

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,509
this is James Randi and you're listening

2
00:00:01,949 --> 00:00:05,509
to the skeptic zone

3
00:00:09,750 --> 00:00:17,519
welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

4
00:00:12,939 --> 00:00:17,519
from Australia for science and reason

5
00:00:24,210 --> 00:00:29,469
hello and welcome to the skeptic zone

6
00:00:26,890 --> 00:00:31,750
full of a fifth of february show number

7
00:00:29,469 --> 00:00:34,359
68 Richardson's here with you once again

8
00:00:31,750 --> 00:00:36,850
on today's show we have an interview by

9
00:00:34,359 --> 00:00:39,460
Kylie Sturgis with Professor Chris

10
00:00:36,850 --> 00:00:41,980
French from the UK what an interesting

11
00:00:39,460 --> 00:00:45,969
man he is investigating the paranormal

12
00:00:41,979 --> 00:00:47,679
supernatural the unexplained that's

13
00:00:45,969 --> 00:00:50,170
followed by some highlights from the

14
00:00:47,679 --> 00:00:52,780
mystery investigators show the show for

15
00:00:50,170 --> 00:00:55,838
schools where dr. 80 and I travel around

16
00:00:52,780 --> 00:00:58,510
and do a stage show teaching science I

17
00:00:55,838 --> 00:00:59,969
hope you'll find that interesting after

18
00:00:58,509 --> 00:01:04,120
that we have a brief report about the

19
00:00:59,969 --> 00:01:06,400
1023 campaign by Kylie Sturgis and of

20
00:01:04,120 --> 00:01:09,100
course that's followed by dr. Rachel

21
00:01:06,400 --> 00:01:11,020
reports now before we get into the show

22
00:01:09,099 --> 00:01:14,019
there's a few things I guess I need to

23
00:01:11,019 --> 00:01:17,469
cover as mentioned our last week on the

24
00:01:14,019 --> 00:01:22,539
think-tank the happy g'head House of

25
00:01:17,469 --> 00:01:25,688
Pancakes site which is HJ h o P dot blog

26
00:01:22,540 --> 00:01:27,729
spot.com was kind enough to nominate

27
00:01:25,688 --> 00:01:31,709
Monday last week as international dr

28
00:01:27,728 --> 00:01:34,090
racy day at blog is worth checking out

29

00:01:31,709 --> 00:01:35,739
congratulations to rebecca watson from

30
00:01:34,090 --> 00:01:37,960
the skeptics guide to the universe for

31
00:01:35,739 --> 00:01:40,539
appearing on robert llewellyn's carpool

32
00:01:37,959 --> 00:01:45,399
interview show it's a really great show

33
00:01:40,540 --> 00:01:49,930
certainly worth checking out at WWII ewt

34
00:01:45,400 --> 00:01:53,860
ube com fascinating guests including ben

35
00:01:49,930 --> 00:01:56,140
goldacre and Sir Patrick Stewart another

36
00:01:53,859 --> 00:01:58,450
thing worth checking out online is the

37
00:01:56,140 --> 00:02:01,689
new videos by captain disillusion and

38
00:01:58,450 --> 00:02:06,070
you can check him out at youtube.com /

39
00:02:01,689 --> 00:02:09,669
user / captain disillusion great videos

40
00:02:06,069 --> 00:02:14,489
great fun many thanks to listener Paul

41
00:02:09,669 --> 00:02:16,809
McGowan who sent us the cosmos DVD set

42
00:02:14,489 --> 00:02:18,730
which will probably go into option a bit

43
00:02:16,810 --> 00:02:20,250

later might get somebody very famous to

44

00:02:18,729 --> 00:02:22,840

sign that and we'll see how we go and

45

00:02:20,250 --> 00:02:25,780

thank you too to those wonderful people

46

00:02:22,840 --> 00:02:28,120

who send in large donations to the

47

00:02:25,780 --> 00:02:30,370

skeptic zone in the last week much

48

00:02:28,120 --> 00:02:32,890

appreciated and certainly helps us keep

49

00:02:30,370 --> 00:02:35,860

the show on air or online or whatever

50

00:02:32,889 --> 00:02:37,599

you want to say and finally if you

51

00:02:35,860 --> 00:02:39,970

haven't voted already

52

00:02:37,599 --> 00:02:44,229

still vote in the next few hours I think

53

00:02:39,969 --> 00:02:46,870

anyway 4dr EG in the shorty awards she's

54

00:02:44,229 --> 00:02:52,359

bleeding as I record this head for

55

00:02:46,870 --> 00:02:55,750

Shorty Awards calm / category / health a

56

00:02:52,360 --> 00:02:59,620

vote for dr. H E is a vote for science

57

00:02:55,750 --> 00:03:01,689

and reason okay enough about that let's

58
00:02:59,620 --> 00:03:04,289
get on to this week's episode of the

59
00:03:01,689 --> 00:03:04,289
skeptic zone

60
00:03:12,780 --> 00:03:18,400
I'm Carly Sturgis and I'm talking to

61
00:03:15,909 --> 00:03:20,620
professor christopher french professor

62
00:03:18,400 --> 00:03:22,510
christopher french is a psychologist and

63
00:03:20,620 --> 00:03:24,489
vocal skeptic specializing the

64
00:03:22,509 --> 00:03:27,579
psychology of paranormal beliefs and

65
00:03:24,489 --> 00:03:29,349
experiences cognition and emotion he is

66
00:03:27,580 --> 00:03:31,239
currently the professor of psychology at

67
00:03:29,348 --> 00:03:32,798
Goldsmiths College University of London

68
00:03:31,239 --> 00:03:35,170
and his head of their anomalistic

69
00:03:32,799 --> 00:03:38,080
psychology research unit which he

70
00:03:35,169 --> 00:03:40,089
founded in the year 2000 he is also the

71
00:03:38,080 --> 00:03:45,160
co-editor of the skeptic UK magazine

72
00:03:40,090 --> 00:03:47,259
valente chaos okay thank you very much

73
00:03:45,159 --> 00:03:50,039
for joining us tell us about anomalistic

74
00:03:47,259 --> 00:03:52,269
psychology and how does it differ from

75
00:03:50,039 --> 00:03:55,979
parapsychology well basically what

76
00:03:52,269 --> 00:03:59,409
anomalistic psychology focuses on is

77
00:03:55,979 --> 00:04:03,039
starting from the working hypothesis

78
00:03:59,409 --> 00:04:04,900
that paranormal forces don't exist are

79
00:04:03,039 --> 00:04:07,150
there other ways that we could explain

80
00:04:04,900 --> 00:04:09,010
in Austin sively paranormal experiences

81
00:04:07,150 --> 00:04:11,560
now I mean it's important to point out

82
00:04:09,009 --> 00:04:14,318
that when not saying that we know

83
00:04:11,560 --> 00:04:15,549
paranormal forces don't exist we're just

84
00:04:14,318 --> 00:04:18,699
saying that given that the wider

85
00:04:15,549 --> 00:04:20,970
scientific community isn't convinced by

86

00:04:18,699 --> 00:04:23,740
the evidence that's been put forward by

87
00:04:20,970 --> 00:04:25,419
parapsychologists then is it possible

88
00:04:23,740 --> 00:04:27,728
that we can explain the weird

89
00:04:25,418 --> 00:04:30,129
experiences that people have when they

90
00:04:27,728 --> 00:04:31,839
think they're experiencing telepathy or

91
00:04:30,129 --> 00:04:34,360
they've seen a ghost or they've seen a

92
00:04:31,839 --> 00:04:37,000
UFO or whatever else it may be can we

93
00:04:34,360 --> 00:04:38,199
explain those things in other terms and

94
00:04:37,000 --> 00:04:42,370
typically you know we're talking about

95
00:04:38,199 --> 00:04:44,050
in Psychological terms so we're actually

96
00:04:42,370 --> 00:04:46,449
starting as say from the working

97
00:04:44,050 --> 00:04:49,478
assumption that paranormal forces don't

98
00:04:46,449 --> 00:04:51,728
exist now most parapsychologists put

99
00:04:49,478 --> 00:04:55,259
most of their effort into trying to

100
00:04:51,728 --> 00:04:57,598

prove that paranormal forces do exist

101

00:04:55,259 --> 00:05:00,370

again what you find in practice is that

102

00:04:57,598 --> 00:05:02,728

at the anomalistic psychology research

103

00:05:00,370 --> 00:05:05,560

unit we do spencer on our time doing

104

00:05:02,728 --> 00:05:07,629

parapsychology we do test psychics we

105

00:05:05,560 --> 00:05:10,000

always get negative results we do test

106

00:05:07,629 --> 00:05:12,038

psychic claims and again we've never

107

00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:14,139

produced any positive results but we do

108

00:05:12,038 --> 00:05:17,250

think it's important to be minded in

109

00:05:14,139 --> 00:05:19,509

approaching these things and some

110

00:05:17,250 --> 00:05:20,920

parapsychologists are very interested in

111

00:05:19,509 --> 00:05:23,349

the kind of

112

00:05:20,920 --> 00:05:24,819

illusions where people believe that

113

00:05:23,350 --> 00:05:26,620

something paranormals happened even when

114

00:05:24,819 --> 00:05:29,589

it hasn't so it's more a matter of

115
00:05:26,620 --> 00:05:31,060
emphasis than anything else but if I had

116
00:05:29,589 --> 00:05:33,129
to bet my house I would bet my house

117
00:05:31,060 --> 00:05:35,439
that paranormal forces don't exist and

118
00:05:33,129 --> 00:05:37,000
therefore as a psychologist I'm really

119
00:05:35,439 --> 00:05:39,939
interested in why so many people think

120
00:05:37,000 --> 00:05:41,709
they do so what led you to become

121
00:05:39,939 --> 00:05:44,199
interest in this particular aspect of

122
00:05:41,709 --> 00:05:46,209
psychology anyway this has been going on

123
00:05:44,199 --> 00:05:48,339
for quite some time the work that you're

124
00:05:46,209 --> 00:05:52,449
doing with the anomalistic psychology

125
00:05:48,339 --> 00:05:57,519
research unit isn't it has i mean i

126
00:05:52,449 --> 00:06:00,849
first started at Goldsmiths in 1985 and

127
00:05:57,519 --> 00:06:03,189
at the time I did oh I should say I by

128
00:06:00,850 --> 00:06:05,500
the way I've always been a skeptic I

129
00:06:03,189 --> 00:06:07,269
mean when I when I was a teenager and

130
00:06:05,500 --> 00:06:09,790
even when I was going through university

131
00:06:07,269 --> 00:06:11,769
as an undergraduate I actually tend to

132
00:06:09,790 --> 00:06:13,240
believe in most of this stuff but for

133
00:06:11,769 --> 00:06:15,849
the reason I think that most people do

134
00:06:13,240 --> 00:06:18,069
but I mean I'd read the books I've seen

135
00:06:15,850 --> 00:06:21,520
films that have the occasional spooky

136
00:06:18,069 --> 00:06:23,500
experience myself and it just didn't

137
00:06:21,519 --> 00:06:24,870
seem they seemed to me more sensible to

138
00:06:23,500 --> 00:06:28,629
believe these things really did exist

139
00:06:24,870 --> 00:06:31,149
then they didn't it was only when I read

140
00:06:28,629 --> 00:06:33,659
one particular book it was two more

141
00:06:31,149 --> 00:06:37,209
parapsychology science or magic

142
00:06:33,660 --> 00:06:38,980
when I was doing my PhD that suddenly I

143

00:06:37,209 --> 00:06:41,379
kind of realized it was another way of

144
00:06:38,980 --> 00:06:42,850
looking at all these things and that was

145
00:06:41,379 --> 00:06:46,360
the early 80s as I say i started at

146
00:06:42,850 --> 00:06:48,129
Goldsmiths in 85 and initiated a couple

147
00:06:46,360 --> 00:06:51,580
of lectures from a very skeptical point

148
00:06:48,129 --> 00:06:53,709
of view on parapsychology and the

149
00:06:51,579 --> 00:06:55,750
students obviously really enjoyed it

150
00:06:53,709 --> 00:06:58,060
whether they were believers or skeptics

151
00:06:55,750 --> 00:06:59,649
themselves people do find these kinds of

152
00:06:58,060 --> 00:07:05,800
topics really interesting and fun to

153
00:06:59,649 --> 00:07:09,250
talk about um and it was until 98 1995

154
00:07:05,800 --> 00:07:10,360
but I actually realized I was really

155
00:07:09,250 --> 00:07:12,699
very interested in this stuff and I

156
00:07:10,360 --> 00:07:15,340
could put a whole whole course so I now

157
00:07:12,699 --> 00:07:18,129

do a final year option as part of our

158

00:07:15,339 --> 00:07:20,289

BSC psychology program on anomalistic

159

00:07:18,129 --> 00:07:23,339

psychology and increasingly the research

160

00:07:20,290 --> 00:07:26,379

I was doing was in that area and

161

00:07:23,339 --> 00:07:29,139

eventually it really became my kind of

162

00:07:26,379 --> 00:07:31,149

prime focus of interest and so it was a

163

00:07:29,139 --> 00:07:32,919

kind of fairly fairly gradual thing what

164

00:07:31,149 --> 00:07:34,419

started off as a kind of side interest

165

00:07:32,920 --> 00:07:36,580

in a hobby

166

00:07:34,420 --> 00:07:39,180

I just realized that I just found it

167

00:07:36,579 --> 00:07:42,459

fascinating and I still do so it's good

168

00:07:39,180 --> 00:07:44,620

I've noticed that the research unit is

169

00:07:42,459 --> 00:07:46,839

very proactive when it comes to lectures

170

00:07:44,620 --> 00:07:49,569

and outreach I get regular email updates

171

00:07:46,839 --> 00:07:51,129

all the time has it influenced numbers

172
00:07:49,569 --> 00:07:53,319
of students taking courses in the

173
00:07:51,129 --> 00:07:56,230
subject I think this is so there's

174
00:07:53,319 --> 00:07:59,740
certainly within a tremendous increase

175
00:07:56,230 --> 00:08:01,780
in the kind of general skeptical

176
00:07:59,740 --> 00:08:05,170
movement in the UK over about the last

177
00:08:01,779 --> 00:08:06,909
two years and that is it's hard to say

178
00:08:05,170 --> 00:08:08,350
exactly what's caused that I think you

179
00:08:06,910 --> 00:08:11,920
can speculate that a number of factors

180
00:08:08,350 --> 00:08:15,010
were important and i think richard

181
00:08:11,920 --> 00:08:17,020
dawkins god delusion and christopher

182
00:08:15,009 --> 00:08:19,659
hitchens and people like that have made

183
00:08:17,019 --> 00:08:22,689
it much more acceptable for atheists so

184
00:08:19,660 --> 00:08:25,030
actually express their their atheism and

185
00:08:22,689 --> 00:08:27,100
I think the fact that groups like

186
00:08:25,029 --> 00:08:29,079
skeptics in the pub but I mean

187
00:08:27,100 --> 00:08:31,420
cephalopod been going now for over 10

188
00:08:29,079 --> 00:08:34,419
years but certainly over the last couple

189
00:08:31,420 --> 00:08:37,149
of years not only has the skeptics in

190
00:08:34,419 --> 00:08:38,799
the pub a group in London being so

191
00:08:37,149 --> 00:08:41,829
successful that now they're regularly

192
00:08:38,799 --> 00:08:43,240
every month drawing well over 200 people

193
00:08:41,830 --> 00:08:46,030
and they've had to introduce a booking

194
00:08:43,240 --> 00:08:48,100
system and but also there are branches

195
00:08:46,029 --> 00:08:49,480
of skeptics in the pub springing up all

196
00:08:48,100 --> 00:08:51,070
over the country there's well over a

197
00:08:49,480 --> 00:08:55,149
dozen in different cities up and down

198
00:08:51,070 --> 00:08:57,010
the UK now so I mean there's definitely

199
00:08:55,149 --> 00:08:58,659
kind of something in the air over here

200

00:08:57,009 --> 00:09:01,689
now again I wouldn't like to claim that

201
00:08:58,659 --> 00:09:03,490
some anomalistic psychology is the only

202
00:09:01,690 --> 00:09:05,440
reason people get into sighting into

203
00:09:03,490 --> 00:09:08,019
skepticism but i think it's played a

204
00:09:05,440 --> 00:09:11,470
part and one of the one thing i'm most

205
00:09:08,019 --> 00:09:14,649
excited about is that as from this year

206
00:09:11,470 --> 00:09:18,490
on the psychology a level that's taken

207
00:09:14,649 --> 00:09:20,289
by kids in school from 16 to 18 and one

208
00:09:18,490 --> 00:09:22,659
of the options one of the three options

209
00:09:20,289 --> 00:09:24,669
that they have is an ominous tick

210
00:09:22,659 --> 00:09:26,769
psychology and unnecessarily

211
00:09:24,669 --> 00:09:28,389
fantastically thousands of kids every

212
00:09:26,769 --> 00:09:30,220
year who are going to be reading about

213
00:09:28,389 --> 00:09:32,409
anomalistic psychology and thinking wow

214
00:09:30,220 --> 00:09:34,660

that stuff's really interesting wanting

215

00:09:32,409 --> 00:09:36,789

to do at university and so I think it'll

216

00:09:34,659 --> 00:09:38,469

have a ripple effect that more and more

217

00:09:36,789 --> 00:09:40,149

universities will actually start to put

218

00:09:38,470 --> 00:09:42,160

on courses like this but at the moment

219

00:09:40,149 --> 00:09:43,629

is there there's a handful of them down

220

00:09:42,159 --> 00:09:45,370

the country but every year you hear

221

00:09:43,629 --> 00:09:47,909

about another two or three places that

222

00:09:45,370 --> 00:09:49,500

are putting on a course like this

223

00:09:47,909 --> 00:09:52,589

the students find it really interesting

224

00:09:49,500 --> 00:09:53,940

it tells you it teaches you some very

225

00:09:52,590 --> 00:09:56,399

interesting things about human

226

00:09:53,940 --> 00:09:59,790

psychology and it's also just a great

227

00:09:56,399 --> 00:10:02,490

way of teaching critical thinking that

228

00:09:59,789 --> 00:10:04,110

applies beyond the realms of just the

229
00:10:02,490 --> 00:10:06,000
paranormal but to all kinds of other

230
00:10:04,110 --> 00:10:09,629
areas whether you're assessing

231
00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:11,279
alternative medicines or or any other

232
00:10:09,629 --> 00:10:13,470
kind of controversial claim that's out

233
00:10:11,279 --> 00:10:17,039
there then you need those critical

234
00:10:13,470 --> 00:10:18,810
thinking skills I remember that the news

235
00:10:17,039 --> 00:10:20,579
of the course was reported in your

236
00:10:18,809 --> 00:10:23,309
column in The Guardian that has been a

237
00:10:20,580 --> 00:10:25,259
recent opportunity hasn't it well yeah I

238
00:10:23,309 --> 00:10:27,929
mean I've got column Mike I would do a

239
00:10:25,259 --> 00:10:29,909
column for the online science paid but

240
00:10:27,929 --> 00:10:32,639
Sir it still reaches a kind of quite a

241
00:10:29,909 --> 00:10:34,769
wide audience and that again is just a

242
00:10:32,639 --> 00:10:36,569
great way of being able to get the

243
00:10:34,769 --> 00:10:38,129
message out there I mean it's quite

244
00:10:36,570 --> 00:10:41,270
interesting when I actually wrote the

245
00:10:38,129 --> 00:10:44,220
piece on the introduction of animalistic

246
00:10:41,269 --> 00:10:46,559
psychology into schools I thought it was

247
00:10:44,220 --> 00:10:49,019
a very innocent on provocative little

248
00:10:46,559 --> 00:10:51,569
piece but clearly lots of people found

249
00:10:49,019 --> 00:10:53,429
it and it was amazing you very similar

250
00:10:51,570 --> 00:10:55,470
comments that I got on that from people

251
00:10:53,429 --> 00:10:57,269
who clearly had not actually bothered to

252
00:10:55,470 --> 00:10:59,550
read past the first couple of sentences

253
00:10:57,269 --> 00:11:02,819
and the nice picture of Uri Geller

254
00:10:59,549 --> 00:11:06,089
holding a bent spoon and they were they

255
00:11:02,820 --> 00:11:08,700
were up in arms about it yeah which is

256
00:11:06,090 --> 00:11:11,370
kind of interesting that this kind of

257

00:11:08,700 --> 00:11:12,660
topic whether you're talking to people

258
00:11:11,370 --> 00:11:15,539
who do believe in it or people who don't

259
00:11:12,659 --> 00:11:19,259
believe in it it arouses such emotion in

260
00:11:15,539 --> 00:11:21,990
people and as I say it was I think I was

261
00:11:19,259 --> 00:11:23,639
quite taken aback by that some of the

262
00:11:21,990 --> 00:11:26,759
comments that were there presumably from

263
00:11:23,639 --> 00:11:28,679
people who actually saw themselves as

264
00:11:26,759 --> 00:11:31,379
being very scientific and very skeptical

265
00:11:28,679 --> 00:11:32,909
but even then did not think that

266
00:11:31,379 --> 00:11:34,889
anything like this should ever be taught

267
00:11:32,909 --> 00:11:36,329
in schools and what you got a things

268
00:11:34,889 --> 00:11:38,720
personally I think is a quite ridiculous

269
00:11:36,330 --> 00:11:41,310
position to take the point is that

270
00:11:38,720 --> 00:11:43,950
opinion poll after opinion poll shows

271
00:11:41,309 --> 00:11:47,609

that the majority of the population in

272

00:11:43,950 --> 00:11:50,430

one way or another do express believe in

273

00:11:47,610 --> 00:11:52,529

the paranormal most people in any survey

274

00:11:50,429 --> 00:11:55,079

will endorse at least one paranormal

275

00:11:52,529 --> 00:11:57,659

claim now either that means that

276

00:11:55,080 --> 00:11:59,129

paranormal forces really do exist or

277

00:11:57,659 --> 00:12:00,839

it's telling us something really

278

00:11:59,129 --> 00:12:01,639

interesting about human psychology so

279

00:12:00,840 --> 00:12:03,649

either way

280

00:12:01,639 --> 00:12:05,269

we should definitely take these kinds of

281

00:12:03,649 --> 00:12:06,769

claims seriously and try to understand

282

00:12:05,269 --> 00:12:08,899

what's going on do you think that

283

00:12:06,769 --> 00:12:11,409

perhaps it points the way for people

284

00:12:08,899 --> 00:12:14,929

interested in the course to produce

285

00:12:11,409 --> 00:12:16,699

resources I've indefinitely I mean I

286
00:12:14,929 --> 00:12:21,859
think there's already as you will know

287
00:12:16,700 --> 00:12:24,170
um quite a lot of good quality skeptical

288
00:12:21,860 --> 00:12:27,500
literature out there it's just that for

289
00:12:24,169 --> 00:12:31,159
a long time it's it's not been very

290
00:12:27,500 --> 00:12:33,139
obvious where it was I mean I think I

291
00:12:31,159 --> 00:12:36,649
speak from personal experience as I said

292
00:12:33,139 --> 00:12:38,809
to you when I first when I read my first

293
00:12:36,649 --> 00:12:41,919
skeptical book and my eyes were opened

294
00:12:38,809 --> 00:12:45,349
Jim Alcott's got a lot to answer for and

295
00:12:41,919 --> 00:12:47,240
then lots of references in the back of

296
00:12:45,350 --> 00:12:49,310
his booked this publication called The

297
00:12:47,240 --> 00:12:52,789
Skeptical Inquirer which I've never

298
00:12:49,309 --> 00:12:55,069
heard of before in my life and I started

299
00:12:52,789 --> 00:12:58,659
to subscribe to that and then realized

300
00:12:55,070 --> 00:13:00,680
that there were lots of other

301
00:12:58,659 --> 00:13:02,480
publications the word books out there

302
00:13:00,679 --> 00:13:04,069
there was this kind of this guy who

303
00:13:02,480 --> 00:13:06,800
again I'd never really heard of at the

304
00:13:04,070 --> 00:13:08,540
time called James Randi and he'd written

305
00:13:06,799 --> 00:13:10,639
some books on uri geller and a book

306
00:13:08,539 --> 00:13:12,110
called flume and I suddenly you kind of

307
00:13:10,639 --> 00:13:15,679
got your hands on this stuff and it was

308
00:13:12,110 --> 00:13:18,649
just such a joy to read you know um but

309
00:13:15,679 --> 00:13:20,899
i mean i think is these days i think the

310
00:13:18,649 --> 00:13:22,459
kind of skeptical literature is a bit

311
00:13:20,899 --> 00:13:24,740
more out there but still if you walk

312
00:13:22,460 --> 00:13:26,870
into your average bookshop on the high

313
00:13:24,740 --> 00:13:30,919
street you will find shelf after shelf

314

00:13:26,870 --> 00:13:34,759
after shelf of pro paranormal new-age

315
00:13:30,919 --> 00:13:36,979
nonsense and maybe a couple of little

316
00:13:34,759 --> 00:13:38,720
books tucked away here and there that

317
00:13:36,980 --> 00:13:41,629
actually take a critical approach I'm

318
00:13:38,720 --> 00:13:44,600
more skeptical but if the tide is very

319
00:13:41,629 --> 00:13:46,610
very slowly turning I'd say I mean again

320
00:13:44,600 --> 00:13:49,909
mention Richard Dawkins I think the fact

321
00:13:46,610 --> 00:13:52,399
that his book was a best-seller and that

322
00:13:49,909 --> 00:13:55,009
other people have been able to follow up

323
00:13:52,399 --> 00:13:57,709
on that Ben Gold acres bad science and

324
00:13:55,009 --> 00:13:59,090
various others and you know that there

325
00:13:57,710 --> 00:14:01,430
is there are signs that things are

326
00:13:59,090 --> 00:14:04,490
slowly beginning to change we touch

327
00:14:01,429 --> 00:14:06,500
briefly upon skeptical activism and I've

328
00:14:04,490 --> 00:14:09,799

recently had the opportunity to talk to

329

00:14:06,500 --> 00:14:12,019

the mozy side skeptics and their 1023

330

00:14:09,799 --> 00:14:14,939

campaign has there been much of a

331

00:14:12,019 --> 00:14:17,129

relationship of skepticism to consumer

332

00:14:14,940 --> 00:14:18,360

in the UK I think again I think that's

333

00:14:17,129 --> 00:14:21,269

something that's that's beginning to

334

00:14:18,360 --> 00:14:25,919

happen more I mean there's there 10 23

335

00:14:21,269 --> 00:14:28,439

campaign which is fantastic and those

336

00:14:25,919 --> 00:14:31,110

also you'll know that Simon Singh is

337

00:14:28,440 --> 00:14:35,580

being sued by the British Chiropractic

338

00:14:31,110 --> 00:14:40,139

Association and this actually led to a

339

00:14:35,580 --> 00:14:42,030

couple of people in the UK and basically

340

00:14:40,139 --> 00:14:44,129

I mean Simon Perry for example who runs

341

00:14:42,029 --> 00:14:47,370

the Leicester branch of skeptics in the

342

00:14:44,129 --> 00:14:51,120

pub decided that it would be a good idea

343
00:14:47,370 --> 00:14:55,350
to write a little bit of software that

344
00:14:51,120 --> 00:14:57,149
would look on all the websites for the

345
00:14:55,350 --> 00:15:00,240
members of the British Chiropractic

346
00:14:57,149 --> 00:15:02,639
Association and if they mentioned the

347
00:15:00,240 --> 00:15:06,480
word colic and claimed to be treating

348
00:15:02,639 --> 00:15:08,970
colic then he looked up the local

349
00:15:06,480 --> 00:15:10,440
Trading Standards office and there was

350
00:15:08,970 --> 00:15:12,180
basically a letter campaign which was

351
00:15:10,440 --> 00:15:13,800
very I mean I I helped out with this I

352
00:15:12,179 --> 00:15:18,559
sent some i sent a batch of letters

353
00:15:13,799 --> 00:15:21,870
myself and it was very easy to send out

354
00:15:18,559 --> 00:15:23,519
well over 80 letters and just basically

355
00:15:21,870 --> 00:15:25,889
saying these people are making claims

356
00:15:23,519 --> 00:15:28,370
that they can't substantiate actually

357
00:15:25,889 --> 00:15:31,980
using the kind of trade descriptions

358
00:15:28,370 --> 00:15:33,750
legislation to to attack these people

359
00:15:31,980 --> 00:15:35,370
and basically it's been a very very

360
00:15:33,750 --> 00:15:37,080
successful campaign lots of them have

361
00:15:35,370 --> 00:15:39,870
had to stop making those claims on their

362
00:15:37,080 --> 00:15:43,410
websites and into literature and and now

363
00:15:39,870 --> 00:15:45,629
they know that people are kind of

364
00:15:43,409 --> 00:15:47,399
watching them and taking note of what

365
00:15:45,629 --> 00:15:50,370
they're saying and challenging them and

366
00:15:47,399 --> 00:15:54,000
I think has got to be got to be a good

367
00:15:50,370 --> 00:15:55,710
thing there isn't that moment that the

368
00:15:54,000 --> 00:15:57,360
British Chiropractic Association in

369
00:15:55,710 --> 00:15:59,580
taking the action they took against

370
00:15:57,360 --> 00:16:01,230
Simon saying I think they've really shot

371

00:15:59,580 --> 00:16:03,600
themselves in the foot because so many

372
00:16:01,230 --> 00:16:05,519
people in this country and again I don't

373
00:16:03,600 --> 00:16:06,899
know what it's like in Australia but in

374
00:16:05,519 --> 00:16:09,990
this country lots of people thought that

375
00:16:06,899 --> 00:16:12,689
chiropractic was actually a legitimate

376
00:16:09,990 --> 00:16:14,669
part of conventional medicine they

377
00:16:12,690 --> 00:16:19,680
didn't realize that it was actually had

378
00:16:14,669 --> 00:16:22,309
a large amount of Wu in there and so by

379
00:16:19,679 --> 00:16:24,899
actually bringing this to the fore and

380
00:16:22,309 --> 00:16:26,279
people are now talking about the kind of

381
00:16:24,899 --> 00:16:27,850
that the claims and the underlying

382
00:16:26,279 --> 00:16:30,370
theories and they real

383
00:16:27,850 --> 00:16:31,810
actually there's no evidence to support

384
00:16:30,370 --> 00:16:33,490
a lot of these claims and so they've

385
00:16:31,809 --> 00:16:36,189

really got a lot of very bad publicity

386

00:16:33,490 --> 00:16:37,750

from their point of view and I'm very

387

00:16:36,190 --> 00:16:40,389

pleased about that he serves and Ryan I

388

00:16:37,750 --> 00:16:42,370

think we have a very similar attitude

389

00:16:40,389 --> 00:16:45,278

over here in Australia towards the

390

00:16:42,370 --> 00:16:47,860

chiropractic profession we had Simon

391

00:16:45,278 --> 00:16:49,659

Singh do a short tour where he went to

392

00:16:47,860 --> 00:16:51,459

Adelaide and Sydney and we were very

393

00:16:49,659 --> 00:16:53,350

fortunate to have him present for the

394

00:16:51,458 --> 00:16:56,679

Australian skeptics I guess what we have

395

00:16:53,350 --> 00:16:59,528

now is not only an overlap with consumer

396

00:16:56,679 --> 00:17:01,508

affairs awareness but also science

397

00:16:59,528 --> 00:17:03,759

communication has there been much

398

00:17:01,509 --> 00:17:05,919

consultation with formal science

399

00:17:03,759 --> 00:17:08,110

communication bodies in the UK well

400
00:17:05,919 --> 00:17:10,449
again there are I mean things have

401
00:17:08,109 --> 00:17:12,639
tended to gonna grow it be like kind of

402
00:17:10,449 --> 00:17:15,100
fairly kind of organically to this point

403
00:17:12,640 --> 00:17:17,169
things are getting kind of much more

404
00:17:15,099 --> 00:17:19,208
organized these days I mean thanks to

405
00:17:17,169 --> 00:17:21,699
the internet it's much easier to kind of

406
00:17:19,209 --> 00:17:23,620
have organized campaigns and have

407
00:17:21,699 --> 00:17:25,409
networks and so on and so forth and

408
00:17:23,619 --> 00:17:28,629
that's that's very much a feature of

409
00:17:25,409 --> 00:17:30,880
skepticism in the UK at the moment I

410
00:17:28,630 --> 00:17:34,030
mean there are groups as you know sense

411
00:17:30,880 --> 00:17:35,740
about science who are organizing the

412
00:17:34,029 --> 00:17:38,798
government other activities they are

413
00:17:35,740 --> 00:17:41,950
have organized a campaign in support of

414
00:17:38,798 --> 00:17:44,819
Simon Singh one of the things that's

415
00:17:41,950 --> 00:17:47,650
happened there recently is that the

416
00:17:44,819 --> 00:17:49,538
sense about science campaign against the

417
00:17:47,650 --> 00:17:51,570
libel laws and particularly the way the

418
00:17:49,538 --> 00:17:54,970
libel laws are having an effect on

419
00:17:51,569 --> 00:17:58,119
science communication but they've now

420
00:17:54,970 --> 00:18:00,669
joined forces with two other groups who

421
00:17:58,119 --> 00:18:03,668
are also campaigning against the very

422
00:18:00,669 --> 00:18:06,520
very unfair English libel laws that's

423
00:18:03,669 --> 00:18:09,400
English pen represents the literary

424
00:18:06,519 --> 00:18:11,679
world and index on Censorship so now

425
00:18:09,400 --> 00:18:15,490
there's a very very strong coalition

426
00:18:11,679 --> 00:18:19,840
there with all a huge array of very big

427
00:18:15,490 --> 00:18:22,750
names jonathan ross Stephen Fry Dario

428

00:18:19,839 --> 00:18:25,119
brie and all these people coming

429
00:18:22,750 --> 00:18:27,579
together lots of MPs cross-party support

430
00:18:25,119 --> 00:18:30,069
and there is a real chance that they may

431
00:18:27,579 --> 00:18:32,619
actually have a have a lasting effect on

432
00:18:30,069 --> 00:18:34,230
getting the English libel laws reformed

433
00:18:32,619 --> 00:18:37,869
now I mean that would be fantastic

434
00:18:34,230 --> 00:18:39,400
achievement and again from the point of

435
00:18:37,869 --> 00:18:41,319
view of people in the world of science

436
00:18:39,400 --> 00:18:43,929
it's the way the

437
00:18:41,319 --> 00:18:45,849
people like Simon Singh and Peter

438
00:18:43,929 --> 00:18:48,700
wilmshurst who is he was also a victim

439
00:18:45,849 --> 00:18:50,048
that these very unfair libel laws the

440
00:18:48,700 --> 00:18:51,759
way they've been treated as drawn

441
00:18:50,048 --> 00:18:55,388
people's attention to the fact that

442
00:18:51,759 --> 00:18:58,259

there is this big problem in the UK in

443

00:18:55,388 --> 00:19:01,658

insofar as scientists are sometimes

444

00:18:58,259 --> 00:19:03,009

quite cautious about what they'll

445

00:19:01,659 --> 00:19:05,740

actually put into writing and what

446

00:19:03,009 --> 00:19:07,089

they'll say in nature's and and that's

447

00:19:05,740 --> 00:19:10,298

not the way science is supposed to work

448

00:19:07,089 --> 00:19:12,099

and so I think I mean that the campaign

449

00:19:10,298 --> 00:19:14,288

in itself is obviously just a very very

450

00:19:12,099 --> 00:19:17,288

just campaign with implications beyond

451

00:19:14,288 --> 00:19:19,990

beyond just the world of science but um

452

00:19:17,288 --> 00:19:22,000

I think it also has been very useful in

453

00:19:19,990 --> 00:19:24,388

so far as it actually highlights the way

454

00:19:22,000 --> 00:19:27,308

science works that science is all about

455

00:19:24,388 --> 00:19:29,619

putting ideas up there having them

456

00:19:27,308 --> 00:19:31,658

criticized testing them against the

457
00:19:29,619 --> 00:19:33,788
evidence and trying to refine your

458
00:19:31,659 --> 00:19:35,679
theories and and produce better ideas

459
00:19:33,788 --> 00:19:38,128
and letting the evidence speak rather

460
00:19:35,679 --> 00:19:41,110
than any kind of appeals to Authority or

461
00:19:38,128 --> 00:19:43,298
to divine truth or whatever else it may

462
00:19:41,109 --> 00:19:45,038
be I think the support for skepticism

463
00:19:43,298 --> 00:19:47,528
that's being shown in the UK

464
00:19:45,038 --> 00:19:49,720
particularly the intersection of pop

465
00:19:47,528 --> 00:19:51,909
culture particularly comedy I've noticed

466
00:19:49,720 --> 00:19:55,089
the comedians getting behind politics

467
00:19:51,909 --> 00:19:56,860
and science that's its yeah I'm sorry I

468
00:19:55,089 --> 00:19:59,859
drop you there that's actually been

469
00:19:56,859 --> 00:20:03,189
amazing that you know we've got we've

470
00:19:59,859 --> 00:20:06,699
got your Tim Minchin who is a complete

471
00:20:03,190 --> 00:20:09,038
genius and I mean and that is just such

472
00:20:06,700 --> 00:20:11,558
an effective way of getting skepticism

473
00:20:09,038 --> 00:20:13,569
across as well and we've also got da

474
00:20:11,558 --> 00:20:15,538
robbery and I mean Stephen Fry for a

475
00:20:13,569 --> 00:20:18,878
long time people have known that he's a

476
00:20:15,538 --> 00:20:20,769
card-carrying skeptic robin ince is

477
00:20:18,878 --> 00:20:22,719
doing a fantastic job in terms of

478
00:20:20,769 --> 00:20:25,919
organizing these events I'm sure you've

479
00:20:22,720 --> 00:20:29,139
heard about the nine Lessons and Carols

480
00:20:25,919 --> 00:20:31,269
for godless people shows that he

481
00:20:29,138 --> 00:20:32,678
organises around Christmas here it would

482
00:20:31,269 --> 00:20:34,509
be lovely if it came touring to

483
00:20:32,679 --> 00:20:36,429
Australia off maybe we had someone

484
00:20:34,509 --> 00:20:38,378
inspired to do something similar here so

485

00:20:36,429 --> 00:20:39,700
yeah it's absolutely great and he got

486
00:20:38,378 --> 00:20:42,099
along to these things or one of the nice

487
00:20:39,700 --> 00:20:44,019
things about it is the sense of

488
00:20:42,099 --> 00:20:46,329
community because it for a long time I

489
00:20:44,019 --> 00:20:48,278
think that was something that when it

490
00:20:46,329 --> 00:20:50,319
just people had put skeptics and

491
00:20:48,278 --> 00:20:52,538
atheists and humanists maybe didn't so

492
00:20:50,319 --> 00:20:54,200
much and it's nice to go along to these

493
00:20:52,538 --> 00:20:56,690
events and thing you know these are you

494
00:20:54,200 --> 00:20:59,210
kind of people these are people who by

495
00:20:56,690 --> 00:21:02,630
no means obviously as usual I'm sure you

496
00:20:59,210 --> 00:21:05,930
will know you don't find that skeptics

497
00:21:02,630 --> 00:21:07,700
all sing from the same song sheet there

498
00:21:05,930 --> 00:21:09,799
are a better opinionated bunch but they

499
00:21:07,700 --> 00:21:11,750

they love a good argument but it's all

500

00:21:09,799 --> 00:21:15,730

about the kind it's older in the sense

501

00:21:11,750 --> 00:21:17,569

of just enjoying that debate and

502

00:21:15,730 --> 00:21:19,160

recognizing that kind of trying to take

503

00:21:17,569 --> 00:21:22,220

a rational approach to things is the

504

00:21:19,160 --> 00:21:24,230

best way forward and it's nice in those

505

00:21:22,220 --> 00:21:27,019

kind of situations particularly a comedy

506

00:21:24,230 --> 00:21:29,599

show to actually you know to enjoy

507

00:21:27,019 --> 00:21:32,359

yourself and to actually feel that you

508

00:21:29,599 --> 00:21:34,939

are part of a larger community and this

509

00:21:32,359 --> 00:21:37,099

big big sense over here the things are

510

00:21:34,940 --> 00:21:39,549

happening need that people have got

511

00:21:37,099 --> 00:21:41,779

behind the assignment same campaign

512

00:21:39,549 --> 00:21:43,129

there are various other campaigns

513

00:21:41,779 --> 00:21:46,279

they're taking off some of which you've

514
00:21:43,130 --> 00:21:47,450
mentioned and just generally there is

515
00:21:46,279 --> 00:21:49,789
that there is a real buzz about

516
00:21:47,450 --> 00:21:52,460
skepticism in the UK at the moment yeah

517
00:21:49,789 --> 00:21:55,190
i think this intersection is reflected

518
00:21:52,460 --> 00:21:57,590
in the recent relaunch of the UK skeptic

519
00:21:55,190 --> 00:21:59,450
magazine well gain this another case in

520
00:21:57,589 --> 00:22:02,809
point and the magazine's been going for

521
00:21:59,450 --> 00:22:05,210
over 20 years and for a lot of that time

522
00:22:02,809 --> 00:22:10,519
it just kind of covered along and we had

523
00:22:05,210 --> 00:22:13,130
a hard core of loyal readers but there

524
00:22:10,519 --> 00:22:15,529
was this kind of sense that things were

525
00:22:13,130 --> 00:22:19,040
right in the UK now to try and kind of

526
00:22:15,529 --> 00:22:21,920
take it to the tour the next level so

527
00:22:19,039 --> 00:22:26,450
what we've done is we've we've expanded

528
00:22:21,920 --> 00:22:30,560
it we've gone from 28 pages 240 pages

529
00:22:26,450 --> 00:22:32,390
and we've got lots of new colonists in

530
00:22:30,559 --> 00:22:35,480
we've got lots of we put together an

531
00:22:32,390 --> 00:22:38,240
editorial advisory board that is just to

532
00:22:35,480 --> 00:22:40,130
die for basically we've got a couple of

533
00:22:38,240 --> 00:22:44,269
couple of ozzy's on there we've got Tim

534
00:22:40,130 --> 00:22:47,870
Minchin and Constance now we've got

535
00:22:44,269 --> 00:22:50,960
Stephen Fry we've got Robin Ince we've

536
00:22:47,869 --> 00:22:53,269
got Richard Dawkins with I mean Richard

537
00:22:50,960 --> 00:22:56,180
Wiseman Simon Singh the list goes on and

538
00:22:53,269 --> 00:22:58,160
on Elizabeth Loftus this you know all

539
00:22:56,180 --> 00:22:59,779
these people that I mean when we're

540
00:22:58,160 --> 00:23:03,170
going to talk with them one of the

541
00:22:59,779 --> 00:23:06,410
things that was really very nice and

542

00:23:03,170 --> 00:23:07,890
unrewarding was their enthusiasm I mean

543
00:23:06,410 --> 00:23:09,720
I wasn't just a matter of

544
00:23:07,890 --> 00:23:11,520
for most of them it wasn't a matter of

545
00:23:09,720 --> 00:23:14,910
just saying oh yes I'll have my name

546
00:23:11,519 --> 00:23:17,339
attached to your magazine it was and you

547
00:23:14,910 --> 00:23:18,900
know what can I do to help and that was

548
00:23:17,339 --> 00:23:20,789
just great so we've got this kind of

549
00:23:18,900 --> 00:23:23,820
fantastic resource there now that we can

550
00:23:20,789 --> 00:23:25,139
draw on and people you know getting

551
00:23:23,819 --> 00:23:27,960
people like that that we can ask to

552
00:23:25,140 --> 00:23:29,250
write articles for the magazine and it's

553
00:23:27,960 --> 00:23:32,039
just going from strength to strength so

554
00:23:29,250 --> 00:23:34,589
it's all good so people can subscribe to

555
00:23:32,039 --> 00:23:37,230
the new UK skeptic magazine by heading

556
00:23:34,589 --> 00:23:39,959

to your official site you've also worked

557

00:23:37,230 --> 00:23:42,269

on the hort project and on a Richard

558

00:23:39,960 --> 00:23:44,069

Dawkins documentary what other research

559

00:23:42,269 --> 00:23:47,089

are you currently working upon well

560

00:23:44,069 --> 00:23:50,490

there's lots going on at the moment

561

00:23:47,089 --> 00:23:52,079

recently we've actually been doing lots

562

00:23:50,490 --> 00:23:56,130

of work looking at the relationship

563

00:23:52,079 --> 00:23:58,699

between memory distortion and belief in

564

00:23:56,130 --> 00:24:02,940

the paranormal I did some work with

565

00:23:58,700 --> 00:24:06,059

Christie Wilson who since has gone to us

566

00:24:02,940 --> 00:24:08,160

uh yes indeed dr. chrissy wilson are

567

00:24:06,059 --> 00:24:09,899

becoming quite a part of the sydney

568

00:24:08,160 --> 00:24:12,029

skeptic scene i've noticed she's moved

569

00:24:09,900 --> 00:24:13,740

from the University of Tasmania up to

570

00:24:12,029 --> 00:24:16,319

New South Wales so hopefully we need to

571
00:24:13,740 --> 00:24:18,210
hear more on our show yes yep well again

572
00:24:16,319 --> 00:24:20,399
I mean Christie did some interesting

573
00:24:18,210 --> 00:24:23,120
work while she was at Goldsmiths in the

574
00:24:20,400 --> 00:24:26,570
anomalistic psychology research unit

575
00:24:23,119 --> 00:24:29,509
looking at the relationship between

576
00:24:26,569 --> 00:24:32,009
susceptibility to false memories and

577
00:24:29,509 --> 00:24:35,670
belief in the paranormal and it turns

578
00:24:32,009 --> 00:24:38,309
out that we suspected this would be the

579
00:24:35,670 --> 00:24:41,130
case some previous literature but we

580
00:24:38,309 --> 00:24:44,429
actually directly tested the idea that

581
00:24:41,130 --> 00:24:46,620
people who were more prone to false

582
00:24:44,430 --> 00:24:49,380
memories would also be more likely to

583
00:24:46,619 --> 00:24:51,239
believe in the paranormal and to report

584
00:24:49,380 --> 00:24:53,790
paranormal experiences and we move did

585
00:24:51,240 --> 00:24:56,400
experiments actually did support that

586
00:24:53,789 --> 00:25:00,599
hypothesis we want to try to carry on

587
00:24:56,400 --> 00:25:03,690
and do further work in that area we're

588
00:25:00,599 --> 00:25:06,779
also i'm working on a book on

589
00:25:03,690 --> 00:25:08,759
anomalistic psychology and that's been

590
00:25:06,779 --> 00:25:11,149
co-written with a colleague and a stone

591
00:25:08,759 --> 00:25:14,970
at the University of East London and

592
00:25:11,150 --> 00:25:17,340
we've just recently finished editing a

593
00:25:14,970 --> 00:25:20,920
collection of the best of the skeptic

594
00:25:17,339 --> 00:25:24,669
this is a book called why statues weep

595
00:25:20,920 --> 00:25:26,289
yeah and that should be appearing within

596
00:25:24,670 --> 00:25:28,300
the next couple of months we're actually

597
00:25:26,289 --> 00:25:30,940
now at the gonna proof proof reading

598
00:25:28,299 --> 00:25:32,649
stage on that one um so there's just

599

00:25:30,940 --> 00:25:34,240
kind of there's just so much going on

600
00:25:32,650 --> 00:25:38,290
it's just trying to you know I could do

601
00:25:34,240 --> 00:25:40,000
with finding a way to get say 48-72

602
00:25:38,289 --> 00:25:43,029
hours in a day that would be good I

603
00:25:40,000 --> 00:25:44,619
would help brilliant oh one of the

604
00:25:43,029 --> 00:25:46,869
things that probably this is just

605
00:25:44,619 --> 00:25:49,889
related to my own research you recently

606
00:25:46,869 --> 00:25:52,029
investigated contributing factors to

607
00:25:49,890 --> 00:25:53,950
conspiracy theory belief was one of the

608
00:25:52,029 --> 00:25:55,750
plane resign I wrote to you about yeah

609
00:25:53,950 --> 00:25:58,569
has there been any development on that

610
00:25:55,750 --> 00:26:04,359
front we're not done anything else since

611
00:25:58,569 --> 00:26:08,500
what we did a TV program myself and a

612
00:26:04,359 --> 00:26:12,039
colleague at Royal Holloway it was a

613
00:26:08,500 --> 00:26:14,019

program for channel 4 on belief in

614

00:26:12,039 --> 00:26:15,549

conspiracy theories and it was a nice

615

00:26:14,019 --> 00:26:18,519

way for us to actually be able to

616

00:26:15,549 --> 00:26:20,259

collect some real data now since then my

617

00:26:18,519 --> 00:26:22,059

colleague has said that he said that he

618

00:26:20,259 --> 00:26:23,859

would write this up and turn it into a

619

00:26:22,059 --> 00:26:26,950

proper paper and it's just not happened

620

00:26:23,859 --> 00:26:28,839

yet oh no I'm again I know how difficult

621

00:26:26,950 --> 00:26:32,350

it is to find the time because I'm just

622

00:26:28,839 --> 00:26:34,029

as bad myself yeah but I can if I get a

623

00:26:32,349 --> 00:26:35,259

lot of research done by a project

624

00:26:34,029 --> 00:26:37,690

students and I've got a very good

625

00:26:35,259 --> 00:26:39,849

projects due to the moment who's wanting

626

00:26:37,690 --> 00:26:42,600

to look at some of the kind of cognitive

627

00:26:39,849 --> 00:26:45,669

factors that might be involved in

628
00:26:42,599 --> 00:26:48,089
believe in conspiracy theories it's it's

629
00:26:45,670 --> 00:26:51,070
a really good area because it's it's

630
00:26:48,089 --> 00:26:53,289
under-researched already is he nuts as

631
00:26:51,069 --> 00:26:55,869
there's not very much out there and what

632
00:26:53,289 --> 00:26:57,339
little bit there is you can kind of you

633
00:26:55,869 --> 00:26:59,619
can get on top of that you can you feel

634
00:26:57,339 --> 00:27:01,509
your you know what literature's there be

635
00:26:59,619 --> 00:27:03,939
some of the other topics that you might

636
00:27:01,509 --> 00:27:06,210
want to do research on you know you you

637
00:27:03,940 --> 00:27:08,590
realize there are hundreds of papers

638
00:27:06,210 --> 00:27:10,900
it's a bit saying but something like

639
00:27:08,589 --> 00:27:12,909
this I mean obviously it's a very very

640
00:27:10,900 --> 00:27:15,250
relevant issue at the moment I mean

641
00:27:12,910 --> 00:27:18,430
there are so many different aspects to

642
00:27:15,250 --> 00:27:20,230
believe in conspiracy theories lots of

643
00:27:18,430 --> 00:27:22,060
which I've got going to serious

644
00:27:20,230 --> 00:27:25,480
real-life implications when people buy

645
00:27:22,059 --> 00:27:26,769
into these kind of mindsets they yeah

646
00:27:25,480 --> 00:27:28,480
they take on it they can end up taking

647
00:27:26,769 --> 00:27:30,819
on some very very weird values in the

648
00:27:28,480 --> 00:27:33,009
process I think it was three of the

649
00:27:30,819 --> 00:27:34,629
items on the survey that dr. Martin

650
00:27:33,009 --> 00:27:36,549
bridge stock and I did by the

651
00:27:34,630 --> 00:27:38,380
time I had finished looking for my

652
00:27:36,549 --> 00:27:40,629
liquor view at the conspiracy theory

653
00:27:38,380 --> 00:27:42,880
papers I was really pleased to notice

654
00:27:40,630 --> 00:27:45,460
that there was a growth in new papers

655
00:27:42,880 --> 00:27:47,590
coming out but yes very very recent yeah

656

00:27:45,460 --> 00:27:50,380
that's right yeah i mean this current

657
00:27:47,589 --> 00:27:53,230
Douglas at kent university as well she's

658
00:27:50,380 --> 00:27:57,010
done some interesting work and she's in

659
00:27:53,230 --> 00:27:58,690
as well I've noticed yes so yeah you get

660
00:27:57,009 --> 00:28:01,990
everywhere I don't know do you read

661
00:27:58,690 --> 00:28:05,769
either it takes my yeah yeah I think

662
00:28:01,990 --> 00:28:08,319
Mike did my previous my current

663
00:28:05,769 --> 00:28:10,869
co-editor is is Canadian but my long

664
00:28:08,319 --> 00:28:13,569
before that was Australian so the

665
00:28:10,869 --> 00:28:16,329
skeptics kind of know we we like it but

666
00:28:13,569 --> 00:28:17,889
it was Ian brought here and that the

667
00:28:16,329 --> 00:28:20,740
networking is important for all of us I

668
00:28:17,890 --> 00:28:23,080
think here I think so quite definitely

669
00:28:20,740 --> 00:28:25,599
yeah I mean that's one that's one of the

670
00:28:23,079 --> 00:28:28,720

good things obviously again man to state

671

00:28:25,599 --> 00:28:29,740

the bleeding obvious I mean the Internet

672

00:28:28,720 --> 00:28:31,509

has just kind of completely

673

00:28:29,740 --> 00:28:34,660

revolutionize things it's just so easy

674

00:28:31,509 --> 00:28:37,000

now to want to do podcasts to do

675

00:28:34,660 --> 00:28:38,110

research collaborative research of

676

00:28:37,000 --> 00:28:41,319

people around the other side of the

677

00:28:38,109 --> 00:28:42,969

planet and it's just you know once

678

00:28:41,319 --> 00:28:44,559

things that would would have been so

679

00:28:42,970 --> 00:28:46,870

difficult to organize are just you know

680

00:28:44,559 --> 00:28:48,429

so much easier these days so if people

681

00:28:46,869 --> 00:28:50,829

want to find out more about the UK

682

00:28:48,430 --> 00:28:53,019

skeptics and the various projects that

683

00:28:50,829 --> 00:28:55,659

are going on which website should they

684

00:28:53,019 --> 00:28:56,829

head to I don't know the first that are

685
00:28:55,660 --> 00:28:59,019
in the main tube for the skeptic

686
00:28:56,829 --> 00:29:04,569
magazine and first start related to the

687
00:28:59,019 --> 00:29:06,839
skeptic magazine then is wws category UK

688
00:29:04,569 --> 00:29:10,240
skeptic with the cane not surprisingly

689
00:29:06,839 --> 00:29:15,269
and for the animalistic psychology

690
00:29:10,240 --> 00:29:21,190
research unit that's www goldsmiths AC

691
00:29:15,269 --> 00:29:23,740
UK /ap are you and there's the a lot of

692
00:29:21,190 --> 00:29:25,900
our of papers and what have you are

693
00:29:23,740 --> 00:29:28,059
downloadable from that site if people

694
00:29:25,900 --> 00:29:31,530
want to find out what's happening thank

695
00:29:28,059 --> 00:29:31,529
you very much my pleasure

696
00:29:35,799 --> 00:29:40,039
yeah aight guys i was talking to Richard

697
00:29:38,179 --> 00:29:42,170
Saunders he did it all right he said if

698
00:29:40,039 --> 00:29:44,299
we record a trailer for our podcast

699
00:29:42,170 --> 00:29:45,920
skeptics with a que he'd play it on

700
00:29:44,299 --> 00:29:47,329
their on their show that's nice of him

701
00:29:45,920 --> 00:29:48,500
that's very generous it's pretty good

702
00:29:47,329 --> 00:29:50,449
i'm not sure what we could do though I

703
00:29:48,500 --> 00:29:52,579
mean well suppose you tell people the

704
00:29:50,450 --> 00:29:54,830
shows about but it's basic as this yeah

705
00:29:52,579 --> 00:29:56,629
like yeah but you know we talk about

706
00:29:54,829 --> 00:29:58,099
science and skepticism and things that's

707
00:29:56,630 --> 00:30:00,050
that's true as fuzzier you mentioned the

708
00:29:58,099 --> 00:30:02,149
website address what merseyside skeptics

709
00:30:00,049 --> 00:30:03,769
dokdo UK yeah yeah just like search of

710
00:30:02,150 --> 00:30:06,230
Snyder's oh and then we could end with

711
00:30:03,769 --> 00:30:10,839
like a big song like the skeptics with

712
00:30:06,230 --> 00:30:13,039
okay god no no no no don't don't do that

713

00:30:10,839 --> 00:30:14,928
for seven years now it's been my

714
00:30:13,039 --> 00:30:17,649
pleasure to be part of the mystery

715
00:30:14,929 --> 00:30:20,780
investigators show for schools

716
00:30:17,650 --> 00:30:23,540
originally with a linda brown and now

717
00:30:20,779 --> 00:30:25,250
with dr. rachel dunlop we visit schools

718
00:30:23,539 --> 00:30:28,700
and perform our mystery investigators

719
00:30:25,250 --> 00:30:31,009
show where we explore the paranormal the

720
00:30:28,700 --> 00:30:34,308
supernatural the strange and the

721
00:30:31,009 --> 00:30:36,558
mysterious such an important part of

722
00:30:34,308 --> 00:30:38,240
what I do in skepticism dr h e2 i

723
00:30:36,558 --> 00:30:41,299
thought you might like to hear a little

724
00:30:38,240 --> 00:30:43,880
bit of the show and we performed it

725
00:30:41,299 --> 00:30:47,450
Abbot's Leigh school for girls just this

726
00:30:43,880 --> 00:30:50,210
week and here are a few highlights we

727
00:30:47,450 --> 00:30:52,660

start off with good old-fashioned spoon

728

00:30:50,210 --> 00:30:52,660

bending

729

00:30:59,148 --> 00:31:03,469

okay thank you jess now it's my turn

730

00:31:06,679 --> 00:31:11,340

this other one too nice and tight what

731

00:31:09,960 --> 00:31:12,870

I'm going to do at the moment as i'm

732

00:31:11,339 --> 00:31:15,750

going to do something i'm going to try

733

00:31:12,869 --> 00:31:18,569

and use the power of my mind and all

734

00:31:15,750 --> 00:31:22,798

your help of course to make this metal

735

00:31:18,569 --> 00:31:25,519

and spoon melt in my hands just by using

736

00:31:22,798 --> 00:31:27,950

a couple of things to hope like that

737

00:31:25,519 --> 00:31:31,169

you're going to help me everybody

738

00:31:27,950 --> 00:31:34,288

everybody concentrate on the spoon and I

739

00:31:31,169 --> 00:31:37,799

want you all to think as loudly as you

740

00:31:34,288 --> 00:31:44,808

can the word bend can you do that for me

741

00:31:37,798 --> 00:31:49,168

I practice ready 1 2 3 think as loudly

742
00:31:44,808 --> 00:31:51,778
you're getting there 1230 very good

743
00:31:49,169 --> 00:31:54,899
heart here we go sub into the hole you

744
00:31:51,778 --> 00:31:56,730
screwed up everyone think man and I'm

745
00:31:54,898 --> 00:31:58,500
going to try and give you a bit of an

746
00:31:56,730 --> 00:32:04,409
optical illusion let's see if we can

747
00:31:58,500 --> 00:32:06,509
make it look like this is like we took

748
00:32:04,409 --> 00:32:10,879
the model see how that looks like it's

749
00:32:06,509 --> 00:32:10,878
getting Wiggly was too

750
00:32:13,039 --> 00:32:25,920
what some people really do you think

751
00:32:15,690 --> 00:32:27,480
that is looks like you'll be of course

752
00:32:25,920 --> 00:32:39,090
it's not instant Rick it's an optical

753
00:32:27,480 --> 00:32:42,980
illusion because metal vessel Oh last

754
00:32:39,089 --> 00:32:42,980
time I did that everybody applauded

755
00:32:47,150 --> 00:33:01,980
will be a brave volunteer you get to

756
00:32:49,769 --> 00:33:03,960
keep a broken spoon and a meeting so we

757
00:33:01,980 --> 00:33:06,870
are the mystery investigated quick

758
00:33:03,960 --> 00:33:14,519
introduction for you all we have in the

759
00:33:06,869 --> 00:33:16,678
show today dr. Reggie Dunlop dr. AG is a

760
00:33:14,519 --> 00:33:19,410
real scientist working in a half

761
00:33:16,679 --> 00:33:22,470
medicine the Heart Institute we said

762
00:33:19,410 --> 00:33:24,929
there she is doing real science and the

763
00:33:22,470 --> 00:33:26,670
work she does helps discover all about

764
00:33:24,929 --> 00:33:28,890
heart disease and makes our lives a

765
00:33:26,670 --> 00:33:32,670
whole lot better she works very hard at

766
00:33:28,890 --> 00:33:34,410
that now who remembers a couple of years

767
00:33:32,670 --> 00:33:37,019
ago there was a funny show on TV about

768
00:33:34,410 --> 00:33:41,820
looking for Australia's best psychic did

769
00:33:37,019 --> 00:33:43,139
anybody watch it was fall for one now

770

00:33:41,819 --> 00:33:45,240
you remember there is that goofball

771
00:33:43,140 --> 00:33:50,840
honor that silly guy who's the skeptic

772
00:33:45,240 --> 00:33:50,839
the judge remember him that was me

773
00:33:52,250 --> 00:33:57,839
somebody recognized me oh that's nice

774
00:33:54,980 --> 00:33:59,579
there I am doing the show what we're

775
00:33:57,839 --> 00:34:02,399
going to do in the show today is talk

776
00:33:59,579 --> 00:34:05,369
about this sort of things the strange

777
00:34:02,400 --> 00:34:07,710
the mysterious now I must also say that

778
00:34:05,369 --> 00:34:10,230
joining us today in the show is our

779
00:34:07,710 --> 00:34:15,780
assistant all the way from London is dr.

780
00:34:10,230 --> 00:34:17,039
going to be nice about the

781
00:34:15,780 --> 00:34:19,700
procedure she's going to be handing out

782
00:34:17,039 --> 00:34:19,699
some movies

783
00:34:28,940 --> 00:34:32,389
isn't she nice

784
00:34:37,099 --> 00:34:44,839

ok take it up everything so leave you

785

00:34:42,409 --> 00:34:47,029

with you pay attention to the show and

786

00:34:44,840 --> 00:34:52,640

what do we say what we say you might get

787

00:34:47,030 --> 00:34:55,190

a meeting is one of the main points we

788

00:34:52,639 --> 00:34:58,099

try to make in the show is to do with

789

00:34:55,190 --> 00:35:00,349

testimonials and the anecdotes we have a

790

00:34:58,099 --> 00:35:03,829

whole routine where I come out with some

791

00:35:00,349 --> 00:35:06,190

juggling balls and well here it for

792

00:35:03,829 --> 00:35:06,190

yourself

793

00:35:13,480 --> 00:35:19,900

now which sometimes you might hear

794

00:35:15,969 --> 00:35:22,269

people tell you that they read and

795

00:35:19,900 --> 00:35:24,099

something written about a product that

796

00:35:22,269 --> 00:35:28,420

says it was good and it worked for me

797

00:35:24,099 --> 00:35:30,519

and that is called a testimonial and we

798

00:35:28,420 --> 00:35:32,500

should always ask questions about that

799
00:35:30,519 --> 00:35:35,289
if someone has a claim about something

800
00:35:32,500 --> 00:35:39,250
you should always ask for evidence now

801
00:35:35,289 --> 00:35:42,608
my friend here dr. Richard Bobby says

802
00:35:39,250 --> 00:35:47,079
dr. are you promoting no sorry just

803
00:35:42,608 --> 00:35:49,269
Richard now he gave me this together

804
00:35:47,079 --> 00:35:51,639
don't get others to me and said that as

805
00:35:49,269 --> 00:35:54,880
you can see up here it says that he can

806
00:35:51,639 --> 00:35:56,500
juggle three tennis balls now this is

807
00:35:54,880 --> 00:35:58,230
from the velvet street performers

808
00:35:56,500 --> 00:36:03,340
academy rich in this article pretty

809
00:35:58,230 --> 00:36:05,679
reputable organization oh there it is I

810
00:36:03,340 --> 00:36:10,150
mean it's I my friend is the principle

811
00:36:05,679 --> 00:36:11,799
of the Melbourne strength what are you

812
00:36:10,150 --> 00:36:14,139
writing as a time it's just written

813
00:36:11,800 --> 00:36:17,680
there that's fine but it does maybe you

814
00:36:14,139 --> 00:36:19,029
can juggle three tennis balls out yes I

815
00:36:17,679 --> 00:36:21,819
think that's enough for me to realize

816
00:36:19,030 --> 00:36:25,650
that you can't haha well it would be but

817
00:36:21,820 --> 00:36:25,650
press that button and you'll discover

818
00:36:26,670 --> 00:36:32,320
another one now this is from your work

819
00:36:29,320 --> 00:36:32,900
Scout leaders say well boots got me

820
00:36:32,320 --> 00:36:34,160
right

821
00:36:32,900 --> 00:36:35,930
a very good Scout they're saying that

822
00:36:34,159 --> 00:36:38,059
you can also juggle three times for

823
00:36:35,929 --> 00:36:39,799
segment I'm pretty convinced that you

824
00:36:38,059 --> 00:36:43,820
can juggle three balls I think we need

825
00:36:39,800 --> 00:36:47,330
to do press it one more time there's

826
00:36:43,820 --> 00:36:50,510
another person nothing well this is from

827

00:36:47,329 --> 00:36:53,000
the justice of the peace now there were

828
00:36:50,510 --> 00:36:55,640
important people in this thang so that

829
00:36:53,000 --> 00:36:59,570
you can juggle your free tennis balls as

830
00:36:55,639 --> 00:37:01,219
well so I think that's enough guitar

831
00:36:59,570 --> 00:37:05,150
evidence guys when you think you ready

832
00:37:01,219 --> 00:37:10,839
to see in morn fact there's no more

833
00:37:05,150 --> 00:37:10,840
frequent leaving only way I can juggle

834
00:37:17,900 --> 00:37:21,380
you believe me

835
00:37:24,068 --> 00:37:42,710
you want to show you want to show you

836
00:37:35,030 --> 00:38:00,980
all right see I can do hey what you are

837
00:37:42,710 --> 00:38:02,179
seeing so there you go it's true so that

838
00:38:00,980 --> 00:38:05,889
means that everything you've made is

839
00:38:02,179 --> 00:38:05,889
true just have a submission thank you

840
00:38:06,289 --> 00:38:11,660
then I saw the other day before settle

841
00:38:09,798 --> 00:38:15,679

me that this one is about evening other

842

00:38:11,659 --> 00:38:18,509

job in five tennis balls x times you

843

00:38:15,679 --> 00:38:21,130

believe it I believe it

844

00:38:18,510 --> 00:38:22,900

it's this kind of person resetting the

845

00:38:21,130 --> 00:38:27,460

toggle free and you can ever so it must

846

00:38:22,900 --> 00:38:29,320

be true right Thanks oh and there's

847

00:38:27,460 --> 00:38:32,679

another one from the same Scout leader

848

00:38:29,320 --> 00:38:34,890

who says you can't apple pie now I'm

849

00:38:32,679 --> 00:38:38,379

hearing someone say that their old

850

00:38:34,889 --> 00:38:42,940

medicine so I'm all true doesn't know

851

00:38:38,380 --> 00:38:44,860

maybe they're out of date people over

852

00:38:42,940 --> 00:38:50,530

later I mean he's saying double cream

853

00:38:44,860 --> 00:38:53,440

yes I think I really because look it's

854

00:38:50,530 --> 00:38:55,750

erika juggle dream the testimonials it's

855

00:38:53,440 --> 00:38:57,519

absolutely right you also i could juggle

856
00:38:55,750 --> 00:38:58,840
three there's no point and showing you

857
00:38:57,519 --> 00:39:01,170
buy because you all know i can do it

858
00:38:58,840 --> 00:39:01,170
yeah

859
00:39:06,130 --> 00:39:14,210
really really yeah they want you to show

860
00:39:11,420 --> 00:39:18,639
me you can do it I love the editor the

861
00:39:14,210 --> 00:39:18,639
evidence one two three four five

862
00:39:22,719 --> 00:39:38,409
Saunders transpose and we had into the

863
00:39:36,789 --> 00:39:40,150
paper that said you catch other's work

864
00:39:38,409 --> 00:39:41,969
in schools but it turns out that you

865
00:39:40,150 --> 00:39:45,849
can't do that but I could juggle three

866
00:39:41,969 --> 00:39:47,799
yes but i think that's evidence that we

867
00:39:45,849 --> 00:39:51,160
need to ask for proof that way yes

868
00:39:47,800 --> 00:39:53,289
absolutely it really doesn't matter

869
00:39:51,159 --> 00:39:56,618
what's written on a piece of paper if

870
00:39:53,289 --> 00:39:59,679
you have any serious doubt its your

871
00:39:56,619 --> 00:40:02,858
right to ask more proof like you did

872
00:39:59,679 --> 00:40:04,868
with me if you see something it looks

873
00:40:02,858 --> 00:40:06,759
amazing someone says it's true look at

874
00:40:04,869 --> 00:40:11,019
written on this piece of paper or it's

875
00:40:06,760 --> 00:40:13,750
written on the Internet we say again

876
00:40:11,019 --> 00:40:18,659
with a pinch of salt always be ready to

877
00:40:13,750 --> 00:40:18,659
ask more evidence if you really vary

878
00:40:22,889 --> 00:40:27,819
throughout the show we hand out

879
00:40:25,119 --> 00:40:29,260
astrology reports for the kids at the

880
00:40:27,820 --> 00:40:31,930
end of the show we sort of collect the

881
00:40:29,260 --> 00:40:35,070
scores helping us for this section was

882
00:40:31,929 --> 00:40:35,069
dr. Chrissy Wilson

883
00:40:40,719 --> 00:40:54,699
what would yours Jim my vision is Gemini

884

00:40:51,429 --> 00:41:01,868
after that what did you get out of 10

885
00:40:54,699 --> 00:41:05,289
servings Evan that's what that was yours

886
00:41:01,869 --> 00:41:11,180
how did it help hold it at this body

887
00:41:05,289 --> 00:41:17,989
wonderful game well duh we go where's

888
00:41:11,179 --> 00:41:19,429
Earl is that's good so I'm soldier is

889
00:41:17,989 --> 00:41:28,159
doing better than what about the very

890
00:41:19,429 --> 00:41:41,769
good libera where's Oliver what is going

891
00:41:28,159 --> 00:41:45,998
on a Scorpio nine Capricorn yeah eight

892
00:41:41,769 --> 00:41:49,418
okay Wow Aquarius

893
00:41:45,998 --> 00:41:58,468
nine requires to proceed and I see

894
00:41:49,418 --> 00:42:10,958
pleasure slices nah Wow very few people

895
00:41:58,469 --> 00:42:12,608
just one joint about it you know I tell

896
00:42:10,958 --> 00:42:14,259
you what I think you might be under

897
00:42:12,608 --> 00:42:16,298
something dr. Chrissy can you just read

898
00:42:14,259 --> 00:42:19,059

out the first part of your one and those

899

00:42:16,298 --> 00:42:21,759

who have the paper have a look ok this

900

00:42:19,059 --> 00:42:26,199

is this is my special reading the psyche

901

00:42:21,759 --> 00:42:28,778

of gave me convey one of times you have

902

00:42:26,199 --> 00:42:30,729

serious doubts as to whether you have

903

00:42:28,778 --> 00:42:32,918

made the right decision or done the

904

00:42:30,728 --> 00:42:34,838

right thing you are disciplined and

905

00:42:32,918 --> 00:42:37,838

control on the outside you know I'm

906

00:42:34,838 --> 00:42:40,929

getting giggles what's going on so so

907

00:42:37,838 --> 00:42:44,409

this is no no let me do some more you

908

00:42:40,929 --> 00:42:46,619

tend to be worrisome an insecure on the

909

00:42:44,409 --> 00:42:49,809

inside your waist deep in traditions

910

00:42:46,619 --> 00:42:54,449

usually right and you want an excellent

911

00:42:49,809 --> 00:42:54,449

judge of character your sense of humor

912

00:42:56,260 --> 00:43:10,580

all the time I dnd who reads their

913
00:43:05,989 --> 00:43:14,809
astrology in the newspaper every time we

914
00:43:10,579 --> 00:43:17,059
ask you ladies ever thought was spot-on

915
00:43:14,809 --> 00:43:19,639
she said that if you mix up the

916
00:43:17,059 --> 00:43:30,250
cosmopolitan and the dolly star signs at

917
00:43:19,639 --> 00:43:30,250
all the same is that what you said you

918
00:43:32,769 --> 00:43:38,929
in all the years that scientists have

919
00:43:36,980 --> 00:43:41,570
been seriously studying the claims about

920
00:43:38,929 --> 00:43:44,809
stralla jizz we've discovered that

921
00:43:41,570 --> 00:43:46,970
there's really nothing in it's good fun

922
00:43:44,809 --> 00:43:49,340
it's great to be just outside and how

923
00:43:46,969 --> 00:43:52,339
the eagle but as far as we know the

924
00:43:49,340 --> 00:43:54,410
planets and the stars can't really

925
00:43:52,340 --> 00:43:58,880
influenced your life the way that

926
00:43:54,409 --> 00:44:00,409
astrologers say they can't every

927
00:43:58,880 --> 00:44:04,099
teenagers life I think you're right

928
00:44:00,409 --> 00:44:07,909
however there is a real science of

929
00:44:04,099 --> 00:44:10,420
astronomy and astronomy do they get the

930
00:44:07,909 --> 00:44:10,420
clothes first

931
00:44:15,010 --> 00:44:22,210
if you want real magic and real Wonder

932
00:44:19,719 --> 00:44:25,599
and real beauty and astronomy is for you

933
00:44:22,210 --> 00:44:28,210
because unlike astrology astronomy in

934
00:44:25,599 --> 00:44:32,339
really take us to the planets and stars

935
00:44:28,210 --> 00:44:32,340
some of you may know where this is

936
00:44:52,789 --> 00:44:54,880
ha

937
00:44:56,858 --> 00:45:03,038
you know that really is a lovely

938
00:44:59,989 --> 00:45:06,469
panorama from the surface of planet Mars

939
00:45:03,039 --> 00:45:08,329
we using science have visited other

940
00:45:06,469 --> 00:45:11,118
planets we're going to be visiting other

941

00:45:08,329 --> 00:45:13,670
stars in our universe ladies that's

942
00:45:11,119 --> 00:45:15,890
where science and tails that's why we

943
00:45:13,670 --> 00:45:17,749
have signed so much between outlay to do

944
00:45:15,889 --> 00:45:27,190
perform for you today so likely they've

945
00:45:17,748 --> 00:45:27,189
got the r18 London

946
00:45:37,210 --> 00:45:40,210
otherwise

947
00:45:41,250 --> 00:45:56,199
and again you little one floor needs and

948
00:45:44,829 --> 00:45:59,279
thank you very much so that's the

949
00:45:56,199 --> 00:46:03,039
mystery investigators show for schools

950
00:45:59,280 --> 00:46:04,930
www Emma story investigators calm you

951
00:46:03,039 --> 00:46:07,480
can also find us performing at the

952
00:46:04,929 --> 00:46:11,730
Australian Museum in science week and at

953
00:46:07,480 --> 00:46:11,730
the ABC building here in Sydney

954
00:46:23,880 --> 00:46:25,940
you

955
00:46:50,409 --> 00:46:55,940

the boom effect is an auction in action

956

00:46:53,389 --> 00:46:58,099

for sonic booms future started by group

957

00:46:55,940 --> 00:46:59,990

of podcasters and writers as a way for

958

00:46:58,099 --> 00:47:02,719

these communities to show support for

959

00:46:59,989 --> 00:47:04,519

the Morris family t Morris is a beloved

960

00:47:02,719 --> 00:47:06,799

founding father of the podcasting

961

00:47:04,519 --> 00:47:09,619

community he is the co-creator of pot

962

00:47:06,800 --> 00:47:11,450

audiobooks com writer for social media

963

00:47:09,619 --> 00:47:13,759

books and the first novelists to

964

00:47:11,449 --> 00:47:16,039

serialize his novel on the fifth of

965

00:47:13,760 --> 00:47:18,260

January 2010 he found himself facing

966

00:47:16,039 --> 00:47:20,840

raising his daughter with the alias of

967

00:47:18,260 --> 00:47:24,020

sonic boom alone after the sudden

968

00:47:20,840 --> 00:47:25,760

shocking death of his wife Natalie if

969

00:47:24,019 --> 00:47:27,619

you head to the official site at the

970
00:47:25,760 --> 00:47:30,620
boom effect or you will find a variety

971
00:47:27,619 --> 00:47:32,630
of auction items amongst them is a box

972
00:47:30,619 --> 00:47:34,670
of skeptical goodness donated by the

973
00:47:32,630 --> 00:47:37,220
skeptic zone and the token skeptic

974
00:47:34,670 --> 00:47:39,320
podcasts in there you'll find signed

975
00:47:37,219 --> 00:47:41,419
photos by skeptics own podcasters

976
00:47:39,320 --> 00:47:43,910
Richard Saunders and dr. Rachel Dunlop

977
00:47:41,420 --> 00:47:46,460
and other items including region free

978
00:47:43,909 --> 00:47:49,519
DVDs of team mention the interrobang

979
00:47:46,460 --> 00:47:51,740
album by george shrub tim tams mastics

980
00:47:49,519 --> 00:47:54,099
and the latest book by dr. car cruising

981
00:47:51,739 --> 00:47:54,099
it's key

982
00:48:07,969 --> 00:48:14,669
at 10 23 am on January the 30th on UK

983
00:48:11,880 --> 00:48:16,680
time more than 300 homeopathy skeptics

984
00:48:14,670 --> 00:48:18,809
nationwide took part in a mass

985
00:48:16,679 --> 00:48:21,000
homeopathic overdose in protests of

986
00:48:18,809 --> 00:48:23,190
boots continued endorsement and sale of

987
00:48:21,000 --> 00:48:24,929
homeopathic remedies and in order to

988
00:48:23,190 --> 00:48:27,329
raise public awareness about the fact

989
00:48:24,929 --> 00:48:29,759
that homeopathic remedies have nothing

990
00:48:27,329 --> 00:48:31,349
in them consumer rights activists took

991
00:48:29,760 --> 00:48:33,510
part in the protests on that day

992
00:48:31,349 --> 00:48:35,910
culminating in a mass homeopathic

993
00:48:33,510 --> 00:48:38,309
overdose taking place in city centres

994
00:48:35,909 --> 00:48:39,779
across the world here's some of the

995
00:48:38,309 --> 00:48:41,880
reactions that we got when we were

996
00:48:39,780 --> 00:48:44,280
taking part as skeptics own members both

997
00:48:41,880 --> 00:48:46,108
Richard Saunders and myself in Sydney

998

00:48:44,280 --> 00:48:49,619
New South Wales and in Perth Western

999
00:48:46,108 --> 00:48:52,608
Australia well here we are 1023 campaign

1000
00:48:49,619 --> 00:48:52,608
in Sydney Australia

1001
00:48:54,130 --> 00:49:05,619
it's uh it's over

1002
00:48:55,809 --> 00:49:07,210
sleeping tablets sleeping tablets people

1003
00:49:05,619 --> 00:49:09,609
here and skeptics in the pub are

1004
00:49:07,210 --> 00:49:12,190
committing suicide we'd like to thank

1005
00:49:09,610 --> 00:49:16,930
for 10 23 events for making this phone

1006
00:49:12,190 --> 00:49:18,579
that this actually tastes good like yeah

1007
00:49:16,929 --> 00:49:20,889
I'd buy them just for these for the

1008
00:49:18,579 --> 00:49:24,369
solution of flirty seemed like I mean

1009
00:49:20,889 --> 00:49:28,239
someone molecule of arsenic women are 80

1010
00:49:24,369 --> 00:49:30,880
million earth volumes of filler oh my

1011
00:49:28,239 --> 00:49:32,709
god so far I'm not feeling any death

1012
00:49:30,880 --> 00:49:36,940

coming off I can't tell you one thing

1013

00:49:32,710 --> 00:49:39,039

about death it is facial it looks like

1014

00:49:36,940 --> 00:49:40,950

we've managed to ingest quite a lot how

1015

00:49:39,039 --> 00:49:45,029

are we feeling

1016

00:49:40,949 --> 00:49:48,719

I agree the sugar rush is nice right

1017

00:49:45,030 --> 00:49:51,660

sugar how you feeling awesome tasty good

1018

00:49:48,719 --> 00:49:53,489

rating them very slowly very slowly yeah

1019

00:49:51,659 --> 00:49:55,460

I I spent fifteen dollars in the whole

1020

00:49:53,489 --> 00:49:57,868

packet of these you better be enjoy

1021

00:49:55,460 --> 00:50:00,340

still weren't awake unfortunately but

1022

00:49:57,869 --> 00:50:04,070

we'll see okay

1023

00:50:00,340 --> 00:50:07,070

no effect delicious yeah

1024

00:50:04,070 --> 00:50:07,070

ok

1025

00:50:09,250 --> 00:50:12,190

ladies and gentlemen do you think I

1026

00:50:10,719 --> 00:50:18,750

should have just brought you jelly beans

1027
00:50:12,190 --> 00:50:18,750
and I could have the same in factoring

1028
00:50:25,400 --> 00:50:39,180
we get away the 10 23 event was only

1029
00:50:37,500 --> 00:50:41,219
just the beginning of an awareness

1030
00:50:39,179 --> 00:50:43,469
campaign about homeopathy and how

1031
00:50:41,219 --> 00:50:45,509
there's nothing in it you can find out

1032
00:50:43,469 --> 00:50:54,539
more and discover about ongoing efforts

1033
00:50:45,510 --> 00:50:59,450
at 10 23 org UK now it's time for dr.

1034
00:50:54,539 --> 00:50:59,449
Richie reports with dr. Rachel Dunlop

1035
00:51:00,469 --> 00:51:05,449
hello listeners and welcome to this very

1036
00:51:02,789 --> 00:51:08,250
special edition of dr. Richie reports

1037
00:51:05,449 --> 00:51:10,589
this week I give you a roundup of news

1038
00:51:08,250 --> 00:51:13,050
from a huge week in science and

1039
00:51:10,590 --> 00:51:15,390
skepticism with some very big events

1040
00:51:13,050 --> 00:51:18,000
restoring my faith in the world well for

1041
00:51:15,389 --> 00:51:19,710
a short time anyway one such event was

1042
00:51:18,000 --> 00:51:21,690
announced to me by the bad astronomer

1043
00:51:19,710 --> 00:51:24,389
feel plate when he passed on the good

1044
00:51:21,690 --> 00:51:26,909
news about an e-newsletter sent by the

1045
00:51:24,389 --> 00:51:29,609
Australian vaccination Network the

1046
00:51:26,909 --> 00:51:32,069
headlines screamed avian to close its

1047
00:51:29,610 --> 00:51:34,950
doors at the end of the month and the

1048
00:51:32,070 --> 00:51:38,309
contents explained that after 17 years

1049
00:51:34,949 --> 00:51:40,289
the president Meryl Dory was tendering

1050
00:51:38,309 --> 00:51:42,840
my resignation as president of this

1051
00:51:40,289 --> 00:51:44,279
great organization and moving on to the

1052
00:51:42,840 --> 00:51:47,160
next stage of my own personal

1053
00:51:44,280 --> 00:51:49,860
development as mother wife activist and

1054
00:51:47,159 --> 00:51:52,379
researcher the reasons she cited were

1055

00:51:49,860 --> 00:51:54,210
primarily monetary she described the

1056
00:51:52,380 --> 00:51:56,309
stress of not knowing when money to

1057
00:51:54,210 --> 00:51:58,409
cover wages and bills would come in and

1058
00:51:56,309 --> 00:52:02,130
that she was stepping down to spend more

1059
00:51:58,409 --> 00:52:03,929
time with her family she said I am

1060
00:52:02,130 --> 00:52:06,090
getting older my children have missed

1061
00:52:03,929 --> 00:52:08,969
out on so much so I could run the avian

1062
00:52:06,090 --> 00:52:10,650
and at this stage in my existence I need

1063
00:52:08,969 --> 00:52:13,579
to be able to work on this subject and

1064
00:52:10,650 --> 00:52:17,070
still have a life then came the irony

1065
00:52:13,579 --> 00:52:19,079
quote without a large injection of

1066
00:52:17,070 --> 00:52:22,350
capital behind me I simply cannot

1067
00:52:19,079 --> 00:52:25,920
continue she used the word injection

1068
00:52:22,349 --> 00:52:29,009
miss Dora you do amuse so the upshot

1069
00:52:25,920 --> 00:52:31,019

whoops was that she is broke and the

1070

00:52:29,010 --> 00:52:32,410

future of the avian was grim unless

1071

00:52:31,019 --> 00:52:34,900

quote

1072

00:52:32,409 --> 00:52:37,149

a benefactor or series of benefactors

1073

00:52:34,900 --> 00:52:39,550

come forward to establish a fund that

1074

00:52:37,150 --> 00:52:41,369

would guarantee the avians existence for

1075

00:52:39,550 --> 00:52:43,930

at least the next two to three years

1076

00:52:41,369 --> 00:52:45,909

this is not the first time miss Dorry

1077

00:52:43,929 --> 00:52:48,429

has asked for money from her members a

1078

00:52:45,909 --> 00:52:50,079

few months ago she was asking people to

1079

00:52:48,429 --> 00:52:52,119

put aside a percentage of their

1080

00:52:50,079 --> 00:52:54,909

government paid family allowance to

1081

00:52:52,119 --> 00:52:57,279

donate to the avn the day following this

1082

00:52:54,909 --> 00:52:59,980

enewsletter miss Dorry sent another

1083

00:52:57,280 --> 00:53:02,050

enewsletter clarifying that the avn

1084
00:52:59,980 --> 00:53:04,690
would only close if she did not receive

1085
00:53:02,050 --> 00:53:07,510
the required funds and she was sorry if

1086
00:53:04,690 --> 00:53:09,610
she had worried her followers this

1087
00:53:07,510 --> 00:53:12,070
clarification became somewhat clouded

1088
00:53:09,610 --> 00:53:15,240
today however when she sent yet another

1089
00:53:12,070 --> 00:53:18,519
enewsletter with the masthead exclaiming

1090
00:53:15,239 --> 00:53:21,250
living wisdom avian closing down sale

1091
00:53:18,519 --> 00:53:23,440
this in use at a detailed that all their

1092
00:53:21,250 --> 00:53:25,750
educational material would be on sale

1093
00:53:23,440 --> 00:53:28,420
for the next three weeks after which

1094
00:53:25,750 --> 00:53:30,849
time they would be closing down so is

1095
00:53:28,420 --> 00:53:33,130
she or isn't she one has to wonder

1096
00:53:30,849 --> 00:53:35,860
however why she is asking her supporters

1097
00:53:33,130 --> 00:53:38,200
for an injection of cash why have it the

1098
00:53:35,860 --> 00:53:40,230
big guys come to the table but likes of

1099
00:53:38,199 --> 00:53:42,969
Generation Rescue and age of autism

1100
00:53:40,230 --> 00:53:45,909
perhaps they see a flailing company is

1101
00:53:42,969 --> 00:53:47,709
not a very good investment on top of

1102
00:53:45,909 --> 00:53:49,719
this her reputation has received a

1103
00:53:47,710 --> 00:53:52,030
battering over the last 12 months at

1104
00:53:49,719 --> 00:53:53,649
last count there were two pending

1105
00:53:52,030 --> 00:53:55,690
complaints lodged with the New South

1106
00:53:53,650 --> 00:53:58,240
Wales a healthcare Complaints Commission

1107
00:53:55,690 --> 00:54:00,340
there were also two with the office of

1108
00:53:58,239 --> 00:54:02,889
liquor gaming and racing the charity

1109
00:54:00,340 --> 00:54:05,820
watchdog one accusing her of operating

1110
00:54:02,889 --> 00:54:08,379
without a charity license for two years

1111
00:54:05,820 --> 00:54:10,750
she was also awarded the Australian

1112

00:54:08,380 --> 00:54:13,630
skeptics bent spoon award for being a

1113
00:54:10,750 --> 00:54:15,550
threat to public health and she has been

1114
00:54:13,630 --> 00:54:17,800
forced to change seminar venues when

1115
00:54:15,550 --> 00:54:21,370
organizers discovered the true nature of

1116
00:54:17,800 --> 00:54:23,200
her information and not to mention she

1117
00:54:21,369 --> 00:54:24,730
has taken a battering in the press for

1118
00:54:23,199 --> 00:54:26,500
spreading false to tistic stand

1119
00:54:24,730 --> 00:54:30,130
scaremongering about the safety and

1120
00:54:26,500 --> 00:54:31,690
efficacy of vaccines I think this might

1121
00:54:30,130 --> 00:54:34,780
be the beginning of the end for the

1122
00:54:31,690 --> 00:54:37,659
embattled avian and I for one won't miss

1123
00:54:34,780 --> 00:54:39,610
him not at all also this week at the

1124
00:54:37,659 --> 00:54:41,619
General Medical Council in the United

1125
00:54:39,610 --> 00:54:44,710
Kingdom handed down their findings about

1126
00:54:41,619 --> 00:54:46,359

the conduct of controversial MMR dr.

1127

00:54:44,710 --> 00:54:48,639

Andrew Wakefield

1128

00:54:46,360 --> 00:54:51,430

on January twenty eight after the

1129

00:54:48,639 --> 00:54:53,619

longest case in history the leading

1130

00:54:51,429 --> 00:54:56,429

anti-vaccination proponent dr. Andrew

1131

00:54:53,619 --> 00:54:58,989

Wakefield was found to be dishonest

1132

00:54:56,429 --> 00:55:00,690

irresponsible and guilty of putting

1133

00:54:58,989 --> 00:55:04,179

children through painful and unnecessary

1134

00:55:00,690 --> 00:55:06,750

tests this included subjecting children

1135

00:55:04,179 --> 00:55:10,089

to lumbar punctures or spinal taps and

1136

00:55:06,750 --> 00:55:12,489

colonoscopies Wakefield also collected

1137

00:55:10,090 --> 00:55:14,890

blood samples for his control studies at

1138

00:55:12,489 --> 00:55:17,379

his son's birthday party and later

1139

00:55:14,889 --> 00:55:19,779

laughed about how children had vomited

1140

00:55:17,380 --> 00:55:22,269

and fainted after he took their blood

1141
00:55:19,780 --> 00:55:23,830
and then paid them five pounds the

1142
00:55:22,269 --> 00:55:25,929
history of this story goes back to

1143
00:55:23,829 --> 00:55:27,670
nineteen ninety eight when the lancet

1144
00:55:25,929 --> 00:55:29,859
published a paper by Wakefield and

1145
00:55:27,670 --> 00:55:32,470
others outlining research which

1146
00:55:29,860 --> 00:55:35,190
supposedly found a link between MMR or

1147
00:55:32,469 --> 00:55:38,139
measles mumps rubella vaccine and autism

1148
00:55:35,190 --> 00:55:39,940
the upshot of the release of Wakefield's

1149
00:55:38,139 --> 00:55:42,159
findings was a great deal of media

1150
00:55:39,940 --> 00:55:44,519
coverage outlining the supposed dangers

1151
00:55:42,159 --> 00:55:47,079
of MMR leading to autism in children

1152
00:55:44,519 --> 00:55:48,909
these findings were immediately picked

1153
00:55:47,079 --> 00:55:50,920
up by anti-vaccination groups as

1154
00:55:48,909 --> 00:55:53,920
evidence of the dangers of vaccination

1155
00:55:50,920 --> 00:55:56,110
what has been described as panic ensued

1156
00:55:53,920 --> 00:55:58,840
with vaccination race immediately

1157
00:55:56,110 --> 00:56:01,510
dropping in the UK to as low as 50

1158
00:55:58,840 --> 00:56:03,250
percent in some parts of London and of

1159
00:56:01,510 --> 00:56:05,290
course this led to an increase in

1160
00:56:03,250 --> 00:56:07,960
diseases that MMR was designed to

1161
00:56:05,289 --> 00:56:09,489
prevent even today vaccination rates

1162
00:56:07,960 --> 00:56:11,909
have apparently still not fully

1163
00:56:09,489 --> 00:56:14,379
recovered to the levels before the scare

1164
00:56:11,909 --> 00:56:16,960
yet this research has not been

1165
00:56:14,380 --> 00:56:19,180
duplicated by others and most of the

1166
00:56:16,960 --> 00:56:23,159
co-authors of the paper subsequently

1167
00:56:19,179 --> 00:56:25,449
dissociated themselves from it in 2004

1168
00:56:23,159 --> 00:56:30,549
yet this seemed to be of no

1169

00:56:25,449 --> 00:56:34,329
consideration to the anti-vaccine dword

1170
00:56:30,550 --> 00:56:36,519
end of story one of the poster boys of

1171
00:56:34,329 --> 00:56:38,559
the global anti-vaccination movement the

1172
00:56:36,519 --> 00:56:40,900
findings against Wakefield mean there is

1173
00:56:38,559 --> 00:56:43,150
a strong possibility of him being struck

1174
00:56:40,900 --> 00:56:45,220
off the medical register but with the

1175
00:56:43,150 --> 00:56:46,960
GMCs findings against Wakefield's

1176
00:56:45,219 --> 00:56:49,480
dishonest and irresponsible practices

1177
00:56:46,960 --> 00:56:52,179
the anti-vaccination movement took a

1178
00:56:49,480 --> 00:56:54,039
heavy blow as his research has been the

1179
00:56:52,179 --> 00:56:57,159
foundation of much of its specious

1180
00:56:54,039 --> 00:57:00,130
argument the next blow to Wakefield

1181
00:56:57,159 --> 00:57:02,109
reputation came from The Lancet itself

1182
00:57:00,130 --> 00:57:04,300
on January the second the prestigious

1183
00:57:02,110 --> 00:57:07,870

medical journal issued a full retraction

1184

00:57:04,300 --> 00:57:10,960

of the paper stating that it has become

1185

00:57:07,869 --> 00:57:12,789

clear that several elements of the 1998

1186

00:57:10,960 --> 00:57:16,090

paper by Wakefield our tail are

1187

00:57:12,789 --> 00:57:17,829

incorrect therefore we fully retract

1188

00:57:16,090 --> 00:57:19,809

this paper from the published record

1189

00:57:17,829 --> 00:57:21,549

true to form the anti-vaccination

1190

00:57:19,809 --> 00:57:23,829

movement came out in defense of

1191

00:57:21,550 --> 00:57:26,320

Wakefield describing him as a martyr to

1192

00:57:23,829 --> 00:57:28,569

the cause and Wakefield has been quoted

1193

00:57:26,320 --> 00:57:31,960

as saying he has no regrets over his

1194

00:57:28,570 --> 00:57:35,289

work one correspondent on a forum

1195

00:57:31,960 --> 00:57:37,929

described the GMC panel as quote evil

1196

00:57:35,289 --> 00:57:39,789

judges from the garden of Stalin but it

1197

00:57:37,929 --> 00:57:41,919

is without doubt that the movement has

1198
00:57:39,789 --> 00:57:44,170
suffered a serious blow as Wakefield's

1199
00:57:41,920 --> 00:57:47,230
research underpinned much of its often

1200
00:57:44,170 --> 00:57:48,670
hysterical argument as is also true to

1201
00:57:47,230 --> 00:57:51,369
form for the anti-vaccination movement

1202
00:57:48,670 --> 00:57:53,139
they are now crying foul and saying this

1203
00:57:51,369 --> 00:57:55,690
is a big farmer big government

1204
00:57:53,139 --> 00:57:57,400
conspiracy to cover up the truth one day

1205
00:57:55,690 --> 00:58:00,429
maybe they'll think of some original

1206
00:57:57,400 --> 00:58:02,309
arguments and that's it for the wrap up

1207
00:58:00,429 --> 00:58:04,929
of a huge week in science and skepticism

1208
00:58:02,309 --> 00:58:07,179
but before I leave you for this week I'm

1209
00:58:04,929 --> 00:58:09,309
reminded of the consequences of the

1210
00:58:07,179 --> 00:58:11,649
anti-vaccination movement worldwide if

1211
00:58:09,309 --> 00:58:13,690
it wasn't for scaremongering about the

1212
00:58:11,650 --> 00:58:15,400
safety and efficacy of vaccines by the

1213
00:58:13,690 --> 00:58:17,950
likes of andrew wakefield and the

1214
00:58:15,400 --> 00:58:20,410
australian vaccination network today on

1215
00:58:17,949 --> 00:58:22,359
februari the 5th 2010 we would be

1216
00:58:20,409 --> 00:58:24,609
celebrating the first birthday of Dana

1217
00:58:22,360 --> 00:58:27,160
McCaffrey who tragically passed away

1218
00:58:24,610 --> 00:58:30,490
from patatas or whooping cough on march

1219
00:58:27,159 --> 00:58:33,219
nine 2009 our thoughts are with the

1220
00:58:30,489 --> 00:58:37,289
McCaffrey family and until next time

1221
00:58:33,219 --> 00:58:37,289
this has been dr. Richie reports

1222
00:58:55,210 --> 00:59:00,829
well thank you for listening to the

1223
00:58:57,530 --> 00:59:03,650
skeptic zone show number 68 on the fifth

1224
00:59:00,829 --> 00:59:05,889
of februari another great show coming up

1225
00:59:03,650 --> 00:59:09,380
next week our special guest will be

1226

00:59:05,889 --> 00:59:11,179
Mentalist and master magician Phillip

1227
00:59:09,380 --> 00:59:13,760
ass coffee who's currently touring

1228
00:59:11,179 --> 00:59:17,089
Australia from the UK and of course

1229
00:59:13,760 --> 00:59:19,280
we'll have the think tank so until next

1230
00:59:17,090 --> 00:59:24,920
week this is Richard soldiers signing

1231
00:59:19,280 --> 00:59:27,260
off from Sydney Australia you've been

1232
00:59:24,920 --> 00:59:31,760
listening to the skeptic zone visit our

1233
00:59:27,260 --> 00:59:34,250
website at [www.skeptics on TV](http://www.skepticsontv.com) for

1234
00:59:31,760 --> 00:59:36,600
comments contacts and extra video

1235
00:59:34,250 --> 00:59:40,199
reports

1236
00:59:36,599 --> 00:59:40,199
us kids

1237
00:59:41,338 --> 00:59:43,369
Oh

1238
00:59:55,230 --> 00:59:57,289
you