --> 00:12:21,120

is there to be read critically by people

281

00:12:19,350 --> 00:12:23,159

who know what they're doing and often

282

00:12:21,120 --> 00:12:25,070

things that have shortcomings published

283

00:12:23,159 --> 00:12:28,139

and in fact you know I mean I teach

284

00:12:25,070 --> 00:12:30,720

critical appraisal and and the basics of

285

00:12:28,139 --> 00:12:32,279

Epidemiology and trial design and in

286
00:12:30,720 --> 00:12:35,879
Oxford and at London School of Hygiene

287
00:12:32,279 --> 00:12:37,589
and and really the thing that you really

288
00:12:35,879 --> 00:12:40,080
learn to appreciate it as he does he

289
00:12:37,590 --> 00:12:42,660
teach that over a decade or so is that

290
00:12:40,080 --> 00:12:44,430
you know obviously all studies have

291
00:12:42,659 --> 00:12:46,529
their strengths and weaknesses and

292
00:12:44,429 --> 00:12:48,479
there's no such thing as it's very rare

293
00:12:46,529 --> 00:12:51,209
to come across a perfect so every study

294
00:12:48,480 --> 00:12:53,250
has to take shortcuts for financial

295
00:12:51,210 --> 00:12:54,990
reasons or ethical reasons or practical

296
00:12:53,250 --> 00:12:56,159
reasons beer and so you always have to

297
00:12:54,990 --> 00:12:58,070
think critically about what the

298
00:12:56,159 --> 00:13:00,179
strengths and weaknesses of a study are

299
00:12:58,070 --> 00:13:02,040
moving on from that I mean what we've

300
00:13:00,179 --> 00:13:04,319
what we found with a lot of our work

301
00:13:02,039 --> 00:13:06,779
like as I said you know compare trials

302
00:13:04,320 --> 00:13:08,430
it's that not only just does peer review

303
00:13:06,779 --> 00:13:10,860
not work as every time so we know that

304
00:13:08,429 --> 00:13:12,329
people are reporting routinely

305
00:13:10,860 --> 00:13:15,379
misreporting their pre-specified

306
00:13:12,330 --> 00:13:19,200
outcomes switching the outcomes between

307
00:13:15,379 --> 00:13:21,120
registration and and the final trial

308
00:13:19,200 --> 00:13:22,770
report which is it it's just a yet

309
00:13:21,120 --> 00:13:25,649
another form of cherry-picking of

310
00:13:22,769 --> 00:13:28,199
results not only are people doing that

311
00:13:25,649 --> 00:13:29,199
in their trial reports but also when you

312
00:13:28,200 --> 00:13:31,480
point out that

313
00:13:29,200 --> 00:13:34,000
done that in a letter to the editor for

314

00:13:31,480 --> 00:13:35,740
publication they're failing to correct

315
00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:37,629
the record so we're finding actually

316
00:13:35,740 --> 00:13:42,070
some really quite serious structural

317
00:13:37,629 --> 00:13:43,990
flaws in in the whole mechanisms that we

318
00:13:42,070 --> 00:13:46,780
use in science and I think you know

319
00:13:43,990 --> 00:13:47,889
we're part of a wider community of

320
00:13:46,779 --> 00:13:49,509
people doing that kind of research

321
00:13:47,889 --> 00:13:51,639
methods and reporting work along with

322
00:13:49,509 --> 00:13:53,500
John Ioannidis of metrics instituting

323
00:13:51,639 --> 00:13:55,539
Stanford and that kind of thing and it's

324
00:13:53,500 --> 00:13:57,399
a really exciting field because it's

325
00:13:55,539 --> 00:14:00,009
about finessing and perfecting the way

326
00:13:57,399 --> 00:14:01,870
that science itself operates absolutely

327
00:14:00,009 --> 00:14:04,179
and it brings an interesting point to

328
00:14:01,870 --> 00:14:07,840

mine because I was just skimming through

329

00:14:04,179 --> 00:14:10,629

some of your online activities raiding

330

00:14:07,840 --> 00:14:12,460

youtube for example and if folks if you

331

00:14:10,629 --> 00:14:14,019

go to youtube and look up ben goldacre

332

00:14:12,460 --> 00:14:16,240

there are many examples of ben goldacre

333

00:14:14,019 --> 00:14:17,679

on there and I was hoping to come across

334

00:14:16,240 --> 00:14:20,710

one you did a number of years ago

335

00:14:17,679 --> 00:14:22,539

debating a homeopath on the BBC and he's

336

00:14:20,710 --> 00:14:25,000

bringing up things which is interesting

337

00:14:22,539 --> 00:14:27,219

like saying well course homeopathy works

338

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:29,139

because we've had studies that show

339

00:14:27,220 --> 00:14:30,910

peer-reviewed studies that show it does

340

00:14:29,139 --> 00:14:34,600

work what do you say to that Ben go like

341

00:14:30,909 --> 00:14:37,149

you use smarmy doctor but it does bring

342

00:14:34,600 --> 00:14:38,139

home and we almost call that I don't

343
00:14:37,149 --> 00:14:41,049
know if you're familiar with the term

344
00:14:38,139 --> 00:14:42,939
Gish galloping this where you just load

345
00:14:41,049 --> 00:14:45,129
somebody up with endless studies they

346
00:14:42,940 --> 00:14:46,450
can't possibly refute on the spot but I

347
00:14:45,129 --> 00:14:49,419
think you did a pretty good job and that

348
00:14:46,450 --> 00:14:50,890
in that situation well I mean I think

349
00:14:49,419 --> 00:14:53,049
the interesting thing about homeopaths

350
00:14:50,889 --> 00:14:56,500
to me is that they use the same tricks

351
00:14:53,049 --> 00:14:59,079
as drug companies setting out to promote

352
00:14:56,500 --> 00:15:01,029
a new product I mean it's all part of

353
00:14:59,080 --> 00:15:02,530
the same it's all part of the same

354
00:15:01,029 --> 00:15:05,500
project I mean how many paths use them

355
00:15:02,529 --> 00:15:09,490
use those tricks in slightly cruder more

356
00:15:05,500 --> 00:15:11,500
more crass and obvious ways but you know

357
00:15:09,490 --> 00:15:13,330
you see gift galloping from drug

358
00:15:11,500 --> 00:15:16,059
companies when drug reps go out to

359
00:15:13,330 --> 00:15:18,520
promote products you see cherry-picking

360
00:15:16,059 --> 00:15:21,250
from drug companies but you also see

361
00:15:18,519 --> 00:15:24,129
cherry-picking from non-industry

362
00:15:21,250 --> 00:15:25,690
academic funded trials you know there's

363
00:15:24,129 --> 00:15:27,279
this global problem which I'm sure you

364
00:15:25,690 --> 00:15:28,870
know about which we've been camping

365
00:15:27,279 --> 00:15:29,500
campaigning on with the all trial stop

366
00:15:28,870 --> 00:15:32,259
net can

367
00:15:29,500 --> 00:15:33,789
of people with holding the results of

368
00:15:32,259 --> 00:15:36,490
clinical trials after they've completed

369
00:15:33,789 --> 00:15:39,129
and it's not just drug companies that do

370
00:15:36,490 --> 00:15:41,370
that it's also we have people doing

371

00:15:39,129 --> 00:15:45,009
public health trials on promoting

372
00:15:41,370 --> 00:15:46,779
exercises surgical trials it's trance of

373
00:15:45,009 --> 00:15:49,149
talking treatments for depression across

374
00:15:46,779 --> 00:15:53,860
the board you see you see cherry picking

375
00:15:49,149 --> 00:15:56,769
and so you know I guess I don't I

376
00:15:53,860 --> 00:15:59,500
wouldn't identify homeopaths as a unique

377
00:15:56,769 --> 00:16:01,000
category no of Miss users of science I

378
00:15:59,500 --> 00:16:03,460
thought it was the author picture of

379
00:16:01,000 --> 00:16:05,409
you're misusing science in order to to

380
00:16:03,460 --> 00:16:07,629
promote their favored intervention

381
00:16:05,409 --> 00:16:08,740
whatever that might be I think I do

382
00:16:07,629 --> 00:16:10,840
actually think though that I mean the

383
00:16:08,740 --> 00:16:13,960
one thing that the one thing that quacks

384
00:16:10,840 --> 00:16:17,230
do to warrant attention online is that

385
00:16:13,960 --> 00:16:19,180

they behave on a personal level it's

386

00:16:17,230 --> 00:16:21,909

very kind of colorful and childish away

387

00:16:19,179 --> 00:16:23,620

and I kind of sometimes I feel sad I

388

00:16:21,909 --> 00:16:28,949

feel like the skeptic community don't go

389

00:16:23,620 --> 00:16:31,779

after a meteor targets by which I mean

390

00:16:28,950 --> 00:16:36,250

bad behavior by academics or academic

391

00:16:31,779 --> 00:16:38,709

journals or drug companies but I feel

392

00:16:36,250 --> 00:16:40,870

like I can understand why and I think a

393

00:16:38,710 --> 00:16:43,870

lot of it is down to color when you when

394

00:16:40,870 --> 00:16:46,330

you go after a homeopath and you point

395

00:16:43,870 --> 00:16:48,310

out that they're wrong they don't engage

396

00:16:46,330 --> 00:16:50,759

with you on the evidence generally they

397

00:16:48,309 --> 00:16:52,989

will they will sort of you know if

398

00:16:50,759 --> 00:16:54,970

research you on the internet and publish

399

00:16:52,990 --> 00:16:58,539

smear stories about your sister or

400
00:16:54,970 --> 00:17:00,730
they'll you know let try and contact

401
00:16:58,539 --> 00:17:03,459
your boss and have you silent store

402
00:17:00,730 --> 00:17:06,370
they'll publish some wildly defamatory

403
00:17:03,460 --> 00:17:08,828
series of smears or they'll go off on

404
00:17:06,369 --> 00:17:10,629
some giant conspiracy theory about the

405
00:17:08,828 --> 00:17:12,099
pharmaceutical industry no behave in

406
00:17:10,630 --> 00:17:15,040
ways that kind of naturally draw you

407
00:17:12,099 --> 00:17:16,899
into to a kind of colorful engagement

408
00:17:15,039 --> 00:17:19,389
about about how awful they are as people

409
00:17:16,900 --> 00:17:21,959
if you go off to somebody who's a little

410
00:17:19,390 --> 00:17:24,730
bit more professional then they'll be

411
00:17:21,959 --> 00:17:27,818
advised by a very competent reputation

412
00:17:24,730 --> 00:17:30,309
management arm of their company or by an

413
00:17:27,818 --> 00:17:33,069
independent PR firm he'll just go look

414
00:17:30,309 --> 00:17:35,919
if they've landed a good hit just walk

415
00:17:33,069 --> 00:17:39,069
away just just leave it just go move on

416
00:17:35,920 --> 00:17:40,929
and and so you know they don't they

417
00:17:39,069 --> 00:17:42,589
don't draw you into such a colorful

418
00:17:40,929 --> 00:17:45,710
series of

419
00:17:42,589 --> 00:17:48,470
bats so I think that's partly why quacks

420
00:17:45,710 --> 00:17:49,850
gets so much attention online I think so

421
00:17:48,470 --> 00:17:52,250
too and especially in the media because

422
00:17:49,849 --> 00:17:54,139
at the end of the day many media outlets

423
00:17:52,250 --> 00:17:55,700
are after the juicy story the

424
00:17:54,140 --> 00:17:57,860
interesting story the story as we say

425
00:17:55,700 --> 00:17:59,870
we'll get bums on seats and and if that

426
00:17:57,859 --> 00:18:02,509
story is you versus a homeopath that's

427
00:17:59,869 --> 00:18:05,178
an easy story for them isn't it yeah and

428

00:18:02,509 --> 00:18:08,798
and again you know as I say you know you

429
00:18:05,179 --> 00:18:11,000
do find the same patterns of behavior

430
00:18:08,798 --> 00:18:12,829
the world over and I supposed to

431
00:18:11,000 --> 00:18:14,750
undermine my previous point just from

432
00:18:12,829 --> 00:18:16,490
Holman and what one thing that we found

433
00:18:14,750 --> 00:18:19,819
with the compare trials project which

434
00:18:16,490 --> 00:18:21,769
absolutely amazed us was so with just

435
00:18:19,819 --> 00:18:26,480
about recommending we can compare trials

436
00:18:21,769 --> 00:18:28,519
is this epically nerdy battle so there's

437
00:18:26,480 --> 00:18:30,500
a long-standing problem in clinical

438
00:18:28,519 --> 00:18:31,908
trials research you're supposed to

439
00:18:30,500 --> 00:18:33,589
correctly report your pre specified

440
00:18:31,909 --> 00:18:35,059
outcomes so when you do a clinical trial

441
00:18:33,589 --> 00:18:37,308
you don't just say we're going to

442
00:18:35,058 --> 00:18:39,349

measure cardiovascular health because

443

00:18:37,308 --> 00:18:41,148

you could measure that in so many

444

00:18:39,349 --> 00:18:43,699

different ways an infinite number of

445

00:18:41,148 --> 00:18:45,439

different ways that you could you could

446

00:18:43,700 --> 00:18:48,919

cherry-pick and get a positive finding

447

00:18:45,440 --> 00:18:51,440

from and even an intervention that had

448

00:18:48,919 --> 00:18:52,909

no benefit at all so you have to pre

449

00:18:51,440 --> 00:18:55,070

specify exactly how you can a measure up

450

00:18:52,909 --> 00:18:57,559

say cardiovascular health which blood

451

00:18:55,069 --> 00:18:58,970

tests are going to use what cutoff value

452

00:18:57,558 --> 00:19:01,668

you're going to have for a positive or

453

00:18:58,970 --> 00:19:02,750

negative finding which diagnosis you're

454

00:19:01,669 --> 00:19:04,549

going to measure so is it going to be

455

00:19:02,750 --> 00:19:06,589

myocardial and function if so how you

456

00:19:04,548 --> 00:19:07,788

diagnose it that sort of thing and then

457
00:19:06,589 --> 00:19:09,230
when you come to report your clinical

458
00:19:07,788 --> 00:19:11,210
trial you have to make sure that you

459
00:19:09,230 --> 00:19:12,679
report the outcomes that you've said you

460
00:19:11,210 --> 00:19:14,960
were going to report so it's about pre

461
00:19:12,679 --> 00:19:17,929
defining your success criteria for your

462
00:19:14,960 --> 00:19:19,610
intervention now we've known forever in

463
00:19:17,929 --> 00:19:21,740
medicine that if you don't do this

464
00:19:19,609 --> 00:19:23,479
properly that your results are biased

465
00:19:21,740 --> 00:19:25,669
and exaggerated because it's just

466
00:19:23,480 --> 00:19:27,169
another form of cherry-picking and we've

467
00:19:25,669 --> 00:19:29,028
known this for over and we've also had

468
00:19:27,169 --> 00:19:30,590
things like the consort guidelines which

469
00:19:29,028 --> 00:19:32,929
are the guidelines on correct reporting

470
00:19:30,589 --> 00:19:34,038
clinical trials now all the academic

471
00:19:32,929 --> 00:19:35,990
journals that you've heard of in the

472
00:19:34,038 --> 00:19:37,640
world have signed up to the consort

473
00:19:35,990 --> 00:19:39,440
guidelines they've all said yes we're

474
00:19:37,640 --> 00:19:41,690
going to require trials to be properly

475
00:19:39,440 --> 00:19:42,860
registered and have a protocol and when

476
00:19:41,690 --> 00:19:44,570
they report their results we're going to

477
00:19:42,859 --> 00:19:46,579
make sure they report the outcomes that

478
00:19:44,569 --> 00:19:49,158
were pre specified before they started

479
00:19:46,579 --> 00:19:50,960
and yet there have been about 30 studies

480
00:19:49,159 --> 00:19:53,059
published showing that academic journals

481
00:19:50,960 --> 00:19:54,909
actually don't do that they allow people

482
00:19:53,058 --> 00:19:56,798
to engage in what's called

483
00:19:54,909 --> 00:19:58,509
come switching where the outcomes which

484
00:19:56,798 --> 00:20:00,308
where they switch in and report

485

00:19:58,509 --> 00:20:03,999
different outcomes to the ones that were

486
00:20:00,308 --> 00:20:05,888
pre specified so we didn't want to do

487
00:20:03,999 --> 00:20:07,389
yet another prevalent study where we say

488
00:20:05,888 --> 00:20:09,939
hey we looked at this and we found that

489
00:20:07,388 --> 00:20:11,858
40 or 60 percent of all trials

490
00:20:09,940 --> 00:20:15,369
misreported their pre specified outcomes

491
00:20:11,858 --> 00:20:17,168
instead we wanted to engage in what was

492
00:20:15,368 --> 00:20:20,709
if you like a kind of academic activism

493
00:20:17,169 --> 00:20:23,470
in one sense where we set out to measure

494
00:20:20,710 --> 00:20:24,999
we took to assess for every single trial

495
00:20:23,470 --> 00:20:26,618
published by the big five channels that

496
00:20:24,999 --> 00:20:30,069
New England Journal of Medicine jammer

497
00:20:26,618 --> 00:20:32,648
annals Lansing bmj for a six week period

498
00:20:30,069 --> 00:20:34,598
every single trial we assessed wherever

499
00:20:32,648 --> 00:20:36,158

it misreported its outcomes we didn't

500

00:20:34,598 --> 00:20:38,168

just quietly write that down and publish

501

00:20:36,159 --> 00:20:40,149

an overall prevalence figure we wrote a

502

00:20:38,169 --> 00:20:41,979

correction letter to the journal saying

503

00:20:40,148 --> 00:20:43,598

hey you've signed up to the console

504

00:20:41,979 --> 00:20:46,058

guidelines on correct trial reporting

505

00:20:43,598 --> 00:20:48,038

but this trial misreported its pre

506

00:20:46,058 --> 00:20:49,388

specified outcomes these are the

507

00:20:48,038 --> 00:20:51,489

discrepancies we think you should

508

00:20:49,388 --> 00:20:54,668

correct the record so this was really a

509

00:20:51,489 --> 00:20:57,639

project about firstly trying to correct

510

00:20:54,669 --> 00:20:59,379

the record itself but also secondly more

511

00:20:57,638 --> 00:21:01,719

importantly trying to see what happens

512

00:20:59,378 --> 00:21:04,378

when you try to correct the record and

513

00:21:01,720 --> 00:21:06,879

the answer is you see spectacular

514
00:21:04,378 --> 00:21:09,519
variation between journals and between

515
00:21:06,878 --> 00:21:11,858
trial lists in how they respond but you

516
00:21:09,519 --> 00:21:14,528
also see really very bad behavior in

517
00:21:11,858 --> 00:21:16,868
some cases so some journals instantly

518
00:21:14,528 --> 00:21:19,179
issue Corrections those bmj for example

519
00:21:16,868 --> 00:21:20,949
other journals rejected all of our

520
00:21:19,179 --> 00:21:22,570
letters and said actually we don't care

521
00:21:20,950 --> 00:21:24,190
if people transgress the consort

522
00:21:22,569 --> 00:21:26,168
guidelines despite the fact that they've

523
00:21:24,190 --> 00:21:28,210
been publicly listed as endorsing the

524
00:21:26,169 --> 00:21:30,369
consort guidelines forever some journals

525
00:21:28,210 --> 00:21:33,098
like animals publish this extraordinary

526
00:21:30,368 --> 00:21:34,598
like to page really a kind of

527
00:21:33,098 --> 00:21:37,329
denunciation the sort of thing that

528
00:21:34,598 --> 00:21:39,189
you'd see on a homeopath blog in which

529
00:21:37,329 --> 00:21:42,278
they said things that were simply not

530
00:21:39,190 --> 00:21:44,080
true about our methods we shared all our

531
00:21:42,278 --> 00:21:46,269
data as we went so anybody could look

532
00:21:44,079 --> 00:21:47,829
and see our raw coding sheets so they

533
00:21:46,269 --> 00:21:50,259
could see exactly what we were

534
00:21:47,829 --> 00:21:53,138
classifying as a correctly reported or

535
00:21:50,259 --> 00:21:54,909
miss reported outcome and they said that

536
00:21:53,138 --> 00:21:56,589
we classify things as correctly

537
00:21:54,909 --> 00:21:59,129
incorrectly reported when we haven't

538
00:21:56,589 --> 00:22:02,740
infiltrators at nijem just extraordinary

539
00:21:59,128 --> 00:22:05,079
extraordinary behavior and a face-saving

540
00:22:02,740 --> 00:22:06,329
people offensive I suppose at best year

541
00:22:05,079 --> 00:22:09,909
you could call them motivated

542

00:22:06,329 --> 00:22:11,049
misunderstandings and but and and again

543
00:22:09,910 --> 00:22:13,029
so one of the things that happens in

544
00:22:11,049 --> 00:22:14,889
sort of skeptics Pat's with homeopaths

545
00:22:13,029 --> 00:22:17,109
is somebody writes something really

546
00:22:14,890 --> 00:22:18,790
stupid on their own homeopath blog and

547
00:22:17,109 --> 00:22:20,678
then you try and correct it in the

548
00:22:18,789 --> 00:22:22,349
comments section and they delete your

549
00:22:20,679 --> 00:22:24,730
comments and won't allow you to yes

550
00:22:22,349 --> 00:22:27,399
that's a very common to Georgia so we

551
00:22:24,730 --> 00:22:29,380
found exactly that in the pages of the

552
00:22:27,400 --> 00:22:30,820
annals of internal medicine so I'll have

553
00:22:29,380 --> 00:22:33,400
internal medicine published this

554
00:22:30,819 --> 00:22:35,349
two-page denunciation that was riddled

555
00:22:33,400 --> 00:22:37,450
with things that were just simply

556
00:22:35,349 --> 00:22:39,399

factually untrue on real black and white

557

00:22:37,450 --> 00:22:41,830

issues also internally inconsistent

558

00:22:39,400 --> 00:22:44,580

house is all very familiar from the

559

00:22:41,829 --> 00:22:48,308

world of older you homeopaths online and

560

00:22:44,579 --> 00:22:51,609

when we attempted to submit corrections

561

00:22:48,308 --> 00:22:54,700

for publication online and in print they

562

00:22:51,609 --> 00:22:55,869

simply rejected them out of hand so I

563

00:22:54,700 --> 00:22:58,750

wrote you know I've written a piece in

564

00:22:55,869 --> 00:23:01,058

nature about this and we're we're

565

00:22:58,750 --> 00:23:02,769

publishing our paper on the response of

566

00:23:01,058 --> 00:23:04,660

journals to our cohort of correction

567

00:23:02,769 --> 00:23:07,179

letters and also a separate paper on the

568

00:23:04,660 --> 00:23:10,179

responses of trial lists but what I find

569

00:23:07,179 --> 00:23:11,980

absolutely fascinating is as I said the

570

00:23:10,179 --> 00:23:15,640

commonalities between the way that

571
00:23:11,980 --> 00:23:17,589
homeopaths respond on their blogs when

572
00:23:15,640 --> 00:23:19,120
you criticize them and the way that the

573
00:23:17,589 --> 00:23:21,339
academic journal editors from the

574
00:23:19,119 --> 00:23:24,579
biggest academic journals in the world

575
00:23:21,339 --> 00:23:26,789
respond when you point out that they

576
00:23:24,579 --> 00:23:29,289
have fallen short in absolute

577
00:23:26,789 --> 00:23:31,269
unambiguously proven black-and-white

578
00:23:29,289 --> 00:23:33,819
terms and really you couldn't put a

579
00:23:31,269 --> 00:23:35,470
cigarette paper between them and if you

580
00:23:33,819 --> 00:23:39,490
want to find out more about that if you

581
00:23:35,470 --> 00:23:41,019
go to compare hyphen trials org you can

582
00:23:39,490 --> 00:23:42,579
see everything that we've been doing in

583
00:23:41,019 --> 00:23:44,410
the compare trials project and I think

584
00:23:42,579 --> 00:23:45,699
you know it's interesting and fun well

585
00:23:44,410 --> 00:23:48,519
I'll certainly add a link to that on

586
00:23:45,700 --> 00:23:50,890
this week's show notes folks here's the

587
00:23:48,519 --> 00:23:52,480
word gum and see Ben Goldacre live in

588
00:23:50,890 --> 00:23:54,280
person you'll be in Brisbane on the

589
00:23:52,480 --> 00:23:55,870
thursday the twenty second Friday the

590
00:23:54,279 --> 00:23:58,058
twenty-third we'll see him in Melbourne

591
00:23:55,869 --> 00:24:00,459
for you folks in Auckland he'll be there

592
00:23:58,058 --> 00:24:03,519
on Saturday to 24th and right here in

593
00:24:00,460 --> 00:24:07,090
Sydney on Sunday the 25th where you can

594
00:24:03,519 --> 00:24:09,700
enjoy Ben's talk and pose questions

595
00:24:07,089 --> 00:24:10,990
which is an important year and during

596
00:24:09,700 --> 00:24:12,789
the show which will be something to look

597
00:24:10,990 --> 00:24:15,399
forward to for more information head to

598
00:24:12,789 --> 00:24:17,499
think inc org

599

00:24:15,398 --> 00:24:19,868
to snap up your tickets and you can

600
00:24:17,499 --> 00:24:22,358
always visit bad science dotnet to find

601
00:24:19,868 --> 00:24:24,308
out more about Ben Goldacre been after

602
00:24:22,358 --> 00:24:26,228
all these years it's a great pleasure to

603
00:24:24,308 --> 00:24:27,908
meet you in person Natalie you see nice

604
00:24:26,229 --> 00:24:29,200
to meet you and thank you and we

605
00:24:27,909 --> 00:24:51,039
certainly look forward to the upcoming

606
00:24:29,200 --> 00:24:53,019
talks cool cheerio I toss a coin hundred

607
00:24:51,038 --> 00:24:55,808
times and I'm allowed to withhold from

608
00:24:53,019 --> 00:24:57,999
you the ISIS half the times then I can

609
00:24:55,808 --> 00:25:01,088
convince you that I have a coin with two

610
00:24:57,999 --> 00:25:02,979
heads ok if we remove half of the data

611
00:25:01,088 --> 00:25:06,158
we can never know what the true effect

612
00:25:02,979 --> 00:25:09,580
size of these medicines we cannot make

613
00:25:06,159 --> 00:25:11,739

decisions in the absolute all of the

614

00:25:09,579 --> 00:25:13,210

information in science we don't care how

615

00:25:11,739 --> 00:25:14,858

many letters you have after your name

616

00:25:13,210 --> 00:25:16,659

insights we want to know what your

617

00:25:14,858 --> 00:25:18,368

reasons are for believing somehow do you

618

00:25:16,659 --> 00:25:22,149

know that something is good for us or

619

00:25:18,368 --> 00:25:25,628

bad for us an evening with Ben Goldacre

620

00:25:22,148 --> 00:25:28,538

only a perfect hucksters nonsensical

621

00:25:25,628 --> 00:25:31,509

naturopaths Andy intellectual

622

00:25:28,538 --> 00:25:33,878

anti-vaxxers slippery statisticians the

623

00:25:31,509 --> 00:25:37,139

journalists daring to declare meets is

624

00:25:33,878 --> 00:25:40,689

critically carcinogenic let's not forget

625

00:25:37,138 --> 00:25:42,878

fraudulent pharmaceutical firms so when

626

00:25:40,690 --> 00:25:45,639

the public is kept in the dark about the

627

00:25:42,878 --> 00:25:48,459

detrimental duplicity of these

628
00:25:45,638 --> 00:25:49,718
declarations how many scientists does it

629
00:25:48,460 --> 00:25:53,108
take to screw in a light bulb that

630
00:25:49,719 --> 00:25:55,269
illuminates the facts just one talk to

631
00:25:53,108 --> 00:25:58,658
ben goldacre shining a light in

632
00:25:55,269 --> 00:26:01,239
Australia and New Zealand this September

633
00:25:58,659 --> 00:26:03,999
an evening with Ben Goldacre is brought

634
00:26:01,239 --> 00:26:05,909
to you by think ink the folks behind the

635
00:26:03,999 --> 00:26:09,278
Australian tools of dr. Neil deGrasse

636
00:26:05,909 --> 00:26:12,429
Tyson James the amazing Randi Steve

637
00:26:09,278 --> 00:26:13,960
Wozniak and many more Ben Goldacre will

638
00:26:12,429 --> 00:26:16,720
be speaking in Brisbane Melbourne

639
00:26:13,960 --> 00:26:23,108
Auckland and Sydney and to get your

640
00:26:16,720 --> 00:26:25,839
tickets visit w WN Korg a you and I hope

641
00:26:23,108 --> 00:26:29,699
to see you at the Sydney talk on Sunday

642
00:26:25,839 --> 00:26:29,699
the 25th dark September

643
00:26:44,690 --> 00:26:59,850
interesting claims questioning take

644
00:26:49,289 --> 00:27:02,369
stock with Shelly stalkin hi I'm Shelly

645
00:26:59,849 --> 00:27:07,619
stockin and this week I'm playing dr.

646
00:27:02,369 --> 00:27:10,589
Google a visit back in 2011 dr. Richie

647
00:27:07,619 --> 00:27:12,659
gave a talk entitled diagnosis by dr.

648
00:27:10,589 --> 00:27:14,329
Google in which she discussed the

649
00:27:12,660 --> 00:27:16,800
increasing number of Australians

650
00:27:14,329 --> 00:27:19,259
self-diagnosing illness by searching for

651
00:27:16,799 --> 00:27:21,440
their symptoms on the internet I'm

652
00:27:19,259 --> 00:27:23,879
interested in what's changed since then

653
00:27:21,440 --> 00:27:29,370
so let's go back through the spooky

654
00:27:23,880 --> 00:27:31,740
mists of time not far though five years

655
00:27:29,369 --> 00:27:33,979
ago about eighty percent of Australians

656

00:27:31,740 --> 00:27:36,480
had access to the internet at home

657
00:27:33,980 --> 00:27:38,339
mobile devices were really starting to

658
00:27:36,480 --> 00:27:40,799
hit their straps as Internet accessing

659
00:27:38,339 --> 00:27:43,919
machines with about 11 million mobile

660
00:27:40,799 --> 00:27:45,750
subscriptions and about ninety three

661
00:27:43,920 --> 00:27:48,170
percent of people on the internet used

662
00:27:45,750 --> 00:27:50,460
Google as their search engine of choice

663
00:27:48,170 --> 00:27:52,380
even my dad was warming up to the idea

664
00:27:50,460 --> 00:27:54,150
that the internet was a faster and more

665
00:27:52,380 --> 00:27:58,170
convenient source of information than

666
00:27:54,150 --> 00:28:00,060
the local library now let's zip forward

667
00:27:58,170 --> 00:28:02,970
to the present day or at least to

668
00:28:00,059 --> 00:28:05,279
December 2015 when the Australian Bureau

669
00:28:02,970 --> 00:28:08,730
of Statistics last published details of

670
00:28:05,279 --> 00:28:10,589

Australia's internet use the recent

671

00:28:08,730 --> 00:28:12,480

figures show that roughly eighty-six

672

00:28:10,589 --> 00:28:14,819

percent of all Australian households are

673

00:28:12,480 --> 00:28:18,569

connected to the internet an increase of

674

00:28:14,819 --> 00:28:20,659

six percent since 2011 there are just

675

00:28:18,569 --> 00:28:23,399

over 21 million mobile handset

676

00:28:20,660 --> 00:28:25,290

subscriptions and Google is not only

677

00:28:23,400 --> 00:28:28,050

used as our favorite search engine it's

678

00:28:25,289 --> 00:28:29,789

now one of our favorite verbs so what's

679

00:28:28,049 --> 00:28:34,710

changed as far as dr. Google is

680

00:28:29,789 --> 00:28:36,059

concerned a little but not a lot we

681

00:28:34,710 --> 00:28:38,160

still use the internet to research

682

00:28:36,059 --> 00:28:40,950

symptoms medications and other

683

00:28:38,160 --> 00:28:43,259

health-related information perhaps

684

00:28:40,950 --> 00:28:45,539

because of this the number of sites

685
00:28:43,259 --> 00:28:46,140
offering good quality reliable health

686
00:28:45,539 --> 00:28:50,430
information

687
00:28:46,140 --> 00:28:51,960
has increased unfortunately an increase

688
00:28:50,430 --> 00:28:53,670
in the number of sites offering

689
00:28:51,960 --> 00:28:56,490
evidence-based health information

690
00:28:53,670 --> 00:28:58,410
doesn't necessarily mean the proportion

691
00:28:56,490 --> 00:29:02,250
of reliable health information has

692
00:28:58,410 --> 00:29:04,890
increased it's still very easy to find

693
00:29:02,250 --> 00:29:07,259
unverified misleading or dangerous

694
00:29:04,890 --> 00:29:10,259
health information on the web and just

695
00:29:07,259 --> 00:29:13,049
as easy to post it there and even the

696
00:29:10,259 --> 00:29:15,150
most reliable evidence based trustworthy

697
00:29:13,049 --> 00:29:19,079
health information can be useless if

698
00:29:15,150 --> 00:29:21,180
it's used in the wrong context overall

699
00:29:19,079 --> 00:29:22,949
we seem to be getting more innovative

700
00:29:21,180 --> 00:29:25,019
with the way we use the internet to

701
00:29:22,950 --> 00:29:27,059
manage our health creating more

702
00:29:25,019 --> 00:29:31,200
convenient in interactive ways to get

703
00:29:27,059 --> 00:29:34,919
advice tests and treatments online for

704
00:29:31,200 --> 00:29:36,900
example internet doctor Comte you is an

705
00:29:34,920 --> 00:29:38,940
Australian site that allows patients to

706
00:29:36,900 --> 00:29:41,519
discretely order sexual health tests

707
00:29:38,940 --> 00:29:43,890
online and there are an increasing

708
00:29:41,519 --> 00:29:46,889
number of telehealth services available

709
00:29:43,890 --> 00:29:48,810
to remote and regional users providing

710
00:29:46,890 --> 00:29:51,030
access to medical practitioners via

711
00:29:48,809 --> 00:29:54,899
online video consultations and other

712
00:29:51,029 --> 00:29:57,750
electronic means as far as

713

00:29:54,900 --> 00:29:59,580
self-diagnosis goes however we seem to

714
00:29:57,750 --> 00:30:02,279
be in the same habits as we were five

715
00:29:59,579 --> 00:30:05,339
years ago Google is just too damn

716
00:30:02,279 --> 00:30:06,930
convenient if not completely accurate to

717
00:30:05,339 --> 00:30:08,819
overlook as a symptom checking

718
00:30:06,930 --> 00:30:10,560
contraption when you have a sore throat

719
00:30:08,819 --> 00:30:13,019
and you want to know if it's just a cold

720
00:30:10,559 --> 00:30:16,409
or that rare neck eating parasite you've

721
00:30:13,019 --> 00:30:18,480
heard about I decided to do a little

722
00:30:16,410 --> 00:30:21,420
experiment to compare dr. Google with

723
00:30:18,480 --> 00:30:24,750
real doctors I entered three symptoms

724
00:30:21,420 --> 00:30:27,269
into Google one by one for each symptom

725
00:30:24,750 --> 00:30:29,009
I recorded the first three possible

726
00:30:27,269 --> 00:30:31,019
diagnoses that came up in my search

727
00:30:29,009 --> 00:30:34,170

results regardless of where they came

728

00:30:31,019 --> 00:30:36,450

from then I compared those possible

729

00:30:34,170 --> 00:30:39,180

diagnoses with advice from a range of

730

00:30:36,450 --> 00:30:42,720

medical experts including a GP and an

731

00:30:39,180 --> 00:30:45,090

emergency specialist the questions I

732

00:30:42,720 --> 00:30:47,880

asked the doctors were what would you

733

00:30:45,089 --> 00:30:51,000

ask the patient what tests would you do

734

00:30:47,880 --> 00:30:54,560

and in your experience what's the most

735

00:30:51,000 --> 00:30:57,710

common diagnosis for this symptom

736

00:30:54,559 --> 00:31:00,349

symptom one was a three-day headache

737

00:30:57,710 --> 00:31:02,960

when I entered three-day headache into

738

00:31:00,349 --> 00:31:07,209

Google the first three suggested results

739

00:31:02,960 --> 00:31:11,120

were a brain tumor aneurysm or migraine

740

00:31:07,210 --> 00:31:13,429

the humanist birds I consulted would ask

741

00:31:11,119 --> 00:31:15,769

questions such as what are the symptoms

742
00:31:13,429 --> 00:31:18,409
do you have what medications are

743
00:31:15,769 --> 00:31:20,359
alternative therapies do you use have

744
00:31:18,409 --> 00:31:24,470
you had a headache like this before and

745
00:31:20,359 --> 00:31:26,359
what's your medical history they said

746
00:31:24,470 --> 00:31:29,630
they would perform neurological tests

747
00:31:26,359 --> 00:31:32,479
for weakness or abnormal reflexes check

748
00:31:29,630 --> 00:31:35,240
for fever and infection and depending on

749
00:31:32,480 --> 00:31:39,919
the patient's medical history order CT

750
00:31:35,240 --> 00:31:41,960
or MRI scans the most common diagnosis

751
00:31:39,919 --> 00:31:43,970
for persistent headaches are according

752
00:31:41,960 --> 00:31:47,990
to the doctors I asked migraine or

753
00:31:43,970 --> 00:31:50,679
tension headache the next symptom I

754
00:31:47,990 --> 00:31:53,450
asked Google about was swollen ankles

755
00:31:50,679 --> 00:31:55,700
google offered up heart disease kidney

756
00:31:53,450 --> 00:31:59,690
failure or liver failure as the first

757
00:31:55,700 --> 00:32:01,190
three diagnosis when I asked my medical

758
00:31:59,690 --> 00:32:03,558
peps they said they would want to

759
00:32:01,190 --> 00:32:06,558
investigate any recent ankle injuries

760
00:32:03,558 --> 00:32:09,528
any history of heart disease or varicose

761
00:32:06,558 --> 00:32:11,690
veins whether the swelling is worse at

762
00:32:09,528 --> 00:32:13,490
certain times of day and the medications

763
00:32:11,690 --> 00:32:16,759
are alternative treatments the patient

764
00:32:13,490 --> 00:32:18,259
is taking they would listen to the

765
00:32:16,759 --> 00:32:21,980
patient's heart beat and check their

766
00:32:18,259 --> 00:32:24,019
pulse examine the legs for DVT check

767
00:32:21,980 --> 00:32:26,480
their lungs skin and eyes for

768
00:32:24,019 --> 00:32:29,359
inflammation and if heart problems were

769
00:32:26,480 --> 00:32:34,069
suspected auto cardiac tests such as an

770

00:32:29,359 --> 00:32:36,168
echocardiogram or electrocardiograph the

771
00:32:34,069 --> 00:32:38,269
most common diagnosis for swollen ankles

772
00:32:36,169 --> 00:32:41,419
my experts came across were varicose

773
00:32:38,269 --> 00:32:43,668
veins and fluid buildup the last symptom

774
00:32:41,419 --> 00:32:47,120
I asked dr. Google to consider was a

775
00:32:43,669 --> 00:32:48,850
sharp pain in the belly dr. Google

776
00:32:47,119 --> 00:32:50,959
quickly served up appendicitis

777
00:32:48,849 --> 00:32:55,339
gallstones and pregnancy as

778
00:32:50,960 --> 00:32:57,798
possibilities my real life doctor people

779
00:32:55,339 --> 00:33:00,769
wanted to know how long I'd had the pain

780
00:32:57,798 --> 00:33:02,990
whether I had any other symptoms when

781
00:33:00,769 --> 00:33:05,450
the pain was at its worst what my bowel

782
00:33:02,990 --> 00:33:07,609
movements were like what medications are

783
00:33:05,450 --> 00:33:11,360
alternative therapies are used what my

784
00:33:07,609 --> 00:33:14,269

diet was like and my medical history

785

00:33:11,359 --> 00:33:16,219

according to my chosen experts the most

786

00:33:14,269 --> 00:33:17,599

frequently diagnosed conditions for this

787

00:33:16,220 --> 00:33:22,730

sort of abdominal pain are

788

00:33:17,599 --> 00:33:25,219

gastroenteritis and constipation to sum

789

00:33:22,730 --> 00:33:27,440

up my not very scientific findings

790

00:33:25,220 --> 00:33:29,720

there's no question that dr. Google

791

00:33:27,440 --> 00:33:32,029

beats human doctors hands down for speed

792

00:33:29,720 --> 00:33:33,890

convenience and the sheer volume of

793

00:33:32,029 --> 00:33:36,470

information it can provide for self

794

00:33:33,890 --> 00:33:38,600

diagnosis of symptoms but it's not

795

00:33:36,470 --> 00:33:40,640

nearly as good at asking patients the

796

00:33:38,599 --> 00:33:43,359

right questions and making educated

797

00:33:40,640 --> 00:33:46,070

deductions from patient responses as a

798

00:33:43,359 --> 00:33:48,229

three-dimensional human doctor Google

799

00:33:46,069 --> 00:33:50,298
can't spot a skin cancer here a heart

800

00:33:48,230 --> 00:33:55,250
murmur or feel that squishy bit on your

801

00:33:50,298 --> 00:34:20,929
leg now as in 2011 dr. Google must be

802

00:33:55,250 --> 00:34:23,690
used with caution the skeptic zone live

803

00:34:20,929 --> 00:34:27,139
a special live recording of this very

804

00:34:23,690 --> 00:34:30,378
podcast at the Occidental hotel in

805

00:34:27,139 --> 00:34:32,869
Sydney just near we need station 43 York

806

00:34:30,378 --> 00:34:36,349
Street this is part of skeptics in the

807

00:34:32,869 --> 00:34:38,840
pub join me in the skeptic zone crew for

808

00:34:36,349 --> 00:34:41,750
live reports and interviews prize

809

00:34:38,840 --> 00:34:43,789
giveaways on the night everybody's

810

00:34:41,750 --> 00:34:46,909
welcome but for more information and to

811

00:34:43,789 --> 00:34:49,639
reserve your place visit [meetup.com /a](http://meetup.com/a)

812

00:34:46,909 --> 00:34:51,740
ust skeptics there will be a link in

813
00:34:49,639 --> 00:34:55,039
this week show notes see you there at

814
00:34:51,739 --> 00:34:57,368
the skeptic zone live Thursday the sixth

815
00:34:55,039 --> 00:35:01,420
of October at the Occidental hotel

816
00:34:57,369 --> 00:35:01,420
starting around six pm

817
00:35:30,880 --> 00:35:37,599
now it's come to our attention in the

818
00:35:33,469 --> 00:35:40,838
last week or so that the movie the

819
00:35:37,599 --> 00:35:46,789
documentary you can't see the air quotes

820
00:35:40,838 --> 00:35:49,369
vexed Bakst is a scheduled slated to be

821
00:35:46,789 --> 00:35:53,450
shown here in Australia at a regional

822
00:35:49,369 --> 00:35:56,720
Film Festival which is the Castlemaine

823
00:35:53,449 --> 00:36:01,129
local and international film festival or

824
00:35:56,719 --> 00:36:03,528
cliff CL iff for short now this is in

825
00:36:01,130 --> 00:36:05,180
the state of Victoria now I was

826
00:36:03,528 --> 00:36:07,250
contacted a little while ago by a

827

00:36:05,179 --> 00:36:10,699
concerned member of the public who noted

828
00:36:07,250 --> 00:36:13,639
this movie was slated to appear and

829
00:36:10,699 --> 00:36:15,618
since then this story has really

830
00:36:13,639 --> 00:36:19,608
developed some legs it's really taken

831
00:36:15,619 --> 00:36:22,028
off and I think the best summary of this

832
00:36:19,608 --> 00:36:25,278
affair can be found once again at

833
00:36:22,028 --> 00:36:30,018
reasonable Hank reasonable Hank calm

834
00:36:25,278 --> 00:36:31,429
where Hank and his snoops have come up

835
00:36:30,018 --> 00:36:34,808
with some very interesting information

836
00:36:31,429 --> 00:36:38,989
indeed let me give you an overview of

837
00:36:34,809 --> 00:36:41,599
Hanks blog post on this issue as posted

838
00:36:38,989 --> 00:36:43,548
on the twentieth of sep tember victorian

839
00:36:41,599 --> 00:36:47,088
film festival embroiled in

840
00:36:43,548 --> 00:36:50,538
anti-vaccination social media train

841
00:36:47,088 --> 00:36:53,058

wreck on friday the 16th of september a

842

00:36:50,539 --> 00:36:55,039

little before lunchtime i was alerted to

843

00:36:53,059 --> 00:36:58,009

an upcoming showing of andrew wakefield

844

00:36:55,039 --> 00:37:00,829

dishonest anti-vaccination vanity film

845

00:36:58,009 --> 00:37:03,559

waxed at a victorian regional film

846

00:37:00,829 --> 00:37:05,960

festival called cliff castlemaine local

847

00:37:03,559 --> 00:37:08,180

and international film festival the

848

00:37:05,960 --> 00:37:11,509

festival has been promoted by the

849

00:37:08,179 --> 00:37:14,509

president of the discredited australian

850

00:37:11,509 --> 00:37:17,630

vaccination skeptics network Tasha David

851

00:37:14,510 --> 00:37:20,990

on the node jab no pay no way

852

00:37:17,630 --> 00:37:23,000

anti-vaccination protests event page now

853

00:37:20,989 --> 00:37:26,179

Hank provides us with the screen capture

854

00:37:23,000 --> 00:37:27,679

their there is a film festival in

855

00:37:26,179 --> 00:37:30,559

castlemaine Victoria that will be

856
00:37:27,679 --> 00:37:32,960
showing vax on octob eight if you can

857
00:37:30,559 --> 00:37:35,119
get there and support the first official

858
00:37:32,960 --> 00:37:38,059
screening of this must-see documentary

859
00:37:35,119 --> 00:37:41,059
please do and together with a link for

860
00:37:38,059 --> 00:37:42,829
tickets Hank goes on I tweeted that

861
00:37:41,059 --> 00:37:45,889
screenshot along with the following

862
00:37:42,829 --> 00:37:47,989
screenshot from the cliff web page

863
00:37:45,889 --> 00:37:51,679
featuring the anti-vaccination film of

864
00:37:47,989 --> 00:37:54,289
note please see who is cliff tab at the

865
00:37:51,679 --> 00:37:57,289
top of this screenshot will need that

866
00:37:54,289 --> 00:37:58,960
for later and Hank once again provides

867
00:37:57,289 --> 00:38:02,300
us with the screenshot from the

868
00:37:58,960 --> 00:38:04,970
festival's main page and at the top

869
00:38:02,300 --> 00:38:07,610
there is a link a tab that says who is

870
00:38:04,969 --> 00:38:09,769
cliff Tasha David also promoted the

871
00:38:07,610 --> 00:38:12,980
festival on the Australian vaccination

872
00:38:09,769 --> 00:38:16,579
skeptics Network Facebook page on Friday

873
00:38:12,980 --> 00:38:20,630
man once again the screen shot is

874
00:38:16,579 --> 00:38:23,119
provided with her posting kasha David

875
00:38:20,630 --> 00:38:25,280
shared it on the avian Facebook page on

876
00:38:23,119 --> 00:38:27,949
Saturday once again another screenshot

877
00:38:25,280 --> 00:38:31,670
Tasha David also promoted the event in

878
00:38:27,949 --> 00:38:34,549
the vax australia facebook group with

879
00:38:31,670 --> 00:38:36,769
more screenshots and goes on when the

880
00:38:34,550 --> 00:38:39,200
president of a disreputable callous

881
00:38:36,769 --> 00:38:41,000
manatee vaccination organization which

882
00:38:39,199 --> 00:38:43,909
is the recipient of a public health

883
00:38:41,000 --> 00:38:46,610
warning is your ally in the promotion of

884

00:38:43,909 --> 00:38:49,219
one of your films you really need to sit

885
00:38:46,610 --> 00:38:52,329
back and introspect don't you think

886
00:38:49,219 --> 00:38:54,799
wouldn't you that vax tis a dishonest

887
00:38:52,329 --> 00:38:56,690
exposition is not news to the

888
00:38:54,800 --> 00:38:59,289
evidenced-based researchers health

889
00:38:56,690 --> 00:39:03,500
professionals and journalists for an

890
00:38:59,289 --> 00:39:05,449
exquisite explanation of the quote cdc

891
00:39:03,500 --> 00:39:07,639
whistleblower in quote manufactured

892
00:39:05,449 --> 00:39:11,049
controversy which is at the heart of the

893
00:39:07,639 --> 00:39:15,289
subject matter please refer to this post

894
00:39:11,050 --> 00:39:17,450
MMR the cdc and brain hooker a guide for

895
00:39:15,289 --> 00:39:20,059
parents and the media and you can click

896
00:39:17,449 --> 00:39:22,099
that link if you visit this blog which i

897
00:39:20,059 --> 00:39:24,309
will be linking to in the show notes in

898
00:39:22,099 --> 00:39:26,750

a film review for The Hollywood Reporter

899

00:39:24,309 --> 00:39:27,480

infectious disease specialist dr. Paul

900

00:39:26,750 --> 00:39:31,170

offered

901

00:39:27,480 --> 00:39:34,710

wrote if MMR really does cause autism

902

00:39:31,170 --> 00:39:37,280

why haven't the link been found in 15

903

00:39:34,710 --> 00:39:39,780

other studies many of which included

904

00:39:37,280 --> 00:39:43,320

african-americans and almost all of

905

00:39:39,780 --> 00:39:45,630

which didn't involve the CDC there are

906

00:39:43,320 --> 00:39:49,190

the whistle blows who just haven't come

907

00:39:45,630 --> 00:39:52,230

forward yet the real explanation for vax

908

00:39:49,190 --> 00:39:55,320

revelations isn't conspiracy or hidden

909

00:39:52,230 --> 00:39:57,510

data yet something else when compared

910

00:39:55,320 --> 00:40:00,359

with their Caucasian counterparts

911

00:39:57,510 --> 00:40:02,850

african-american boys in Atlanta in 1994

912

00:40:00,358 --> 00:40:05,819

were under vaccinated in order to

913
00:40:02,849 --> 00:40:08,130
qualify for autism support programs this

914
00:40:05,820 --> 00:40:10,559
subset of under vaccinated children with

915
00:40:08,130 --> 00:40:12,570
autism had to get vaccinated in other

916
00:40:10,559 --> 00:40:15,509
words it wasn't the MMR that caused

917
00:40:12,570 --> 00:40:17,690
autism it was the diagnosis of autism

918
00:40:15,510 --> 00:40:20,910
that had caused them to get there are

919
00:40:17,690 --> 00:40:25,650
not surprisingly this is never explained

920
00:40:20,909 --> 00:40:27,929
in the film man Hank goes on to quote

921
00:40:25,650 --> 00:40:31,260
some more examples from the media which

922
00:40:27,929 --> 00:40:34,559
you can peruse for yourself on Friday I

923
00:40:31,260 --> 00:40:37,560
tagged cliff in a tweet after finding

924
00:40:34,559 --> 00:40:39,599
their handle cliff deleted their Twitter

925
00:40:37,559 --> 00:40:42,420
account within the two following days

926
00:40:39,599 --> 00:40:45,059
many others also tweeted their

927
00:40:42,420 --> 00:40:47,608
displeasure happy festival organizers

928
00:40:45,059 --> 00:40:50,608
and we have a screen capture from

929
00:40:47,608 --> 00:40:54,920
reasonable Hank himself and his tweet

930
00:40:50,608 --> 00:40:59,940
says film festival organizers at cliff

931
00:40:54,920 --> 00:41:03,420
0408 9876 care little for the health of

932
00:40:59,940 --> 00:41:07,920
babies hashtag stop avian hashtag jill

933
00:41:03,420 --> 00:41:10,289
hennessy MP hashtag spring st cliff

934
00:41:07,920 --> 00:41:12,450
responded to both me and my friend

935
00:41:10,289 --> 00:41:14,820
shelly shelly by the way is our reporter

936
00:41:12,449 --> 00:41:17,159
shelly stockin with the same response

937
00:41:14,820 --> 00:41:18,930
which was aimed at claiming disinterest

938
00:41:17,159 --> 00:41:22,379
in the subject matter of Wakefield's

939
00:41:18,929 --> 00:41:25,649
fraudulent film and the twit from cliff

940
00:41:22,380 --> 00:41:27,630
reads at reasonable underscore Hank we

941

00:41:25,650 --> 00:41:29,880
hope you have seen the movie we don't

942
00:41:27,630 --> 00:41:32,640
necessarily agree with the ideas in any

943
00:41:29,880 --> 00:41:35,099
film shown we want viewers to decide

944
00:41:32,639 --> 00:41:37,710
those of us who have been following the

945
00:41:35,099 --> 00:41:41,099
tactics of the anti-vaxxers and their

946
00:41:37,710 --> 00:41:43,199
apologists for some time knew precisely

947
00:41:41,099 --> 00:41:44,730
what was it plain an attempt to frame

948
00:41:43,199 --> 00:41:47,189
the film's viewing as a legitimate

949
00:41:44,730 --> 00:41:50,849
debate between equal opposing camps

950
00:41:47,190 --> 00:41:52,650
which it is not philosopher dr. Patrick

951
00:41:50,849 --> 00:41:54,269
Stokes is one of those who is

952
00:41:52,650 --> 00:41:56,160
well-versed in the tactics of the

953
00:41:54,269 --> 00:41:58,289
anti-vaccination lobby man its

954
00:41:56,159 --> 00:42:02,670
supporters and Patrick Stokes has

955
00:41:58,289 --> 00:42:06,090

tweeted and seen via a screenshot not

956

00:42:02,670 --> 00:42:08,220

good enough this is not a difference of

957

00:42:06,090 --> 00:42:11,730

opinion topic why are you giving

958

00:42:08,219 --> 00:42:14,519

platform to anti vax lies and goes on

959

00:42:11,730 --> 00:42:17,400

what followed was a social media train

960

00:42:14,519 --> 00:42:20,099

wreck which was played out in an attempt

961

00:42:17,400 --> 00:42:23,099

to erase questions of organizers bias

962

00:42:20,099 --> 00:42:25,319

which would cast doubt on cliffs

963

00:42:23,099 --> 00:42:28,289

attempts to appear to be merely a

964

00:42:25,320 --> 00:42:31,559

disinterested player a provocateur of

965

00:42:28,289 --> 00:42:33,960

uneasy disclosure now Hank puts up a new

966

00:42:31,559 --> 00:42:37,500

screenshot and says this screen shot was

967

00:42:33,960 --> 00:42:41,970

taken from a Wayback Machine snapshot on

968

00:42:37,500 --> 00:42:44,539

always 13th 2016 as we can see the who

969

00:42:41,969 --> 00:42:47,159

is cliff tab as referred to earlier

970
00:42:44,539 --> 00:42:50,849
clearly shows that the leading organizer

971
00:42:47,159 --> 00:42:54,089
or at least the top position of the list

972
00:42:50,849 --> 00:42:57,329
of organizers is Nicky valentini and

973
00:42:54,090 --> 00:42:59,309
Hank has that screenshot and Hank goes

974
00:42:57,329 --> 00:43:01,889
on to say after me and many friends

975
00:42:59,309 --> 00:43:05,009
started looking into the organizers the

976
00:43:01,889 --> 00:43:07,739
who is cliff page was deleted from the

977
00:43:05,010 --> 00:43:11,070
cliff website thanks to friends with

978
00:43:07,739 --> 00:43:14,069
Swift minds and quick fingers we were

979
00:43:11,070 --> 00:43:16,650
able to retain this screenshot of an

980
00:43:14,070 --> 00:43:20,880
anti-vaccination post promoting Tasha

981
00:43:16,650 --> 00:43:23,460
David's anti-tax petition from the

982
00:43:20,880 --> 00:43:26,880
facebook profile of a cliff organizer

983
00:43:23,460 --> 00:43:28,949
Nicki valentini and the postings is a

984
00:43:26,880 --> 00:43:30,869
meme there's a little baby there a

985
00:43:28,949 --> 00:43:34,139
little oil a young child looking a

986
00:43:30,869 --> 00:43:36,779
little bit dumb sad I suppose there has

987
00:43:34,139 --> 00:43:39,059
to be a choice minister Scott Morrison

988
00:43:36,780 --> 00:43:41,160
don't punish parents for making an

989
00:43:39,059 --> 00:43:45,329
informed choice about their children's

990
00:43:41,159 --> 00:43:47,989
health all parents deserve dot and I am

991
00:43:45,329 --> 00:43:50,460
it's a link to a petition on change.org

992
00:43:47,989 --> 00:43:53,129
the profile and therefore the

993
00:43:50,460 --> 00:43:54,960
anti-vaccination post as well has been

994
00:43:53,130 --> 00:43:57,240
deleted from facebook

995
00:43:54,960 --> 00:43:59,490
but it wasn't deleted before valentini

996
00:43:57,239 --> 00:44:01,618
and tempted to hide her anti-vaccination

997
00:43:59,489 --> 00:44:05,009
affiliations with a quick attempt at a

998

00:44:01,619 --> 00:44:07,829
name change so we're before the posting

999
00:44:05,010 --> 00:44:11,000
had her own name the new posting which

1000
00:44:07,829 --> 00:44:14,759
is identical is under somebody called

1001
00:44:11,000 --> 00:44:17,429
Modi num num we expect this behavior in

1002
00:44:14,760 --> 00:44:19,650
fact we are surprised when an organizer

1003
00:44:17,429 --> 00:44:22,500
or a venue holds up their hands

1004
00:44:19,650 --> 00:44:25,380
immediately and says fair cop we were

1005
00:44:22,500 --> 00:44:27,929
wrong in quote it doesn't happen very

1006
00:44:25,380 --> 00:44:30,269
often sometimes it takes a while for a

1007
00:44:27,929 --> 00:44:31,949
venue or an organizer to acquaint

1008
00:44:30,269 --> 00:44:34,349
themselves with the subject matter

1009
00:44:31,949 --> 00:44:37,139
before making a decision in the interest

1010
00:44:34,349 --> 00:44:39,180
of Public Health and babies usually once

1011
00:44:37,139 --> 00:44:41,848
a venue works out that they have been

1012
00:44:39,179 --> 00:44:44,608

taken for chumps by the anti-vaccination

1013

00:44:41,849 --> 00:44:47,700
activists like the venues who all

1014

00:44:44,608 --> 00:44:49,858
canceled events for the 2015 speaking

1015

00:44:47,699 --> 00:44:52,588
tour of Public Health enemy Cherie

1016

00:44:49,858 --> 00:44:54,719
Tenpenny they will do the right thing

1017

00:44:52,588 --> 00:44:57,299
especially when it starts looking

1018

00:44:54,719 --> 00:44:59,449
awkward for public relations and the

1019

00:44:57,300 --> 00:45:02,400
shareholders but we are very used to

1020

00:44:59,449 --> 00:45:05,129
anti-vaccination apologists trying to

1021

00:45:02,400 --> 00:45:07,710
treat everyone like chumps like they

1022

00:45:05,130 --> 00:45:11,849
don't have any skin in their particular

1023

00:45:07,710 --> 00:45:14,909
game they do they just know how bad it

1024

00:45:11,849 --> 00:45:18,180
looks so they attempt to hide it and all

1025

00:45:14,909 --> 00:45:22,670
the babies can go to hell and Hank ends

1026

00:45:18,179 --> 00:45:26,159
this post with a very interesting note

1027
00:45:22,670 --> 00:45:30,930
one of the partners of the film festival

1028
00:45:26,159 --> 00:45:32,629
is the mount Alexander Shire Council the

1029
00:45:30,929 --> 00:45:35,669
mount Alexander Shire Council's

1030
00:45:32,630 --> 00:45:38,579
immunization page is here link provided

1031
00:45:35,670 --> 00:45:41,210
the mount Alexander shy council's

1032
00:45:38,579 --> 00:45:45,358
contact pages here also another link

1033
00:45:41,210 --> 00:45:49,099
this is this is a very important issue

1034
00:45:45,358 --> 00:45:51,900
on this matter and one that our own

1035
00:45:49,099 --> 00:45:53,640
Heidi Robertson the raw skeptic from the

1036
00:45:51,900 --> 00:45:55,490
northern rivers of vaccination

1037
00:45:53,639 --> 00:45:59,159
supporters took full advantage of and

1038
00:45:55,489 --> 00:46:03,479
she wrote to the Alexander Shire Council

1039
00:45:59,159 --> 00:46:06,059
here is her letter from Heidi Robinson I

1040
00:46:03,480 --> 00:46:08,519
am writing to express my dismay that

1041
00:46:06,059 --> 00:46:09,250
your partnership with cliff castle lane

1042
00:46:08,519 --> 00:46:12,099
local and

1043
00:46:09,250 --> 00:46:14,079
International Film Festival essentially

1044
00:46:12,099 --> 00:46:16,239
means that you are lending them support

1045
00:46:14,079 --> 00:46:19,059
for their screening of the

1046
00:46:16,239 --> 00:46:22,239
anti-vaccination documentary backed I

1047
00:46:19,059 --> 00:46:23,860
find it disturbing that as an Australian

1048
00:46:22,239 --> 00:46:26,199
government agency who supports

1049
00:46:23,860 --> 00:46:30,519
immunization with a link to their very

1050
00:46:26,199 --> 00:46:33,279
own page on the topic that you would

1051
00:46:30,519 --> 00:46:35,980
lend your support to such an event this

1052
00:46:33,280 --> 00:46:38,200
event is purely and simply a threat to

1053
00:46:35,980 --> 00:46:40,960
public health the person who made and

1054
00:46:38,199 --> 00:46:43,059
produced this film was struck off the

1055

00:46:40,960 --> 00:46:45,699
medical register after he was found

1056
00:46:43,059 --> 00:46:48,070
guilty of fraud and unethical medical

1057
00:46:45,699 --> 00:46:52,210
procedures on children relating to his

1058
00:46:48,070 --> 00:46:54,789
fudged data surrounding the MMR vaccine

1059
00:46:52,210 --> 00:46:57,550
this is not as these people would have

1060
00:46:54,789 --> 00:46:59,559
you believe an issue of free speech the

1061
00:46:57,550 --> 00:47:02,019
makers and producers have made their

1062
00:46:59,559 --> 00:47:05,349
statements and positions quite clearly

1063
00:47:02,019 --> 00:47:07,719
in many media outlets and social media

1064
00:47:05,349 --> 00:47:10,929
platforms so they are hardly being

1065
00:47:07,719 --> 00:47:12,969
suppressed Council does not have to

1066
00:47:10,929 --> 00:47:15,309
support the platform for this dangerous

1067
00:47:12,969 --> 00:47:18,189
nonsense and I would appreciate it if

1068
00:47:15,309 --> 00:47:21,009
you withdrew your support and made a

1069
00:47:18,190 --> 00:47:23,619

public statement to this effect thank

1070

00:47:21,010 --> 00:47:25,960

you for your time and here's a letter

1071

00:47:23,619 --> 00:47:29,159

written to the council by Sarah Turnbull

1072

00:47:25,960 --> 00:47:32,409

who also kindly got in touch with me

1073

00:47:29,159 --> 00:47:35,170

dear sir or madam I am writing to

1074

00:47:32,409 --> 00:47:37,869

suggest that the council make up for its

1075

00:47:35,170 --> 00:47:40,869

involvement in showing vax to the

1076

00:47:37,869 --> 00:47:43,839

anti-vaccination documentary by making a

1077

00:47:40,869 --> 00:47:48,940

donation to the following charitable

1078

00:47:43,840 --> 00:47:50,920

fund with a link to light for Riley this

1079

00:47:48,940 --> 00:47:54,039

fund was set up by the parents of Riley

1080

00:47:50,920 --> 00:47:55,900

Hughes this might go some way towards

1081

00:47:54,039 --> 00:47:59,500

addressing the public health and public

1082

00:47:55,900 --> 00:48:03,070

health relations disaster this incident

1083

00:47:59,500 --> 00:48:05,380

has caused and our reporter show each

1084
00:48:03,070 --> 00:48:07,960
token that's also chimed in the amount

1085
00:48:05,380 --> 00:48:09,460
alexander shire council i am concerned

1086
00:48:07,960 --> 00:48:11,769
about your partnership with the

1087
00:48:09,460 --> 00:48:14,289
Castlemaine local and international film

1088
00:48:11,769 --> 00:48:16,750
festival as i feel it represents a

1089
00:48:14,289 --> 00:48:18,960
conflict of interest with regard to

1090
00:48:16,750 --> 00:48:20,679
public health the first of all is

1091
00:48:18,960 --> 00:48:22,809
unapologetically showing the

1092
00:48:20,679 --> 00:48:25,690
anti-vaccination film by

1093
00:48:22,809 --> 00:48:28,179
struck-off dr. Andrew Wakefield which

1094
00:48:25,690 --> 00:48:30,610
misleadingly brings into question the

1095
00:48:28,179 --> 00:48:33,639
safety and effectiveness of childhood

1096
00:48:30,610 --> 00:48:36,280
vaccines with no reliable evidence to

1097
00:48:33,639 --> 00:48:38,379
back it up given your commendable

1098
00:48:36,280 --> 00:48:40,210
support for and provision of

1099
00:48:38,380 --> 00:48:43,000
immunization services in the community

1100
00:48:40,210 --> 00:48:46,119
your partnership with this film festival

1101
00:48:43,000 --> 00:48:48,570
sends a conflicting message I fear that

1102
00:48:46,119 --> 00:48:51,549
the film will discourage viewers from

1103
00:48:48,570 --> 00:48:53,860
vaccinating their families as previous

1104
00:48:51,550 --> 00:48:57,130
publications and campaigns by Wakefield

1105
00:48:53,860 --> 00:49:00,160
have previously done I understand that

1106
00:48:57,130 --> 00:49:03,280
the cliff organizers are free to show

1107
00:49:00,159 --> 00:49:05,799
this film at their festival but I do not

1108
00:49:03,280 --> 00:49:08,680
understand why the council so clearly

1109
00:49:05,800 --> 00:49:11,590
committed to vaccination as a public

1110
00:49:08,679 --> 00:49:13,480
health initiative would support it thank

1111
00:49:11,590 --> 00:49:16,570
you for the opportunity to express my

1112

00:49:13,480 --> 00:49:20,110
concerns and by now I imagine there are

1113
00:49:16,570 --> 00:49:24,940
many many many many more letters of a

1114
00:49:20,110 --> 00:49:27,730
similar theme flooding into the council

1115
00:49:24,940 --> 00:49:31,690
chambers so thanks again to reasonable

1116
00:49:27,730 --> 00:49:34,090
Hank and his merry band I guess you

1117
00:49:31,690 --> 00:49:36,760
would say for doing such diligent good

1118
00:49:34,090 --> 00:49:39,280
work in finding out a lot about this

1119
00:49:36,760 --> 00:49:42,100
issue and it's also i noticed been

1120
00:49:39,280 --> 00:49:44,350
reported in other media outlets man

1121
00:49:42,099 --> 00:49:46,299
thank you also to Fiona O'Leary all the

1122
00:49:44,349 --> 00:49:48,880
way over there in Ireland who was a

1123
00:49:46,300 --> 00:49:51,190
guest on the skeptic zone way back in

1124
00:49:48,880 --> 00:49:55,210
july this year who was also been

1125
00:49:51,190 --> 00:49:58,269
fighting against the movement behind vax

1126
00:49:55,210 --> 00:50:00,460

in her part of the world as she was

1127

00:49:58,269 --> 00:50:02,050

horrified when she learned that this

1128

00:50:00,460 --> 00:50:04,389

film was to be shown in Australia and

1129

00:50:02,050 --> 00:50:07,870

she actually sent me some very very good

1130

00:50:04,389 --> 00:50:09,429

advice indeed about that so thank you

1131

00:50:07,869 --> 00:50:11,380

hank Thank You Fiona and thank you heidi

1132

00:50:09,429 --> 00:50:14,469

for all helping to contribute to this

1133

00:50:11,380 --> 00:50:16,420

story this week and we will keep skeptic

1134

00:50:14,469 --> 00:50:18,899

zone listen as up-to-date as this story

1135

00:50:16,420 --> 00:50:18,900

progresses

1136

00:50:28,260 --> 00:50:36,410

you told me

1137

00:50:32,849 --> 00:50:39,538

exist you

1138

00:50:36,409 --> 00:50:41,699

SI esta sample idiot hey Sal who guys

1139

00:50:39,539 --> 00:50:43,920

guys I just had the most amazing

1140

00:50:41,699 --> 00:50:45,778

experience what experience unders unders

1141
00:50:43,920 --> 00:50:47,579
have you been to the pub I told you not

1142
00:50:45,778 --> 00:50:50,099
to hang out with mash you know he was

1143
00:50:47,579 --> 00:50:52,589
blessed by peter Popoff no yellow no i'm

1144
00:50:50,099 --> 00:50:54,960
not talking about psychics it was a

1145
00:50:52,588 --> 00:50:56,759
really SP experience now you have been

1146
00:50:54,960 --> 00:50:59,490
to the pub either that or you've been

1147
00:50:56,760 --> 00:51:01,920
smoking something no pontus the ESB is

1148
00:50:59,489 --> 00:51:04,019
the European skeptics podcast it's the

1149
00:51:01,920 --> 00:51:06,150
most amazing thing you get to know so

1150
00:51:04,019 --> 00:51:09,000
much about skeptics and their activities

1151
00:51:06,150 --> 00:51:11,130
across Europe you know events hot topics

1152
00:51:09,000 --> 00:51:13,318
and interviews with lots of interesting

1153
00:51:11,130 --> 00:51:15,088
people oh wow cool by the way pointers

1154
00:51:13,318 --> 00:51:17,489
you just committed the false dichotomy

1155
00:51:15,088 --> 00:51:20,338
fallacy I guess that means I'm really

1156
00:51:17,489 --> 00:51:22,379
wrong yep and you can even learn about

1157
00:51:20,338 --> 00:51:24,838
those fallacies in the show and hear

1158
00:51:22,380 --> 00:51:27,119
about people spreading silly ideas you

1159
00:51:24,838 --> 00:51:30,088
should really check it out it's the ESP

1160
00:51:27,119 --> 00:51:32,789
the European skeptics podcast it's on

1161
00:51:30,088 --> 00:51:35,130
never weak alright so where can I get

1162
00:51:32,789 --> 00:51:37,799
this is the experience it sounds good

1163
00:51:35,130 --> 00:51:40,858
you can go online at the ESP do to you

1164
00:51:37,798 --> 00:51:43,889
follow it on twitter at es podcast

1165
00:51:40,858 --> 00:51:46,019
underscore EU or like the podcast on

1166
00:51:43,889 --> 00:51:49,078
facebook oh and you can also contact the

1167
00:51:46,019 --> 00:51:52,858
show by sending them an email to info at

1168
00:51:49,079 --> 00:51:54,960
the esp you and if you want to

1169

00:51:52,858 --> 00:51:57,719
subscribe do a quick search for the

1170
00:51:54,960 --> 00:52:03,690
european skeptic podcast on soundcloud

1171
00:51:57,719 --> 00:52:07,338
itunes or stitcher I don't know how you

1172
00:52:03,690 --> 00:52:07,338
can believe

1173
00:52:07,349 --> 00:52:09,440
you

1174
00:52:19,539 --> 00:52:24,170
thank you for listening to the early

1175
00:52:21,710 --> 00:52:29,119
skeptic zone this week and for those of

1176
00:52:24,170 --> 00:52:31,430
you in Sydney Auckland Melbourne and

1177
00:52:29,119 --> 00:52:35,299
Brisbane I hope you have the chance to

1178
00:52:31,429 --> 00:52:38,289
get along and here Ben Goldacre live on

1179
00:52:35,300 --> 00:52:40,430
stage and those people in Australia the

1180
00:52:38,289 --> 00:52:43,849
interviewer on stage will be none other

1181
00:52:40,429 --> 00:52:45,919
than dr. Brad McCoy well known from the

1182
00:52:43,849 --> 00:52:48,769
TV show embarrassing bodies down under

1183
00:52:45,920 --> 00:52:50,960

and a member of Australian skeptics to

1184

00:52:48,769 --> 00:52:53,239

boot coming up on next week's show I

1185

00:52:50,960 --> 00:52:57,559

think we'll be bringing you reports from

1186

00:52:53,239 --> 00:53:00,829

the paranormal convention main heart and

1187

00:52:57,559 --> 00:53:04,429

I will be heading to soon also hopefully

1188

00:53:00,829 --> 00:53:05,989

i chat with the author Lynn Kelly who

1189

00:53:04,429 --> 00:53:07,489

will be speaking at the Australian

1190

00:53:05,989 --> 00:53:10,849

skeptics dinner meeting in a couple of

1191

00:53:07,489 --> 00:53:12,799

days but for this week with them with

1192

00:53:10,849 --> 00:53:15,190

Henrietta and moored actually locked out

1193

00:53:12,800 --> 00:53:17,660

of the office the studio this time

1194

00:53:15,190 --> 00:53:20,210

sometimes I can see little paws coming

1195

00:53:17,659 --> 00:53:22,519

under the door trying to get in they do

1196

00:53:20,210 --> 00:53:24,170

like being with people but this week

1197

00:53:22,519 --> 00:53:31,460

this is Richard Saunders signing off

1198
00:53:24,170 --> 00:53:33,099
from Sydney Australia you've been

1199
00:53:31,460 --> 00:53:36,619
listening to the skeptics own podcast

1200
00:53:33,099 --> 00:53:39,679
visit our website at wwc a petting zoo

1201
00:53:36,619 --> 00:53:43,549
TV for contacts an archive of all

1202
00:53:39,679 --> 00:53:45,859
episodes since 2008 and our online store

1203
00:53:43,550 --> 00:53:48,580
please support the skeptic zone by

1204
00:53:45,860 --> 00:53:51,590
following us on twitter at skeptic zone

1205
00:53:48,579 --> 00:53:54,650
liking us on facebook and leaving a

1206
00:53:51,590 --> 00:53:57,500
review on iTunes you can also show your

1207
00:53:54,650 --> 00:54:00,470
support by subscribing via paypal for as

1208
00:53:57,500 --> 00:54:02,239
little as ninety-nine cents a week the

1209
00:54:00,469 --> 00:54:03,859
skeptic zone is an independent

1210
00:54:02,239 --> 00:54:06,319
production the views and opinions

1211
00:54:03,860 --> 00:54:07,940
expressed on the skeptic zone and not

1212
00:54:06,320 --> 00:54:10,820
necessarily those of Australian

1213
00:54:07,940 --> 00:54:13,630
skeptically or any other skeptical

1214
00:54:10,820 --> 00:54:13,630
organization