

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,130
[Music]

2
00:00:06,129 --> 00:00:11,899
welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

3
00:00:09,130 --> 00:00:22,990
from Australia for science and reason

4
00:00:11,900 --> 00:00:25,490
[Music]

5
00:00:22,989 --> 00:00:31,039
yes it's the skeptic zone podcast

6
00:00:25,489 --> 00:00:35,119
episode number 550 good grief for the

7
00:00:31,039 --> 00:00:36,948
fifth of May 2019 Richard Saunders here

8
00:00:35,119 --> 00:00:38,839
with you from Sydney Australia what a

9
00:00:36,948 --> 00:00:42,009
big day we had yesterday folks the

10
00:00:38,840 --> 00:00:45,769
Australian skeptics we had our flu

11
00:00:42,009 --> 00:00:48,710
vaccination day here in Sydney and it

12
00:00:45,768 --> 00:00:50,899
was a it was quite a success I certainly

13
00:00:48,710 --> 00:00:53,000
got my flu vaccination lots of people

14
00:00:50,899 --> 00:00:55,820
rolled up to get their flu vaccination a

15
00:00:53,000 --> 00:00:58,009
report coming up on next week's show

16
00:00:55,820 --> 00:01:01,850
because it just happened and I need time

17
00:00:58,009 --> 00:01:04,269
to edit all that together and then after

18
00:01:01,850 --> 00:01:07,849
all that in the evening I went to

19
00:01:04,269 --> 00:01:10,459
Maenads Love Shack number two in glebe

20
00:01:07,849 --> 00:01:13,009
at the red bar and what a fun night that

21
00:01:10,459 --> 00:01:14,868
was in fact that was such a success

22
00:01:13,009 --> 00:01:17,629
that's going to be a Love Shack number

23
00:01:14,868 --> 00:01:20,989
three and you really haven't lived until

24
00:01:17,629 --> 00:01:23,329
you've seen Maynard in action as a DJ

25
00:01:20,989 --> 00:01:25,879
but what's coming up on this week's show

26
00:01:23,329 --> 00:01:28,908
this week's show we have Jessica singer

27
00:01:25,879 --> 00:01:32,269
from the Australian skeptics talking

28
00:01:28,909 --> 00:01:36,618
about a visit to skeptics in the pub in

29

00:01:32,269 --> 00:01:38,658
London and the the segment does give

30
00:01:36,618 --> 00:01:41,509
general advice and insights about

31
00:01:38,659 --> 00:01:42,979
running as skeptics in the pub I've been

32
00:01:41,509 --> 00:01:45,969
to quite a few skeptics in the pub

33
00:01:42,978 --> 00:01:48,379
around the world skeptics in the pubs

34
00:01:45,969 --> 00:01:50,509
skeptic in the pubs around the world

35
00:01:48,379 --> 00:01:53,539
it's a great opportunity to get together

36
00:01:50,509 --> 00:01:56,450
in a very informal way to chat about

37
00:01:53,540 --> 00:01:58,280
skepticism and science advice tips and

38
00:01:56,450 --> 00:02:01,728
insights about running skeptics in the

39
00:01:58,280 --> 00:02:08,569
pub coming up on this week's show and we

40
00:02:01,728 --> 00:02:10,399
have M SSX what is M SSX the Merseyside

41
00:02:08,569 --> 00:02:12,859
skeptics are having their 10 year

42
00:02:10,399 --> 00:02:15,860
anniversary we speak to Alice howarth

43
00:02:12,860 --> 00:02:18,860

and Laurie Phillips and see what they've

44

00:02:15,860 --> 00:02:22,070

got cooked up lined up in the pipeline

45

00:02:18,860 --> 00:02:24,560

for their 10 year anniversary also this

46

00:02:22,069 --> 00:02:26,569

week we look at astrology an article by

47

00:02:24,560 --> 00:02:29,330

Ron Reagan the son of Ronald and Nancy

48

00:02:26,569 --> 00:02:31,989

Reagan about his mother's belief in

49

00:02:29,330 --> 00:02:34,190

astrology and we play a clip from

50

00:02:31,989 --> 00:02:37,310

Australian TV decades ago

51

00:02:34,189 --> 00:02:39,979

we're astrologers were debating skeptics

52

00:02:37,310 --> 00:02:42,860

and around off the show Maynard heads

53

00:02:39,979 --> 00:02:45,709

for skeptics in the pub and chats to

54

00:02:42,860 --> 00:02:48,610

pubs and ask the big question should

55

00:02:45,710 --> 00:02:53,060

Australian skeptics carry on with our

56

00:02:48,610 --> 00:02:54,500

\$100,000 prize for anybody who can prove

57

00:02:53,060 --> 00:02:57,259

their claim of the paranormal the

58
00:02:54,500 --> 00:02:59,330
supernatural now over recent years the

59
00:02:57,259 --> 00:03:00,889
James Randi Educational Foundation z-- 1

60
00:02:59,330 --> 00:03:03,200
million dollar prize has really been

61
00:03:00,889 --> 00:03:04,219
pushed to the background and it's not so

62
00:03:03,199 --> 00:03:06,109
active anymore

63
00:03:04,219 --> 00:03:09,169
however the Australian skeptics still

64
00:03:06,110 --> 00:03:12,080
have an upfront offer of \$100,000 and we

65
00:03:09,169 --> 00:03:15,349
get the opinion of pub goers is this a

66
00:03:12,080 --> 00:03:17,510
good thing or is it dated more

67
00:03:15,349 --> 00:03:19,430
announcements from me at the end of the

68
00:03:17,509 --> 00:03:21,859
show but now it's time for me to run

69
00:03:19,430 --> 00:03:26,689
downstairs being careful not to wake up

70
00:03:21,860 --> 00:03:32,060
the sleeping cat behind me no hear any I

71
00:03:26,689 --> 00:03:37,039
just woke her up dude no she's sleeping

72
00:03:32,060 --> 00:03:39,709
in a plastic box run downstairs make

73
00:03:37,039 --> 00:03:41,989
myself some mushrooms on toast or I'm

74
00:03:39,709 --> 00:03:43,150
doing that I hope you enjoy the skeptic

75
00:03:41,989 --> 00:03:55,218
zone

76
00:03:43,150 --> 00:03:55,218
[Music]

77
00:03:59,300 --> 00:04:02,459
[Music]

78
00:04:02,889 --> 00:04:08,919
and joining me now on the line all the

79
00:04:05,860 --> 00:04:11,980
way from Liverpool in the UK it's Alice

80
00:04:08,919 --> 00:04:12,549
howarth and Laurie Phillips hello hi

81
00:04:11,979 --> 00:04:15,849
there

82
00:04:12,550 --> 00:04:17,709
hi great to catch up with you and you

83
00:04:15,849 --> 00:04:19,600
know a certain mutual friend of ours

84
00:04:17,709 --> 00:04:21,930
called Michael Marshall suggested I

85
00:04:19,600 --> 00:04:24,670
tried to contact you because

86

00:04:21,930 --> 00:04:27,129
unbelievably unbelievably the Merseyside

87
00:04:24,670 --> 00:04:29,319
skeptics are celebrating ten years

88
00:04:27,129 --> 00:04:30,180
what's what's what's the celebrations

89
00:04:29,319 --> 00:04:33,339
what's going on

90
00:04:30,180 --> 00:04:36,430
it is our ten-year anniversary this year

91
00:04:33,339 --> 00:04:38,589
so we are I'm planning a little party

92
00:04:36,430 --> 00:04:40,540
there's no QED this year so and we

93
00:04:38,589 --> 00:04:46,029
thought we'd give ourselves almost just

94
00:04:40,540 --> 00:04:48,370
as much work organize a one-day event in

95
00:04:46,029 --> 00:04:49,479
Liverpool we've got a host of speakers

96
00:04:48,370 --> 00:04:52,209
that are going to be speaking throughout

97
00:04:49,480 --> 00:04:54,280
the entire day and evening entertainment

98
00:04:52,209 --> 00:04:56,680
it's going to be a fantastic event

99
00:04:54,279 --> 00:05:00,609
Laurie can tell us about some of the

100
00:04:56,680 --> 00:05:02,709

speakers yes we're gonna be MC by day

101

00:05:00,610 --> 00:05:05,830

Vanek so he's well known to the UK

102

00:05:02,709 --> 00:05:07,599

skeptic and contingent you see he's

103

00:05:05,829 --> 00:05:09,370

spoken about many different escapes in

104

00:05:07,600 --> 00:05:10,689

the Pope's he's a magician so he's gonna

105

00:05:09,370 --> 00:05:14,168

do all sorts of do our evening

106

00:05:10,689 --> 00:05:16,839

entertainment and so we've got our very

107

00:05:14,168 --> 00:05:19,029

first speaker ever MSS was Chris French

108

00:05:16,839 --> 00:05:22,119

so he's going to be speaking for us

109

00:05:19,029 --> 00:05:24,429

again he's a key figure for us and we've

110

00:05:22,120 --> 00:05:26,199

got Marion Jones an investigative

111

00:05:24,430 --> 00:05:28,329

reporter he's got some incredible

112

00:05:26,199 --> 00:05:30,789

stories and we always tell the story

113

00:05:28,329 --> 00:05:32,560

every when when we see is his desk top

114

00:05:30,790 --> 00:05:34,569

of his laptop when he gives a talk it's

115
00:05:32,560 --> 00:05:35,949
incredible all the different folders

116
00:05:34,569 --> 00:05:37,629
you've got these come there yeah he's

117
00:05:35,949 --> 00:05:39,339
done an incredible amount of immersive

118
00:05:37,629 --> 00:05:40,719
journalism so he's always got a great

119
00:05:39,339 --> 00:05:42,069
story no idea what he's gonna talk about

120
00:05:40,720 --> 00:05:45,580
this time but it's gonna be incredible

121
00:05:42,069 --> 00:05:48,339
we've got Emma McClure so she gave one

122
00:05:45,579 --> 00:05:51,189
of the the most well attended talks

123
00:05:48,339 --> 00:05:53,259
we've ever had that she's an a solicitor

124
00:05:51,189 --> 00:05:54,728
especially in specializing in prison and

125
00:05:53,259 --> 00:06:00,418
public law so she's going to be talking

126
00:05:54,728 --> 00:06:03,219
about parole and all things like that I

127
00:06:00,418 --> 00:06:05,439
only got someone called Alec power yeah

128
00:06:03,220 --> 00:06:07,270
I'm gonna do a little bit ever talk I

129
00:06:05,439 --> 00:06:08,860
have not decided what that's going to be

130
00:06:07,269 --> 00:06:11,500
on yet either

131
00:06:08,860 --> 00:06:14,259
potentially HIV and but we'll see we'll

132
00:06:11,500 --> 00:06:15,639
see I'll come to a decision see yeah and

133
00:06:14,259 --> 00:06:16,849
then so the final one we've announced so

134
00:06:15,639 --> 00:06:19,550
far is Simon Singh

135
00:06:16,850 --> 00:06:21,320
so he's going to be talking through some

136
00:06:19,550 --> 00:06:23,629
of its skeptical activities in the past

137
00:06:21,319 --> 00:06:25,959
and good thinking society activities so

138
00:06:23,629 --> 00:06:28,909
how accept good thinking up and then uh

139
00:06:25,959 --> 00:06:31,250
and then we've got one one speaker yet

140
00:06:28,910 --> 00:06:33,439
to announce yes yes so we've still got a

141
00:06:31,250 --> 00:06:34,939
few little things to announce for the

142
00:06:33,439 --> 00:06:36,529
day on this Saturday's it's gonna be a

143

00:06:34,939 --> 00:06:38,750
packed day on the Saturday and I'm gonna

144
00:06:36,529 --> 00:06:40,699
have that even entertainment from Dave

145
00:06:38,750 --> 00:06:43,639
anak which will be fantastic

146
00:06:40,699 --> 00:06:45,769
he's a great magician and and really

147
00:06:43,639 --> 00:06:48,709
great entertainer and so it's gonna be a

148
00:06:45,769 --> 00:06:50,870
great event and then we have the

149
00:06:48,709 --> 00:06:53,509
following day every year at most I

150
00:06:50,870 --> 00:06:54,680
skeptics we run skeptics picnic in the

151
00:06:53,509 --> 00:06:56,899
park we kind of try and have a

152
00:06:54,680 --> 00:06:59,209
family-friendly event and where we can

153
00:06:56,899 --> 00:07:01,699
just sit and chill in the park and enjoy

154
00:06:59,209 --> 00:07:03,889
the sunshine hopefully this event is

155
00:07:01,699 --> 00:07:08,209
going to be July 6 so it's almost

156
00:07:03,889 --> 00:07:10,310
guaranteed sunshine in the pool yeah so

157
00:07:08,209 --> 00:07:11,839

it should be nice so we can have that

158

00:07:10,310 --> 00:07:14,269

picnic in the park on the Sunday as well

159

00:07:11,839 --> 00:07:15,769

for people to join us well since I am

160

00:07:14,269 --> 00:07:17,839

nice event where people come who've not

161

00:07:15,769 --> 00:07:20,060

been before as well it's kind of this is

162

00:07:17,839 --> 00:07:21,379

my first time at Modesto sceptics was

163

00:07:20,060 --> 00:07:23,360

coming to the previous one of these

164

00:07:21,379 --> 00:07:25,490

picnics so it's a great event so if

165

00:07:23,360 --> 00:07:27,110

that's happening the day after so anyone

166

00:07:25,490 --> 00:07:28,699

that comes along to demo so sex is

167

00:07:27,110 --> 00:07:32,509

obviously very welcome to join us again

168

00:07:28,699 --> 00:07:35,839

in the park the next day so it's MSS ex

169

00:07:32,509 --> 00:07:38,870

is in the Roman numeral 410 website MSS

170

00:07:35,839 --> 00:07:42,679

ex adopts code at UK it's July the six

171

00:07:38,870 --> 00:07:46,160

I'm in the liner hotel in Liverpool 29

172
00:07:42,680 --> 00:07:48,350
pound for ticket wow what a lineup folks

173
00:07:46,160 --> 00:07:50,840
on that Saturday July the 6th at the

174
00:07:48,350 --> 00:07:53,960
liner hotel and it's only twenty nine

175
00:07:50,839 --> 00:07:59,449
pounds twenty nine quid and you can find

176
00:07:53,959 --> 00:08:03,259
out more by visiting m/s/s x dot co dot

177
00:07:59,449 --> 00:08:05,420
UK I'm jealous I sounds like a lot of

178
00:08:03,259 --> 00:08:08,629
fun I wish I could be there but it must

179
00:08:05,420 --> 00:08:10,400
be interesting to reflect on ten years

180
00:08:08,629 --> 00:08:12,560
of any organization really and how

181
00:08:10,399 --> 00:08:14,899
things have changed Alice what have you

182
00:08:12,560 --> 00:08:16,850
noticed in your time so I've been

183
00:08:14,899 --> 00:08:20,539
involved with the message gets exciting

184
00:08:16,850 --> 00:08:23,870
for at least half of those ten years and

185
00:08:20,540 --> 00:08:26,990
it's it's a great group in in their

186
00:08:23,870 --> 00:08:29,129
focus on everything to do with the

187
00:08:26,990 --> 00:08:31,500
social aspect of skepticism so it

188
00:08:29,129 --> 00:08:33,990
it's people coming together having a

189
00:08:31,500 --> 00:08:36,389
great time together and the great ideas

190
00:08:33,990 --> 00:08:38,100
that come from that and it means that

191
00:08:36,389 --> 00:08:40,529
you know we're constantly involved in

192
00:08:38,100 --> 00:08:42,509
all sorts of different activism and we

193
00:08:40,529 --> 00:08:44,250
go along to different been involved in

194
00:08:42,509 --> 00:08:47,460
going to psychic events and trying to

195
00:08:44,250 --> 00:08:49,470
understand how that works and all of

196
00:08:47,460 --> 00:08:50,879
these ideas just come from us all kind

197
00:08:49,470 --> 00:08:53,550
of hanging out together and having a

198
00:08:50,879 --> 00:08:55,470
good time at our social events and it's

199
00:08:53,549 --> 00:08:57,809
the primary focus and I think it's why

200

00:08:55,470 --> 00:09:00,960
the most isget societies lasted for ten

201
00:08:57,809 --> 00:09:03,000
years is because that is such a core

202
00:09:00,960 --> 00:09:05,129
element of the group and Laurie I

203
00:09:03,000 --> 00:09:07,500
understand that you're well you must be

204
00:09:05,129 --> 00:09:09,029
of a similar mind to me in that where I

205
00:09:07,500 --> 00:09:11,129
think it's very important to get out

206
00:09:09,029 --> 00:09:13,139
there and do your own investigations and

207
00:09:11,129 --> 00:09:14,789
not just sit back and have all the

208
00:09:13,139 --> 00:09:16,679
information come to you on the internet

209
00:09:14,789 --> 00:09:20,579
and I think you've been involved in in

210
00:09:16,679 --> 00:09:22,589
some investigations yourself yes early

211
00:09:20,580 --> 00:09:24,480
on when I first joined the medicine

212
00:09:22,590 --> 00:09:27,060
skeptic Society we we had an

213
00:09:24,480 --> 00:09:29,430
investigation with good thinking society

214
00:09:27,059 --> 00:09:32,849

they ran it and where we looked at a

215

00:09:29,429 --> 00:09:36,359

bunch of psychics who were operating in

216

00:09:32,850 --> 00:09:40,649

Blackpool so a few of us kind of where

217

00:09:36,360 --> 00:09:42,990

were miked up with little like spy spy

218

00:09:40,649 --> 00:09:45,600

cameras and we went in and basically had

219

00:09:42,990 --> 00:09:47,190

a psychic reading and it turned out

220

00:09:45,600 --> 00:09:50,490

there were all identical word-for-word

221

00:09:47,190 --> 00:09:52,050

matter okay we all made up some

222

00:09:50,490 --> 00:09:54,060

elaborate backstories we all had all

223

00:09:52,049 --> 00:09:56,459

sorts of you know many of different

224

00:09:54,059 --> 00:09:58,559

problems we were expecting cold reading

225

00:09:56,460 --> 00:09:59,970

and all sorts of things going back to

226

00:09:58,559 --> 00:10:00,899

them but no it was it was virtually

227

00:09:59,970 --> 00:10:02,790

word-for-word

228

00:10:00,899 --> 00:10:04,740

it was very scripted yeah it was

229
00:10:02,789 --> 00:10:07,110
incredible and but that's all up in up

230
00:10:04,740 --> 00:10:08,879
on YouTube so if anyone's to look into

231
00:10:07,110 --> 00:10:10,860
the past and have a look at that one

232
00:10:08,879 --> 00:10:12,689
it's still that I don't think all right

233
00:10:10,860 --> 00:10:15,029
well folks our that's a very interesting

234
00:10:12,690 --> 00:10:17,040
investigation and if you want to see

235
00:10:15,029 --> 00:10:19,439
that for yourself I will add a link to

236
00:10:17,039 --> 00:10:20,789
the show notes or Alice if people just

237
00:10:19,440 --> 00:10:23,580
want to generally check out what's

238
00:10:20,789 --> 00:10:25,589
happening with the Merseyside skeptics

239
00:10:23,580 --> 00:10:29,639
where can they go our website is may

240
00:10:25,590 --> 00:10:31,080
decide skeptics dog you can find loads

241
00:10:29,639 --> 00:10:34,860
of stuff that we're up to there so we

242
00:10:31,080 --> 00:10:36,509
have three plug casts and skeptics with

243
00:10:34,860 --> 00:10:39,960
a que which some of your listeners might

244
00:10:36,509 --> 00:10:42,299
already know and then Marsh hosts be

245
00:10:39,960 --> 00:10:42,930
reasonable which is a fantastic monthly

246
00:10:42,299 --> 00:10:45,929
podcast

247
00:10:42,929 --> 00:10:48,689
he interviews somebody with views

248
00:10:45,929 --> 00:10:51,870
outside of the mainstream and then we

249
00:10:48,690 --> 00:10:56,970
have a an occasional podcast incredulous

250
00:10:51,870 --> 00:10:58,950
a panel show that doesn't quite air

251
00:10:56,970 --> 00:11:01,110
quite as often as we'd like but it is a

252
00:10:58,950 --> 00:11:01,649
very fun podcast and all of that's on

253
00:11:01,110 --> 00:11:04,620
our website

254
00:11:01,649 --> 00:11:06,149
Metro skeptics org dot u K well that's

255
00:11:04,620 --> 00:11:08,399
the place to head to folks I can

256
00:11:06,149 --> 00:11:10,769
certainly recommend those podcasts and

257

00:11:08,399 --> 00:11:12,299
get a quite an interesting experience

258
00:11:10,769 --> 00:11:13,079
every month when I listen to be

259
00:11:12,299 --> 00:11:14,819
reasonable

260
00:11:13,080 --> 00:11:16,680
sometimes it just does my head in it

261
00:11:14,820 --> 00:11:19,860
really does it's a great podcast

262
00:11:16,679 --> 00:11:21,419
nevertheless well Alice and Laurie thank

263
00:11:19,860 --> 00:11:23,399
you very much for letting us know about

264
00:11:21,419 --> 00:11:25,860
the one-day event coming up I wish I

265
00:11:23,399 --> 00:11:28,409
could be there I'm sure it will be a

266
00:11:25,860 --> 00:11:28,970
great success but for now thank you very

267
00:11:28,409 --> 00:11:50,488
much

268
00:11:28,970 --> 00:11:50,489
[Music]

269
00:11:50,649 --> 00:11:56,230
Brisbane skeptics society 2019 skeptic

270
00:11:54,710 --> 00:11:59,180
amp

271
00:11:56,230 --> 00:12:02,450

that's right skeptic OHS it's time once

272

00:11:59,179 --> 00:12:06,199

again for our sort of annual brisbane

273

00:12:02,450 --> 00:12:07,940

skeptic camp on the 9th of june this is

274

00:12:06,200 --> 00:12:11,210

a free event where members of our

275

00:12:07,940 --> 00:12:13,580

community you get to present whatever

276

00:12:11,210 --> 00:12:16,280

topic you are passionate about we are

277

00:12:13,580 --> 00:12:22,700

very excited to be at the slideshow this

278

00:12:16,279 --> 00:12:25,250

year this funky venue is in the West End

279

00:12:22,700 --> 00:12:28,580

but not right in town where parking is

280

00:12:25,250 --> 00:12:32,929

terrible they have their own cafe on

281

00:12:28,580 --> 00:12:34,730

site and beers with vegan treats outside

282

00:12:32,929 --> 00:12:36,949

food is welcome so if you don't like

283

00:12:34,730 --> 00:12:38,990

their options you can get something

284

00:12:36,950 --> 00:12:41,600

delivered sounds too good to be true

285

00:12:38,990 --> 00:12:44,779

there are even comfy couches if you need

286
00:12:41,600 --> 00:12:47,149
time out this year we are very pleased

287
00:12:44,779 --> 00:12:50,149
our friends from the Gold Coast skeptics

288
00:12:47,149 --> 00:12:51,199
are co-hosting we also have musical

289
00:12:50,149 --> 00:12:58,129
entertainment lined up

290
00:12:51,200 --> 00:13:00,410
thanks to conspiracy of one with many

291
00:12:58,129 --> 00:13:02,929
other venues the West End has to offer

292
00:13:00,409 --> 00:13:06,589
I'm sure there will be a few drinks

293
00:13:02,929 --> 00:13:10,250
after we wrap up as well apply to speak

294
00:13:06,590 --> 00:13:14,300
send an email to skip tonight at big

295
00:13:10,250 --> 00:13:19,970
pond calm to secure a spot that's sk EP

296
00:13:14,299 --> 00:13:22,669
t IM ite at big pond calm please include

297
00:13:19,970 --> 00:13:28,879
your name and the title of your talk if

298
00:13:22,669 --> 00:13:31,789
you have a tight already mats brisbane

299
00:13:28,879 --> 00:13:34,159
skeptic camp for 2019 on the 9th of june

300
00:13:31,789 --> 00:13:37,370
for more information head to brisbane

301
00:13:34,159 --> 00:13:38,389
skeptics org or just follow the link in

302
00:13:37,370 --> 00:14:01,960
this week's show notes

303
00:13:38,389 --> 00:14:05,110
[Music]

304
00:14:01,960 --> 00:14:07,310
now as many of you know I love the good

305
00:14:05,110 --> 00:14:12,080
old-fashioned skepticism

306
00:14:07,309 --> 00:14:14,149
I'm known over the term ears people like

307
00:14:12,080 --> 00:14:16,250
me are called Bigfoot skeptics other

308
00:14:14,149 --> 00:14:18,919
than these are people who love the good

309
00:14:16,250 --> 00:14:21,139
old-fashioned stuff the ESP the monsters

310
00:14:18,919 --> 00:14:26,479
the obvious monster for example Bigfoot

311
00:14:21,139 --> 00:14:28,279
now is yetis telekinesis reading minds

312
00:14:26,480 --> 00:14:29,840
talking to the dead that sort of thing

313
00:14:28,279 --> 00:14:32,240
that's where my heart lies in the

314

00:14:29,840 --> 00:14:34,790
skeptical realms we have very important

315
00:14:32,240 --> 00:14:38,690
issues of course like climate change

316
00:14:34,789 --> 00:14:41,000
denial and vaccination anti vaccination

317
00:14:38,690 --> 00:14:44,030
people and I think the record shows I

318
00:14:41,000 --> 00:14:46,429
have a very strong track record of

319
00:14:44,029 --> 00:14:49,639
activism when it comes to particularly

320
00:14:46,429 --> 00:14:51,109
the anti vaccination crowd but yes my

321
00:14:49,639 --> 00:14:53,899
heart lies in the old-fashioned stuff

322
00:14:51,110 --> 00:14:57,110
and one of those topics is astrology

323
00:14:53,899 --> 00:15:00,259
good old astrology which comes and goes

324
00:14:57,110 --> 00:15:02,000
it's not as much in vogue anymore as it

325
00:15:00,259 --> 00:15:03,740
used to be but still millions of people

326
00:15:02,000 --> 00:15:06,230
around the world firmly believe that the

327
00:15:03,740 --> 00:15:08,870
position of the stars and planets will

328
00:15:06,230 --> 00:15:11,500

affect your character and the outcoming

329

00:15:08,870 --> 00:15:14,389

of the events and so on and so forth and

330

00:15:11,500 --> 00:15:18,289

recently I've been reminded of something

331

00:15:14,389 --> 00:15:21,049

that happened way back in the presidency

332

00:15:18,289 --> 00:15:24,189

of Ronald Reagan where there was a

333

00:15:21,049 --> 00:15:27,649

period of time where Nancy Reagan was

334

00:15:24,190 --> 00:15:31,550

influenced by the advice and opinions of

335

00:15:27,649 --> 00:15:34,759

her astrologer by the name of Joan

336

00:15:31,549 --> 00:15:38,539

Quigley now Joan Quigley out in 2014

337

00:15:34,759 --> 00:15:41,330

aged 87 but for a period of time during

338

00:15:38,539 --> 00:15:45,199

the Reagan presidency she was certainly

339

00:15:41,330 --> 00:15:46,940

in the news and an article appeared very

340

00:15:45,200 --> 00:15:49,070

recently in the Washington Post and I

341

00:15:46,940 --> 00:15:52,880

must think listener Gary Goldberg for

342

00:15:49,070 --> 00:15:57,410

helping me with this part of the story

343
00:15:52,879 --> 00:15:58,519
this is an opinion piece written by Ron

344
00:15:57,409 --> 00:16:00,860
Reagan

345
00:15:58,519 --> 00:16:03,049
now Ron Reagan is the son of Ronald and

346
00:16:00,860 --> 00:16:05,959
Nancy Reagan and he makes some very

347
00:16:03,049 --> 00:16:16,309
strong points so I'll just read that

348
00:16:05,958 --> 00:16:19,909
article to you now this comes to us from

349
00:16:16,309 --> 00:16:23,449
the Washington Post on Sunday the 28th

350
00:16:19,909 --> 00:16:25,189
of April 2019 by Ron Reagan Ron Reagan

351
00:16:23,450 --> 00:16:29,080
is a writer and political commentator

352
00:16:25,190 --> 00:16:33,200
living in Seattle and Tuscany astrology

353
00:16:29,080 --> 00:16:35,629
in 1981 having scarcely begun his

354
00:16:33,200 --> 00:16:37,490
presidency my father was shot in the

355
00:16:35,629 --> 00:16:40,970
street by a young man trying to impress

356
00:16:37,490 --> 00:16:42,830
a famous actress my mother inside out

357
00:16:40,970 --> 00:16:44,290
with worry and feeling helpless to

358
00:16:42,830 --> 00:16:47,660
prevent such things from happening again

359
00:16:44,289 --> 00:16:50,059
fell prey to an astrologer who promised

360
00:16:47,659 --> 00:16:52,278
to warn of any particularly inauspicious

361
00:16:50,059 --> 00:16:55,039
days for my father to leave the house

362
00:16:52,278 --> 00:16:57,439
this arrangement had little influence on

363
00:16:55,039 --> 00:16:59,778
his presidential schedule but produced

364
00:16:57,440 --> 00:17:02,690
considerable embarrassment when it was

365
00:16:59,778 --> 00:17:05,359
revealed sometime later my mother was

366
00:17:02,690 --> 00:17:07,910
foolish of course but given the

367
00:17:05,359 --> 00:17:11,409
stressful circumstances I'm inclined to

368
00:17:07,910 --> 00:17:14,449
forgive I'm less charitably inclined

369
00:17:11,410 --> 00:17:18,350
towards the charlatan who took advantage

370
00:17:14,449 --> 00:17:21,160
of her anxious or not it's past time we

371

00:17:18,349 --> 00:17:24,109
abandoned astrology such

372
00:17:21,160 --> 00:17:27,199
pseudo-scientific piffle is it best

373
00:17:24,109 --> 00:17:29,779
harmless folly at worst it belongs to a

374
00:17:27,199 --> 00:17:33,110
family of more pernicious intellectual

375
00:17:29,779 --> 00:17:35,750
lapses with serious consequences climate

376
00:17:33,109 --> 00:17:37,549
change denial creationism the notion

377
00:17:35,750 --> 00:17:40,099
that we can install a reckless

378
00:17:37,549 --> 00:17:42,319
incompetent in the Oval Office without

379
00:17:40,099 --> 00:17:45,740
inviting disaster let's consider

380
00:17:42,319 --> 00:17:49,399
astrology and knock us as it may seem as

381
00:17:45,740 --> 00:17:51,710
a kind of gateway drug it softens the

382
00:17:49,400 --> 00:17:54,559
mental ground for equally unsound but

383
00:17:51,710 --> 00:17:55,160
far more harmful ideas if you believe in

384
00:17:54,558 --> 00:17:58,460
the Stars

385
00:17:55,160 --> 00:18:00,558

you can believe anything astrology which

386

00:17:58,460 --> 00:18:04,009

seems to be enjoying a renaissance among

387

00:18:00,558 --> 00:18:06,889

Millennials and Gen X's is only one sad

388

00:18:04,009 --> 00:18:09,558

example of our flabby minded post truth

389

00:18:06,890 --> 00:18:12,410

era a disturbing number of people are

390

00:18:09,558 --> 00:18:15,410

foregoing vaccinations for their kids

391

00:18:12,410 --> 00:18:18,250

or getting their news from assorted

392

00:18:15,410 --> 00:18:20,750

crackpots and hustlers on social media

393

00:18:18,250 --> 00:18:23,500

reasoning is a hallmark of our species

394

00:18:20,750 --> 00:18:26,539

but we're forgetting how to do it

395

00:18:23,500 --> 00:18:29,480

magical thinking is a bad habit we need

396

00:18:26,539 --> 00:18:32,119

to break we are not owned by our own

397

00:18:29,480 --> 00:18:34,610

reality Nature doesn't care about

398

00:18:32,119 --> 00:18:37,819

politics Jupiter doesn't determine your

399

00:18:34,609 --> 00:18:40,509

character you do if you want to be

400
00:18:37,819 --> 00:18:44,569
influenced by the Stars by a telescope

401
00:18:40,509 --> 00:18:47,140
and that was by Ron Reagan published in

402
00:18:44,569 --> 00:18:53,629
The Washington Post on the 28th of April

403
00:18:47,140 --> 00:18:56,960
2019 but it prompted me to do a little

404
00:18:53,630 --> 00:19:00,080
bit of digging and research and I found

405
00:18:56,960 --> 00:19:04,370
some interesting snippets audio and

406
00:19:00,079 --> 00:19:10,759
video snippets online from John Quigley

407
00:19:04,369 --> 00:19:13,639
talking about her time advising Nancy

408
00:19:10,759 --> 00:19:16,220
and Ronald Reagan and here is some of

409
00:19:13,640 --> 00:19:18,410
what she had to say I timed all the

410
00:19:16,220 --> 00:19:21,620
press conferences i time most of the

411
00:19:18,410 --> 00:19:23,630
speeches I timed when he would take Air

412
00:19:21,619 --> 00:19:28,059
Force front one when he would take off

413
00:19:23,630 --> 00:19:32,440
and when he would land I did a chart for

414
00:19:28,059 --> 00:19:35,359
Anthony Kennedy to to nominate him as a

415
00:19:32,440 --> 00:19:37,250
justice for the Supreme Court it was an

416
00:19:35,359 --> 00:19:40,009
almost impossible day to find a really

417
00:19:37,250 --> 00:19:42,500
good time it had to be so exact to the

418
00:19:40,009 --> 00:19:44,750
second and someone was sitting in the

419
00:19:42,500 --> 00:19:46,490
audience with a stopwatch and gave a

420
00:19:44,750 --> 00:19:49,880
signal for the President to announce

421
00:19:46,490 --> 00:19:52,970
that he was nominating Anthony Kennedy

422
00:19:49,880 --> 00:19:56,000
for the Supreme Court today announcing

423
00:19:52,970 --> 00:19:58,460
my intention they nominate the United

424
00:19:56,000 --> 00:19:59,990
States Circuit Judge Anthony Kennedy to

425
00:19:58,460 --> 00:20:02,539
be an Associate Justice of the Supreme

426
00:19:59,990 --> 00:20:04,640
Court they wanted to announce that

427
00:20:02,539 --> 00:20:09,170
ronnie was running for a second term in

428

00:20:04,640 --> 00:20:11,810
early December of 1983 and I said no

429
00:20:09,170 --> 00:20:14,029
then it wouldn't work well I think it

430
00:20:11,809 --> 00:20:17,549
wrong and I delayed it till the last

431
00:20:14,029 --> 00:20:20,369
Sunday in January of 1984 justice

432
00:20:17,549 --> 00:20:23,639
I found a wonderful chart which was just

433
00:20:20,369 --> 00:20:26,009
five minutes before the noon I am

434
00:20:23,640 --> 00:20:28,950
therefore announcing that I am a

435
00:20:26,009 --> 00:20:30,569
candidate and will seek re-election she

436
00:20:28,950 --> 00:20:32,970
was not only interested in the president

437
00:20:30,569 --> 00:20:34,470
safety and having me do for him the

438
00:20:32,970 --> 00:20:38,130
things that I'd done during the ad

439
00:20:34,470 --> 00:20:41,339
campaign but she was also interested in

440
00:20:38,130 --> 00:20:46,290
improving her own image and I was very

441
00:20:41,339 --> 00:20:49,049
occupied with that at first I picked a

442
00:20:46,289 --> 00:20:52,109

time on the day they left that was an

443

00:20:49,049 --> 00:20:56,309

excellent time for what I what we wanted

444

00:20:52,109 --> 00:20:58,979

to accomplish and I also changed their

445

00:20:56,309 --> 00:21:02,490

evil empire altitude by briefing them on

446

00:20:58,980 --> 00:21:06,690

Gorbachev's horoscope by the time we

447

00:21:02,490 --> 00:21:09,150

were working on the Washington summit

448

00:21:06,690 --> 00:21:13,049

she was calling me two and three times a

449

00:21:09,150 --> 00:21:16,560

day so according to her she had quite an

450

00:21:13,049 --> 00:21:18,809

influence determining the time of major

451

00:21:16,559 --> 00:21:21,389

events for the Reagan's when they would

452

00:21:18,809 --> 00:21:22,980

go on overseas trips when this would

453

00:21:21,390 --> 00:21:24,390

happen when that would happen when the

454

00:21:22,980 --> 00:21:27,690

best time to make a political

455

00:21:24,390 --> 00:21:30,780

appointment was and I also came across

456

00:21:27,690 --> 00:21:38,910

this very short clip of Nancy and Ronald

457
00:21:30,779 --> 00:21:41,549
Reagan and I think it shows in that

458
00:21:38,910 --> 00:21:44,970
instance anyway that Nancy Reagan was

459
00:21:41,549 --> 00:21:48,000
prone to superstitions and magical

460
00:21:44,970 --> 00:21:50,940
thinking I also came across in my

461
00:21:48,000 --> 00:21:52,440
archive something I think I've mentioned

462
00:21:50,940 --> 00:21:55,620
or played before on the skeptic zone

463
00:21:52,440 --> 00:21:59,309
over the years and this is from 1992 an

464
00:21:55,619 --> 00:22:02,069
australian chat show audience

465
00:21:59,309 --> 00:22:04,409
participation show called Couchman which

466
00:22:02,069 --> 00:22:07,049
was popular at the time where he would

467
00:22:04,410 --> 00:22:10,259
basically bring in two camps of opposing

468
00:22:07,049 --> 00:22:11,579
views and discuss the issue and the

469
00:22:10,259 --> 00:22:13,680
topic of one of those episodes was

470
00:22:11,579 --> 00:22:15,509
astrology I thought I'd play you're

471
00:22:13,680 --> 00:22:17,519
shocked that the voices you will hear

472
00:22:15,509 --> 00:22:21,599
are in Bryce from the Australian

473
00:22:17,519 --> 00:22:23,549
skeptics astrologer ray Webb and I can't

474
00:22:21,599 --> 00:22:25,980
see anything recently on ray Webb

475
00:22:23,549 --> 00:22:28,710
although this was a very long time ago

476
00:22:25,980 --> 00:22:31,259
and the late great Barry Williams from

477
00:22:28,710 --> 00:22:32,789
the Australian skeptics as well let's

478
00:22:31,259 --> 00:22:35,250
get down to tin tacks here because

479
00:22:32,789 --> 00:22:36,539
there's this one very basic question

480
00:22:35,250 --> 00:22:38,429
that I'd really like to hear your

481
00:22:36,539 --> 00:22:40,589
discuss and that is why should the

482
00:22:38,429 --> 00:22:43,080
position of the planets have any

483
00:22:40,589 --> 00:22:45,000
influence on how we turned out to be on

484
00:22:43,079 --> 00:22:47,579
our personalities on our characters even

485

00:22:45,000 --> 00:22:49,740
the choice of occupation that we might

486
00:22:47,579 --> 00:22:52,019
make what might happen in our lives why

487
00:22:49,740 --> 00:22:55,048
should that be can anyone explain that

488
00:22:52,019 --> 00:23:01,319
for me in 10 can anyone explain that for

489
00:22:55,048 --> 00:23:03,839
me in 10 seconds the answer to that's

490
00:23:01,319 --> 00:23:05,428
very simple Peter the forces that govern

491
00:23:03,839 --> 00:23:07,889
the universe are quite well known and

492
00:23:05,429 --> 00:23:09,900
they have been for about half a century

493
00:23:07,890 --> 00:23:12,030
and they the forces do not account for

494
00:23:09,900 --> 00:23:14,280
any of those interactions the planets do

495
00:23:12,029 --> 00:23:17,779
not affect our personalities and the

496
00:23:14,279 --> 00:23:17,779
events that happened to us in that way

497
00:23:18,980 --> 00:23:23,970
well right can you can you explain for

498
00:23:21,690 --> 00:23:25,380
it simply how the position of the

499
00:23:23,970 --> 00:23:27,509

planets at the time of our birth might

500

00:23:25,380 --> 00:23:30,150

in any way affect what sort of people we

501

00:23:27,509 --> 00:23:31,798

are well Peter I think that first of all

502

00:23:30,150 --> 00:23:33,140

the purpose of astrology is not to

503

00:23:31,798 --> 00:23:39,660

foretell the future

504

00:23:33,140 --> 00:23:41,190

no to do what you people keep blaming we

505

00:23:39,660 --> 00:23:43,590

don't we don't just listen to an

506

00:23:41,190 --> 00:23:45,029

astrologer for 30 sec yeah okay just

507

00:23:43,589 --> 00:23:46,980

explain for us why the position of the

508

00:23:45,029 --> 00:23:49,470

planets should in any way influence our

509

00:23:46,980 --> 00:23:51,539

personalities the position of the

510

00:23:49,470 --> 00:23:54,720

planets when they're talking about the

511

00:23:51,539 --> 00:23:57,808

the solar system the most important

512

00:23:54,720 --> 00:24:01,410

thing in the solar system is the Sun you

513

00:23:57,808 --> 00:24:05,970

switch off that Sun you've got a heap of

514
00:24:01,410 --> 00:24:10,169
rocks having said that there are four

515
00:24:05,970 --> 00:24:12,519
major seasons summer autumn winter

516
00:24:10,169 --> 00:24:15,520
spring

517
00:24:12,519 --> 00:24:19,420
a plant that will grow in the spring

518
00:24:15,519 --> 00:24:24,549
will not grow in the summer I won't for

519
00:24:19,420 --> 00:24:26,320
you it goes well well no I think I think

520
00:24:24,549 --> 00:24:28,389
I think it is accepted by certainly

521
00:24:26,319 --> 00:24:30,970
people who were who grow things all you

522
00:24:28,390 --> 00:24:34,750
have landed are influenced by the moon

523
00:24:30,970 --> 00:24:37,058
just a little further we are part of all

524
00:24:34,750 --> 00:24:42,660
we have met Arthur Bowman will tell you

525
00:24:37,058 --> 00:24:46,240
that every time in the universe is

526
00:24:42,660 --> 00:24:48,519
putting its tent impeccably and forever

527
00:24:46,240 --> 00:24:51,660
on every part of that universe that

528
00:24:48,519 --> 00:24:54,990
started at that moment including pizza a

529
00:24:51,660 --> 00:24:58,000
winter child is like a winter flower a

530
00:24:54,990 --> 00:25:00,759
summer child is like a summer flower we

531
00:24:58,000 --> 00:25:02,769
are different I take a step I'm

532
00:25:00,759 --> 00:25:04,329
different to the person who has one step

533
00:25:02,769 --> 00:25:06,819
behind me and different again to the

534
00:25:04,329 --> 00:25:09,909
person on either side of me the faith

535
00:25:06,819 --> 00:25:13,289
that makes astrology work best is free

536
00:25:09,910 --> 00:25:15,840
will free will because you can have

537
00:25:13,289 --> 00:25:18,759
50,000 people born at the same instant

538
00:25:15,839 --> 00:25:22,439
under the same planetary influences and

539
00:25:18,759 --> 00:25:26,039
they exercise engaño

540
00:25:22,440 --> 00:25:28,660
make fifty thousand individual different

541
00:25:26,039 --> 00:25:31,599
decisions and each one of them can be

542

00:25:28,660 --> 00:25:33,308
right for you yes but hold on a minute

543
00:25:31,599 --> 00:25:36,119
does that mean that all those people who

544
00:25:33,308 --> 00:25:39,039
were born at the same minute that I was

545
00:25:36,119 --> 00:25:41,169
also all those things that I am you know

546
00:25:39,039 --> 00:25:44,349
on the bad days malicious pessimistic

547
00:25:41,170 --> 00:25:46,630
and selfish way well it's your call

548
00:25:44,349 --> 00:25:48,099
twins like a person born on the in the

549
00:25:46,630 --> 00:25:49,870
same hospital around about the same time

550
00:25:48,099 --> 00:25:52,569
as you would have a similar experience

551
00:25:49,869 --> 00:25:54,639
or life pattern but did that mean by by

552
00:25:52,569 --> 00:25:55,710
by that definition the greys just given

553
00:25:54,640 --> 00:25:59,230
us we should be almost identical

554
00:25:55,710 --> 00:26:01,808
personalities because we're taking into

555
00:25:59,230 --> 00:26:04,630
account the genetic processes that

556
00:26:01,808 --> 00:26:07,210

arrive from the two family lines that a

557

00:26:04,630 --> 00:26:08,650

conception then meet and that individual

558

00:26:07,210 --> 00:26:10,690

is obviously going to display all of

559

00:26:08,650 --> 00:26:12,759

those genetic processes and is the

560

00:26:10,690 --> 00:26:14,799

environmental influences acting on those

561

00:26:12,759 --> 00:26:17,890

genetic processes which is going to make

562

00:26:14,799 --> 00:26:19,389

that person what they are saying is

563

00:26:17,890 --> 00:26:22,170

cop-out from what they're claiming I

564

00:26:19,390 --> 00:26:22,170

mean I think

565

00:26:22,549 --> 00:26:33,210

can't the skeptics have a sale aren't we

566

00:26:24,869 --> 00:26:36,239

alone isn't denying the whole basis of

567

00:26:33,210 --> 00:26:37,590

your line of rubbish about okay wait a

568

00:26:36,240 --> 00:26:43,559

minute go down here Barry Maggie was

569

00:26:37,589 --> 00:26:53,519

denying all these influences like that

570

00:26:43,559 --> 00:26:55,230

all right I can fall over Barry what are

571
00:26:53,519 --> 00:26:57,150
you going to say look the point is I

572
00:26:55,230 --> 00:26:58,860
make a statement about this influence

573
00:26:57,150 --> 00:27:00,269
they have and then the for the rest of

574
00:26:58,859 --> 00:27:02,309
the five minutes they've been talking

575
00:27:00,269 --> 00:27:03,869
I've been giving you the apps from it so

576
00:27:02,309 --> 00:27:05,369
that when it doesn't work for you well

577
00:27:03,869 --> 00:27:06,389
it might be a genetic influence or it

578
00:27:05,369 --> 00:27:09,000
might be a free will or it might be

579
00:27:06,390 --> 00:27:11,130
anything else I mean yes I'm in great

580
00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:13,380
agreeing with you about three well why

581
00:27:11,130 --> 00:27:16,800
do you have to then overlay your free

582
00:27:13,380 --> 00:27:18,210
will with this absolute crime hold on

583
00:27:16,799 --> 00:27:19,529
hold on a thing I'll break this off you

584
00:27:18,210 --> 00:27:22,140
know I've got to break this up here hold

585
00:27:19,529 --> 00:27:25,410
on just at the beginning now I think

586
00:27:22,140 --> 00:27:26,730
Barry may have been a little a little

587
00:27:25,410 --> 00:27:29,310
their fourth right there and his

588
00:27:26,730 --> 00:27:30,990
opinions but it was interesting to try

589
00:27:29,309 --> 00:27:35,369
and make sense out of the convoluted

590
00:27:30,990 --> 00:27:37,109
logic of the astrologer now it seems to

591
00:27:35,369 --> 00:27:38,669
me that many people still enjoy reading

592
00:27:37,109 --> 00:27:40,349
their horoscopes in the newspapers every

593
00:27:38,670 --> 00:27:43,259
day or their favorite magazine and

594
00:27:40,349 --> 00:27:45,779
that's all very very much

595
00:27:43,259 --> 00:27:47,869
silly fun and I don't I don't

596
00:27:45,779 --> 00:27:51,779
particularly think that's of any

597
00:27:47,869 --> 00:27:53,789
detriment but there are again many

598
00:27:51,779 --> 00:27:55,619
people who take it very seriously who

599

00:27:53,789 --> 00:27:58,259
spend a lot of money seeing astrologers

600
00:27:55,619 --> 00:28:00,229
and take advice based on the mystical

601
00:27:58,259 --> 00:28:09,859
movements of the stars

602
00:28:00,230 --> 00:28:13,200
[Music]

603
00:28:09,859 --> 00:28:15,569
allora ciao mi chiamo profesora de vo

604
00:28:13,200 --> 00:28:19,559
tuvalu incendiary - teleca's solutions

605
00:28:15,569 --> 00:28:23,899
para la moda physica de chemica Volodya

606
00:28:19,559 --> 00:28:27,210
astronomia Mathematica atonte ultra cosy

607
00:28:23,900 --> 00:28:29,070
guarda missile youtube arrivederci

608
00:28:27,210 --> 00:28:30,779
hey everyone this is Professor Dave I

609
00:28:29,069 --> 00:28:32,519
want to teach you about all kinds of

610
00:28:30,779 --> 00:28:34,470
things regarding science I want to tell

611
00:28:32,519 --> 00:28:37,859
you about physics I want to tell you

612
00:28:34,470 --> 00:28:40,589
about chemistry biology astronomy math

613
00:28:37,859 --> 00:28:42,269

and many many more things come check me

614

00:28:40,589 --> 00:28:46,730

out on youtube the channel is called

615

00:28:42,269 --> 00:28:46,730

professor Dave explains take it easy

616

00:28:48,230 --> 00:28:51,308

[Applause]

617

00:28:53,170 --> 00:28:59,818

[Music]

618

00:29:01,460 --> 00:29:05,370

well it might be skeptics in the pub

619

00:29:03,390 --> 00:29:07,679

here in Sydney first Thursday of the

620

00:29:05,369 --> 00:29:09,928

month of the Occidental hotel but I'm

621

00:29:07,679 --> 00:29:11,340

with Jessica Singh a longtime committee

622

00:29:09,929 --> 00:29:12,990

member of the Australian skeptics here

623

00:29:11,339 --> 00:29:16,529

in New South Wales you've recently come

624

00:29:12,990 --> 00:29:20,190

back from a trip to the UK that's right

625

00:29:16,529 --> 00:29:23,639

I was in London and unfortunately it

626

00:29:20,190 --> 00:29:26,220

meant that I had to miss the last Sydney

627

00:29:23,640 --> 00:29:28,140

skeptics in the pub I did mean that I

628
00:29:26,220 --> 00:29:30,720
could go to the London skeptics in the

629
00:29:28,140 --> 00:29:33,809
pub now this is one of the oldest oi I

630
00:29:30,720 --> 00:29:36,029
think the oldest skeptics in the pub it

631
00:29:33,808 --> 00:29:37,950
was the whole idea was started by an

632
00:29:36,029 --> 00:29:40,289
Australian wasn't it an Australian dr.

633
00:29:37,950 --> 00:29:42,650
Scott Campbell who used to be on the

634
00:29:40,289 --> 00:29:45,240
Australian skeptics Inc committee and

635
00:29:42,650 --> 00:29:48,269
for professional reasons moved to the UK

636
00:29:45,240 --> 00:29:50,880
and started skeptics in the pub over

637
00:29:48,269 --> 00:29:53,599
there I think inspired by the politics

638
00:29:50,880 --> 00:29:58,049
and the pub and science in the pub model

639
00:29:53,599 --> 00:30:01,379
so yeah he's the founder that's great

640
00:29:58,048 --> 00:30:03,029
and I one day will will remember exactly

641
00:30:01,380 --> 00:30:06,299
what year it started here in Sydney I'm

642
00:30:03,029 --> 00:30:08,759
I think it was around 2003 but somebody

643
00:30:06,298 --> 00:30:10,679
somebody somebody he'll know but anyway

644
00:30:08,759 --> 00:30:12,900
so tonight we had a great night so you

645
00:30:10,679 --> 00:30:14,460
come along people we did we had a great

646
00:30:12,900 --> 00:30:16,470
night we had a really good night where

647
00:30:14,460 --> 00:30:18,210
people come along they just order a beer

648
00:30:16,470 --> 00:30:21,120
a drink of their choice have a bit of

649
00:30:18,210 --> 00:30:23,669
dinner chat and then we have a speaker

650
00:30:21,119 --> 00:30:26,219
every month on varying scientists

651
00:30:23,669 --> 00:30:28,380
science topics tonight was all about rip

652
00:30:26,220 --> 00:30:32,100
currents at the beach that's right and

653
00:30:28,380 --> 00:30:37,110
the speaker was dr. Robert Brenda from

654
00:30:32,099 --> 00:30:39,839
UNSW and he researches rip currents it

655
00:30:37,109 --> 00:30:43,939
was his the subject of his PhD and he's

656

00:30:39,839 --> 00:30:48,298
done a lot of work come to overturn the

657
00:30:43,940 --> 00:30:51,000
accepted knowledge on models of rip

658
00:30:48,298 --> 00:30:53,490
currents and apparently they're far more

659
00:30:51,000 --> 00:30:55,349
complex yes and variable than people

660
00:30:53,490 --> 00:30:57,720
believe it was it was enlightening

661
00:30:55,349 --> 00:31:00,119
tonight and it was enjoyable he was a

662
00:30:57,720 --> 00:31:01,740
great speaker so folks it's that's if

663
00:31:00,119 --> 00:31:05,459
you ever have a chance to see him talk

664
00:31:01,740 --> 00:31:07,019
yes and he does community talks

665
00:31:05,460 --> 00:31:08,710
particularly in the summer he goes up

666
00:31:07,019 --> 00:31:10,869
and down the coast and speaks it's a

667
00:31:08,710 --> 00:31:12,819
clubs talking about science of the surf

668
00:31:10,869 --> 00:31:14,648
teaching people about rips and beach

669
00:31:12,819 --> 00:31:15,970
safety and how to spot a rip it's all

670
00:31:14,648 --> 00:31:18,609

about science and gets back to the

671

00:31:15,970 --> 00:31:20,079

science anyway so you're very familiar

672

00:31:18,609 --> 00:31:22,509

skeptic and I'm here in Sydney you've

673

00:31:20,079 --> 00:31:24,939

been many yes and I've been coming for a

674

00:31:22,509 --> 00:31:28,269

while and it's my job to organize the

675

00:31:24,940 --> 00:31:31,000

bigger each month so yeah so it was

676

00:31:28,269 --> 00:31:33,069

actually really refreshing to be able to

677

00:31:31,000 --> 00:31:35,740

go to a skeptics in the pub and not have

678

00:31:33,069 --> 00:31:38,168

to worry about it right do anything just

679

00:31:35,740 --> 00:31:42,750

turn up it was fabulous and where was

680

00:31:38,169 --> 00:31:46,299

the venue it is at the monarch hotel in

681

00:31:42,750 --> 00:31:48,669

or the monarch pub in Camden Town mm-hm

682

00:31:46,298 --> 00:31:53,710

so it's near Camden Market which is

683

00:31:48,669 --> 00:31:57,250

great and it's a rock and roll pub so it

684

00:31:53,710 --> 00:32:01,120

has a sound system so chatting to the

685
00:31:57,250 --> 00:32:03,730
organizer said Rodriguez who's Ben yes

686
00:32:01,119 --> 00:32:05,319
did old friend who's been involved in

687
00:32:03,730 --> 00:32:08,528
skeptics for years and years and years

688
00:32:05,319 --> 00:32:11,648
it was interesting that they have

689
00:32:08,528 --> 00:32:13,990
exactly the same issues that we have in

690
00:32:11,648 --> 00:32:16,418
terms of a venue finding a venue that

691
00:32:13,990 --> 00:32:19,298
will have you that serves good food that

692
00:32:16,419 --> 00:32:22,270
has a sound system so you don't have to

693
00:32:19,298 --> 00:32:24,069
bring your own sound system so when you

694
00:32:22,269 --> 00:32:27,519
Richard started skeptics in the pub in

695
00:32:24,069 --> 00:32:31,058
2003 and then it got bigger and bigger

696
00:32:27,519 --> 00:32:36,069
and bigger so so we had a decided to

697
00:32:31,058 --> 00:32:37,418
have a monthly speaker you we had a pub

698
00:32:36,069 --> 00:32:39,609
which didn't have a sound system so

699
00:32:37,419 --> 00:32:43,120
through we had to bring in our own sound

700
00:32:39,609 --> 00:32:47,648
system and then we've moved venues a

701
00:32:43,119 --> 00:32:51,099
couple of times mainly or not mainly but

702
00:32:47,648 --> 00:32:52,359
a major reason was to find a venue with

703
00:32:51,099 --> 00:32:54,699
the sound system and that's how we've

704
00:32:52,359 --> 00:32:56,408
ended up at the Oriental because not

705
00:32:54,700 --> 00:33:00,640
only do they have a sound system they

706
00:32:56,409 --> 00:33:03,820
have a projector they have a screen so

707
00:33:00,640 --> 00:33:05,910
they're really really well set up for us

708
00:33:03,819 --> 00:33:07,289
to have an event

709
00:33:05,910 --> 00:33:09,779
[Applause]

710
00:33:07,289 --> 00:33:11,190
with a speaker and a presentation there

711
00:33:09,779 --> 00:33:12,750
are a number of things that you must

712
00:33:11,190 --> 00:33:14,279
check off folks if you're considering

713

00:33:12,750 --> 00:33:16,859
doing your skeptics in the pub in your

714
00:33:14,279 --> 00:33:20,430
area there's a check I guess there is a

715
00:33:16,859 --> 00:33:21,990
check list it has to be accessible if

716
00:33:20,430 --> 00:33:24,680
you're in a city near public transports

717
00:33:21,990 --> 00:33:28,740
the idea a room where you can have

718
00:33:24,680 --> 00:33:30,630
privacy Oh exclusive use is really

719
00:33:28,740 --> 00:33:33,900
important that's what we've found over

720
00:33:30,630 --> 00:33:35,640
the years because we've been in venues

721
00:33:33,900 --> 00:33:38,250
where we didn't have exclusive use and

722
00:33:35,640 --> 00:33:41,400
then the sound system broke down and it

723
00:33:38,250 --> 00:33:43,200
was horrendous in fact we had two on one

724
00:33:41,400 --> 00:33:47,490
awful occasion had to tell the speaker

725
00:33:43,200 --> 00:33:49,350
look just stop no you know any Hugh and

726
00:33:47,490 --> 00:33:53,039
another time we did have the sound

727
00:33:49,349 --> 00:33:56,250

system and in Bryce committee member and

728

00:33:53,039 --> 00:33:59,250

our resident rocket scientist who was

729

00:33:56,250 --> 00:34:01,980

giving a very detailed and interesting

730

00:33:59,250 --> 00:34:03,839

presentation was that one about gravity

731

00:34:01,980 --> 00:34:05,700

waves it might have been sounds really

732

00:34:03,839 --> 00:34:07,409

there's something like that anyway down

733

00:34:05,700 --> 00:34:12,000

the other end of the room there was a

734

00:34:07,410 --> 00:34:14,610

very raucous birthday party going on and

735

00:34:12,000 --> 00:34:17,849

I think I think it was that that made us

736

00:34:14,610 --> 00:34:19,470

decide we have to find a new venue where

737

00:34:17,849 --> 00:34:21,418

we have exclusive use and a sound system

738

00:34:19,469 --> 00:34:23,609

that's right it's just common courtesy

739

00:34:21,418 --> 00:34:25,679

to the speaker so they're not fighting

740

00:34:23,610 --> 00:34:28,050

with other noise or distractions in the

741

00:34:25,679 --> 00:34:29,789

room and everybody can give their full

742
00:34:28,050 --> 00:34:31,830
attention so that's what we've we have

743
00:34:29,789 --> 00:34:34,639
at the moment which is fantastic be

744
00:34:31,829 --> 00:34:39,019
getting back to London getting ready

745
00:34:34,639 --> 00:34:43,789
it's so well we just talk about us

746
00:34:39,019 --> 00:34:46,409
we do Lana was really good it was some

747
00:34:43,789 --> 00:34:48,690
different of course but the same and

748
00:34:46,409 --> 00:34:52,320
that was that was nice to be able to

749
00:34:48,690 --> 00:34:54,898
walk into a room full of strangers but

750
00:34:52,320 --> 00:34:56,909
to know that we all had something in

751
00:34:54,898 --> 00:34:59,789
common which was skepticism and science

752
00:34:56,909 --> 00:35:02,220
and science communication and just be

753
00:34:59,789 --> 00:35:04,380
able to bowl up and have a meal and chat

754
00:35:02,219 --> 00:35:06,779
with people so it was you'd have a drink

755
00:35:04,380 --> 00:35:08,670
a meal just like here just like here

756
00:35:06,780 --> 00:35:10,500
interesting yeah and it's so important

757
00:35:08,670 --> 00:35:13,340
it helps the social atmosphere doesn't

758
00:35:10,500 --> 00:35:18,230
it it does it does and I met um me

759
00:35:13,340 --> 00:35:23,900
quite a few people and from America from

760
00:35:18,230 --> 00:35:26,809
from Europe from the UK someone from the

761
00:35:23,900 --> 00:35:29,119
UK who lived in America now but happened

762
00:35:26,809 --> 00:35:32,779
it happens to happen happen to be back

763
00:35:29,119 --> 00:35:35,000
in London yeah we've had people coming

764
00:35:32,780 --> 00:35:36,710
through town from Hong Kong or New

765
00:35:35,000 --> 00:35:39,530
Zealand they find out about it and

766
00:35:36,710 --> 00:35:44,059
they're here for a week and luckily for

767
00:35:39,530 --> 00:35:45,769
them it coincides with with the skeptics

768
00:35:44,059 --> 00:35:47,599
in the pub so they can come along yeah

769
00:35:45,769 --> 00:35:50,059
you look quite a few people have come

770

00:35:47,599 --> 00:35:52,069
along that way you know is it a monthly

771
00:35:50,059 --> 00:35:54,980
event in there in London it's a monthly

772
00:35:52,070 --> 00:35:58,280
event and they like us have a meetup

773
00:35:54,980 --> 00:36:01,429
group so you can sign up to the meetup

774
00:35:58,280 --> 00:36:05,200
group and you get a very nice welcome

775
00:36:01,429 --> 00:36:08,299
message from I think it's carmina

776
00:36:05,199 --> 00:36:12,500
welcoming you to the group and saying I

777
00:36:08,300 --> 00:36:15,769
hope you come along and so just like the

778
00:36:12,500 --> 00:36:18,800
Sydney skeptics meetup group you get a

779
00:36:15,769 --> 00:36:20,929
little email in your mmm inbox when they

780
00:36:18,800 --> 00:36:24,260
announce a function and then you get

781
00:36:20,929 --> 00:36:26,629
reminders yeah there you are folks it's

782
00:36:24,260 --> 00:36:28,610
all a good idea we've had many happy

783
00:36:26,630 --> 00:36:30,769
years of skeptics in the pub in Sydney

784
00:36:28,610 --> 00:36:33,590

many speakers on all sorts of topics

785

00:36:30,769 --> 00:36:35,389

it's it's not it doesn't run itself you

786

00:36:33,590 --> 00:36:37,010

have to organise it you have to put in

787

00:36:35,389 --> 00:36:39,529

some footwork and you certainly do that

788

00:36:37,010 --> 00:36:43,490

yes and I was chatting with Sid about

789

00:36:39,530 --> 00:36:45,830

that and I'm quite envious of the UK

790

00:36:43,489 --> 00:36:48,129

because of course with the larger

791

00:36:45,829 --> 00:36:51,409

population they have a larger pool of

792

00:36:48,130 --> 00:36:54,800

potential speakers to draw upon and they

793

00:36:51,409 --> 00:36:58,000

also have a really good network via

794

00:36:54,800 --> 00:37:02,690

Facebook of skeptics in the pub

795

00:36:58,000 --> 00:37:05,119

organisers to trade ideas and ask for

796

00:37:02,690 --> 00:37:07,519

ideas as to speakers and because the

797

00:37:05,119 --> 00:37:12,460

distances are relatively short compared

798

00:37:07,519 --> 00:37:15,230

with Australia they can they can really

799
00:37:12,460 --> 00:37:17,659
leverage the groups can really leverage

800
00:37:15,230 --> 00:37:20,150
off each other when it comes to finding

801
00:37:17,659 --> 00:37:23,089
speakers and getting getting speakers to

802
00:37:20,150 --> 00:37:25,340
the different groups whereas here I

803
00:37:23,090 --> 00:37:26,329
suppose that's closest group is Canberra

804
00:37:25,340 --> 00:37:28,670
there

805
00:37:26,329 --> 00:37:30,440
not too far away it's not too far away

806
00:37:28,670 --> 00:37:34,700
it's not exactly close not exactly close

807
00:37:30,440 --> 00:37:36,650
but Brisbane and Melbourne are the next

808
00:37:34,699 --> 00:37:39,169
closest I think another tip I would give

809
00:37:36,650 --> 00:37:40,849
anybody considering it is don't don't

810
00:37:39,170 --> 00:37:43,970
think you have to have a talk every

811
00:37:40,849 --> 00:37:46,549
month on skepticism absolutely not

812
00:37:43,969 --> 00:37:50,119
oh no and in fact the the speaker at

813
00:37:46,550 --> 00:37:55,750
London skeptics in the pub was a guy

814
00:37:50,119 --> 00:37:59,299
called Alex Clegg and he's the I think

815
00:37:55,750 --> 00:38:02,449
projects and communications officer from

816
00:37:59,300 --> 00:38:04,550
sense about science oh yeah now sense

817
00:38:02,449 --> 00:38:07,489
about science that's the UK charity

818
00:38:04,550 --> 00:38:11,600
which was founded in 2002 to promote the

819
00:38:07,489 --> 00:38:14,509
public understanding of science and Alex

820
00:38:11,599 --> 00:38:18,860
was talking about their latest public

821
00:38:14,510 --> 00:38:21,500
campaign which is a an online tool to

822
00:38:18,860 --> 00:38:24,019
encourage and assist people to request

823
00:38:21,500 --> 00:38:26,420
evidence for any claims they encounter

824
00:38:24,019 --> 00:38:28,849
so if you read an article or you hear

825
00:38:26,420 --> 00:38:31,880
something on the radio or you meet

826
00:38:28,849 --> 00:38:35,329
someone and they have a claim like this

827

00:38:31,880 --> 00:38:38,780
cures cancer hmm you can then use the

828
00:38:35,329 --> 00:38:41,630
sense about science online tool to send

829
00:38:38,780 --> 00:38:44,600
a query what's the evidence please give

830
00:38:41,630 --> 00:38:46,070
us your evidence so um that was a really

831
00:38:44,599 --> 00:38:49,039
interesting talk and it sounds like a

832
00:38:46,070 --> 00:38:51,500
great tool so there'd be no it's a great

833
00:38:49,039 --> 00:38:53,119
example and if in fact if you had a

834
00:38:51,500 --> 00:38:54,739
sceptical topic every month I think

835
00:38:53,119 --> 00:38:56,630
people and you'd run out of topics I

836
00:38:54,739 --> 00:38:58,429
guess I don't get a bit sick of it but

837
00:38:56,630 --> 00:39:00,380
people love to hear about frogs and rip

838
00:38:58,429 --> 00:39:03,019
currents and all sorts of other science

839
00:39:00,380 --> 00:39:05,059
space space whenever we have a Spacey

840
00:39:03,019 --> 00:39:07,309
topic or an astronomy topic that's

841
00:39:05,059 --> 00:39:08,809

always really popular yeah well thanks

842

00:39:07,309 --> 00:39:10,670

for Jessica for chatting to us about

843

00:39:08,809 --> 00:39:13,039

your experience with skeptics in the pub

844

00:39:10,670 --> 00:39:15,380

in London and I know it there are

845

00:39:13,039 --> 00:39:17,659

skeptics in the pub or there is a pub

846

00:39:15,380 --> 00:39:19,400

all around the world if there's not one

847

00:39:17,659 --> 00:39:22,839

in your local area it might be worth

848

00:39:19,400 --> 00:39:22,840

thinking about setting one up

849

00:39:24,119 --> 00:39:39,429

[Music]

850

00:39:41,090 --> 00:39:53,400

saikhan 2019 people are finally starting

851

00:39:49,079 --> 00:39:56,670

to wake up and eve axes denounced as a

852

00:39:53,400 --> 00:40:01,070

danger to public health climate science

853

00:39:56,670 --> 00:40:04,200

deniers exposed is ideological zealots

854

00:40:01,070 --> 00:40:04,980

celebrity psychics have been caught

855

00:40:04,199 --> 00:40:10,259

red-handed

856
00:40:04,980 --> 00:40:12,559
using trickery flat earthers seriously

857
00:40:10,260 --> 00:40:16,050
[Music]

858
00:40:12,559 --> 00:40:18,449
skeptics must seize this moment as Miss

859
00:40:16,050 --> 00:40:21,180
information is colliding with reality in

860
00:40:18,449 --> 00:40:23,189
plain sight now is the time for the

861
00:40:21,179 --> 00:40:25,440
brightest minds in science and reason to

862
00:40:23,190 --> 00:40:28,130
come together to turn the tide against

863
00:40:25,440 --> 00:40:31,800
pseudoscience conspiracy theories and

864
00:40:28,130 --> 00:40:34,410
alternative facts and naturally we

865
00:40:31,800 --> 00:40:36,289
should do it in Las Vegas it's more fun

866
00:40:34,409 --> 00:40:40,889
that way

867
00:40:36,289 --> 00:40:43,769
now is the time for saikhan 2019 October

868
00:40:40,889 --> 00:40:49,170
the 16th to the 20th at the Flamingo

869
00:40:43,769 --> 00:40:51,599
resort in Las Vegas the incredible

870
00:40:49,170 --> 00:40:54,349
lineup of speakers includes actor John

871
00:40:51,599 --> 00:40:57,660
de Lancie of Star Trek and Breaking Bad

872
00:40:54,349 --> 00:40:58,289
Julia Sweeney of SNL and letting go of

873
00:40:57,659 --> 00:41:01,549
God

874
00:40:58,289 --> 00:41:03,869
string theory Pioneer Brian Greene

875
00:41:01,550 --> 00:41:07,980
evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins

876
00:41:03,869 --> 00:41:11,460
ex naturopath Britt Marie Hermes Gweneth

877
00:41:07,980 --> 00:41:14,269
Paltrow zwaarst nightmare dr. Jen Gunter

878
00:41:11,460 --> 00:41:16,980
climate expert Michael Mann

879
00:41:14,269 --> 00:41:20,190
entertainment from illusionist Banacek

880
00:41:16,980 --> 00:41:23,340
comedian Leeanne Lord and we even have a

881
00:41:20,190 --> 00:41:26,070
dragon plus hands-on workshops with the

882
00:41:23,340 --> 00:41:28,200
skeptics toolbox for for book signings a

883
00:41:26,070 --> 00:41:31,980
fresh round of Sunday papers

884

00:41:28,199 --> 00:41:35,399
presentations and even a 1950s themed

885
00:41:31,980 --> 00:41:36,420
party register now October will be here

886
00:41:35,400 --> 00:41:41,880
before you know it

887
00:41:36,420 --> 00:41:45,088
so let's seize this moment that's icon

888
00:41:41,880 --> 00:41:48,380
2019 from October the 16th to the 20th

889
00:41:45,088 --> 00:41:52,019
at the Flamingo resort in Las Vegas

890
00:41:48,380 --> 00:41:56,690
register at SCI conference dot org

891
00:41:52,019 --> 00:42:00,289
that's CSI conference dot org

892
00:41:56,690 --> 00:42:06,460
it's your best bet in Las Vegas

893
00:42:00,289 --> 00:42:06,460
[Music]

894
00:42:12,068 --> 00:42:19,298
here's may not spooky action at a

895
00:42:17,000 --> 00:42:19,298
distance

896
00:42:20,349 --> 00:42:25,279
I'm just sitting next to a Tim Mendham

897
00:42:23,420 --> 00:42:28,430
which is the he's at the pointy end of

898
00:42:25,280 --> 00:42:30,470

the \$100,000 challenge here and look

899

00:42:28,429 --> 00:42:32,389

Saunders causes a trouble maker has

900

00:42:30,469 --> 00:42:33,799

asked me to ask people do you think they

901

00:42:32,389 --> 00:42:35,059

should just give this whole thing away

902

00:42:33,800 --> 00:42:36,289

do you think the challenge should be

903

00:42:35,059 --> 00:42:39,469

given away because you're the guy who

904

00:42:36,289 --> 00:42:40,880

takes the phone calls no I mean the

905

00:42:39,469 --> 00:42:42,139

money given away or the whole concept of

906

00:42:40,880 --> 00:42:44,660

the challenge yeah the whole concept the

907

00:42:42,139 --> 00:42:47,239

chart I get I get messages at least once

908

00:42:44,659 --> 00:42:50,210

a week from someone somewhere who's

909

00:42:47,239 --> 00:42:52,459

applying for the challenge so people are

910

00:42:50,210 --> 00:42:54,610

very very keen on it actually once they

911

00:42:52,460 --> 00:42:58,190

find out they actually have to do a test

912

00:42:54,610 --> 00:43:01,880

rather just oh yeah I say I can fly oh

913
00:42:58,190 --> 00:43:04,909
here's the money right 90% of them drop

914
00:43:01,880 --> 00:43:06,530
there and that's stage okay what they

915
00:43:04,909 --> 00:43:09,949
think they can just go I can fly and

916
00:43:06,530 --> 00:43:11,480
here's your cash I've had people do

917
00:43:09,949 --> 00:43:13,789
exactly that actually I've also people

918
00:43:11,480 --> 00:43:15,469
get very aggressive when I say no you

919
00:43:13,789 --> 00:43:17,389
can't get the money until you get proven

920
00:43:15,469 --> 00:43:20,149
is if I made the money now I can someone

921
00:43:17,389 --> 00:43:21,349
be really really nasty to me and I think

922
00:43:20,150 --> 00:43:23,180
well there's no chance you're gonna get

923
00:43:21,349 --> 00:43:24,500
the money mate what's the weirdest one

924
00:43:23,179 --> 00:43:26,949
you've had what's the weirdest claim

925
00:43:24,500 --> 00:43:29,739
you've had that's never gone any further

926
00:43:26,949 --> 00:43:32,719
we disclaimer there's a lot of them

927
00:43:29,739 --> 00:43:36,469
there was a fellow who was covered in

928
00:43:32,719 --> 00:43:36,949
UFO dust I'm sorry he's covered in UFO

929
00:43:36,469 --> 00:43:39,559
dust

930
00:43:36,949 --> 00:43:42,169
yeah he was first of all he was first of

931
00:43:39,559 --> 00:43:44,659
all claiming that he could see dark

932
00:43:42,170 --> 00:43:47,930
matter which was basically the shadows

933
00:43:44,659 --> 00:43:49,849
of contrails on clouds and that was

934
00:43:47,929 --> 00:43:53,089
darkness it runs parallel with the plane

935
00:43:49,849 --> 00:43:54,380
I said yeah it's a shadow right and then

936
00:43:53,090 --> 00:43:58,039
he came down with something else he said

937
00:43:54,380 --> 00:44:00,320
I filmed UFOs he sent me videos which I

938
00:43:58,039 --> 00:44:02,329
then had to follow through ever trying

939
00:44:00,320 --> 00:44:04,430
to a frame by frame of a video online

940
00:44:02,329 --> 00:44:06,170
it's a bit difficult right because he

941

00:44:04,429 --> 00:44:07,879
have a third press here pause button all

942
00:44:06,170 --> 00:44:10,930
the time and I finally found what he was

943
00:44:07,880 --> 00:44:13,640
talking about it was a spot on one frame

944
00:44:10,929 --> 00:44:16,879
how good are you at being polite

945
00:44:13,639 --> 00:44:19,190
so go ring-ring ring-ring I'm very

946
00:44:16,880 --> 00:44:22,250
polite okay I've got a claim that's

947
00:44:19,190 --> 00:44:24,740
amazing thank you what is your claim I

948
00:44:22,250 --> 00:44:28,579
believe that I look good in this suit

949
00:44:24,739 --> 00:44:30,379
you're an idiot aren't you is that

950
00:44:28,579 --> 00:44:31,699
require extraordinary evidence or not I

951
00:44:30,380 --> 00:44:34,130
think so if you have photographic

952
00:44:31,699 --> 00:44:35,750
evidence of this yes it's not good but

953
00:44:34,130 --> 00:44:36,860
okay well I'm afraid yeah I've looked at

954
00:44:35,750 --> 00:44:38,900
the photographs they're not very good

955
00:44:36,860 --> 00:44:40,760

quality they are a bit fuzzy and arrive

956

00:44:38,900 --> 00:44:43,250

and looks like something moving is that

957

00:44:40,760 --> 00:44:46,370

you and then you make a noise it sounds

958

00:44:43,250 --> 00:44:47,750

like boo and your hang-up I've been

959

00:44:46,369 --> 00:44:49,339

asking people tonight should this get

960

00:44:47,750 --> 00:44:50,750

big speed bother doing the hundred

961

00:44:49,340 --> 00:44:52,160

thousand dollar thing because it hasn't

962

00:44:50,750 --> 00:44:54,860

really gone off but what do you think

963

00:44:52,159 --> 00:44:57,619

well I like it when we have

964

00:44:54,860 --> 00:45:01,910

conversations with people who think that

965

00:44:57,619 --> 00:45:04,309

you know they can divine for water or or

966

00:45:01,909 --> 00:45:06,769

see ghosts so it's handy to be able to

967

00:45:04,309 --> 00:45:07,940

say well give the skipping it's a call

968

00:45:06,769 --> 00:45:10,519

they'll give you a hundred thousand

969

00:45:07,940 --> 00:45:12,650

bucks and they never do do they III

970
00:45:10,519 --> 00:45:15,860
don't know luckily I'm insulated from

971
00:45:12,650 --> 00:45:17,210
whether or not they do but I mean I

972
00:45:15,860 --> 00:45:20,539
guess I'm not doing any other work

973
00:45:17,210 --> 00:45:23,720
related to it I've been asking about the

974
00:45:20,539 --> 00:45:26,059
whole hundred thousand dollar thing and

975
00:45:23,719 --> 00:45:27,159
should it still keep going or do you

976
00:45:26,059 --> 00:45:30,469
think it's just a bit of a wacky

977
00:45:27,159 --> 00:45:35,799
hangover from back in the days so my

978
00:45:30,469 --> 00:45:38,539
opinions on this I think very strong I

979
00:45:35,800 --> 00:45:41,350
do have opinions and I like to share

980
00:45:38,539 --> 00:45:43,659
them often on this podcast

981
00:45:41,349 --> 00:45:46,779
so my opinion of the \$100,000 challenge

982
00:45:43,659 --> 00:45:48,539
is I think it's good a good marketing

983
00:45:46,780 --> 00:45:51,340
tool I think it's a good way of

984
00:45:48,539 --> 00:45:54,099
introducing ourselves to people that

985
00:45:51,340 --> 00:45:55,360
wouldn't otherwise be aware it's a good

986
00:45:54,099 --> 00:45:56,860
little marketing tool around the pub

987
00:45:55,360 --> 00:45:58,750
because obviously you know Richard

988
00:45:56,860 --> 00:46:00,280
distributes the little checks around the

989
00:45:58,750 --> 00:46:02,829
pub which is a good talking point with a

990
00:46:00,280 --> 00:46:05,380
lot of people my main issue with

991
00:46:02,829 --> 00:46:07,000
\$100,000 times is that I've noticed that

992
00:46:05,380 --> 00:46:09,730
in recent years especially a lot of the

993
00:46:07,000 --> 00:46:10,949
applicants you know - their challenge

994
00:46:09,730 --> 00:46:13,360
[Music]

995
00:46:10,949 --> 00:46:15,009
well shall we say they're not of the

996
00:46:13,360 --> 00:46:17,829
type of people that we'd really want to

997
00:46:15,010 --> 00:46:19,510
be making a funnel and that is

998

00:46:17,829 --> 00:46:21,789
essentially what we're doing in the

999
00:46:19,510 --> 00:46:23,770
challenge itself is it's a bit of which

1000
00:46:21,789 --> 00:46:25,599
is kind of why we have to amend them on

1001
00:46:23,769 --> 00:46:29,170
the phone and not you who should be

1002
00:46:25,599 --> 00:46:31,329
going off shake up please I'm sorry go

1003
00:46:29,170 --> 00:46:32,619
away yeah well I wouldn't say it to them

1004
00:46:31,329 --> 00:46:36,190
no I'd like to think I'm a bit more

1005
00:46:32,619 --> 00:46:37,929
tactful than that but but I do think

1006
00:46:36,190 --> 00:46:40,510
that a lot of the times people that

1007
00:46:37,929 --> 00:46:43,269
contact us claiming these powers are

1008
00:46:40,510 --> 00:46:45,580
maybe themselves in need of some help

1009
00:46:43,269 --> 00:46:46,929
and some attention I don't think that

1010
00:46:45,579 --> 00:46:49,809
this is the kind of attention or help

1011
00:46:46,929 --> 00:46:51,789
that they actually do require fair

1012
00:46:49,809 --> 00:46:54,159

enough well I have a claim I claim that

1013

00:46:51,789 --> 00:46:57,670

in this suit and this shirt and this tie

1014

00:46:54,159 --> 00:46:59,649

I look as good as some mid-range 90s

1015

00:46:57,670 --> 00:47:01,090

band that was moderately successful in

1016

00:46:59,650 --> 00:47:06,220

the UK you could definitely be in

1017

00:47:01,090 --> 00:47:10,050

Kraftwerk look what do you think about

1018

00:47:06,219 --> 00:47:13,629

the \$100,000 challenge I think it's

1019

00:47:10,050 --> 00:47:15,670

great I hope someone wins at CERN Wow

1020

00:47:13,630 --> 00:47:17,410

it's been too long well I'm pretty close

1021

00:47:15,670 --> 00:47:19,420

with the suit I'm making a claim about

1022

00:47:17,409 --> 00:47:22,429

this suit it is it is quite

1023

00:47:19,420 --> 00:47:25,460

supernaturally appealing

1024

00:47:22,429 --> 00:47:26,480

okay but look we're talking about if

1025

00:47:25,460 --> 00:47:29,510

these skeptics have their hammer

1026

00:47:26,480 --> 00:47:31,039

\$100,000 thing that goes off should they

1027
00:47:29,510 --> 00:47:32,299
keep doing that or should they just give

1028
00:47:31,039 --> 00:47:34,250
it up as a bit of a joke and give it a

1029
00:47:32,298 --> 00:47:39,739
rest no they should keep doing that

1030
00:47:34,250 --> 00:47:43,159
because I feel like once it's kind of

1031
00:47:39,739 --> 00:47:44,659
quit then people have got they can they

1032
00:47:43,159 --> 00:47:48,170
can sit back and just make all sorts of

1033
00:47:44,659 --> 00:47:50,538
excuses as to why nobody got it without

1034
00:47:48,170 --> 00:47:52,608
like we need to be able to trust that in

1035
00:47:50,539 --> 00:47:54,109
their face and say well if you can do

1036
00:47:52,608 --> 00:47:55,670
what you say you do then why don't you

1037
00:47:54,108 --> 00:47:58,909
do this whereas if we don't have it

1038
00:47:55,670 --> 00:48:00,170
there then become what's wrong you think

1039
00:47:58,909 --> 00:48:03,379
that's the most ridiculous that people

1040
00:48:00,170 --> 00:48:05,269
bring out the people have tried oh gosh

1041
00:48:03,380 --> 00:48:06,528
I really don't know may not I'm not

1042
00:48:05,269 --> 00:48:08,630
entirely sure I know there's been a lot

1043
00:48:06,528 --> 00:48:11,150
of them dowzers and I always feel like

1044
00:48:08,630 --> 00:48:13,190
I'm calling with the dowsing rods

1045
00:48:11,150 --> 00:48:14,510
there's another name look I'm making a

1046
00:48:13,190 --> 00:48:17,028
claim here in this suit

1047
00:48:14,510 --> 00:48:19,430
that I look like some mid-level UK band

1048
00:48:17,028 --> 00:48:21,199
from the mid 90s I think it has to be a

1049
00:48:19,429 --> 00:48:23,480
pseudo-scientific claim to make

1050
00:48:21,199 --> 00:48:28,038
paranormal so are you saying fashion

1051
00:48:23,480 --> 00:48:28,490
isn't science no I'm saying you're

1052
00:48:28,039 --> 00:48:31,569
saying

1053
00:48:28,489 --> 00:48:33,949
fashion isn't science yeah I'm confused

1054
00:48:31,568 --> 00:48:36,048
I'm saying that the claim has to be

1055

00:48:33,949 --> 00:48:37,909
pseudo scientific oh we're having to

1056
00:48:36,048 --> 00:48:40,369
prove so what is your pseudo scientific

1057
00:48:37,909 --> 00:48:44,409
claim about fashion that I look a bit

1058
00:48:40,369 --> 00:48:44,410
like a mid-level band from the 90s like

1059
00:48:45,068 --> 00:48:51,798
okay so \$100,000 you just got at work

1060
00:48:49,579 --> 00:48:54,559
speak to Richard and you can plan a

1061
00:48:51,798 --> 00:48:56,269
trial together and work out how you're

1062
00:48:54,559 --> 00:48:59,010
gonna prove it

1063
00:48:56,269 --> 00:49:00,358
look rich it does look like a band from

1064
00:48:59,010 --> 00:49:02,780
the 70s I just don't know which one

1065
00:49:00,358 --> 00:49:07,019
Earth Wind and Fire

1066
00:49:02,780 --> 00:49:08,190
if only retreat is a bit and don't take

1067
00:49:07,019 --> 00:49:15,409
this the wrong way Richard but you're a

1068
00:49:08,190 --> 00:49:18,358
bit like the no David Essex's manager no

1069
00:49:15,409 --> 00:49:20,940

that Len is cool well think about four

1070

00:49:18,358 --> 00:49:24,449
opinion and obviously what I've worn has

1071

00:49:20,940 --> 00:49:27,838
had no effect on it was ever even the

1072

00:49:24,449 --> 00:49:29,730
question may not it was my claim I was

1073

00:49:27,838 --> 00:49:32,219
making that claim you look very smooth

1074

00:49:29,730 --> 00:49:35,010
tonight thank you oh and by the way

1075

00:49:32,219 --> 00:49:37,649
Trish said if if you had a nice night

1076

00:49:35,010 --> 00:49:39,210
with someone and you want to indicate to

1077

00:49:37,650 --> 00:49:41,250
them that it was a nice night but you

1078

00:49:39,210 --> 00:49:44,068
might not want to see them again what's

1079

00:49:41,250 --> 00:49:44,519
the language would you use Trish will

1080

00:49:44,068 --> 00:49:51,779
you explain

1081

00:49:44,519 --> 00:49:53,130
oh that was an experience a little bit

1082

00:49:51,780 --> 00:49:55,559
vague that they could interpret

1083

00:49:53,130 --> 00:50:00,260
different way so people if you hear that

1084
00:49:55,559 --> 00:50:00,260
it's over forget it thank you

1085
00:50:10,880 --> 00:50:16,369
[Music]

1086
00:50:20,498 --> 00:50:24,708
thanks for listening to the skeptic zone

1087
00:50:22,940 --> 00:50:27,469
now here's an announcement from our

1088
00:50:24,708 --> 00:50:29,118
friends in Victoria the Australian

1089
00:50:27,469 --> 00:50:31,458
skeptics National Convention will be in

1090
00:50:29,119 --> 00:50:33,650
December in Melbourne this year and

1091
00:50:31,458 --> 00:50:36,348
they've just announced that Susan garvik

1092
00:50:33,650 --> 00:50:38,389
from guerrilla skepticism on Wikipedia

1093
00:50:36,349 --> 00:50:40,099
and a frequent guest on the skeptics own

1094
00:50:38,389 --> 00:50:43,338
will be attending this year's convention

1095
00:50:40,099 --> 00:50:48,259
in Melbourne for more information head

1096
00:50:43,338 --> 00:50:50,058
to skeptic on org dot au and it will be

1097
00:50:48,259 --> 00:50:52,309
great to see Susan go back back in

1098
00:50:50,059 --> 00:50:54,289
Australia coming up on next week's show

1099
00:50:52,309 --> 00:50:57,229
the report from the flu vaccination day

1100
00:50:54,289 --> 00:50:59,509
we had yesterday on Star Wars day here

1101
00:50:57,228 --> 00:51:02,389
in Sydney and the force was certainly

1102
00:50:59,509 --> 00:51:06,798
with us we look at a new web series

1103
00:51:02,389 --> 00:51:09,440
called fact underscore me underscore Oz

1104
00:51:06,798 --> 00:51:11,179
and hopefully we have a new report

1105
00:51:09,440 --> 00:51:14,179
coming up from Michelle Franklin up in

1106
00:51:11,179 --> 00:51:15,708
the Northern Territory but for this week

1107
00:51:14,179 --> 00:51:19,338
in thanking everybody for helping us

1108
00:51:15,708 --> 00:51:21,259
reach show number 550 this is Richard

1109
00:51:19,338 --> 00:51:27,409
Saunders signing off from Sydney

1110
00:51:21,259 --> 00:51:30,079
Australia you've been listening to the

1111
00:51:27,409 --> 00:51:37,038
skeptic zone podcast please visit our

1112

00:51:30,079 --> 00:51:39,589
website at wwlp.com tax and to access

1113
00:51:37,039 --> 00:51:43,190
the bat catalogue of episodes going back

1114
00:51:39,588 --> 00:51:46,818
to 2008 you can follow the skeptic zone

1115
00:51:43,190 --> 00:51:49,219
podcast on twitter at skeptic zone visit

1116
00:51:46,818 --> 00:51:52,579
our facebook page or leave a review on

1117
00:51:49,219 --> 00:51:55,969
itunes you can also support the skeptic

1118
00:51:52,579 --> 00:51:58,309
zone via patreon or PayPal the skeptic

1119
00:51:55,969 --> 00:52:00,499
zone podcast is an independent

1120
00:51:58,309 --> 00:52:02,479
production the views and opinions

1121
00:52:00,498 --> 00:52:04,608
expressed on the skeptic zone are not

1122
00:52:02,478 --> 00:52:07,539
necessarily those of Australian skeptics

1123
00:52:04,608 --> 00:52:13,759
or any other sceptical organisation

1124
00:52:07,539 --> 00:52:13,759
[Music]

1125
00:52:21,300 --> 00:52:27,970
show new goals are Dyson's they give me

1126
00:52:23,920 --> 00:52:30,280

the hellos people who stay after the

1127

00:52:27,969 --> 00:52:32,049

closing music yes once again it's the

1128

00:52:30,280 --> 00:52:33,550

losers they've got they've got nothing

1129

00:52:32,050 --> 00:52:35,560

going on their life except to listen to

1130

00:52:33,550 --> 00:52:36,550

the end of the skeptic zone the whole

1131

00:52:35,559 --> 00:52:38,590

bunch of stuff for you but listening to

1132

00:52:36,550 --> 00:52:41,050

but know you're listening to the end of

1133

00:52:38,590 --> 00:52:47,740

the show and there's not even any cats

1134

00:52:41,050 --> 00:52:49,600

and dogs not necessarily now as long

1135

00:52:47,739 --> 00:52:51,699

term listeners know we play the dice

1136

00:52:49,599 --> 00:52:53,440

game and new listeners every now and

1137

00:52:51,699 --> 00:52:56,500

then we roll a 10 sided die three times

1138

00:52:53,440 --> 00:52:58,059

and you have to use your home are you in

1139

00:52:56,500 --> 00:53:00,219

the car you commuting have to use your

1140

00:52:58,059 --> 00:53:01,719

psychic power to predict what numbers

1141
00:53:00,219 --> 00:53:03,849
gonna come up and we've got a special

1142
00:53:01,719 --> 00:53:06,219
guest tonight you are my name is Larry

1143
00:53:03,849 --> 00:53:08,049
and you're going to play along you see

1144
00:53:06,219 --> 00:53:10,599
so in a moment Jessica's gonna roll out

1145
00:53:08,050 --> 00:53:14,220
to inside a dive and you have to use

1146
00:53:10,599 --> 00:53:17,079
your magical predicting power right

1147
00:53:14,219 --> 00:53:19,419
predicting look into the future what

1148
00:53:17,079 --> 00:53:21,819
number do you predict it'll be zero to

1149
00:53:19,420 --> 00:53:24,700
denial which is really one to ten but

1150
00:53:21,820 --> 00:53:27,760
anyway okay so the answer is not 42 no

1151
00:53:24,699 --> 00:53:30,069
okay do I have to say you know just

1152
00:53:27,760 --> 00:53:34,360
think it well you can think it but it's

1153
00:53:30,070 --> 00:53:36,580
more fun if you suck in five and here we

1154
00:53:34,360 --> 00:53:40,750
come left the wave form here it comes

1155
00:53:36,579 --> 00:53:44,460
Jessica's rolling now and it was five

1156
00:53:40,750 --> 00:53:44,460
and no one on the podcast would have no

1157
00:53:45,570 --> 00:53:50,019
I'm scrupulously honest okay that was

1158
00:53:48,610 --> 00:53:52,289
the first girl gonna do it two more

1159
00:53:50,019 --> 00:53:57,159
times oh so think again what do you get

1160
00:53:52,289 --> 00:54:00,130
500 just for change oh no six

1161
00:53:57,159 --> 00:54:02,289
oh so close I know a little bit psychic

1162
00:54:00,130 --> 00:54:07,630
all right I'm the last time just get

1163
00:54:02,289 --> 00:54:10,300
ready oh six weeks ago I went off that's

1164
00:54:07,630 --> 00:54:13,890
luckier than any other number that

1165
00:54:10,300 --> 00:54:13,890
wasn't five surely