

1
00:00:01,520 --> 00:00:06,660
it

2
00:00:04,339 --> 00:00:09,660
me

3
00:00:06,660 --> 00:00:09,660
Josh

4
00:00:10,929 --> 00:00:12,929
Oh

5
00:00:15,300 --> 00:00:18,048
you

6
00:00:19,760 --> 00:00:26,359
hello and welcome to the skeptic zone

7
00:00:22,640 --> 00:00:29,269
show number 55 for the sixth of November

8
00:00:26,359 --> 00:00:32,269
2009 Richard Saunders here with you once

9
00:00:29,269 --> 00:00:34,399
again from Sydney Australia we're going

10
00:00:32,270 --> 00:00:37,910
to kick off today's show with part two

11
00:00:34,399 --> 00:00:40,869
of dr. Reggie reports her interview with

12
00:00:37,909 --> 00:00:44,750
John Rennie the recent editor of

13
00:00:40,869 --> 00:00:46,969
Scientific American magazine after that

14
00:00:44,750 --> 00:00:50,269
we have a short report I am made at

15
00:00:46,969 --> 00:00:52,308
Sydney skeptics in the pub where I chat

16
00:00:50,270 --> 00:00:54,949
to an old friend of mine William broom

17
00:00:52,308 --> 00:00:56,929
now some of you may know William room he

18
00:00:54,948 --> 00:01:01,280
does reports for the bad psychics

19
00:00:56,929 --> 00:01:03,799
website in the UK following that we have

20
00:01:01,280 --> 00:01:06,560
our voiceover man Jim wilshire telling

21
00:01:03,799 --> 00:01:08,899
us about the min min man lovely little

22
00:01:06,560 --> 00:01:11,180
poem I think you'll like it and then

23
00:01:08,900 --> 00:01:13,840
we've got a real blast from the past a

24
00:01:11,180 --> 00:01:16,400
lecture given a short make sure given in

25
00:01:13,840 --> 00:01:21,020
1988 at the Australian skeptics

26
00:01:16,400 --> 00:01:24,680
convention all about the new age yes 21

27
00:01:21,019 --> 00:01:26,750
years ago have a listen and you'll hear

28
00:01:24,680 --> 00:01:30,230
what the skeptics back then were

29

00:01:26,750 --> 00:01:32,569
thinking about the new age to round off

30
00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:34,909
the show we have a short report on the

31
00:01:32,569 --> 00:01:37,189
Melbourne Cup the biggest horse race in

32
00:01:34,909 --> 00:01:39,950
Australia where skeptic zone member

33
00:01:37,189 --> 00:01:43,340
amanda rose and i have a lovely day and

34
00:01:39,950 --> 00:01:45,379
bet on some horses do we win do we win

35
00:01:43,340 --> 00:01:47,630
listen to the end of the show and find

36
00:01:45,379 --> 00:01:50,209
out all right that's enough from me

37
00:01:47,629 --> 00:01:53,289
let's get on with this week's episode of

38
00:01:50,209 --> 00:01:53,289
the skeptic zone

39
00:02:04,890 --> 00:02:14,139
now it's time for dr. Rachel reports

40
00:02:08,258 --> 00:02:16,929
with dr. Rachel Dunlop follow listeners

41
00:02:14,139 --> 00:02:18,969
and welcome to dr. 80 reports this week

42
00:02:16,930 --> 00:02:20,920
I continued my interview with John

43
00:02:18,969 --> 00:02:24,340

Rennie the most recent editor-in-chief

44

00:02:20,919 --> 00:02:26,409
of Scientific American magazine today we

45

00:02:24,340 --> 00:02:28,330
continue our discussions and delve into

46

00:02:26,409 --> 00:02:31,060
the role of the media in the public

47

00:02:28,330 --> 00:02:33,160
understanding of science I started off

48

00:02:31,060 --> 00:02:35,348
by asking John about the general science

49

00:02:33,159 --> 00:02:37,120
education level in America and how

50

00:02:35,348 --> 00:02:39,909
scientific american played a role in

51

00:02:37,120 --> 00:02:41,230
educating the public so can we talk

52

00:02:39,909 --> 00:02:43,030
about that then can we talk about the

53

00:02:41,229 --> 00:02:45,759
public perception of science and also

54

00:02:43,030 --> 00:02:47,680
the public sort of you know literacy and

55

00:02:45,759 --> 00:02:49,149
I know in particular in the United

56

00:02:47,680 --> 00:02:51,969
States it's a very big problem in terms

57

00:02:49,150 --> 00:02:53,289
of scientific literacy I think there

58
00:02:51,969 --> 00:02:54,789
were some surveys done about you know

59
00:02:53,289 --> 00:02:56,798
does the Sun go round there for the

60
00:02:54,789 --> 00:02:58,328
other way in yeah I have to say you know

61
00:02:56,799 --> 00:03:00,310
that in the answers of course does

62
00:02:58,329 --> 00:03:02,980
everybody knows you know the resulting

63
00:03:00,310 --> 00:03:05,379
those are absolutely appalling they're

64
00:03:02,979 --> 00:03:06,969
so appalling that I have to admit I'm

65
00:03:05,379 --> 00:03:10,599
always a little bit skeptical of what

66
00:03:06,969 --> 00:03:13,599
they actually are I mean I life granted

67
00:03:10,599 --> 00:03:16,180
I should probably to settle the question

68
00:03:13,599 --> 00:03:17,530
my own mind really look at the surveys

69
00:03:16,180 --> 00:03:19,150
more closely but I always have this

70
00:03:17,530 --> 00:03:21,579
nagging feeling that something is going

71
00:03:19,150 --> 00:03:23,590
on that that people like don't

72
00:03:21,579 --> 00:03:25,840
understand the question the way that it

73
00:03:23,590 --> 00:03:27,219
was phrased to be good and I just say it

74
00:03:25,840 --> 00:03:28,930
basically saying a paper copy that's

75
00:03:27,219 --> 00:03:31,449
cheap of John right I guess I think

76
00:03:28,930 --> 00:03:33,790
that's actually it I think I don't want

77
00:03:31,449 --> 00:03:35,858
to think that that at least so many

78
00:03:33,789 --> 00:03:38,078
Americans are so stupid they live in

79
00:03:35,859 --> 00:03:40,389
today that they don't get the idea that

80
00:03:38,079 --> 00:03:42,040
the earth goes around the Sun I mean I

81
00:03:40,389 --> 00:03:43,840
that it that that is the kind of thing

82
00:03:42,039 --> 00:03:47,500
that if that actually represents

83
00:03:43,840 --> 00:03:51,098
something that people don't know or

84
00:03:47,500 --> 00:03:53,318
don't don't accept then I mean honestly

85
00:03:51,098 --> 00:03:54,939
a lot of other issues about scientific

86

00:03:53,318 --> 00:03:56,439
illiteracy you just sort of should throw

87
00:03:54,939 --> 00:04:00,039
in the towel because this you know that

88
00:03:56,439 --> 00:04:03,340
it's like where if you can't get that

89
00:04:00,039 --> 00:04:05,858
through to them quantum theory what you

90
00:04:03,340 --> 00:04:07,209
know evolution come on it's you're just

91
00:04:05,859 --> 00:04:08,980
at that point you almost have to just

92
00:04:07,209 --> 00:04:12,270
accept that you're just going to ask

93
00:04:08,979 --> 00:04:14,619
people to please don't get in the way

94
00:04:12,270 --> 00:04:16,540
education for some of the other people

95
00:04:14,620 --> 00:04:18,939
just sort of on that on that similar

96
00:04:16,540 --> 00:04:21,040
theme you and I were on a panel a couple

97
00:04:18,939 --> 00:04:23,050
of days ago at the northeast and science

98
00:04:21,040 --> 00:04:25,900
and skepticism conference in new york

99
00:04:23,050 --> 00:04:28,840
city and our panel was about science and

100
00:04:25,899 --> 00:04:30,668

me and the media obviously you've played

101

00:04:28,839 --> 00:04:33,369

a major role in conveying scientific

102

00:04:30,668 --> 00:04:34,750

information to the public but who do you

103

00:04:33,370 --> 00:04:36,430

think is at fault here i mean do you

104

00:04:34,750 --> 00:04:38,259

think that that the media needs to take

105

00:04:36,430 --> 00:04:40,418

more responsibility for educating the

106

00:04:38,259 --> 00:04:42,129

public about science yeah it's joy media

107

00:04:40,418 --> 00:04:43,479

it's I mean this is this is and I think

108

00:04:42,129 --> 00:04:45,339

this was something that could come out

109

00:04:43,480 --> 00:04:47,350

of our panel discussions the other day

110

00:04:45,339 --> 00:04:50,679

is that that I think there there's

111

00:04:47,350 --> 00:04:52,660

probably no shortage of blame that can

112

00:04:50,680 --> 00:04:55,478

be thrown around to virtually everyone

113

00:04:52,660 --> 00:04:57,250

connected with it that is it's very easy

114

00:04:55,478 --> 00:04:59,079

to point fingers obviously at the

115
00:04:57,250 --> 00:05:00,728
schools we should be turning out people

116
00:04:59,079 --> 00:05:03,310
who are better educated about science

117
00:05:00,728 --> 00:05:05,139
it's easy to point it at the scientists

118
00:05:03,310 --> 00:05:07,360
that sometimes they themselves should be

119
00:05:05,139 --> 00:05:09,100
you know commuting either being more

120
00:05:07,360 --> 00:05:12,550
willing to communicate or communicate

121
00:05:09,100 --> 00:05:14,410
better you know you you but I think

122
00:05:12,550 --> 00:05:16,660
certainly obviously a portion of this

123
00:05:14,410 --> 00:05:21,189
definitely goes the way of the media and

124
00:05:16,660 --> 00:05:25,030
and I think that that there are there

125
00:05:21,189 --> 00:05:28,750
are real kinds of of fault the dual I

126
00:05:25,029 --> 00:05:31,569
with the media that have even if root

127
00:05:28,750 --> 00:05:34,418
causes us a scientific misunderstanding

128
00:05:31,569 --> 00:05:36,728
or ignorance are rooted elsewhere that

129
00:05:34,418 --> 00:05:39,189
they're very badly compounded from time

130
00:05:36,728 --> 00:05:41,529
to time no and I think what also he's

131
00:05:39,189 --> 00:05:44,800
very frustrating you know I this was a

132
00:05:41,529 --> 00:05:47,799
point that Howard Schneider from Stony

133
00:05:44,800 --> 00:05:49,600
Brook University who's a well-decorated

134
00:05:47,800 --> 00:05:51,639
journals that he was making sort of

135
00:05:49,600 --> 00:05:54,370
standing up in defense of the profession

136
00:05:51,639 --> 00:05:57,909
is that he made the point that actually

137
00:05:54,370 --> 00:06:00,009
notwithstanding sort of that it's it's

138
00:05:57,910 --> 00:06:01,840
very easy for a lot of us say oh the

139
00:06:00,009 --> 00:06:04,120
stupid media look they managed to botch

140
00:06:01,839 --> 00:06:05,349
these things again even on things like

141
00:06:04,120 --> 00:06:07,629
where they talk about the sort of be the

142
00:06:05,350 --> 00:06:10,990
false balance issues of look every time

143

00:06:07,629 --> 00:06:12,699
they run an article about evolution or

144
00:06:10,990 --> 00:06:14,800
controversy surrounding evolution they

145
00:06:12,699 --> 00:06:16,719
always manage to get that dopey

146
00:06:14,800 --> 00:06:20,500
creationist viewpoint tucked in at the

147
00:06:16,720 --> 00:06:22,419
end too you know I think he makes a

148
00:06:20,500 --> 00:06:23,050
point that really almost if you look

149
00:06:22,418 --> 00:06:26,109
through

150
00:06:23,050 --> 00:06:28,449
piece by piece article by article a lot

151
00:06:26,110 --> 00:06:30,340
of them really actually hold up quite

152
00:06:28,449 --> 00:06:33,788
well at least when you're talking about

153
00:06:30,339 --> 00:06:35,709
sort of the the cream of the media the

154
00:06:33,788 --> 00:06:38,680
the New York Times and sort of other

155
00:06:35,709 --> 00:06:41,288
other better newspapers or some the rest

156
00:06:38,680 --> 00:06:43,840
of those I think what's what makes it

157
00:06:41,288 --> 00:06:45,699

sort of a confounding Lee difficult

158

00:06:43,839 --> 00:06:48,609

problem to address is that sometimes

159

00:06:45,699 --> 00:06:51,460

item-by-item things are perfectly good

160

00:06:48,610 --> 00:06:54,819

or perfectly reasonable and yet it seems

161

00:06:51,459 --> 00:06:56,500

as though the body of work consisting of

162

00:06:54,819 --> 00:07:00,340

all those different individual items

163

00:06:56,500 --> 00:07:03,029

somehow has some larger problem maybe

164

00:07:00,339 --> 00:07:05,288

it's just the fact that even if say

165

00:07:03,029 --> 00:07:08,378

bringing in statements from global

166

00:07:05,288 --> 00:07:10,959

warming deniers deep down and

167

00:07:08,379 --> 00:07:13,930

appropriately contextualized inside an

168

00:07:10,959 --> 00:07:15,939

article about climate change even though

169

00:07:13,930 --> 00:07:17,709

that's happened and it seems by rights

170

00:07:15,939 --> 00:07:20,709

that that's a journalistic Lee

171

00:07:17,709 --> 00:07:22,810

appropriate thing to do maybe in just

172
00:07:20,709 --> 00:07:25,029
that happening again and again and again

173
00:07:22,810 --> 00:07:27,728
helps to keep alive that point of view

174
00:07:25,029 --> 00:07:30,609
in certain people's minds it is tricky

175
00:07:27,728 --> 00:07:32,468
though because because and I and I say

176
00:07:30,610 --> 00:07:36,120
this as somebody who has certainly made

177
00:07:32,468 --> 00:07:38,860
the argument that I think that a lot of

178
00:07:36,120 --> 00:07:41,228
science journalists on certain issues

179
00:07:38,860 --> 00:07:43,990
should not worry too much about being

180
00:07:41,228 --> 00:07:46,990
perceived as as advocates you know I

181
00:07:43,990 --> 00:07:48,460
think that that you know my maybe overly

182
00:07:46,990 --> 00:07:50,710
simplistic view of these things is my

183
00:07:48,459 --> 00:07:53,769
job as a science journalist is to try to

184
00:07:50,709 --> 00:07:56,888
educate people about what I understand

185
00:07:53,769 --> 00:07:58,778
to be true and meaningful about things

186
00:07:56,889 --> 00:08:02,620
happening in science which means that at

187
00:07:58,778 --> 00:08:04,959
times I if I know that creationism is is

188
00:08:02,620 --> 00:08:07,209
not a real scientific point of view I

189
00:08:04,959 --> 00:08:09,549
feel no particular responsibility in the

190
00:08:07,209 --> 00:08:13,810
name of fairness to try to bring that in

191
00:08:09,550 --> 00:08:15,668
I think that there are you know but but

192
00:08:13,810 --> 00:08:16,778
but this can get very very tricky and

193
00:08:15,668 --> 00:08:22,109
one of the things that came up in our

194
00:08:16,778 --> 00:08:25,329
discussion is that a lot of articles or

195
00:08:22,110 --> 00:08:27,158
stories that appear in the news me know

196
00:08:25,329 --> 00:08:29,829
television in the radio or whatever else

197
00:08:27,158 --> 00:08:32,828
they don't always sit squarely within

198
00:08:29,829 --> 00:08:35,740
the camp of this is an article about the

199
00:08:32,828 --> 00:08:36,269
science or this is an article about save

200

00:08:35,740 --> 00:08:38,549
the

201
00:08:36,269 --> 00:08:40,590
social or political controversy yes they

202
00:08:38,549 --> 00:08:42,629
sometimes have a foot in both and

203
00:08:40,590 --> 00:08:44,879
they're Blair that distinction to that

204
00:08:42,629 --> 00:08:46,860
night right well and like a yeah well

205
00:08:44,879 --> 00:08:48,000
and ultimate and the justifications for

206
00:08:46,860 --> 00:08:50,370
what you would do in each of those cases

207
00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:53,669
so if I'm writing an article that is

208
00:08:50,370 --> 00:08:57,179
very straightforwardly about the science

209
00:08:53,669 --> 00:08:59,309
of evolution there is no reasonable

210
00:08:57,179 --> 00:09:02,099
point in there for me to be writing

211
00:08:59,309 --> 00:09:03,449
about creationist points of view on the

212
00:09:02,100 --> 00:09:06,690
other hand if I'm writing an article

213
00:09:03,450 --> 00:09:10,050
that is sort of about the the social

214
00:09:06,690 --> 00:09:12,420

context of evolution even if I want to

215

00:09:10,049 --> 00:09:13,409
make the point in their analysis

216

00:09:12,419 --> 00:09:14,879
shouldn't make the point in there that

217

00:09:13,409 --> 00:09:17,370
obviously evolution is the only

218

00:09:14,879 --> 00:09:19,649
scientifically validated of perspective

219

00:09:17,370 --> 00:09:22,379
on this still it would be kind of

220

00:09:19,649 --> 00:09:24,779
disingenuous of me to not acknowledge

221

00:09:22,379 --> 00:09:26,279
the fact that certainly here in the

222

00:09:24,779 --> 00:09:28,559
United States you've got a lot of people

223

00:09:26,279 --> 00:09:30,629
who are not on board with that yeah and

224

00:09:28,559 --> 00:09:33,149
that and that it becomes a real issue in

225

00:09:30,629 --> 00:09:35,429
things like you know textbook standards

226

00:09:33,149 --> 00:09:38,340
in fact would be really remove me as a

227

00:09:35,429 --> 00:09:41,039
journalist not to mention that so if I'm

228

00:09:38,340 --> 00:09:42,780
writing an article that is trying to do

229
00:09:41,039 --> 00:09:45,839
a bit of both and explain some of the

230
00:09:42,779 --> 00:09:48,179
science and talk about some of this you

231
00:09:45,840 --> 00:09:51,180
know people who are looking at that

232
00:09:48,179 --> 00:09:53,309
story would say a very scientific lens

233
00:09:51,179 --> 00:09:55,709
may really feel like oh you're mucking

234
00:09:53,309 --> 00:09:57,750
up the the story of the science on this

235
00:09:55,710 --> 00:10:01,290
by dragging in those lunatics who

236
00:09:57,750 --> 00:10:05,720
believe in creation it's not easy and

237
00:10:01,289 --> 00:10:08,370
you and you do want to be careful about

238
00:10:05,720 --> 00:10:10,230
telling telling journalists or

239
00:10:08,370 --> 00:10:11,970
journalism in general given what their

240
00:10:10,230 --> 00:10:14,310
general mandate is supposed to be that

241
00:10:11,970 --> 00:10:15,480
there are certain perspectives that you

242
00:10:14,309 --> 00:10:18,419
should just decide for yourselves you're

243
00:10:15,480 --> 00:10:20,370
just not going to bother to include you

244
00:10:18,419 --> 00:10:22,789
know I hate it it's tricky I don't think

245
00:10:20,370 --> 00:10:25,200
and especially for people who are

246
00:10:22,789 --> 00:10:27,299
operating under deadlines and lots of

247
00:10:25,200 --> 00:10:30,030
other things sometimes the wrong calls

248
00:10:27,299 --> 00:10:31,439
get get made so it's tricky I think you

249
00:10:30,029 --> 00:10:34,139
make a really good point though there by

250
00:10:31,440 --> 00:10:36,810
saying that if it's a social analysis of

251
00:10:34,139 --> 00:10:38,279
the sort of the moon you know the

252
00:10:36,809 --> 00:10:40,709
situation of hand for example

253
00:10:38,279 --> 00:10:42,600
creationism or you know my pet interest

254
00:10:40,710 --> 00:10:44,250
which is the anti boxes right then I see

255
00:10:42,600 --> 00:10:46,529
no reason why you shouldn't include that

256
00:10:44,250 --> 00:10:49,340
but where the line gets blurred is when

257

00:10:46,529 --> 00:10:52,250
the science is presented yes as is kind

258
00:10:49,340 --> 00:10:54,379
no one and then there's a throw away a

259
00:10:52,250 --> 00:10:55,730
couple of paragraphs from you know the

260
00:10:54,379 --> 00:10:58,909
ante backs movement who don't base

261
00:10:55,730 --> 00:11:01,279
anything on science and so as a member

262
00:10:58,909 --> 00:11:03,500
of the public I'm probably going to

263
00:11:01,279 --> 00:11:05,209
confuse those two and there's no reason

264
00:11:03,500 --> 00:11:07,190
why I wouldn't think that the anti

265
00:11:05,210 --> 00:11:08,720
baxter phys science as well you know one

266
00:11:07,190 --> 00:11:10,640
of the things that I mean we talked

267
00:11:08,720 --> 00:11:12,910
about some of the other kind of the the

268
00:11:10,639 --> 00:11:15,949
really deeply unfortunate

269
00:11:12,909 --> 00:11:18,110
misunderstandings within the public and

270
00:11:15,950 --> 00:11:21,920
maybe in a sense among within the sort

271
00:11:18,110 --> 00:11:23,600

of the the semi educated public about

272

00:11:21,919 --> 00:11:28,699

the science and in some ways they're the

273

00:11:23,600 --> 00:11:30,230

people who are who are most most

274

00:11:28,700 --> 00:11:32,090

troublesome for all of this because the

275

00:11:30,230 --> 00:11:34,070

people who are genuinely naive about

276

00:11:32,090 --> 00:11:36,889

science and not interested in science

277

00:11:34,070 --> 00:11:39,110

stay out of it the problems are the ones

278

00:11:36,889 --> 00:11:42,740

who they know just enough science to be

279

00:11:39,110 --> 00:11:44,899

dangerous it is is the problem and comes

280

00:11:42,740 --> 00:11:48,620

up and I really think this is at the

281

00:11:44,899 --> 00:11:51,919

root of other endless sorts of you know

282

00:11:48,620 --> 00:11:55,639

pseudo scientific controversies is the

283

00:11:51,919 --> 00:11:58,219

the the Galileo myth which is that album

284

00:11:55,639 --> 00:12:00,939

of you know that yes the whole

285

00:11:58,220 --> 00:12:04,730

scientific scientific establishment says

286
00:12:00,940 --> 00:12:08,450
that the drama but Galileo was Galileo

287
00:12:04,730 --> 00:12:10,399
was right and and that notion that that

288
00:12:08,450 --> 00:12:14,629
is genuinely wrong that it only takes

289
00:12:10,399 --> 00:12:17,779
one experimental result to completely

290
00:12:14,629 --> 00:12:20,029
knock down some huge edifice of a theory

291
00:12:17,779 --> 00:12:22,039
like it's just not true I mean

292
00:12:20,029 --> 00:12:24,049
especially not true in practice is all

293
00:12:22,039 --> 00:12:26,299
real working scientists know for told

294
00:12:24,049 --> 00:12:28,639
even in principle it would have to be

295
00:12:26,299 --> 00:12:30,979
one hell of a scientific result to

296
00:12:28,639 --> 00:12:33,620
suddenly actually take down everything

297
00:12:30,980 --> 00:12:36,110
that was there was believed about a well

298
00:12:33,620 --> 00:12:39,139
substantiated theory what would be a

299
00:12:36,110 --> 00:12:41,120
result that would take down our you know

300
00:12:39,139 --> 00:12:43,220
the the theory of universal gravitation

301
00:12:41,120 --> 00:12:44,870
what would be the result that we would

302
00:12:43,220 --> 00:12:48,560
have to have them do that you would need

303
00:12:44,870 --> 00:12:49,879
to have an instance of anti-gravity and

304
00:12:48,559 --> 00:12:52,519
it would have to be an instance of

305
00:12:49,879 --> 00:12:56,149
anti-gravity that didn't just leave you

306
00:12:52,519 --> 00:12:59,149
to amend everything else that you had in

307
00:12:56,149 --> 00:13:00,689
science it actually caused you to have

308
00:12:59,149 --> 00:13:01,860
to tear the whole thing down

309
00:13:00,690 --> 00:13:03,780
it would be the kind of thing and said

310
00:13:01,860 --> 00:13:05,100
look we've been fooling ourselves there

311
00:13:03,779 --> 00:13:06,870
aren't atoms at all what were we

312
00:13:05,100 --> 00:13:10,230
thinking there are actually you know

313
00:13:06,870 --> 00:13:11,820
tiny little microscopic frogs I thought

314

00:13:10,230 --> 00:13:14,009
they were out of its well this changes

315
00:13:11,820 --> 00:13:15,990
everything yeah but that's that's I

316
00:13:14,009 --> 00:13:20,009
think what happens in people that's

317
00:13:15,990 --> 00:13:24,379
what's so loopy about some of the kind

318
00:13:20,009 --> 00:13:28,860
of the would be scientific critics of

319
00:13:24,379 --> 00:13:30,870
evolution or global warming evidence or

320
00:13:28,860 --> 00:13:34,649
some of this is that they will point to

321
00:13:30,870 --> 00:13:38,610
their pet experiment or their pet body

322
00:13:34,649 --> 00:13:41,189
of work and say well if this is true all

323
00:13:38,610 --> 00:13:42,720
the rest of this must be false but it's

324
00:13:41,190 --> 00:13:45,180
just not the case I mean in physics

325
00:13:42,720 --> 00:13:48,360
which is I mean physics it which is as

326
00:13:45,179 --> 00:13:50,549
as solid and mathematical and rigorous

327
00:13:48,360 --> 00:13:52,139
and substantiated a science really as

328
00:13:50,549 --> 00:13:55,889

you as you can find I mean you can

329

00:13:52,139 --> 00:13:58,319

literally the predictions come out of

330

00:13:55,889 --> 00:14:00,750

different models that can be tested to

331

00:13:58,320 --> 00:14:05,700

umpteen different decimal points of

332

00:14:00,750 --> 00:14:07,980

accuracy leaving within those people

333

00:14:05,700 --> 00:14:10,350

come up with with sort of anomalous

334

00:14:07,980 --> 00:14:11,909

results all the cut all the time people

335

00:14:10,350 --> 00:14:13,649

come up with things like that's weird

336

00:14:11,909 --> 00:14:14,789

that doesn't seem like right we would

337

00:14:13,649 --> 00:14:17,250

have figured that should have been a

338

00:14:14,789 --> 00:14:19,709

little bit different but it doesn't mean

339

00:14:17,250 --> 00:14:22,350

that everybody says well tear up your

340

00:14:19,710 --> 00:14:25,170

relativity papers a throw up quantum

341

00:14:22,350 --> 00:14:26,820

theory because it's much more likely in

342

00:14:25,169 --> 00:14:30,329

a lot of those cases that your anomalous

343
00:14:26,820 --> 00:14:32,070
result is wrong or 50 first of all or if

344
00:14:30,330 --> 00:14:34,680
it's packaged actually turns out to be

345
00:14:32,070 --> 00:14:36,600
true it is probably validated by

346
00:14:34,679 --> 00:14:38,729
something that is you know a minor

347
00:14:36,600 --> 00:14:41,399
codicil that you make to the rest of it

348
00:14:38,730 --> 00:14:42,779
I mean a good example is and this is

349
00:14:41,399 --> 00:14:47,039
like perfect example of an anomalous

350
00:14:42,779 --> 00:14:49,799
thing as the it's been noticed that some

351
00:14:47,039 --> 00:14:51,389
of the deep-space probes that we've been

352
00:14:49,799 --> 00:14:53,129
sending out you know far other the

353
00:14:51,389 --> 00:14:56,990
they're on a trajectory out of the solar

354
00:14:53,129 --> 00:15:00,929
system it's been noticed that they are

355
00:14:56,990 --> 00:15:03,360
moving I think a little bit slower than

356
00:15:00,929 --> 00:15:06,509
they're supposed to be it's strange it's

357
00:15:03,360 --> 00:15:07,539
like you know all all of what we know

358
00:15:06,509 --> 00:15:08,379
about

359
00:15:07,539 --> 00:15:10,059
you know sort of the standard

360
00:15:08,379 --> 00:15:11,439
gravitational calculations and our

361
00:15:10,059 --> 00:15:13,929
understanding of the bodies that are out

362
00:15:11,440 --> 00:15:15,519
there would suggest these things should

363
00:15:13,929 --> 00:15:16,689
be moving a little bit faster at this

364
00:15:15,519 --> 00:15:18,278
point than they are and it keeps

365
00:15:16,690 --> 00:15:21,550
happening over and over again with these

366
00:15:18,278 --> 00:15:24,549
different probes so on the face of it

367
00:15:21,549 --> 00:15:27,909
that's something that's a result that

368
00:15:24,549 --> 00:15:30,250
can seriously knock down some of what

369
00:15:27,909 --> 00:15:33,969
you would understand about about gravity

370
00:15:30,250 --> 00:15:36,578
gravity going back to Newton but you

371

00:15:33,970 --> 00:15:38,440
know whatever the result of that is okay

372
00:15:36,578 --> 00:15:40,508
it's probably the fact that it's been

373
00:15:38,440 --> 00:15:41,980
observed independently enough over and

374
00:15:40,509 --> 00:15:44,079
over against Joseph's probably it's not

375
00:15:41,980 --> 00:15:45,550
just a mistake it's not just a

376
00:15:44,078 --> 00:15:46,838
measurement error although I think there

377
00:15:45,549 --> 00:15:48,849
are some people who argue even that

378
00:15:46,839 --> 00:15:51,519
can't necessarily be ruled out

379
00:15:48,850 --> 00:15:53,440
completely but it's also very likely

380
00:15:51,519 --> 00:15:55,959
that okay there are other gravitational

381
00:15:53,440 --> 00:15:58,930
masses that maybe in the solar system

382
00:15:55,958 --> 00:16:01,028
that people aren't accounting for likely

383
00:15:58,929 --> 00:16:03,129
and that might be something but you know

384
00:16:01,028 --> 00:16:04,568
the most far-out answer is that well

385
00:16:03,129 --> 00:16:06,100

you're actually looking at something

386

00:16:04,568 --> 00:16:08,259

that says that when you're talking about

387

00:16:06,100 --> 00:16:11,199

you know that's that sort of

388

00:16:08,259 --> 00:16:14,528

astronomical kind of distance that maybe

389

00:16:11,198 --> 00:16:16,629

some they know there are extra terms

390

00:16:14,528 --> 00:16:18,519

that need to be added to the relatively

391

00:16:16,629 --> 00:16:21,698

straightforward gravitational

392

00:16:18,519 --> 00:16:24,448

calculations but even that doesn't knock

393

00:16:21,698 --> 00:16:27,698

down Newton's theory of gravity yeah

394

00:16:24,448 --> 00:16:30,458

general relativity did not dot knock

395

00:16:27,698 --> 00:16:32,469

down Newton's there is a gravity it just

396

00:16:30,458 --> 00:16:34,059

amended them and showed that under

397

00:16:32,470 --> 00:16:36,850

certain circumstances you yuge you

398

00:16:34,059 --> 00:16:38,528

needed to calculate them differently in

399

00:16:36,850 --> 00:16:40,659

quantum theory you know that's the

400
00:16:38,528 --> 00:16:43,480
fascinating is that too hasn't managed

401
00:16:40,659 --> 00:16:46,000
to negate relativity theory the

402
00:16:43,480 --> 00:16:49,810
fascinating thing is that both of those

403
00:16:46,000 --> 00:16:52,649
are clearly robustly very very true even

404
00:16:49,809 --> 00:16:56,469
though they operate on what are

405
00:16:52,649 --> 00:16:58,028
fundamentally irreconcilable sets of

406
00:16:56,470 --> 00:17:00,639
fundamental principles about kind of how

407
00:16:58,028 --> 00:17:02,649
the universe is put together and so the

408
00:17:00,639 --> 00:17:03,938
great search is to try to figure out how

409
00:17:02,649 --> 00:17:05,529
do you make those two things come

410
00:17:03,938 --> 00:17:07,058
together in some way but that's just

411
00:17:05,529 --> 00:17:09,338
fascinating as part of what's exciting

412
00:17:07,058 --> 00:17:11,408
about Sciences is not having answers

413
00:17:09,338 --> 00:17:13,119
like that yeah but that's your opinion

414
00:17:11,409 --> 00:17:14,709
John I mean they're the public might say

415
00:17:13,119 --> 00:17:16,250
to you will but scientists keep changing

416
00:17:14,709 --> 00:17:18,019
their mind all the time right now

417
00:17:16,250 --> 00:17:19,880
and this is one of the big problems that

418
00:17:18,019 --> 00:17:22,578
I think the media contributes to you as

419
00:17:19,880 --> 00:17:24,430
well where as you mentioned before you

420
00:17:22,578 --> 00:17:26,838
know journalists have deadlines they

421
00:17:24,430 --> 00:17:29,060
some of them are not necessarily trained

422
00:17:26,838 --> 00:17:30,589
a science journalist either right and so

423
00:17:29,059 --> 00:17:33,769
they might pick up an abstract from a

424
00:17:30,589 --> 00:17:35,389
paper and and as you would well no

425
00:17:33,769 --> 00:17:37,250
abstracts often not very representative

426
00:17:35,390 --> 00:17:39,440
of what is in the rest of the paper

427
00:17:37,250 --> 00:17:41,269
right right and so one we can't you know

428

00:17:39,440 --> 00:17:43,670
cancers caused by coffee in the next

429
00:17:41,269 --> 00:17:46,549
week you know coffee cures cancer right

430
00:17:43,670 --> 00:17:48,470
well I mean some of that and forgive me

431
00:17:46,549 --> 00:17:50,329
if I if I jump up on what's a lot of

432
00:17:48,470 --> 00:17:52,250
like a little a little hobby horse of my

433
00:17:50,329 --> 00:17:53,899
own about some of this is that this is

434
00:17:52,250 --> 00:17:55,579
something that that when I speak to

435
00:17:53,900 --> 00:17:59,720
groups of science journalists in general

436
00:17:55,579 --> 00:18:01,759
i've been i've been pleading with all of

437
00:17:59,720 --> 00:18:03,769
us as a profession to try to do some

438
00:18:01,759 --> 00:18:08,629
level of rethink about what constitutes

439
00:18:03,769 --> 00:18:12,500
science news because most of what shows

440
00:18:08,630 --> 00:18:15,110
up as science news at the moment is it

441
00:18:12,500 --> 00:18:17,599
very commonly defaults to a kind of

442
00:18:15,109 --> 00:18:20,269

exciting paper in a very reputable

443

00:18:17,599 --> 00:18:22,579

journal this week and that's what we're

444

00:18:20,269 --> 00:18:24,740

going to make that and that that lends

445

00:18:22,579 --> 00:18:26,480

itself very well to kind of what are in

446

00:18:24,740 --> 00:18:28,789

effect sort of little data points in

447

00:18:26,480 --> 00:18:31,700

science the thing that says you know

448

00:18:28,789 --> 00:18:34,819

broccoli will help prevent prostate

449

00:18:31,700 --> 00:18:38,210

cancer and then a few weeks later

450

00:18:34,819 --> 00:18:41,230

another paper comes out and it may some

451

00:18:38,210 --> 00:18:44,150

you know maybe it doesn't say broccoli

452

00:18:41,230 --> 00:18:45,740

will you know will cause prostate cancer

453

00:18:44,150 --> 00:18:48,140

but it may think something like oh

454

00:18:45,740 --> 00:18:50,089

broccoli will increase your chances of

455

00:18:48,140 --> 00:18:51,560

heart disease or whatever else and so

456

00:18:50,089 --> 00:18:53,269

you do get a lot of the public that says

457
00:18:51,559 --> 00:18:55,579
am I supposed to eat broccoli or am I

458
00:18:53,269 --> 00:18:57,500
not supposed to put that's right and and

459
00:18:55,579 --> 00:18:59,779
i think india or not to mention the fact

460
00:18:57,500 --> 00:19:01,549
as as you well know signs papers are

461
00:18:59,779 --> 00:19:05,420
published and then they often you know

462
00:19:01,549 --> 00:19:07,220
the results just don't hold up or they

463
00:19:05,420 --> 00:19:10,789
just don't have the full significance or

464
00:19:07,220 --> 00:19:11,930
meaning that they sometimes did I mean I

465
00:19:10,789 --> 00:19:14,029
think you can sort of do it would be

466
00:19:11,930 --> 00:19:15,380
sort of an interesting exercise and no

467
00:19:14,029 --> 00:19:22,190
one's going to do this but I mean

468
00:19:15,380 --> 00:19:23,930
imagine if the all journalism outlets in

469
00:19:22,190 --> 00:19:25,190
the world decided that they were just

470
00:19:23,930 --> 00:19:27,140
going to

471
00:19:25,190 --> 00:19:28,730
declare a certain moratorium that

472
00:19:27,140 --> 00:19:30,380
instead of when a paper comes out it has

473
00:19:28,730 --> 00:19:32,620
to be published and be in the news right

474
00:19:30,380 --> 00:19:35,600
that week if everybody was going to say

475
00:19:32,619 --> 00:19:38,929
we're not going to publish it for at

476
00:19:35,599 --> 00:19:40,490
least three months or six months because

477
00:19:38,930 --> 00:19:41,720
if you did that it would be very very

478
00:19:40,490 --> 00:19:44,079
different because there are a lot of

479
00:19:41,720 --> 00:19:46,309
papers that would come up but suddenly

480
00:19:44,079 --> 00:19:48,859
nobody would actually care about three

481
00:19:46,309 --> 00:19:50,869
months later anymore and there are a lot

482
00:19:48,859 --> 00:19:53,659
of things that you know other results

483
00:19:50,869 --> 00:19:56,349
would be processed and brought in now I

484
00:19:53,660 --> 00:19:58,670
think it's really unfortunate that the

485

00:19:56,349 --> 00:20:01,969
this sort of goes to the problem of the

486
00:19:58,670 --> 00:20:05,300
nature of the business of journalism is

487
00:20:01,970 --> 00:20:06,799
that it pushes very very hard for the

488
00:20:05,299 --> 00:20:10,099
importance of things obviously like

489
00:20:06,799 --> 00:20:13,450
journalistic scoops and for being very

490
00:20:10,099 --> 00:20:15,829
very competitive and attracting as many

491
00:20:13,450 --> 00:20:19,460
readers or viewers or whatever as

492
00:20:15,829 --> 00:20:20,929
possible and you know there are lots of

493
00:20:19,460 --> 00:20:24,170
things that are perfectly defensible

494
00:20:20,930 --> 00:20:26,950
about that on lots of terms but but if

495
00:20:24,170 --> 00:20:31,060
if what you're looking to optimize is

496
00:20:26,950 --> 00:20:34,610
the public's understanding of science

497
00:20:31,059 --> 00:20:36,559
very broadly there's nothing in that

498
00:20:34,609 --> 00:20:38,029
model for journalism that says that's

499
00:20:36,559 --> 00:20:40,700

what's going to happen yeah you're going

500

00:20:38,029 --> 00:20:42,769

to instead get a lot of sort of heard

501

00:20:40,700 --> 00:20:44,269

journalism everybody jumps on certain

502

00:20:42,769 --> 00:20:45,950

kinds of stories because they don't want

503

00:20:44,269 --> 00:20:48,019

to be the one place that didn't do that

504

00:20:45,950 --> 00:20:51,140

story you're going to get a certain

505

00:20:48,019 --> 00:20:53,599

amount of in some cases jumping on some

506

00:20:51,140 --> 00:20:55,520

things a little prematurely and you're

507

00:20:53,599 --> 00:20:57,079

going to get a kind of a focus on

508

00:20:55,519 --> 00:20:59,180

certain kinds of stories that are very

509

00:20:57,079 --> 00:21:01,099

very easy to sell and you're going to

510

00:20:59,180 --> 00:21:05,029

lose a lot of attention whether so

511

00:21:01,099 --> 00:21:08,359

astronomy stories get lots of play in in

512

00:21:05,029 --> 00:21:12,470

the general press stories about animals

513

00:21:08,359 --> 00:21:15,049

get a lot of play stories about a lot of

514
00:21:12,470 --> 00:21:17,180
ways our own psychology often get a lot

515
00:21:15,049 --> 00:21:20,629
of attention certain kinds of medical

516
00:21:17,180 --> 00:21:22,120
stories get a lot of attention but come

517
00:21:20,630 --> 00:21:25,300
on the sort of the bread and butter

518
00:21:22,119 --> 00:21:28,219
material science or chemistry stories

519
00:21:25,299 --> 00:21:31,000
the kinds of physics stories that don't

520
00:21:28,220 --> 00:21:34,480
involve things like dark matter or

521
00:21:31,000 --> 00:21:36,490
you know or or the Large Hadron Collider

522
00:21:34,480 --> 00:21:39,069
you know things that don't have a

523
00:21:36,490 --> 00:21:43,180
certain kind of glamour to them it's

524
00:21:39,069 --> 00:21:46,839
very very tough to get those a lot of

525
00:21:43,180 --> 00:21:48,039
space routinely in a lot of the general

526
00:21:46,839 --> 00:21:50,409
press when you get into the more

527
00:21:48,039 --> 00:21:53,109
specialized press sure then you can then

528
00:21:50,410 --> 00:21:56,470
you can get it but that's that's sort of

529
00:21:53,109 --> 00:21:59,559
not what the problem is the roblem is

530
00:21:56,470 --> 00:22:04,089
the most people think most science

531
00:21:59,559 --> 00:22:06,069
involves a lot of astronomy well on that

532
00:22:04,089 --> 00:22:07,809
sort of issue of jumping on a paper as

533
00:22:06,069 --> 00:22:09,429
soon as it's published that sort of is

534
00:22:07,809 --> 00:22:11,079
partly responsible for what happened

535
00:22:09,430 --> 00:22:13,060
with the engine Wakefield study would

536
00:22:11,079 --> 00:22:16,000
the autism connection with date with

537
00:22:13,059 --> 00:22:17,289
vaccinations in 1998 and I think if

538
00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:18,519
journalists that maybe waited a bit

539
00:22:17,289 --> 00:22:20,500
longer done a little bit more research

540
00:22:18,519 --> 00:22:22,920
they may have found out that you know

541
00:22:20,500 --> 00:22:25,119
his previous two papers were actually

542

00:22:22,920 --> 00:22:27,279
demonstrated to be wrong and of course

543
00:22:25,119 --> 00:22:29,519
the health the impact on the public

544
00:22:27,279 --> 00:22:32,769
health has been huge in that and

545
00:22:29,519 --> 00:22:33,910
particularly in that example but when we

546
00:22:32,769 --> 00:22:36,700
were talking to Howard Schneider on

547
00:22:33,910 --> 00:22:38,950
Saturday at the conference his opinion

548
00:22:36,700 --> 00:22:41,350
was well we're just reporting the

549
00:22:38,950 --> 00:22:43,000
stories it's up to the public really to

550
00:22:41,349 --> 00:22:45,309
sort of work out whether that's right oh

551
00:22:43,000 --> 00:22:47,440
that's wrong and what's your opinion of

552
00:22:45,309 --> 00:22:51,549
that yeah i think it's i think it's it's

553
00:22:47,440 --> 00:22:53,320
it's tough that's that is a admitted

554
00:22:51,549 --> 00:22:56,200
that there are aspects of that point

555
00:22:53,319 --> 00:22:59,259
that i can argue to myself both ways I

556
00:22:56,200 --> 00:23:04,000

mean I I always feel that it is it is a

557

00:22:59,259 --> 00:23:05,650

little disingenuous for us journalists

558

00:23:04,000 --> 00:23:08,619

to be in a position to sometimes say

559

00:23:05,650 --> 00:23:10,660

well we are we're not we don't want to

560

00:23:08,619 --> 00:23:12,849

be the gatekeepers we we are just

561

00:23:10,660 --> 00:23:14,320

presenting what is going on out there

562

00:23:12,849 --> 00:23:17,259

we're talking about what other people

563

00:23:14,319 --> 00:23:19,089

are saying we you know other people are

564

00:23:17,259 --> 00:23:20,799

the news we are simply the vehicle of

565

00:23:19,089 --> 00:23:23,259

that and if other people are saying this

566

00:23:20,799 --> 00:23:25,299

we have a responsibility to be passing

567

00:23:23,259 --> 00:23:29,559

that along I think it's disingenuous

568

00:23:25,299 --> 00:23:32,649

because the reality is that all writers

569

00:23:29,559 --> 00:23:34,569

and reporters and editors when they are

570

00:23:32,650 --> 00:23:37,090

putting together stories of any kind

571
00:23:34,569 --> 00:23:37,700
inevitably you make choices about what

572
00:23:37,089 --> 00:23:38,990
you're going to

573
00:23:37,700 --> 00:23:42,528
load and what you're not going to

574
00:23:38,990 --> 00:23:44,450
include even stories that have you know

575
00:23:42,528 --> 00:23:47,388
that represent a number of points of

576
00:23:44,450 --> 00:23:49,490
view do not represent every point of

577
00:23:47,388 --> 00:23:54,339
view they represent what they think are

578
00:23:49,490 --> 00:23:54,339
sort of what they will set up to be

579
00:23:54,369 --> 00:23:59,989
representative major points of view on

580
00:23:57,528 --> 00:24:01,579
this it's impossible to get all the

581
00:23:59,990 --> 00:24:03,829
points of view in any story and in fact

582
00:24:01,579 --> 00:24:05,720
one of the the things that sort of most

583
00:24:03,829 --> 00:24:09,859
misleading is how many controversies are

584
00:24:05,720 --> 00:24:13,130
are set up as as just two sided it's a

585
00:24:09,859 --> 00:24:15,138
or its be well he asked with a B and an

586
00:24:13,130 --> 00:24:18,380
entire alphabet of other perspectives on

587
00:24:15,138 --> 00:24:21,589
this that actually may have more or

588
00:24:18,380 --> 00:24:24,740
fewer things in common with those first

589
00:24:21,589 --> 00:24:26,629
two that you set up so it's not the case

590
00:24:24,740 --> 00:24:29,000
that when we're journalists that we're

591
00:24:26,630 --> 00:24:30,830
always you know that weird that we're

592
00:24:29,000 --> 00:24:32,569
not that the problem on that we are

593
00:24:30,829 --> 00:24:34,460
making those choices well on the other

594
00:24:32,569 --> 00:24:36,908
hand it is also the case that with some

595
00:24:34,460 --> 00:24:39,860
of these things kind of frustratingly

596
00:24:36,909 --> 00:24:41,149
particularly when this when the you know

597
00:24:39,859 --> 00:24:43,879
I think those of us who have a lot of

598
00:24:41,148 --> 00:24:46,189
interests in science we sometimes just

599

00:24:43,880 --> 00:24:47,659
expected that the newspapers but that

600
00:24:46,190 --> 00:24:49,340
most of their interest in most of their

601
00:24:47,659 --> 00:24:51,049
stories is going to be that kind of

602
00:24:49,339 --> 00:24:54,349
scientific one but I think a lot of

603
00:24:51,048 --> 00:24:56,569
times the editors and reporters and

604
00:24:54,349 --> 00:24:58,189
writers would point out that the

605
00:24:56,569 --> 00:25:00,589
responsibility they actually have been

606
00:24:58,190 --> 00:25:03,830
publishing this goes considerably beyond

607
00:25:00,589 --> 00:25:05,269
all of that and that there are you know

608
00:25:03,829 --> 00:25:06,918
some of those kinds of things that they

609
00:25:05,269 --> 00:25:08,690
do have to acknowledge and that the

610
00:25:06,919 --> 00:25:10,190
stories are not as we talked about

611
00:25:08,690 --> 00:25:11,750
earlier they're not clearly sort of

612
00:25:10,190 --> 00:25:13,669
partitioned down to here's the science

613
00:25:11,750 --> 00:25:15,169

component to this here's the social

614

00:25:13,669 --> 00:25:19,460

compulsion component this here's the

615

00:25:15,169 --> 00:25:22,038

political component of this you know you

616

00:25:19,460 --> 00:25:24,590

you do need sometimes you do need a

617

00:25:22,038 --> 00:25:26,658

smarter public because because there's

618

00:25:24,589 --> 00:25:29,658

something fun as your your public just

619

00:25:26,659 --> 00:25:32,240

doesn't they just don't understand what

620

00:25:29,659 --> 00:25:34,880

they're being told I mean Ben Goldacre

621

00:25:32,240 --> 00:25:36,888

for example he criticizes science

622

00:25:34,880 --> 00:25:38,899

journalists for sir for the fact that

623

00:25:36,888 --> 00:25:40,250

they dumbed down things too much and he

624

00:25:38,898 --> 00:25:43,219

says you know you watch the news every

625

00:25:40,250 --> 00:25:45,288

night and there's detail reports on the

626

00:25:43,220 --> 00:25:47,329

economy in the financial situation and

627

00:25:45,288 --> 00:25:48,798

not many of us are trained in finance or

628
00:25:47,329 --> 00:25:50,159
economy so they're talking about things

629
00:25:48,798 --> 00:25:52,889
that we don't understand but they don't

630
00:25:50,160 --> 00:25:55,740
down whereas he thinks that science is

631
00:25:52,890 --> 00:25:57,660
to dump down but if the public is that

632
00:25:55,740 --> 00:25:59,609
challenged in terms of their scientific

633
00:25:57,660 --> 00:26:01,350
knowledge then maybe we have to do that

634
00:25:59,609 --> 00:26:04,229
it's a good point I mean I do sometimes

635
00:26:01,349 --> 00:26:06,569
wonder you know that's a reasonable

636
00:26:04,230 --> 00:26:08,160
argument that men is raising about

637
00:26:06,569 --> 00:26:09,779
something that I do sometimes wonder

638
00:26:08,160 --> 00:26:11,340
whether if you talked to people who are

639
00:26:09,779 --> 00:26:12,569
say professional economists at what they

640
00:26:11,339 --> 00:26:14,819
would make Erica I don't know that's

641
00:26:12,569 --> 00:26:17,129
that's a very dumbed-down presentation

642
00:26:14,819 --> 00:26:20,339
of what's going on in my field so maybe

643
00:26:17,130 --> 00:26:21,990
maybe some AAA maybe but but i mean i'd

644
00:26:20,339 --> 00:26:23,699
be willing to concede that that you know

645
00:26:21,990 --> 00:26:26,789
that may not be the case that the fact

646
00:26:23,700 --> 00:26:29,970
is it is it is i mean there are a lot of

647
00:26:26,789 --> 00:26:32,960
attitudes that are very deeply ingrained

648
00:26:29,970 --> 00:26:36,779
may be wrongly within a lot of

649
00:26:32,960 --> 00:26:38,250
journalism that do cut into some of

650
00:26:36,779 --> 00:26:39,569
those questions about about what you're

651
00:26:38,250 --> 00:26:42,750
going to present there is a very strong

652
00:26:39,569 --> 00:26:45,000
sense that a lot of your public is going

653
00:26:42,750 --> 00:26:47,279
to run screaming off into the night if

654
00:26:45,000 --> 00:26:49,230
you do start to get a little too

655
00:26:47,279 --> 00:26:50,639
technical little too detailed and this

656

00:26:49,230 --> 00:26:52,289
is where it's tricky because i think you

657
00:26:50,640 --> 00:26:54,780
almost do want to look or talk about

658
00:26:52,289 --> 00:26:56,789
talking about media or the press or

659
00:26:54,779 --> 00:26:59,220
newspapers or whatever else they're such

660
00:26:56,789 --> 00:27:00,269
broad categories that you almost want to

661
00:26:59,220 --> 00:27:04,319
take these things on a cave of

662
00:27:00,269 --> 00:27:07,079
case-by-case basis the kind of things

663
00:27:04,319 --> 00:27:09,599
that you know public television

664
00:27:07,079 --> 00:27:11,129
audiences might be willing to watch on a

665
00:27:09,599 --> 00:27:13,129
Sunday evening may be very very

666
00:27:11,130 --> 00:27:17,400
different from the kinds of things that

667
00:27:13,130 --> 00:27:19,380
you know aa8 it a different swath of the

668
00:27:17,400 --> 00:27:22,860
public wants to watch on like it's

669
00:27:19,380 --> 00:27:24,810
morning television news program who was

670
00:27:22,859 --> 00:27:27,809

it the PT Barnum or who is so someone is

671

00:27:24,809 --> 00:27:30,419

credited with saying the note no one

672

00:27:27,809 --> 00:27:31,889

ever went broke by under estimating the

673

00:27:30,420 --> 00:27:35,090

intelligence of the amount of the

674

00:27:31,890 --> 00:27:37,980

American public it's a patronizing

675

00:27:35,089 --> 00:27:39,869

perspective to take on it and yet a lot

676

00:27:37,980 --> 00:27:42,930

of people have managed to make a lot of

677

00:27:39,869 --> 00:27:45,359

money that way and you know people I

678

00:27:42,930 --> 00:27:47,070

think they love times of people who are

679

00:27:45,359 --> 00:27:49,079

in these perspective positions to make

680

00:27:47,069 --> 00:27:50,399

these decisions they default to what

681

00:27:49,079 --> 00:27:52,769

seems like well the safer more

682

00:27:50,400 --> 00:27:54,690

conservative assumption is that people

683

00:27:52,769 --> 00:27:59,730

won't actually be very interested in

684

00:27:54,690 --> 00:28:01,380

this so when in doubt heads toward the

685
00:27:59,730 --> 00:28:04,380
realization that there

686
00:28:01,380 --> 00:28:05,370
were to get out of here I do think I

687
00:28:04,380 --> 00:28:06,660
mean I say this is something you know

688
00:28:05,369 --> 00:28:10,409
somebody associated with scientific

689
00:28:06,660 --> 00:28:13,500
american which is certainly the

690
00:28:10,410 --> 00:28:15,960
antithesis of that in many many ways i

691
00:28:13,500 --> 00:28:18,420
have to say scientists are really I've

692
00:28:15,960 --> 00:28:20,130
in my in my judgment is somebody who

693
00:28:18,420 --> 00:28:23,820
sits there kind of intermediary between

694
00:28:20,130 --> 00:28:26,730
the Scientific American audience and the

695
00:28:23,819 --> 00:28:29,250
the scientists authors who write for us

696
00:28:26,730 --> 00:28:32,610
I think a lot of scientists do sometimes

697
00:28:29,250 --> 00:28:37,980
get a distorted perspective about just

698
00:28:32,609 --> 00:28:40,559
how fascinated a lot of the public might

699
00:28:37,980 --> 00:28:42,630
be with their work or how equipped they

700
00:28:40,559 --> 00:28:44,839
are to be able to do it what do you mean

701
00:28:42,630 --> 00:28:49,970
I know it's hard to imagine isn't it

702
00:28:44,839 --> 00:28:52,589
yeah well not your work of course not my

703
00:28:49,970 --> 00:28:54,569
that's but that's right i mean i think

704
00:28:52,589 --> 00:28:58,199
people that you know think they do i

705
00:28:54,569 --> 00:29:00,299
mean i recall in days of you know of

706
00:28:58,200 --> 00:29:01,920
editing articles with with various

707
00:29:00,299 --> 00:29:05,730
scientists of really having to convince

708
00:29:01,920 --> 00:29:08,730
them that most people did not know what

709
00:29:05,730 --> 00:29:10,470
messenger RNA is it's like you know and

710
00:29:08,730 --> 00:29:12,599
i would say i would say we have to stop

711
00:29:10,470 --> 00:29:16,009
and we have to at least explain what

712
00:29:12,599 --> 00:29:19,319
messenger RNA is and you know they

713

00:29:16,009 --> 00:29:21,000
already bristling against some of the

714
00:29:19,319 --> 00:29:22,559
kind of the word constraints that we

715
00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:24,809
were already faced with so everybody

716
00:29:22,559 --> 00:29:27,509
knows that I'm I swear to you they don't

717
00:29:24,809 --> 00:29:29,490
I swear to you they have no they don't

718
00:29:27,509 --> 00:29:31,829
really necessarily know what genes are

719
00:29:29,490 --> 00:29:34,319
you know they're familiar in a very

720
00:29:31,829 --> 00:29:37,409
general general way but the notion that

721
00:29:34,319 --> 00:29:39,089
genes make proteins it's probably worth

722
00:29:37,410 --> 00:29:42,060
reminding them of that sort of thing so

723
00:29:39,089 --> 00:29:45,509
I mean I think even if we embrace the

724
00:29:42,059 --> 00:29:47,519
idea that the public's actual tolerance

725
00:29:45,509 --> 00:29:49,259
for a lot of this and their interest in

726
00:29:47,519 --> 00:29:53,339
a lot of the science is significantly

727
00:29:49,259 --> 00:29:56,849

higher than then maybe in practice we in

728

00:29:53,339 --> 00:29:59,309

the media given credit for the i would

729

00:29:56,849 --> 00:30:00,529

say you still want to be kind of careful

730

00:29:59,309 --> 00:30:02,750

about that

731

00:30:00,529 --> 00:30:04,819

and and and be aware of the fact that

732

00:30:02,750 --> 00:30:07,339

you know people do have a lot of other

733

00:30:04,819 --> 00:30:09,470

interests it's very very easy especially

734

00:30:07,339 --> 00:30:12,529

these days for them to get distracted

735

00:30:09,470 --> 00:30:13,940

off by something else so I think a

736

00:30:12,529 --> 00:30:16,819

fascinating thing with with scientific

737

00:30:13,940 --> 00:30:20,509

American's readership is seeing that a

738

00:30:16,819 --> 00:30:22,730

lot a great many of scientific

739

00:30:20,509 --> 00:30:25,220

American's Raiders deeply deeply love

740

00:30:22,730 --> 00:30:27,460

articles about very hard two kinds of

741

00:30:25,220 --> 00:30:29,720

physics maybe that's not too surprising

742
00:30:27,460 --> 00:30:31,370
what I think is interesting is that is

743
00:30:29,720 --> 00:30:33,019
that we would do our own kind of surveys

744
00:30:31,369 --> 00:30:35,029
about about the responses to various

745
00:30:33,019 --> 00:30:36,559
articles and it I thought it was

746
00:30:35,029 --> 00:30:38,690
interesting to see that sometimes you

747
00:30:36,559 --> 00:30:41,000
would get results that said that that

748
00:30:38,690 --> 00:30:43,370
some of the hardest articles about

749
00:30:41,000 --> 00:30:45,890
physics were the ones that not just that

750
00:30:43,369 --> 00:30:47,269
readers were most interested in but that

751
00:30:45,890 --> 00:30:49,850
sometimes that they were the ones that

752
00:30:47,269 --> 00:30:53,480
they that they thought were were a

753
00:30:49,849 --> 00:30:55,549
clearest and most compelling which is

754
00:30:53,480 --> 00:30:57,769
fascinating because as somebody who's in

755
00:30:55,549 --> 00:31:00,220
cases spent weeks on those articles I'm

756
00:30:57,769 --> 00:31:02,750
pretty sure they can't possibly actually

757
00:31:00,220 --> 00:31:05,839
understand those articles in detail as

758
00:31:02,750 --> 00:31:08,150
well as they as well as they think they

759
00:31:05,839 --> 00:31:09,799
do and I say that not just sort of on

760
00:31:08,150 --> 00:31:12,259
you know my own reflection of that but

761
00:31:09,799 --> 00:31:14,750
basically because of editors and even

762
00:31:12,259 --> 00:31:16,490
the author's themselves wrestling with

763
00:31:14,750 --> 00:31:18,769
what they were getting into print it was

764
00:31:16,490 --> 00:31:20,990
like this is really still not always

765
00:31:18,769 --> 00:31:22,579
quite as lucid as we would like and yet

766
00:31:20,990 --> 00:31:25,240
people would drink that sort of thing up

767
00:31:22,579 --> 00:31:27,769
so sometimes people really really do

768
00:31:25,240 --> 00:31:30,620
love that and want that in-depth

769
00:31:27,769 --> 00:31:33,980
information and to a at least some of

770

00:31:30,619 --> 00:31:35,599
them to a far greater extent than a lot

771
00:31:33,980 --> 00:31:37,880
of the public would or a lot of the

772
00:31:35,599 --> 00:31:39,740
journalism profession would accept that

773
00:31:37,880 --> 00:31:42,470
they're willing to tolerate not

774
00:31:39,740 --> 00:31:43,910
completely understanding things as long

775
00:31:42,470 --> 00:31:45,890
as they feel like they're getting closer

776
00:31:43,910 --> 00:31:47,090
to that big answer so how can I release

777
00:31:45,890 --> 00:31:49,280
those find out more about what you're

778
00:31:47,089 --> 00:31:51,500
doing now is it oh well at the moment

779
00:31:49,279 --> 00:31:53,750
that's a good question i have i will

780
00:31:51,500 --> 00:31:55,250
probably get some sort of website or

781
00:31:53,750 --> 00:31:57,589
whatever set up for myself at the moment

782
00:31:55,250 --> 00:31:59,480
but i think just to looking around for

783
00:31:57,589 --> 00:32:02,809
my name popping up on things have nose

784
00:31:59,480 --> 00:32:04,519

google manages to turn things like hey

785

00:32:02,809 --> 00:32:06,230

you mentioned earlier that if you google

786

00:32:04,519 --> 00:32:07,700

to you that you get some interesting

787

00:32:06,230 --> 00:32:09,058

things turning up yes well it's

788

00:32:07,700 --> 00:32:10,740

interesting the third

789

00:32:09,058 --> 00:32:12,749

you google for John running and

790

00:32:10,740 --> 00:32:14,249

scientific america and you know the the

791

00:32:12,749 --> 00:32:18,120

obvious things would would turn out but

792

00:32:14,249 --> 00:32:21,690

you also rapidly you see many many

793

00:32:18,119 --> 00:32:23,819

online screeds from various people in

794

00:32:21,690 --> 00:32:26,038

the creationist community the cold

795

00:32:23,819 --> 00:32:27,898

fusion community the nanotech community

796

00:32:26,038 --> 00:32:30,210

and of course a lot of people who were

797

00:32:27,898 --> 00:32:33,949

great fans of a Bjorn Lomborg The

798

00:32:30,210 --> 00:32:39,590

Skeptical environmentalist also had a

799
00:32:33,950 --> 00:32:41,850
well noted a set of exchanges over time

800
00:32:39,589 --> 00:32:43,168
all right jumble thank you so much for

801
00:32:41,849 --> 00:32:45,928
joining us today on the skeptics I'm

802
00:32:43,169 --> 00:32:47,610
always my pleasure thank you and a big

803
00:32:45,929 --> 00:32:50,070
thank you to John ready for taking his

804
00:32:47,609 --> 00:32:52,019
time to talk to us if you want to find

805
00:32:50,069 --> 00:32:54,298
out more about some of John's previous

806
00:32:52,019 --> 00:32:57,149
work at Scientific American head to

807
00:32:54,298 --> 00:33:01,548
scientificamerican.com and until next

808
00:32:57,148 --> 00:33:01,548
time this has been dr. rachey reports

809
00:33:10,130 --> 00:33:14,580
hi I'm Jason and I'm Andrew from the

810
00:33:13,019 --> 00:33:17,369
nonsense podcast bringing you a

811
00:33:14,579 --> 00:33:19,168
skeptical overview of news religion and

812
00:33:17,369 --> 00:33:20,969
all forms of pseudoscience we're

813
00:33:19,169 --> 00:33:22,528
defending science and reason against the

814
00:33:20,970 --> 00:33:24,360
onslaught of medical and spiritual

815
00:33:22,528 --> 00:33:26,398
nonsense all week we are busy

816
00:33:24,359 --> 00:33:29,099
researching and debunking pseudoscience

817
00:33:26,398 --> 00:33:30,959
but on the seventh day we listened to

818
00:33:29,099 --> 00:33:34,168
the skeptic zone check us out at

819
00:33:30,960 --> 00:33:38,058
Monson's podcast libsyn com or search

820
00:33:34,169 --> 00:33:38,059
for the nonsense podcast on itunes

821
00:33:44,138 --> 00:33:48,949
it's the first thursday of the month

822
00:33:46,669 --> 00:33:52,009
here in sydney first thursday remember

823
00:33:48,950 --> 00:33:56,379
and i'm at central train station making

824
00:33:52,009 --> 00:33:56,378
my way and skeptics in the hub

825
00:33:58,779 --> 00:34:03,609
the pub for skeptics in the pub is

826
00:34:00,670 --> 00:34:05,320
located downtown Sydney not too far from

827

00:34:03,609 --> 00:34:08,139
central train station which is

828
00:34:05,319 --> 00:34:11,918
convenient and very close to museum

829
00:34:08,139 --> 00:34:15,219
train station a crown hotel the corner

830
00:34:11,918 --> 00:34:16,960
of Elizabeth and Goldman streets now

831
00:34:15,219 --> 00:34:20,428
skeptics in the pub starts at six

832
00:34:16,960 --> 00:34:23,139
o'clock and it's coming up to 5 30 now

833
00:34:20,429 --> 00:34:24,900
lots of office workers walking the other

834
00:34:23,139 --> 00:34:28,658
way towards central stations I walk

835
00:34:24,900 --> 00:34:31,659
towards the pub train one of the city's

836
00:34:28,659 --> 00:34:35,980
trains going by me he comes a tram it's

837
00:34:31,659 --> 00:34:39,840
all happening I think it's quite a good

838
00:34:35,980 --> 00:34:42,760
coincidence that the venue for the 2010

839
00:34:39,840 --> 00:34:45,490
skeptics convention which will be held

840
00:34:42,760 --> 00:34:47,860
from November the 26 to the 28 2010

841
00:34:45,489 --> 00:34:50,319

there's only one block away from the

842

00:34:47,860 --> 00:34:54,610

skeptics in the pub I think some of us

843

00:34:50,320 --> 00:34:57,970

may end up there well you know it I'm

844

00:34:54,610 --> 00:35:00,130

the first one here upstairs in the crown

845

00:34:57,969 --> 00:35:03,969

hotel is a lovely big room it says a

846

00:35:00,130 --> 00:35:06,369

restaurant normally and they the Crown

847

00:35:03,969 --> 00:35:08,769

Hotel basically given it to the skeptics

848

00:35:06,369 --> 00:35:10,389

for our use on the first thursday of the

849

00:35:08,769 --> 00:35:14,259

month because they know we bring in lots

850

00:35:10,389 --> 00:35:15,639

of people very wise and there are

851

00:35:14,260 --> 00:35:17,710

skeptics in the pub I'm here with

852

00:35:15,639 --> 00:35:19,420

William brew hi William hello how are

853

00:35:17,710 --> 00:35:22,000

you going I'm really well now you've

854

00:35:19,420 --> 00:35:24,159

interviewed me in the past time to get

855

00:35:22,000 --> 00:35:26,050

your revenge on me now big revenge time

856

00:35:24,159 --> 00:35:27,879

so you you've been having long

857

00:35:26,050 --> 00:35:28,780

description of now for two years or

858

00:35:27,880 --> 00:35:31,090

something like there would be at least

859

00:35:28,780 --> 00:35:36,250

around to you know we met originally on

860

00:35:31,090 --> 00:35:38,079

a in a extras waiting area for Telstra

861

00:35:36,250 --> 00:35:40,119

to Telstra and then we met again on home

862

00:35:38,079 --> 00:35:42,400

and away of all place yeah it's the only

863

00:35:40,119 --> 00:35:44,259

way you meet people is yes it is great

864

00:35:42,400 --> 00:35:45,400

but I remember when I met you and we

865

00:35:44,260 --> 00:35:47,360

were sitting around talking about

866

00:35:45,400 --> 00:35:49,639

astrology we were in a caravan

867

00:35:47,360 --> 00:35:51,050

caravan mouse astrology yeah and you

868

00:35:49,639 --> 00:35:52,789

were saying to these people as they were

869

00:35:51,050 --> 00:35:55,760

at their style signs do you actually

870
00:35:52,789 --> 00:35:58,130
think it's true that's when I suddenly

871
00:35:55,760 --> 00:35:59,750
woke up in a bit who is this guy yeah

872
00:35:58,130 --> 00:36:01,940
you explain where you were from yeah

873
00:35:59,750 --> 00:36:05,000
yeah that'll took off from there yeah um

874
00:36:01,940 --> 00:36:06,019
and you've been guessed as we say you've

875
00:36:05,000 --> 00:36:08,239
been coming here for two years now you

876
00:36:06,019 --> 00:36:10,340
are a bit of a known person you've been

877
00:36:08,239 --> 00:36:12,199
a roving reporter haven't you I have yes

878
00:36:10,340 --> 00:36:14,900
I did some work for cycle bad side kicks

879
00:36:12,199 --> 00:36:16,250
with uk-based site I'm based out here so

880
00:36:14,900 --> 00:36:18,619
I do a bit of stuff in Australia for

881
00:36:16,250 --> 00:36:20,269
them and it was through you that I

882
00:36:18,619 --> 00:36:22,190
actually want I discovered them first I

883
00:36:20,269 --> 00:36:24,050
discovered year I know that that the guy

884

00:36:22,190 --> 00:36:25,789
who runs the site you both know each

885
00:36:24,050 --> 00:36:27,710
other professionally yeah yeah yeah

886
00:36:25,789 --> 00:36:29,480
we're all linked in that way gone yes

887
00:36:27,710 --> 00:36:31,340
sir john donne is so we're all linked

888
00:36:29,480 --> 00:36:32,900
we're like three degrees of separation

889
00:36:31,340 --> 00:36:35,240
and we did something for you you

890
00:36:32,900 --> 00:36:37,579
supplied us with a reading unit yes a

891
00:36:35,239 --> 00:36:39,829
well-known so-called medium psychic from

892
00:36:37,579 --> 00:36:42,319
the UK can I mention her oh yeah sally

893
00:36:39,829 --> 00:36:43,639
morgan okay people over there will know

894
00:36:42,320 --> 00:36:45,950
immediately who she is she's got her own

895
00:36:43,639 --> 00:36:48,769
TV show I had a reading from her before

896
00:36:45,949 --> 00:36:50,359
she was well known and it's the only

897
00:36:48,769 --> 00:36:52,940
time I've seen a psychic that's in about

898
00:36:50,360 --> 00:36:55,880

12 13 and iPhone many more up lost a lot

899

00:36:52,940 --> 00:36:58,429

of money who made me question said she

900

00:36:55,880 --> 00:36:59,660

said certain things which rung true but

901

00:36:58,429 --> 00:37:01,969

you actually showed me the tricks of the

902

00:36:59,659 --> 00:37:04,519

trade it was reading bit of hot reading

903

00:37:01,969 --> 00:37:07,429

here in there and although I still have

904

00:37:04,519 --> 00:37:08,599

a couple of questions I still have not

905

00:37:07,429 --> 00:37:10,219

seen the evidence but there's only

906

00:37:08,599 --> 00:37:11,989

mediumship all psychics who actually

907

00:37:10,219 --> 00:37:14,599

have genuine skills it's interesting

908

00:37:11,989 --> 00:37:18,189

though you it really is a case of taking

909

00:37:14,599 --> 00:37:21,019

a reading and it's a long process but

910

00:37:18,190 --> 00:37:23,210

typing it out transcribing it and then

911

00:37:21,019 --> 00:37:25,369

going through it line by line to follow

912

00:37:23,210 --> 00:37:28,130

the logic and the threads and the

913
00:37:25,369 --> 00:37:30,230
answers and where it leads all the tell

914
00:37:28,130 --> 00:37:32,210
of a long press a big process but it's

915
00:37:30,230 --> 00:37:34,039
worthwhile in the end and assuming you

916
00:37:32,210 --> 00:37:36,199
can't do in two minutes after hearing a

917
00:37:34,039 --> 00:37:37,699
really can't you've actually got to

918
00:37:36,199 --> 00:37:39,710
listen to what the person's got to say

919
00:37:37,699 --> 00:37:43,429
got to us and say transcribe it you've

920
00:37:39,710 --> 00:37:44,750
got to then examine it analyzes and not

921
00:37:43,429 --> 00:37:47,029
going with the attitude that it's going

922
00:37:44,750 --> 00:37:48,889
to be fake sort of going objectively and

923
00:37:47,030 --> 00:37:50,420
then sieve does it make sense or does it

924
00:37:48,889 --> 00:37:51,118
not make sense and of course you showed

925
00:37:50,420 --> 00:37:52,680
me if it

926
00:37:51,119 --> 00:37:54,660
but definitely for most part anyway it

927
00:37:52,679 --> 00:37:56,699
didn't make sense yeah yeah and it also

928
00:37:54,659 --> 00:37:59,608
helps you realize how many questions

929
00:37:56,699 --> 00:38:01,199
were asked of you and not and all the

930
00:37:59,608 --> 00:38:02,699
rest of it and the other thing is I'm

931
00:38:01,199 --> 00:38:04,409
listening back to it because actually

932
00:38:02,699 --> 00:38:06,719
isn't battery most of what she said was

933
00:38:04,409 --> 00:38:09,058
totally wrong and even bits which could

934
00:38:06,719 --> 00:38:11,429
have been generalized somehow I linked

935
00:38:09,059 --> 00:38:12,869
it to being true yes closer for me it

936
00:38:11,429 --> 00:38:15,298
was true at the time but listening back

937
00:38:12,869 --> 00:38:18,180
you know I listened in back it also

938
00:38:15,298 --> 00:38:19,768
gives the opportunity to to remember

939
00:38:18,179 --> 00:38:21,509
things that you would naturally forget

940
00:38:19,768 --> 00:38:23,998
in a reading like things that didn't hit

941

00:38:21,509 --> 00:38:25,798
home so after a half hour reading you

942
00:38:23,998 --> 00:38:27,419
can remember I don't know a tenth of

943
00:38:25,798 --> 00:38:29,518
what was said because most of what was

944
00:38:27,420 --> 00:38:30,809
said was didn't and you've said it

945
00:38:29,518 --> 00:38:32,788
yourself and have a remainder of the

946
00:38:30,809 --> 00:38:34,230
hits but not the missus that's right and

947
00:38:32,789 --> 00:38:35,609
he said that many times yeah yeah that's

948
00:38:34,230 --> 00:38:37,829
something I always tell people and i'm

949
00:38:35,608 --> 00:38:40,710
amazed i've got a good circle of friends

950
00:38:37,829 --> 00:38:42,509
and most of them are believers one of

951
00:38:40,710 --> 00:38:44,579
them his mother's a so-called faith

952
00:38:42,509 --> 00:38:47,309
healer and so we're really good friends

953
00:38:44,579 --> 00:38:48,630
but we do clash yeah but even him I

954
00:38:47,309 --> 00:38:50,400
think it's getting through to him and I

955
00:38:48,630 --> 00:38:51,990

say things when I questioned him why do

956

00:38:50,400 --> 00:38:53,338

you think echinacea works what's it

957

00:38:51,989 --> 00:38:56,129

actually doing for you you know all

958

00:38:53,338 --> 00:38:58,199

these things and it's not about forcing

959

00:38:56,130 --> 00:38:59,519

your views on people it's about making

960

00:38:58,199 --> 00:39:01,528

them see that perhaps as another

961

00:38:59,518 --> 00:39:03,719

argument perhaps making them question

962

00:39:01,528 --> 00:39:06,119

their own beliefs yes it's never an easy

963

00:39:03,719 --> 00:39:08,548

thing to do you have to be very tactful

964

00:39:06,119 --> 00:39:10,858

sometimes and sometimes you can't I want

965

00:39:08,548 --> 00:39:12,538

to know you your temper gets the better

966

00:39:10,858 --> 00:39:14,730

here sometimes and you say look it's

967

00:39:12,539 --> 00:39:16,410

rubbish all right wait you can get very

968

00:39:14,730 --> 00:39:18,509

antagonistic I no longer bother telling

969

00:39:16,409 --> 00:39:20,909

people it's rubbish because yeah what

970
00:39:18,509 --> 00:39:23,099
they do is decide oh me I alienate them

971
00:39:20,909 --> 00:39:24,179
I get nowhere I Satan if you want to

972
00:39:23,099 --> 00:39:25,890
talk about it i'll talk about it with

973
00:39:24,179 --> 00:39:27,149
you but that's my view if you want to

974
00:39:25,889 --> 00:39:28,828
know my view i'll tell you in my view

975
00:39:27,150 --> 00:39:30,749
but if that's your view then that's

976
00:39:28,829 --> 00:39:31,829
great i do have the rest live every now

977
00:39:30,748 --> 00:39:33,088
and then suddenly there's a part of me

978
00:39:31,829 --> 00:39:34,859
just wants to say it and get it over

979
00:39:33,088 --> 00:39:36,480
with especially it's something like the

980
00:39:34,858 --> 00:39:38,759
mind-body-spirit festival where people

981
00:39:36,480 --> 00:39:40,380
are peddling utter rubbish you know i

982
00:39:38,759 --> 00:39:42,389
went to one Ainger asst that i went to

983
00:39:40,380 --> 00:39:44,068
one of them last year and you see these

984
00:39:42,389 --> 00:39:45,629
people who come across as all sweet and

985
00:39:44,068 --> 00:39:47,699
light in SE and I light and Ronnie

986
00:39:45,630 --> 00:39:50,700
really friendly as soon as you start

987
00:39:47,699 --> 00:39:52,710
questioning them their face changes that

988
00:39:50,699 --> 00:39:55,088
whole yellowing look yeah become really

989
00:39:52,710 --> 00:39:57,009
serious because they deviated from there

990
00:39:55,088 --> 00:39:59,018
and they're back in the defense has come

991
00:39:57,009 --> 00:40:00,338
up they did and they don't know how to

992
00:39:59,018 --> 00:40:01,988
answer and they want to get rid of and I

993
00:40:00,338 --> 00:40:03,038
notice when you gave them the hundred

994
00:40:01,989 --> 00:40:04,478
it's a hundred thousand dollars yeah

995
00:40:03,039 --> 00:40:08,140
hundred thousand dollars here rather

996
00:40:04,478 --> 00:40:09,939
than embrace it they walk away yeah that

997
00:40:08,139 --> 00:40:11,588
is found if I had something but I

998

00:40:09,940 --> 00:40:13,150
thought I could prove if you offered me

999
00:40:11,588 --> 00:40:15,159
a hundred thousand dollars hey I'll take

1000
00:40:13,150 --> 00:40:17,048
it yeah say there's something which

1001
00:40:15,159 --> 00:40:19,268
doesn't add up there it's all brats it

1002
00:40:17,048 --> 00:40:21,130
does that up edge rapid optics played a

1003
00:40:19,268 --> 00:40:23,108
real reason well the numerology it all

1004
00:40:21,130 --> 00:40:24,489
adds up there is that when i first met

1005
00:40:23,108 --> 00:40:26,199
you there also not not just talking

1006
00:40:24,489 --> 00:40:28,809
about astrology but numerology as well

1007
00:40:26,199 --> 00:40:30,248
were they yeah doesn't add up to me but

1008
00:40:28,809 --> 00:40:33,430
you know that's one of the things about

1009
00:40:30,248 --> 00:40:34,988
it how can our listeners cease more of

1010
00:40:33,429 --> 00:40:38,379
your work or hear more of your reports

1011
00:40:34,989 --> 00:40:40,659
well they can see my work on ww bad

1012
00:40:38,380 --> 00:40:45,759

psychics calm on my own youtube channel

1013

00:40:40,659 --> 00:40:47,739

which is ww youtube com / kensington 25

1014

00:40:45,759 --> 00:40:49,869

kensington 25 that's right you do a lot

1015

00:40:47,739 --> 00:40:51,190

of video reports i do you from all

1016

00:40:49,869 --> 00:40:52,989

around the world more round of the world

1017

00:40:51,190 --> 00:40:54,909

interviews most of them here in

1018

00:40:52,989 --> 00:40:57,400

australia yes stuff from America from

1019

00:40:54,909 --> 00:40:58,778

the UK from Europe Asia jus do check it

1020

00:40:57,400 --> 00:41:01,119

out and also check that psychics out

1021

00:40:58,778 --> 00:41:03,369

that was the site which introduced me to

1022

00:41:01,119 --> 00:41:05,619

skepticism and through them I found out

1023

00:41:03,369 --> 00:41:09,088

about you excellent so good to see

1024

00:41:05,619 --> 00:41:09,088

William get to see you Richard

1025

00:41:17,079 --> 00:41:23,839

the sky was velvet black with diamond

1026

00:41:20,958 --> 00:41:26,149

stars in the night and the sparkled

1027
00:41:23,838 --> 00:41:28,548
starlight fell like a gentle rain of

1028
00:41:26,150 --> 00:41:31,489
light be sprinkling the earth in a

1029
00:41:28,548 --> 00:41:34,389
shimmering silver cloak falling on the

1030
00:41:31,489 --> 00:41:37,639
campsite and be dazzling the city folk

1031
00:41:34,389 --> 00:41:40,278
dry desert air died the campfire in

1032
00:41:37,639 --> 00:41:42,858
glowing embers and the storyteller told

1033
00:41:40,278 --> 00:41:44,748
a tale which only he remembers of a

1034
00:41:42,858 --> 00:41:47,659
night he saw the minmin light deep

1035
00:41:44,748 --> 00:41:51,068
within the dark on a distant desert clay

1036
00:41:47,659 --> 00:41:53,629
pan in an earth scape cold and stark

1037
00:41:51,068 --> 00:41:56,538
smiling twinkle lights laughing in the

1038
00:41:53,630 --> 00:41:58,969
cool crisp air and moving like men where

1039
00:41:56,539 --> 00:42:01,400
he knew none were there just blinking in

1040
00:41:58,969 --> 00:42:04,039
the distance moving closer as he stared

1041
00:42:01,400 --> 00:42:07,219
but he didn't move a muscle and was

1042
00:42:04,039 --> 00:42:09,739
quite unprepared the minmin took on

1043
00:42:07,219 --> 00:42:12,349
human form and entered his domain he

1044
00:42:09,739 --> 00:42:14,568
thought his mind was playing tricks deep

1045
00:42:12,349 --> 00:42:18,169
inside his brain and he rubbed his eyes

1046
00:42:14,568 --> 00:42:20,268
and tried in vain to clear his mind but

1047
00:42:18,168 --> 00:42:23,509
men men were around him and his fear was

1048
00:42:20,268 --> 00:42:25,968
left behind they took him starlight

1049
00:42:23,509 --> 00:42:28,668
strolling across their astral plane and

1050
00:42:25,969 --> 00:42:31,429
showed him in minn secrets of secret min

1051
00:42:28,668 --> 00:42:34,788
min pain unknown trials of tribal

1052
00:42:31,429 --> 00:42:37,489
nations for thousands of years and then

1053
00:42:34,789 --> 00:42:39,859
the storyteller stopped and had to dry

1054
00:42:37,489 --> 00:42:42,228
his tears memories of the light and the

1055

00:42:39,858 --> 00:42:44,389
night he learnt their tail came back to

1056
00:42:42,228 --> 00:42:47,178
flood emotion as a motion would prevail

1057
00:42:44,389 --> 00:42:49,908
when he told this lost tale from a long

1058
00:42:47,179 --> 00:42:53,260
time in history and he filled all the

1059
00:42:49,909 --> 00:42:55,300
city folk with question and mystery

1060
00:42:53,260 --> 00:42:58,090
then the merest missed appeared at the

1061
00:42:55,300 --> 00:43:00,250
city campus site would this be a sacred

1062
00:42:58,090 --> 00:43:03,309
visit from the gods min min light and

1063
00:43:00,250 --> 00:43:06,280
the storyteller slowly stood and pointed

1064
00:43:03,309 --> 00:43:09,610
for he knew the min min men were coming

1065
00:43:06,280 --> 00:43:12,160
as the light came into view like the

1066
00:43:09,610 --> 00:43:14,079
softer stars on horseback riding across

1067
00:43:12,159 --> 00:43:16,449
the flat they were getting ever closer

1068
00:43:14,079 --> 00:43:19,179
to where the campers SAT and the city

1069
00:43:16,449 --> 00:43:22,599

slickers paled blood drained from their

1070

00:43:19,179 --> 00:43:26,199

faces as the min min lights arrived and

1071

00:43:22,599 --> 00:43:28,599

absorbed all their traces all the city

1072

00:43:26,199 --> 00:43:31,239

people vanished but not the mid moon man

1073

00:43:28,599 --> 00:43:33,759

he was left to tell the min min tale the

1074

00:43:31,239 --> 00:43:36,009

best way that he can by taking city

1075

00:43:33,760 --> 00:43:38,830

visitors to those Outback points he

1076

00:43:36,010 --> 00:43:43,380

knows to turn them into min min lights

1077

00:43:38,829 --> 00:43:43,380

the future min min Charles

1078

00:43:56,570 --> 00:44:02,269

and now come back with this 21 years to

1079

00:44:00,349 --> 00:44:06,309

the Australian skeptics national

1080

00:44:02,269 --> 00:44:11,050

convention in 1988 his Peter Bealls

1081

00:44:06,309 --> 00:44:11,049

telling us about the new age

1082

00:44:17,699 --> 00:44:21,449

I won't give you very long but the first

1083

00:44:19,349 --> 00:44:23,759

speaker for this session is Peter Bealls

1084
00:44:21,449 --> 00:44:32,159
to the computer programmer and he'll be

1085
00:44:23,760 --> 00:44:34,710
giving you an overview of the new age in

1086
00:44:32,159 --> 00:44:37,889
the next 20 minutes or so probably more

1087
00:44:34,710 --> 00:44:41,760
like 15 I'll attempt to outline some of

1088
00:44:37,889 --> 00:44:45,629
the phenomena of the new age what is the

1089
00:44:41,760 --> 00:44:51,350
new age good question it's not an easy

1090
00:44:45,630 --> 00:44:56,460
one to answer when did the new age begin

1091
00:44:51,349 --> 00:44:58,230
did it begin with the Age of Aquarius or

1092
00:44:56,460 --> 00:45:01,019
did it begin with the harmonic

1093
00:44:58,230 --> 00:45:06,170
convergence of August 16 and 17 last

1094
00:45:01,019 --> 00:45:11,340
year well in the magazine Maggie's Farm

1095
00:45:06,170 --> 00:45:13,650
issue number 36 on page 27 it says that

1096
00:45:11,340 --> 00:45:18,980
the New Age began with the splitting of

1097
00:45:13,650 --> 00:45:24,139
the atom it all depends on who you ask

1098
00:45:18,980 --> 00:45:29,429
the new age is a collective conscious

1099
00:45:24,139 --> 00:45:32,009
hoping for a rosy future a change from

1100
00:45:29,429 --> 00:45:36,409
the modern world of war mongering and

1101
00:45:32,010 --> 00:45:40,830
planet-destroying science new age new

1102
00:45:36,409 --> 00:45:45,839
ages believe in a human link up to

1103
00:45:40,829 --> 00:45:50,789
change the world for the better common

1104
00:45:45,840 --> 00:45:54,120
themes in New Age magazines are a great

1105
00:45:50,789 --> 00:45:58,730
concern for wellbeing of the earth and

1106
00:45:54,119 --> 00:46:04,159
all life meditation crystal power

1107
00:45:58,730 --> 00:46:07,460
crystal healing natural healing

1108
00:46:04,159 --> 00:46:11,989
channeling or spiritualism if you like

1109
00:46:07,460 --> 00:46:16,010
world peace communal lifestyles

1110
00:46:11,989 --> 00:46:22,039
alternative energy alternative medicine

1111
00:46:16,010 --> 00:46:24,870
Human Rights UFOs pyramid ology

1112

00:46:22,039 --> 00:46:27,659
radionics all sorts of stuff obviously

1113
00:46:24,869 --> 00:46:29,400
in the time allowed I can't possibly

1114
00:46:27,659 --> 00:46:31,149
speak on all these topics so I've

1115
00:46:29,400 --> 00:46:34,539
selected just a few

1116
00:46:31,150 --> 00:46:37,119
believers in the New Age philosophy also

1117
00:46:34,539 --> 00:46:40,989
attempt to look into the future in a

1118
00:46:37,119 --> 00:46:45,429
variety of ways some of the methods used

1119
00:46:40,989 --> 00:46:47,699
are thousands of years old which makes

1120
00:46:45,429 --> 00:46:52,119
me wonder just how new the new age

1121
00:46:47,699 --> 00:46:54,609
really is this question will be explored

1122
00:46:52,119 --> 00:46:57,389
further in a debate this afternoon

1123
00:46:54,610 --> 00:47:01,030
between the skeptics and the Mystics

1124
00:46:57,389 --> 00:47:05,879
topic being that the new age is old

1125
00:47:01,030 --> 00:47:05,880
superstition closed in modern jargon

1126
00:47:05,969 --> 00:47:12,730

take astrology for example astrology

1127

00:47:10,059 --> 00:47:15,940

according to my dictionary is the study

1128

00:47:12,730 --> 00:47:19,840

of motions and relative positions of the

1129

00:47:15,940 --> 00:47:22,320

planets Sun and Moon interpreted in

1130

00:47:19,840 --> 00:47:27,039

terms of human characteristics and

1131

00:47:22,320 --> 00:47:28,990

activities in other words astrologists

1132

00:47:27,039 --> 00:47:31,570

believe there's some sort of

1133

00:47:28,989 --> 00:47:35,829

relationship between where the planets

1134

00:47:31,570 --> 00:47:40,900

Sun and Moon are and human personalities

1135

00:47:35,829 --> 00:47:44,170

and behavior astrologers claim that

1136

00:47:40,900 --> 00:47:46,389

specific geometric angles and points of

1137

00:47:44,170 --> 00:47:49,630

mutual contact formed by the planets as

1138

00:47:46,389 --> 00:47:53,109

they orbit the Sun present continually

1139

00:47:49,630 --> 00:47:55,570

changing patterns which correspond to

1140

00:47:53,110 --> 00:47:59,920

unique patterns of potential behavior in

1141
00:47:55,570 --> 00:48:03,730
human beings some astrologers believe

1142
00:47:59,920 --> 00:48:07,119
that this correlation is not causal but

1143
00:48:03,730 --> 00:48:10,139
coincidental and others believe the

1144
00:48:07,119 --> 00:48:12,699
opposite it all depends on who you ask

1145
00:48:10,139 --> 00:48:17,650
whether you happen to be a paying client

1146
00:48:12,699 --> 00:48:20,379
or not astrology is based on a

1147
00:48:17,650 --> 00:48:24,010
geocentric universe that is with the

1148
00:48:20,380 --> 00:48:25,990
earth in the middle now since the 16th

1149
00:48:24,010 --> 00:48:28,240
century most of us have come to accept

1150
00:48:25,989 --> 00:48:31,869
the idea that the earth in fact orbits

1151
00:48:28,239 --> 00:48:34,359
the Sun not the other way around until

1152
00:48:31,869 --> 00:48:39,069
this was discovered astrology and

1153
00:48:34,360 --> 00:48:41,320
astronomy were inseparable sometimes I

1154
00:48:39,070 --> 00:48:42,430
think many people still don't know the

1155
00:48:41,320 --> 00:48:44,588
difference

1156
00:48:42,429 --> 00:48:47,769
next time you walk into a large news

1157
00:48:44,588 --> 00:48:50,739
agency see whether the scientific

1158
00:48:47,769 --> 00:48:56,050
astronomy magazines are alongside the

1159
00:48:50,739 --> 00:48:58,029
mystical astrological ones the success

1160
00:48:56,050 --> 00:49:00,430
of astrological character analysis

1161
00:48:58,030 --> 00:49:04,720
claimed by believers is universal

1162
00:49:00,429 --> 00:49:08,919
validation you hear them say I don't

1163
00:49:04,719 --> 00:49:12,459
know how it works it just works the

1164
00:49:08,920 --> 00:49:15,608
terms used by astrologers a vague and of

1165
00:49:12,460 --> 00:49:20,920
a general nature so as to fit anyone who

1166
00:49:15,608 --> 00:49:25,318
wishes them to do so if your

1167
00:49:20,920 --> 00:49:28,329
astrological chart forecasts sickness

1168
00:49:25,318 --> 00:49:32,108
perhaps you could enlist the help of

1169

00:49:28,329 --> 00:49:35,559
crystal power like the sale of most New

1170
00:49:32,108 --> 00:49:39,130
Age paraphernalia crystals are big

1171
00:49:35,559 --> 00:49:43,900
business many people believe that quartz

1172
00:49:39,130 --> 00:49:46,210
crystals possess special powers quartz

1173
00:49:43,900 --> 00:49:51,329
crystals are the latest trend in the

1174
00:49:46,210 --> 00:49:54,369
fashionable new-age world new ages claim

1175
00:49:51,329 --> 00:49:58,269
that quartz crystals have the ability to

1176
00:49:54,369 --> 00:50:03,298
heal for example clear quartz is

1177
00:49:58,269 --> 00:50:06,190
supposedly the overall body energizer

1178
00:50:03,298 --> 00:50:08,139
smoky quartz is very good for grounding

1179
00:50:06,190 --> 00:50:12,460
you into your body whatever the hell

1180
00:50:08,139 --> 00:50:16,690
that means i don't own green quartz

1181
00:50:12,460 --> 00:50:19,420
interacts with the endocrine glands pink

1182
00:50:16,690 --> 00:50:23,950
rose quartz and citron quartz work on

1183
00:50:19,420 --> 00:50:26,950

the emotional body it's claimed that

1184

00:50:23,949 --> 00:50:30,129
crystals interact with a series of

1185

00:50:26,949 --> 00:50:34,539
energy systems connecting the mind the

1186

00:50:30,130 --> 00:50:37,720
emotions and the body the energy

1187

00:50:34,539 --> 00:50:43,719
supposedly flows into the left hand and

1188

00:50:37,719 --> 00:50:48,189
out of the right so to cure a pain

1189

00:50:43,719 --> 00:50:51,529
you hold your crystal in your left hand

1190

00:50:48,190 --> 00:50:56,920
and place your right hand on the painful

1191

00:50:51,530 --> 00:50:56,920
area whatever that might be say here and

1192

00:50:58,000 --> 00:51:05,469
the energy flowing in your left hand is

1193

00:51:01,880 --> 00:51:11,829
focused and amplified by the crystal

1194

00:51:05,469 --> 00:51:11,829
comes out my right hand feeds the cells

1195

00:51:13,389 --> 00:51:15,929
ha

1196

00:51:16,480 --> 00:51:22,269
okay so the idea is that when something

1197

00:51:20,409 --> 00:51:25,989
blocks the flow of energy to the body

1198
00:51:22,269 --> 00:51:28,989
cells the organs begin to die and you

1199
00:51:25,989 --> 00:51:32,009
become sick and when energy is brought

1200
00:51:28,989 --> 00:51:34,899
back to the area new cells will form

1201
00:51:32,010 --> 00:51:39,730
rebuild the organs and you will become

1202
00:51:34,900 --> 00:51:43,990
well now this method doesn't work for

1203
00:51:39,730 --> 00:51:48,909
headaches Barry because the problem with

1204
00:51:43,989 --> 00:51:52,839
headaches is that is there's too much

1205
00:51:48,909 --> 00:51:56,829
energy in your head or in Tim's head not

1206
00:51:52,840 --> 00:52:00,340
not the according to the crystal

1207
00:51:56,829 --> 00:52:03,579
believers there's energy flowing in and

1208
00:52:00,340 --> 00:52:07,450
out of your head all the time and if

1209
00:52:03,579 --> 00:52:11,170
there's something usually emotional the

1210
00:52:07,449 --> 00:52:16,079
cut yeah usually emotional blogging that

1211
00:52:11,170 --> 00:52:18,639
exit then the pressure builds up and

1212
00:52:16,079 --> 00:52:24,039
this causes the cells to signal the

1213
00:52:18,639 --> 00:52:27,489
brain with pain so this time you place a

1214
00:52:24,039 --> 00:52:32,219
crystal in your right hand remember the

1215
00:52:27,489 --> 00:52:32,219
energy flows in the left out the right

1216
00:52:32,250 --> 00:52:40,449
place your left hand on your head in the

1217
00:52:36,730 --> 00:52:45,340
right hand holding the crystal solar

1218
00:52:40,449 --> 00:52:48,939
plexus and then using the drawing

1219
00:52:45,340 --> 00:52:52,260
ability of the left hand you suck the

1220
00:52:48,940 --> 00:52:56,530
energy out of your headache and

1221
00:52:52,260 --> 00:52:58,359
magically and mystically it comes out of

1222
00:52:56,530 --> 00:53:00,910
my right hand and is focused by the

1223
00:52:58,358 --> 00:53:02,769
crystal into the solar plexus where the

1224
00:53:00,909 --> 00:53:07,839
energy can be redistributed throughout

1225
00:53:02,769 --> 00:53:09,570
the body end of headache wireless if you

1226

00:53:07,840 --> 00:53:12,059
believe that you'll buy my watch

1227
00:53:09,570 --> 00:53:15,180
actually

1228
00:53:12,059 --> 00:53:18,089
the only property that a crystal has

1229
00:53:15,179 --> 00:53:22,338
that is of any use to civilization is

1230
00:53:18,088 --> 00:53:26,670
the piezoelectric effect which is a bid

1231
00:53:22,338 --> 00:53:29,338
which my dictionary defines as the

1232
00:53:26,670 --> 00:53:32,188
production of electricity or electric

1233
00:53:29,338 --> 00:53:34,858
polarity applied sorry by applying a

1234
00:53:32,188 --> 00:53:38,068
mechanical stress to certain crystals or

1235
00:53:34,858 --> 00:53:41,159
the converse effect in which stress is

1236
00:53:38,068 --> 00:53:44,420
produced in a crystal as a result of an

1237
00:53:41,159 --> 00:53:47,458
applied potential difference or voltage

1238
00:53:44,420 --> 00:53:49,798
perhaps the new ages attribute the

1239
00:53:47,458 --> 00:53:53,009
so-called mystical properties of quartz

1240
00:53:49,798 --> 00:53:56,309

to this effect but other than the

1241
00:53:53,009 --> 00:53:58,650
piezoelectric effect there are no other

1242
00:53:56,309 --> 00:54:02,640
energies known to science that can be

1243
00:53:58,650 --> 00:54:04,858
directly associated with quartz in a

1244
00:54:02,639 --> 00:54:06,478
talk later on this morning dr. David

1245
00:54:04,858 --> 00:54:08,938
wheeler a physicist who has studied

1246
00:54:06,478 --> 00:54:13,649
quartz crystals will explore this topic

1247
00:54:08,938 --> 00:54:16,199
further any experiments carried out

1248
00:54:13,650 --> 00:54:17,999
under controlled conditions have shown

1249
00:54:16,199 --> 00:54:23,088
the healing powers attributed to

1250
00:54:17,998 --> 00:54:23,088
crystals to be completely unfounded

1251
00:54:24,170 --> 00:54:31,380
another of the latest New Age feds is

1252
00:54:27,409 --> 00:54:33,748
spiritualism or channeling now I'll only

1253
00:54:31,380 --> 00:54:35,880
touch on this subject briefly as it will

1254
00:54:33,748 --> 00:54:38,248
be dealt with in some detail by a

1255
00:54:35,880 --> 00:54:42,769
subsequent speaker the Australian

1256
00:54:38,248 --> 00:54:42,768
skeptics resident Channel Harry Edwards

1257
00:54:43,338 --> 00:54:50,389
spiritualism or channeling is the belief

1258
00:54:46,559 --> 00:54:53,609
that the disembodied spirits of the Dead

1259
00:54:50,389 --> 00:54:55,828
surviving in another world can

1260
00:54:53,608 --> 00:54:59,639
communicate with the living in this

1261
00:54:55,829 --> 00:55:04,199
world especially through mediums or as

1262
00:54:59,639 --> 00:55:07,259
they're also now known channels the

1263
00:55:04,199 --> 00:55:12,088
mediums or channels supposedly go into a

1264
00:55:07,259 --> 00:55:14,728
trance speak in an altered voice what

1265
00:55:12,088 --> 00:55:17,458
they say varies from world-shattering

1266
00:55:14,728 --> 00:55:20,278
predictions too simplistic philosophies

1267
00:55:17,458 --> 00:55:22,978
which are made to sound profound by the

1268
00:55:20,278 --> 00:55:24,480
use of jargon a claim that the

1269
00:55:22,978 --> 00:55:28,739
revelations come from the spear

1270
00:55:24,480 --> 00:55:31,670
world or super intelligences despite the

1271
00:55:28,739 --> 00:55:34,199
fact that if there is any information

1272
00:55:31,670 --> 00:55:37,500
it's either always available from a

1273
00:55:34,199 --> 00:55:39,449
variety of earthly sources or the

1274
00:55:37,500 --> 00:55:42,960
revelations are purely subjective or

1275
00:55:39,449 --> 00:55:48,949
religion like let me give you an example

1276
00:55:42,960 --> 00:55:48,949
from ramza as channeled by jay-z night

1277
00:55:49,159 --> 00:55:55,500
the earth is in the throes of great

1278
00:55:52,320 --> 00:55:58,980
change the power will be more some than

1279
00:55:55,500 --> 00:56:02,309
we have ever known where there is dense

1280
00:55:58,980 --> 00:56:06,030
population nature will become very

1281
00:56:02,309 --> 00:56:09,150
active there will be a radical increase

1282
00:56:06,030 --> 00:56:12,540
in activity strong and wondrous things

1283

00:56:09,150 --> 00:56:17,000
will awaken us there will be a warming

1284
00:56:12,539 --> 00:56:21,199
up of the whole earth crops will fail

1285
00:56:17,000 --> 00:56:24,358
deserts will be inundated with rainfall

1286
00:56:21,199 --> 00:56:29,519
in the next four years everything will

1287
00:56:24,358 --> 00:56:31,170
happen much quicker there'll be this is

1288
00:56:29,519 --> 00:56:34,710
good there will be a melting of the ice

1289
00:56:31,170 --> 00:56:38,460
caps in the next four years the scene

1290
00:56:34,710 --> 00:56:41,639
will rise 200 feet in four years crops

1291
00:56:38,460 --> 00:56:46,400
on an international scale will fail it

1292
00:56:41,639 --> 00:56:51,809
will be perilous indeed blah blah blah

1293
00:56:46,400 --> 00:56:54,990
now to hear these pearls of wisdom from

1294
00:56:51,809 --> 00:56:59,000
jay-z nidal from Rampur if you like you

1295
00:56:54,989 --> 00:57:02,368
would have had to fork out 395 dollars

1296
00:56:59,000 --> 00:57:06,300
registration fee for a recent rampur

1297
00:57:02,369 --> 00:57:08,130

visit to Sydney for the same amount of

1298

00:57:06,300 --> 00:57:10,980

money you could get the facts in the

1299

00:57:08,130 --> 00:57:14,608

truth by subscribing to the skeptic for

1300

00:57:10,980 --> 00:57:15,750

over a quarter of a century you can read

1301

00:57:14,608 --> 00:57:17,940

more about ran through in the latest

1302

00:57:15,750 --> 00:57:21,500

issue of the skeptic it's on sale of the

1303

00:57:17,940 --> 00:57:21,500

convention stay over there

1304

00:57:24,280 --> 00:57:35,390

okay pyramid power pyramids aren't all

1305

00:57:30,170 --> 00:57:37,940

that fashionable now but it's claimed

1306

00:57:35,389 --> 00:57:41,359

that pyramid our energy or pyramid power

1307

00:57:37,940 --> 00:57:45,950

can charge water sharpen your razor

1308

00:57:41,360 --> 00:57:50,780

blades and stimulate plant growth we

1309

00:57:45,949 --> 00:57:53,269

just quote from Carl Sagan pyramid ology

1310

00:57:50,780 --> 00:57:56,480

is the contention that we and our razor

1311

00:57:53,269 --> 00:57:59,030

blades feel better and last longer

1312
00:57:56,480 --> 00:58:03,920
inside pyramids than we and they do

1313
00:57:59,030 --> 00:58:06,230
inside cubes the contentions of pyramid

1314
00:58:03,920 --> 00:58:09,500
og under appropriately controlled

1315
00:58:06,230 --> 00:58:14,210
conditions have never been verified the

1316
00:58:09,500 --> 00:58:16,969
burden of proof has not been met like

1317
00:58:14,210 --> 00:58:20,869
crystal power and the claims of all New

1318
00:58:16,969 --> 00:58:25,429
Age belief systems pyramid power is yet

1319
00:58:20,869 --> 00:58:29,289
to be proven in fact I've heard from a

1320
00:58:25,429 --> 00:58:33,710
very reliable source that pyramid power

1321
00:58:29,289 --> 00:58:37,789
was invented by Martin Gardner under a

1322
00:58:33,710 --> 00:58:41,690
pseudonym in the 60s as a hoax and has

1323
00:58:37,789 --> 00:58:49,429
since gotten way out of hand reliable

1324
00:58:41,690 --> 00:58:51,619
source on the inside cover

1325
00:58:49,429 --> 00:58:55,098
of a New Age magazine and I have just

1326
00:58:51,619 --> 00:59:03,289
over here I discovered a flat pyramid

1327
00:58:55,099 --> 00:59:08,240
grid this is a grid it's hard to see I

1328
00:59:03,289 --> 00:59:10,130
know but it's for pyramids for flat

1329
00:59:08,239 --> 00:59:13,489
pyramids down here and five across the

1330
00:59:10,130 --> 00:59:16,519
top making a block of 20 and it says

1331
00:59:13,489 --> 00:59:19,848
here here is another little Marvel from

1332
00:59:16,519 --> 00:59:22,699
borderland science in California it's a

1333
00:59:19,849 --> 00:59:25,539
flat pyramid grid the history of this

1334
00:59:22,699 --> 00:59:30,289
strange diagram is shrouded in mystery

1335
00:59:25,539 --> 00:59:35,119
I'll bet it's not known exactly when or

1336
00:59:30,289 --> 00:59:38,239
who first discovered that use Great

1337
00:59:35,119 --> 00:59:41,539
Pyramid ratios in this concentric

1338
00:59:38,239 --> 00:59:46,848
squares diagram focus the same natural

1339
00:59:41,539 --> 00:59:48,619
energy as a pyramid ie none the grid can

1340

00:59:46,849 --> 00:59:51,289
be used like any other pyramid to charge

1341
00:59:48,619 --> 00:59:54,108
water stimulate plants sharp and razor

1342
00:59:51,289 --> 00:59:59,539
blades and all the uses of pyramid

1343
00:59:54,108 --> 01:00:02,239
energy there's a claim here that some of

1344
00:59:59,539 --> 01:00:05,298
the crew on a magazine have shaved with

1345
01:00:02,239 --> 01:00:10,429
the same razor blade for six weeks I've

1346
01:00:05,298 --> 01:00:12,889
got an electric razor too okay in

1347
01:00:10,429 --> 01:00:16,909
conclusion I've touched on a few

1348
01:00:12,889 --> 01:00:19,670
specific areas of the new age as I said

1349
01:00:16,909 --> 01:00:23,409
in the beginning it's very hard to

1350
01:00:19,670 --> 01:00:26,119
answer the question what is the new age

1351
01:00:23,409 --> 01:00:30,259
maybe at some time in the future there

1352
01:00:26,119 --> 01:00:34,548
will be a new new age perhaps its motto

1353
01:00:30,260 --> 01:00:38,839
will be if a man wishes to educate

1354
01:00:34,548 --> 01:00:43,088

himself he must first doubt foreign

1355

01:00:38,838 --> 01:00:43,088
doubt him he will find the truth

1356

01:00:58,559 --> 01:01:03,729
this is desiree shell hosted skeptically

1357

01:01:01,630 --> 01:01:06,219
speaking check out our website at

1358

01:01:03,728 --> 01:01:10,118
skeptically speaking calm and listen to

1359

01:01:06,219 --> 01:01:13,869
us live on CJ sr 88.5 FM in Edmonton

1360

01:01:10,119 --> 01:01:16,588
Alberta Canada I now return you to the

1361

01:01:13,869 --> 01:01:16,588
skeptic zone

1362

01:01:25,489 --> 01:01:30,569
melbourne cup day amanda it's all

1363

01:01:28,739 --> 01:01:31,889
happening here we're at our favorite

1364

01:01:30,570 --> 01:01:33,720
club down the street where we normally

1365

01:01:31,889 --> 01:01:36,359
do the the think tank from and it's

1366

01:01:33,719 --> 01:01:39,449
absolutely jam-packed today with people

1367

01:01:36,360 --> 01:01:42,510
here to bet on a horse race you say you

1368

01:01:39,449 --> 01:01:44,909
say it like it's something weird it is a

1369
01:01:42,510 --> 01:01:46,650
bit strange now I've put a couple of

1370
01:01:44,909 --> 01:01:48,089
dollars on the two favorites probably a

1371
01:01:46,650 --> 01:01:50,700
silly thing to do who have you gone for

1372
01:01:48,090 --> 01:01:53,910
I have put a neat way on Ella's wonder

1373
01:01:50,699 --> 01:01:56,849
after my first choice was scratched oh

1374
01:01:53,909 --> 01:01:59,309
yeah all right well this is an

1375
01:01:56,849 --> 01:02:01,019
interesting situation because people

1376
01:01:59,309 --> 01:02:04,679
have normally done bet on horses and

1377
01:02:01,019 --> 01:02:08,579
things like myself and me and you do so

1378
01:02:04,679 --> 01:02:10,859
on a Melbourne company that's just

1379
01:02:08,579 --> 01:02:13,710
tradition I guess yeah well i always bet

1380
01:02:10,860 --> 01:02:16,079
based on the name basically and in you

1381
01:02:13,710 --> 01:02:19,230
know whatever ten years of bed in most

1382
01:02:16,079 --> 01:02:21,480
years I've come out very far ahead which

1383
01:02:19,230 --> 01:02:25,320
is that strategy really because you only

1384
01:02:21,480 --> 01:02:28,440
need you know one or two bits that come

1385
01:02:25,320 --> 01:02:31,350
off to put you ahead over a few years so

1386
01:02:28,440 --> 01:02:32,970
that's my foolproof strategy it's a much

1387
01:02:31,349 --> 01:02:33,789
better strategy I think then using

1388
01:02:32,969 --> 01:02:37,419
remote viewing

1389
01:02:33,789 --> 01:02:38,860
yes as we saw last night Simon Turnbull

1390
01:02:37,420 --> 01:02:41,950
the president of the Australian psychic

1391
01:02:38,860 --> 01:02:43,720
psyche of the year 24 2004 was on the TV

1392
01:02:41,949 --> 01:02:45,250
the other night at the racetrack using

1393
01:02:43,719 --> 01:02:46,750
remote viewing to pick the winners in

1394
01:02:45,250 --> 01:02:48,550
what do you lose 500 thousand two

1395
01:02:46,750 --> 01:02:52,119
hundred and fifty are too close yeah

1396
01:02:48,550 --> 01:02:54,880
once again you know there are there too

1397

01:02:52,119 --> 01:02:57,789
serious about their craft to take

1398
01:02:54,880 --> 01:03:01,900
Randy's million dollars yeah offer them

1399
01:02:57,789 --> 01:03:03,909
some gimmick TV show and they'll add it

1400
01:03:01,900 --> 01:03:06,460
like a shot cause he had an excuse me

1401
01:03:03,909 --> 01:03:08,429
that he didn't concentrate a novel I who

1402
01:03:06,460 --> 01:03:11,619
knows right but and in the end of day

1403
01:03:08,429 --> 01:03:14,469
the professional handicapper the

1404
01:03:11,619 --> 01:03:16,989
professional vector didn't actually come

1405
01:03:14,469 --> 01:03:18,909
out much better I'd the one who did he

1406
01:03:16,989 --> 01:03:20,949
came up streets and was like you just

1407
01:03:18,909 --> 01:03:25,420
meeting old names I don't think she's

1408
01:03:20,949 --> 01:03:26,980
very likely actually not oh well we've

1409
01:03:25,420 --> 01:03:27,909
got half an hour until race time so

1410
01:03:26,980 --> 01:03:31,260
we'll have a couple of glasses of

1411
01:03:27,909 --> 01:03:31,259

champagne and wait for the big moment

1412

01:03:33,599 --> 01:03:38,469

horses up getting into the barriers now

1413

01:03:36,550 --> 01:03:40,900

what's the big race two people are

1414

01:03:38,469 --> 01:03:41,859

gathered around up many monitors acum

1415

01:03:40,900 --> 01:03:44,619

the people who are in the next room

1416

01:03:41,860 --> 01:03:46,480

playing poker machines

1417

01:03:44,619 --> 01:03:48,789

I didn't think they'd care yeah we're

1418

01:03:46,480 --> 01:03:51,039

both losing our money but I've months in

1419

01:03:48,789 --> 01:03:53,469

a more interesting way I bet on the

1420

01:03:51,039 --> 01:03:56,849

favorites that's why I mean me and the

1421

01:03:53,469 --> 01:03:59,889

people in the pokey all the focus yes

1422

01:03:56,849 --> 01:04:02,650

horses are being led in now can't be too

1423

01:03:59,889 --> 01:04:04,869

long it was very exciting I can't

1424

01:04:02,650 --> 01:04:08,829

believe how exciting is it there are

1425

01:04:04,869 --> 01:04:13,380

balloons and little cutout horses and

1426
01:04:08,829 --> 01:04:13,380
jockeys around the room very exciting

1427
01:04:13,818 --> 01:04:18,068
lost horses being led into the barrier

1428
01:04:15,889 --> 01:04:18,068
now

1429
01:04:18,318 --> 01:04:22,329
the jockeys a little on each other off

1430
01:04:22,509 --> 01:04:29,150
crowd the anticipations growing balloons

1431
01:04:26,659 --> 01:04:33,278
are flying we get an aerial view of the

1432
01:04:29,150 --> 01:04:33,278
trackers they're off

1433
01:04:54,099 --> 01:04:57,130
shocking shocking

1434
01:04:57,929 --> 01:05:05,598
when my horses came nowhere anything

1435
01:05:02,789 --> 01:05:05,599
unless we came last

1436
01:05:05,880 --> 01:05:13,838
the message is clear that long

1437
01:05:10,699 --> 01:05:13,838
until next year

1438
01:05:16,389 --> 01:05:19,389
\$20

1439
01:05:29,610 --> 01:05:34,300
thank you very much for listening to the

1440
01:05:32,260 --> 01:05:36,370
skeptic zone and continuing to listen to

1441
01:05:34,300 --> 01:05:38,590
the skeptic zone and thank you to those

1442
01:05:36,369 --> 01:05:41,920
people who are now subscribing to the

1443
01:05:38,590 --> 01:05:44,559
skeptic zone every little bit helps well

1444
01:05:41,920 --> 01:05:46,869
wish me luck everybody tomorrow Saturday

1445
01:05:44,559 --> 01:05:48,909
in Sydney I'm going to visit the

1446
01:05:46,869 --> 01:05:50,920
mind-body wallet festival down at

1447
01:05:48,909 --> 01:05:52,809
darling harbour will I lose my temper

1448
01:05:50,920 --> 01:05:56,079
will I tell people what to do with

1449
01:05:52,809 --> 01:05:58,719
themselves will I be polite stand by

1450
01:05:56,079 --> 01:06:01,179
next week for the report on mind-body

1451
01:05:58,719 --> 01:06:03,189
wallet until then this is Richard

1452
01:06:01,179 --> 01:06:08,469
Saunders signing off from Sydney

1453
01:06:03,190 --> 01:06:12,159
Australia you've been listening to the

1454

01:06:08,469 --> 01:06:16,000
skeptic zone visit our website at www

1455
01:06:12,159 --> 01:06:19,460
skeptics on TV the comments contacts and

1456
01:06:16,000 --> 01:06:22,420
extra video reports

1457
01:06:19,460 --> 01:06:25,170
ask it

1458
01:06:22,420 --> 01:06:25,170
me

1459
01:06:38,289 --> 01:06:40,349
Oh