

1
00:00:06,349 --> 00:00:14,119
welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

2
00:00:09,509 --> 00:00:14,120
from Australia for science and reason

3
00:00:20,649 --> 00:00:27,289
hello and welcome to the skeptic zone

4
00:00:23,539 --> 00:00:30,109
episode number 75 on the twenty-sixth of

5
00:00:27,289 --> 00:00:32,659
march 2010 Richard Saunders here with

6
00:00:30,109 --> 00:00:34,640
you once again on this week's show we

7
00:00:32,659 --> 00:00:36,919
have an interview with Julian morrow

8
00:00:34,640 --> 00:00:40,250
from the chasers war on everything

9
00:00:36,920 --> 00:00:42,739
program shown here on the ABC and

10
00:00:40,250 --> 00:00:45,140
Australia it's conducted by Kylie

11
00:00:42,738 --> 00:00:47,179
Sturgis very funny man he's going to

12
00:00:45,140 --> 00:00:50,450
discuss being at the Atheist convention

13
00:00:47,179 --> 00:00:52,189
earlier this month and some of the more

14
00:00:50,450 --> 00:00:54,530
outrageous stunts they got up to during

15
00:00:52,189 --> 00:00:57,409
the filming of the chasers war and

16
00:00:54,530 --> 00:00:59,750
everything that's followed by dr. Reggie

17
00:00:57,409 --> 00:01:01,399
reports she's going to be talking to

18
00:00:59,750 --> 00:01:05,269
mark Carter in the Northern Territory

19
00:01:01,399 --> 00:01:08,420
here in Australia about things like fish

20
00:01:05,269 --> 00:01:10,039
falling from the sky after that we have

21
00:01:08,420 --> 00:01:12,560
a grain of salt with a run so give

22
00:01:10,040 --> 00:01:16,399
looking at hair loss or should I say

23
00:01:12,560 --> 00:01:18,320
hair regrowth following that a very

24
00:01:16,399 --> 00:01:21,978
special thing tank with a special guest

25
00:01:18,319 --> 00:01:24,739
none other than PZ Myers now before we

26
00:01:21,978 --> 00:01:27,829
get on to the show a special thank you

27
00:01:24,739 --> 00:01:30,978
from me to all the skeptics own team

28
00:01:27,829 --> 00:01:33,049
members who work so hard every week to

29

00:01:30,978 --> 00:01:36,590
bring interviews and other great things

30
00:01:33,049 --> 00:01:38,719
to you so sit back grab that knife soda

31
00:01:36,590 --> 00:01:41,859
water and enjoy this week's episode of

32
00:01:38,719 --> 00:01:41,859
the skeptic zone

33
00:01:56,189 --> 00:02:02,439
I'm Carly Sturgis and I'm talking to

34
00:01:59,469 --> 00:02:05,170
Julian morrow Julian morrow is a member

35
00:02:02,439 --> 00:02:07,239
of the chaser an Australian satirical

36
00:02:05,170 --> 00:02:10,390
comedian group most famous for their

37
00:02:07,239 --> 00:02:12,219
television programs on the ABC The

38
00:02:10,389 --> 00:02:14,349
Chaser originated as a satirical

39
00:02:12,219 --> 00:02:16,419
newspaper which was known to push the

40
00:02:14,349 --> 00:02:18,879
limits as to what it published and for

41
00:02:16,419 --> 00:02:20,979
enacting its mission statement striving

42
00:02:18,879 --> 00:02:23,169
for mediocrity in a world of excellence

43
00:02:20,979 --> 00:02:24,969

after attending the global atheist

44

00:02:23,169 --> 00:02:27,219
convention in Melbourne I had the

45

00:02:24,969 --> 00:02:29,139
opportunity to speak to Julian about his

46

00:02:27,219 --> 00:02:31,719
career as a comedian his views on

47

00:02:29,139 --> 00:02:33,579
atheism and of course skepticism

48

00:02:31,719 --> 00:02:35,620
Julianne Moore i first started his

49

00:02:33,580 --> 00:02:38,020
career as a lawyer and you might be

50

00:02:35,620 --> 00:02:41,500
familiar with the entry of an apex

51

00:02:38,020 --> 00:02:43,360
security zone in 2007 masquerading is

52

00:02:41,500 --> 00:02:46,330
the motorcade of the Canadian delegation

53

00:02:43,360 --> 00:02:48,280
to a pet furious about a security breach

54

00:02:46,330 --> 00:02:50,320
at the APEC conference in Sydney a

55

00:02:48,280 --> 00:02:52,150
motorcade of vehicles got through the

56

00:02:50,319 --> 00:02:54,280
cordons and delivered a man dressed as

57

00:02:52,150 --> 00:02:57,039
Osama bin Laden to the front door of

58
00:02:54,280 --> 00:02:59,289
George Bush's hotel it turns out those

59
00:02:57,039 --> 00:03:01,750
responsible were from a TV satire

60
00:02:59,289 --> 00:03:04,060
program the chase report Channel Seven's

61
00:03:01,750 --> 00:03:06,159
Chris freeze and reports thank you very

62
00:03:04,060 --> 00:03:08,650
much for joining me Julian it's a great

63
00:03:06,159 --> 00:03:10,959
pleasure now we met at the global

64
00:03:08,650 --> 00:03:12,969
atheist convention Saturday night dinner

65
00:03:10,959 --> 00:03:14,920
which was held in Melbourne earlier this

66
00:03:12,969 --> 00:03:17,650
month that's right I found out the name

67
00:03:14,919 --> 00:03:19,750
of the first person you kissed oh no

68
00:03:17,650 --> 00:03:23,969
that's going to be everywhere now isn't

69
00:03:19,750 --> 00:03:27,909
it well it was because of a very

70
00:03:23,969 --> 00:03:29,620
skeptical illusionist to who managed to

71
00:03:27,909 --> 00:03:31,599
get you on stage without realizing

72
00:03:29,620 --> 00:03:34,090
you're the conference convener yes yes

73
00:03:31,599 --> 00:03:35,439
the fabulous Simon Taylor he's um quite

74
00:03:34,090 --> 00:03:37,719
a bit of a figure over there in the

75
00:03:35,439 --> 00:03:39,759
Victorian skeptic scene with his magical

76
00:03:37,719 --> 00:03:42,159
illusions and so forth you know he was

77
00:03:39,759 --> 00:03:47,139
really good hmm so how difficult is it

78
00:03:42,159 --> 00:03:51,159
to make fun of religion oh look it's not

79
00:03:47,139 --> 00:03:54,250
that hard it's almost as hard as making

80
00:03:51,159 --> 00:03:55,989
fun of atheism yes and you managed to do

81
00:03:54,250 --> 00:03:58,300
that quite well by posting up a large

82
00:03:55,989 --> 00:04:00,549
poster which made a lot of fun of the

83
00:03:58,300 --> 00:04:02,109
Atheist bus banners that have been going

84
00:04:00,549 --> 00:04:04,189
around yeah that's what that was

85
00:04:02,109 --> 00:04:06,710
actually it was fun too

86

00:04:04,189 --> 00:04:09,020
lay that at the convention because it

87
00:04:06,710 --> 00:04:11,629
was actually a piece of footage that

88
00:04:09,020 --> 00:04:13,990
we've made for the chases war on

89
00:04:11,629 --> 00:04:17,029
everything series 3 but didn't broadcast

90
00:04:13,990 --> 00:04:20,299
and it followed from the you know the

91
00:04:17,029 --> 00:04:23,599
Atheist bus ad thing that started in in

92
00:04:20,298 --> 00:04:26,389
London and we happen to be in London

93
00:04:23,600 --> 00:04:28,610
around the time because we were shooting

94
00:04:26,389 --> 00:04:33,310
for the war and everything and we

95
00:04:28,610 --> 00:04:36,050
basically made our own little sign for

96
00:04:33,310 --> 00:04:39,050
you know in treating the London

97
00:04:36,050 --> 00:04:41,870
commuters to bow down to the the Dark

98
00:04:39,050 --> 00:04:44,660
Lord Satan just to try and even out the

99
00:04:41,870 --> 00:04:46,399
the debate between atheism and and and

100
00:04:44,660 --> 00:04:47,930

religious people we thought that Satan

101

00:04:46,399 --> 00:04:49,819

need to get a bit of a look in it was

102

00:04:47,930 --> 00:04:53,180

actually really fun stunt to do although

103

00:04:49,819 --> 00:04:54,860

it didn't quite work for the just as a

104

00:04:53,180 --> 00:04:55,850

package for our general audience and

105

00:04:54,860 --> 00:04:57,710

what was kind of sitting there on the

106

00:04:55,850 --> 00:04:59,060

shelf and we figured if it didn't get a

107

00:04:57,709 --> 00:05:00,079

laugh or the ideas convention it was

108

00:04:59,060 --> 00:05:01,519

never going to get one and we were

109

00:05:00,079 --> 00:05:02,629

pretty glad that it did it went down

110

00:05:01,519 --> 00:05:04,759

pretty well I said it went down

111

00:05:02,629 --> 00:05:06,620

wonderfully well yeah now to set the

112

00:05:04,759 --> 00:05:08,300

scene a little for people who might be

113

00:05:06,620 --> 00:05:10,280

listening to our show who aren't

114

00:05:08,300 --> 00:05:11,960

familiar with your work there's an

115
00:05:10,279 --> 00:05:13,609
article that was originally printed in

116
00:05:11,959 --> 00:05:15,199
The Sydney Morning Herald and it's

117
00:05:13,610 --> 00:05:17,600
featured on a Richard Dawkins website

118
00:05:15,199 --> 00:05:19,610
that's right yeah the one about the

119
00:05:17,600 --> 00:05:22,669
crack annoyance squad for what was then

120
00:05:19,610 --> 00:05:24,379
the 2008 world youth day and you

121
00:05:22,668 --> 00:05:27,500
describe yourself as a lapsed Catholic

122
00:05:24,379 --> 00:05:31,129
elapsd lawyer elapsd chaser comedian

123
00:05:27,500 --> 00:05:34,430
and a practicing criminal so do you also

124
00:05:31,129 --> 00:05:36,889
describe yourself as a skeptic I look

125
00:05:34,430 --> 00:05:39,290
I'd say so I mean I'm not a mean yeah

126
00:05:36,889 --> 00:05:41,418
look I'm a great believer in there in

127
00:05:39,290 --> 00:05:45,890
rationalism I'm not a very scientific

128
00:05:41,418 --> 00:05:48,199
person and basically you know elementary

129
00:05:45,889 --> 00:05:49,610
concepts that most intelligent people

130
00:05:48,199 --> 00:05:53,089
should understand in the science world

131
00:05:49,610 --> 00:05:55,100
completely bemuse me but but I do

132
00:05:53,089 --> 00:05:57,319
believe that there are always rational

133
00:05:55,100 --> 00:05:59,030
explanations for for things and I

134
00:05:57,319 --> 00:06:03,980
suppose the other thing I would say is

135
00:05:59,029 --> 00:06:09,139
that I I do think that excessive

136
00:06:03,980 --> 00:06:13,189
rationality is as much a flaw as

137
00:06:09,139 --> 00:06:14,389
excessive spiritualism or occultism so

138
00:06:13,189 --> 00:06:15,709
you know the other I think that there's

139
00:06:14,389 --> 00:06:16,909
a balance to be struck in all these

140
00:06:15,709 --> 00:06:18,259
things

141
00:06:16,910 --> 00:06:20,510
asserts we're having a laugh at oneself

142
00:06:18,259 --> 00:06:23,509
comes into it as well well it comes

143

00:06:20,509 --> 00:06:25,699
naturally to us a funny thing being a

144
00:06:23,509 --> 00:06:28,279
comedian in one sense all the sort of

145
00:06:25,699 --> 00:06:31,569
kind of lowbrow cheap shot comedians

146
00:06:28,279 --> 00:06:34,539
that we are is it's essentially a

147
00:06:31,569 --> 00:06:39,230
negative pursuit you know it's about

148
00:06:34,540 --> 00:06:40,970
knocking down well hopefully those

149
00:06:39,230 --> 00:06:42,230
people in positions of authority but

150
00:06:40,970 --> 00:06:44,150
sometimes just innocent victims as well

151
00:06:42,230 --> 00:06:48,640
we can't pretend otherwise at the chaser

152
00:06:44,149 --> 00:06:52,639
and as I suppose to some extent that's

153
00:06:48,639 --> 00:06:56,029
similar to skepticism in terms of trying

154
00:06:52,639 --> 00:06:59,029
to you know the pierce the well you know

155
00:06:56,029 --> 00:07:00,289
falsehoods and pretensions claims that

156
00:06:59,029 --> 00:07:03,500
are more extravagant than they can

157
00:07:00,290 --> 00:07:04,700

possibly realistically be but as far as

158

00:07:03,500 --> 00:07:07,939

that's not the end of the game either

159

00:07:04,699 --> 00:07:09,769

there's there is a place for for the

160

00:07:07,939 --> 00:07:11,029

more positive side of things it's just

161

00:07:09,769 --> 00:07:12,560

that you add the chaser we're

162

00:07:11,029 --> 00:07:15,349

chronically incapable of it so we'd over

163

00:07:12,560 --> 00:07:19,149

Tim what led you to begin firstly as a

164

00:07:15,350 --> 00:07:23,840

lawyer and then become an entertainer um

165

00:07:19,149 --> 00:07:26,839

well look III did law for lack of

166

00:07:23,839 --> 00:07:29,239

imagination really ah what you like but

167

00:07:26,839 --> 00:07:32,959

yeah but I but actually I mean there's a

168

00:07:29,240 --> 00:07:34,310

kind of common thing of lawyers going

169

00:07:32,959 --> 00:07:36,229

into comedy and talking about how much

170

00:07:34,310 --> 00:07:37,699

they hated their law career I'm far more

171

00:07:36,230 --> 00:07:40,009

boring that actually really liked my

172
00:07:37,699 --> 00:07:44,029
career as a lawyer I became a lawyer

173
00:07:40,009 --> 00:07:46,759
because I was taught in an employment

174
00:07:44,029 --> 00:07:49,939
and industrial law by a fantastic man

175
00:07:46,759 --> 00:07:53,449
called professor Ranma Callum is

176
00:07:49,939 --> 00:07:55,759
actually I believe the first blind law

177
00:07:53,449 --> 00:07:59,469
professor in Australia at least and he's

178
00:07:55,759 --> 00:08:02,750
an amazing guy very inspirational and

179
00:07:59,470 --> 00:08:05,810
certainly inspired me to to work as an

180
00:08:02,750 --> 00:08:08,240
employment lawyer for a while but I

181
00:08:05,810 --> 00:08:11,389
suppose the link with comedy is that as

182
00:08:08,240 --> 00:08:13,250
a lawyer essentially your job is to play

183
00:08:11,389 --> 00:08:15,139
with the meaning of words you know

184
00:08:13,250 --> 00:08:17,839
essentially clients pay you to twist the

185
00:08:15,139 --> 00:08:19,699
meaning of words in their favor in a way

186
00:08:17,839 --> 00:08:23,239
which sometimes is very useful in other

187
00:08:19,699 --> 00:08:27,228
times is outrageously unjust and

188
00:08:23,240 --> 00:08:28,460
disgraceful but it's about playing with

189
00:08:27,228 --> 00:08:30,408
the meaning of words and comedy

190
00:08:28,459 --> 00:08:32,240
essentially is

191
00:08:30,408 --> 00:08:33,708
about setting up expectations in the

192
00:08:32,240 --> 00:08:36,799
meaning of words and then and then

193
00:08:33,708 --> 00:08:38,538
submerging them more often than not so

194
00:08:36,799 --> 00:08:40,490
how did you become an entertainer than

195
00:08:38,538 --> 00:08:45,049
joining the chases and becoming the

196
00:08:40,490 --> 00:08:48,980
powerhouse that you are media well that

197
00:08:45,049 --> 00:08:51,109
there was a period in the late 1990s

198
00:08:48,980 --> 00:08:52,459
where some of my mates from University

199
00:08:51,110 --> 00:08:54,709
who'd done Arts degrees they weren't

200

00:08:52,458 --> 00:08:57,469
they hadn't done the law degrees were in

201
00:08:54,708 --> 00:09:00,859
serious danger of having to get a real

202
00:08:57,470 --> 00:09:03,620
job oh no no that was that was untenable

203
00:09:00,860 --> 00:09:04,909
as far as we were concerned yes I think

204
00:09:03,620 --> 00:09:07,639
as far as a lot of the legitimate work

205
00:09:04,909 --> 00:09:09,078
force that was well there were no real

206
00:09:07,639 --> 00:09:10,339
prospects but we thought the just in

207
00:09:09,078 --> 00:09:12,500
case that happened we should start up

208
00:09:10,339 --> 00:09:15,889
this satirical newspaper so we also

209
00:09:12,500 --> 00:09:17,629
started really as writers writing the

210
00:09:15,889 --> 00:09:22,310
chase of newspaper which was a parody of

211
00:09:17,629 --> 00:09:24,769
a tabloid newspaper and we did that for

212
00:09:22,309 --> 00:09:26,028
a while we had a we had I think probably

213
00:09:24,769 --> 00:09:27,438
one of the funniest things we've ever

214
00:09:26,028 --> 00:09:29,028

written was our business plan that was

215

00:09:27,438 --> 00:09:32,059

an absolute it was a complete joke and

216

00:09:29,028 --> 00:09:33,948

we we were going to do I think eight

217

00:09:32,059 --> 00:09:36,169

editions of the print newspaper and if

218

00:09:33,948 --> 00:09:38,688

it if it didn't succeed after eight

219

00:09:36,169 --> 00:09:41,509

editions on financial grounds we were

220

00:09:38,688 --> 00:09:43,338

going to end the paper and you know go

221

00:09:41,509 --> 00:09:45,680

back to it to whatever our other

222

00:09:43,339 --> 00:09:47,540

pursuits were and after eight editions

223

00:09:45,679 --> 00:09:49,698

it was an absolute disaster financially

224

00:09:47,539 --> 00:09:51,289

but we were kind of enjoying ourselves

225

00:09:49,698 --> 00:09:52,549

that we resolved it to close the

226

00:09:51,289 --> 00:09:53,870

newspaper down but because we're so

227

00:09:52,549 --> 00:09:57,109

administratively lacks it took us about

228

00:09:53,870 --> 00:09:59,179

five years to do and in the meantime we

229

00:09:57,110 --> 00:10:00,709

just kept pumping out this this

230

00:09:59,179 --> 00:10:03,769

newspaper it was an act of phenomenal

231

00:10:00,708 --> 00:10:05,719

arrogant it's because nobody read it but

232

00:10:03,769 --> 00:10:08,509

we did send it to the sorts of people

233

00:10:05,720 --> 00:10:11,439

who we you know would have liked to to

234

00:10:08,509 --> 00:10:14,750

meet really it was basically a kind of

235

00:10:11,438 --> 00:10:18,169

kind of intellectual comedy flirt

236

00:10:14,750 --> 00:10:20,240

routine but but Andrew Denton started

237

00:10:18,169 --> 00:10:21,889

subscribing and then came along to one

238

00:10:20,240 --> 00:10:24,649

of our parties and then he gave us out

239

00:10:21,889 --> 00:10:26,750

our first break in television so we were

240

00:10:24,649 --> 00:10:33,708

very lucky so what do you consider good

241

00:10:26,750 --> 00:10:35,058

comedy then look it well I mean we know

242

00:10:33,708 --> 00:10:36,768

more than most of these things are

243
00:10:35,058 --> 00:10:39,558
matters of taste I have a you know a

244
00:10:36,769 --> 00:10:41,959
dark a sense of humor than a lot of of

245
00:10:39,558 --> 00:10:44,179
our audience does I mean I i I'm a very

246
00:10:41,958 --> 00:10:45,469
worthy person I tend to like

247
00:10:44,179 --> 00:10:47,838
of things that play with the structure

248
00:10:45,470 --> 00:10:49,160
of language and stuff like that so a lot

249
00:10:47,839 --> 00:10:51,230
of british comedies great along those

250
00:10:49,159 --> 00:10:54,919
lines are particularly like the mighty

251
00:10:51,230 --> 00:10:59,089
boosh oh yeah and and some of niall

252
00:10:54,919 --> 00:11:01,759
Fielding's live routines which are ya

253
00:10:59,089 --> 00:11:02,930
this sort of stuff that Noam Chomsky

254
00:11:01,759 --> 00:11:05,539
should should wrap his head around

255
00:11:02,929 --> 00:11:08,569
sometime because it's it's completely

256
00:11:05,539 --> 00:11:11,449
nonsensical in its content but at the

257

00:11:08,570 --> 00:11:13,370
same time has a certain logic to it that

258
00:11:11,450 --> 00:11:14,330
you intuitively understand so I think

259
00:11:13,370 --> 00:11:16,490
he's pretty good I think she won the

260
00:11:14,330 --> 00:11:20,270
Caliph's that probably the best comedian

261
00:11:16,490 --> 00:11:22,339
in Australia at the moment and one of

262
00:11:20,269 --> 00:11:25,370
things I like about him is that he kind

263
00:11:22,339 --> 00:11:27,050
of deconstructs the the will plant plays

264
00:11:25,370 --> 00:11:30,320
with the structure of language more than

265
00:11:27,049 --> 00:11:33,109
most average Australian comedians I'm a

266
00:11:30,320 --> 00:11:37,670
complete devotee of the daily show and

267
00:11:33,110 --> 00:11:39,649
the colbert report and I like well I

268
00:11:37,669 --> 00:11:40,579
like Bill Maher show real-time probably

269
00:11:39,649 --> 00:11:42,339
more for the comedy than for the

270
00:11:40,580 --> 00:11:44,300
intellectual content to be honest but

271
00:11:42,339 --> 00:11:45,260

but yeah there's plenty there's plenty

272

00:11:44,299 --> 00:11:47,000

of good comedy to keep you going

273

00:11:45,259 --> 00:11:49,278

actually do you think that there's a

274

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:51,708

rising number of comedian entertainers

275

00:11:49,278 --> 00:11:53,778

who use Pro atheists and pro skeptic

276

00:11:51,708 --> 00:11:56,479

material in their acts or how we just

277

00:11:53,778 --> 00:12:01,450

noticing them or look I think there's

278

00:11:56,480 --> 00:12:04,100

always been you know that kind of strain

279

00:12:01,450 --> 00:12:07,970

in comedy because it because comedies

280

00:12:04,100 --> 00:12:10,850

sit essentially pretty cynical and so I

281

00:12:07,970 --> 00:12:13,820

suppose there's a there's a natural kind

282

00:12:10,850 --> 00:12:15,409

of commonality between those two things

283

00:12:13,820 --> 00:12:19,820

we're probably noticing a little bit

284

00:12:15,409 --> 00:12:21,230

more but by the many in the end I think

285

00:12:19,820 --> 00:12:22,459

there's good comedy and bad comedy i

286
00:12:21,230 --> 00:12:25,690
think that the beliefs that you have

287
00:12:22,458 --> 00:12:27,649
behind it don't really matter that much

288
00:12:25,690 --> 00:12:30,920
you've got to make your audience laughs

289
00:12:27,649 --> 00:12:33,278
and and and that's true if it's a

290
00:12:30,919 --> 00:12:36,349
religion sort religious audience or a

291
00:12:33,278 --> 00:12:37,850
theist one a favorite chaser sketch of

292
00:12:36,350 --> 00:12:39,589
mine is when the members of the team

293
00:12:37,850 --> 00:12:41,839
dress up as the Ghostbusters and

294
00:12:39,589 --> 00:12:44,959
confront John Edward with a

295
00:12:41,839 --> 00:12:46,880
meter ok ok how did that come about how

296
00:12:44,958 --> 00:12:48,769
did you get all that was that that was

297
00:12:46,879 --> 00:12:52,189
funny actually because we knew that John

298
00:12:48,769 --> 00:12:54,439
Edward was in town and we knew that he

299
00:12:52,190 --> 00:12:56,690
was doing an interview on The Today Show

300
00:12:54,440 --> 00:13:00,860
so we'd actually sent

301
00:12:56,690 --> 00:13:03,440
our researchers up to to kind of stake

302
00:13:00,860 --> 00:13:05,659
out the channel 9 studios or willoughby

303
00:13:03,440 --> 00:13:07,850
and then to follow John Edwards car when

304
00:13:05,659 --> 00:13:10,299
he came off air they did that but

305
00:13:07,850 --> 00:13:12,980
unfortunately we weren't able to get the

306
00:13:10,299 --> 00:13:15,079
all the props and stuff together our art

307
00:13:12,980 --> 00:13:16,310
department did an amazing job that day

308
00:13:15,080 --> 00:13:17,810
because we briefed them at about eight

309
00:13:16,309 --> 00:13:21,619
o'clock that we wanted to dress up as

310
00:13:17,809 --> 00:13:23,509
Ghostbusters and they made now what do

311
00:13:21,620 --> 00:13:26,269
they call those Power Packs that the

312
00:13:23,509 --> 00:13:29,659
Ghostbusters had oh yes a sort of laser

313
00:13:26,269 --> 00:13:31,939
yeah yeah yeah well how versions were

314

00:13:29,659 --> 00:13:34,909
like a kind of play school mock up of

315
00:13:31,940 --> 00:13:36,680
made out of items of office station read

316
00:13:34,909 --> 00:13:39,860
about 10 minutes notice but I did a

317
00:13:36,679 --> 00:13:43,599
great job and unfortunately however we

318
00:13:39,860 --> 00:13:46,700
missed Edward before he got back to his

319
00:13:43,600 --> 00:13:49,370
his hotel in the city so we kind of

320
00:13:46,700 --> 00:13:51,590
staked out the hotel for a while and

321
00:13:49,370 --> 00:13:52,970
eventually we were kind of in visiting

322
00:13:51,590 --> 00:13:54,649
or gonna have to follow this guy to the

323
00:13:52,970 --> 00:13:56,660
entertainment center or whatever and try

324
00:13:54,649 --> 00:13:58,970
and get past his security eventually

325
00:13:56,659 --> 00:14:01,399
wandered out the front door and was

326
00:13:58,970 --> 00:14:04,430
walking along circular key as it turned

327
00:14:01,399 --> 00:14:08,240
out in his very mainstream American ways

328
00:14:04,429 --> 00:14:10,579

to go down to mcdonalds to to try the

329

00:14:08,240 --> 00:14:11,840

local mcdonalds cuisine you know

330

00:14:10,580 --> 00:14:14,120

obviously it wasn't Australia so I

331

00:14:11,840 --> 00:14:17,930

wanted to have him Agha's to see what

332

00:14:14,120 --> 00:14:19,789

our culture was like and and so we all

333

00:14:17,929 --> 00:14:21,289

ran after him and while hiding around

334

00:14:19,789 --> 00:14:24,469

the corner waiting for him to come out

335

00:14:21,289 --> 00:14:26,419

of his of McDonald's it was really funny

336

00:14:24,470 --> 00:14:28,490

actually because we were hiding in this

337

00:14:26,419 --> 00:14:31,490

place and mysteriously he just started

338

00:14:28,490 --> 00:14:33,110

walking straight towards us we would

339

00:14:31,490 --> 00:14:35,060

completely freaked out all our

340

00:14:33,110 --> 00:14:36,860

skepticism evaporated we're like he

341

00:14:35,059 --> 00:14:38,449

knows we're here this is amazing how

342

00:14:36,860 --> 00:14:40,220

could why is he walking here this guy's

343
00:14:38,450 --> 00:14:45,020
incredible we were about to buy tickets

344
00:14:40,220 --> 00:14:46,220
to his to his show and then of course he

345
00:14:45,019 --> 00:14:48,980
walked straight past is having no idea

346
00:14:46,220 --> 00:14:50,570
they were there and then we we hijacked

347
00:14:48,980 --> 00:14:53,149
and we kind of felt a bit sorry for him

348
00:14:50,570 --> 00:14:56,120
actually because we heard later on from

349
00:14:53,149 --> 00:14:57,319
his publicist that you know doing all

350
00:14:56,120 --> 00:14:58,909
that bollocks that he does about

351
00:14:57,320 --> 00:15:02,089
pretending dogs dead people he actually

352
00:14:58,909 --> 00:15:04,399
attracts quite a lot of nutters and so

353
00:15:02,089 --> 00:15:06,890
when we ran up to him and started

354
00:15:04,399 --> 00:15:09,889
behaving in a bizarre manner I think he

355
00:15:06,889 --> 00:15:10,129
was slightly afraid that we might make

356
00:15:09,889 --> 00:15:13,429
him

357
00:15:10,129 --> 00:15:15,649
crossover so to speak and so when he

358
00:15:13,429 --> 00:15:17,750
found out that we were just mean

359
00:15:15,649 --> 00:15:26,569
rationalist comedians I think he was a

360
00:15:17,750 --> 00:15:28,159
bit relieved it's another long list of

361
00:15:26,570 --> 00:15:29,510
problems on us like jewels so let's get

362
00:15:28,159 --> 00:15:32,389
straight into it with problem number one

363
00:15:29,509 --> 00:15:34,039
Johnny yes now he's the American psychic

364
00:15:32,389 --> 00:15:35,689
guy that communicates with dead people

365
00:15:34,039 --> 00:15:37,219
who've crossed over and he's crossed

366
00:15:35,690 --> 00:15:38,600
over to Australia at the moment as he

367
00:15:37,220 --> 00:15:40,490
has find out what stanza mannequin

368
00:15:38,600 --> 00:15:42,500
brockie thought of the LG song yeah look

369
00:15:40,490 --> 00:15:44,269
with a celebrity psychic like John

370
00:15:42,500 --> 00:15:45,980
Edward in town there's obviously a lot

371

00:15:44,269 --> 00:15:48,289
of excitement surrounding amongst

372
00:15:45,980 --> 00:15:50,060
gullible people of course but also Craig

373
00:15:48,289 --> 00:15:51,679
I've noticed the amount of paranormal

374
00:15:50,059 --> 00:15:53,569
activity in this country has skyrocketed

375
00:15:51,679 --> 00:15:55,009
yes there's something strange in the

376
00:15:53,570 --> 00:15:56,750
neighborhood all right which really

377
00:15:55,009 --> 00:16:02,929
raises the question who are you gonna

378
00:15:56,750 --> 00:16:04,460
call John where the Ghostbusters we're

379
00:16:02,929 --> 00:16:06,439
gonna report of unusually high levels of

380
00:16:04,460 --> 00:16:08,030
ghost activity in this area are you the

381
00:16:06,440 --> 00:16:10,850
gatekeeper nobody gave you from the

382
00:16:08,029 --> 00:16:12,529
movie get oh my god you check your

383
00:16:10,850 --> 00:16:14,269
made out of noodles darting

384
00:16:12,529 --> 00:16:16,039
through the road there's definitely some

385
00:16:14,269 --> 00:16:17,870

unusually high levels of paranormal

386

00:16:16,039 --> 00:16:20,620
in this area don't worry John

387

00:16:17,870 --> 00:16:20,620
will say to you

388

00:16:31,129 --> 00:16:36,360
is there any bit that you ever really

389

00:16:34,110 --> 00:16:40,830
wanted to do but just have not been able

390

00:16:36,360 --> 00:16:43,759
to get due to logistical reasons um look

391

00:16:40,830 --> 00:16:47,850
we've been pretty lucky it's amazing how

392

00:16:43,759 --> 00:16:50,159
many long shots have come off over the

393

00:16:47,850 --> 00:16:53,490
years that the the biggest one of course

394

00:16:50,159 --> 00:16:55,350
being the APEC summit which was what we

395

00:16:53,490 --> 00:16:56,759
thought it was a million-to-one at best

396

00:16:55,350 --> 00:16:58,889
and that turned out to be a damn sight

397

00:16:56,759 --> 00:17:02,639
easier than we expected there have been

398

00:16:58,889 --> 00:17:06,000
plenty of days where you know you sit

399

00:17:02,639 --> 00:17:08,759
outside someone's house in the rain in

400
00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:11,400
some stupid costume from about six a.m.

401
00:17:08,759 --> 00:17:13,230
and then at about 11am you kind of

402
00:17:11,400 --> 00:17:15,960
realize that they probably aren't in the

403
00:17:13,230 --> 00:17:18,960
house I did that once with what was it

404
00:17:15,960 --> 00:17:22,860
the guys name is I think Jacob vice Minh

405
00:17:18,960 --> 00:17:25,829
who's the the guy who runs the advanced

406
00:17:22,859 --> 00:17:29,669
medical institute you know the the

407
00:17:25,829 --> 00:17:32,279
people that offer longer lasting sex and

408
00:17:29,670 --> 00:17:34,970
you know those kind of he has an oral

409
00:17:32,279 --> 00:17:37,410
solution for erectile dysfunction which

410
00:17:34,970 --> 00:17:40,110
I'm a little bit skeptical about to be

411
00:17:37,410 --> 00:17:41,460
honest so yeah so I said outside his

412
00:17:40,109 --> 00:17:43,079
place well I think he was away on

413
00:17:41,460 --> 00:17:45,870
holiday somewhere for for the best part

414
00:17:43,079 --> 00:17:48,419
of half a day that's an occupational

415
00:17:45,869 --> 00:17:50,339
hazard yeah and people ever written in

416
00:17:48,420 --> 00:17:53,730
and suggested right you've done John

417
00:17:50,339 --> 00:17:55,169
Edward next Sylvia Browne or this person

418
00:17:53,730 --> 00:17:56,670
and yeah look we get lots of suggestions

419
00:17:55,170 --> 00:17:59,430
we were a little bit burnt by them in

420
00:17:56,670 --> 00:18:00,690
fact early on somebody suggested a

421
00:17:59,430 --> 00:18:03,180
sketch to us which we thought was a good

422
00:18:00,690 --> 00:18:06,150
idea we wrote it up and then found out

423
00:18:03,180 --> 00:18:08,700
that whether knowingly or not the person

424
00:18:06,150 --> 00:18:10,140
who'd suggested a sketch to us which

425
00:18:08,700 --> 00:18:13,259
they'd actually seen all the simpsons

426
00:18:10,140 --> 00:18:15,500
earlier on so we were accused of

427
00:18:13,259 --> 00:18:18,450
plagiarism when in fact there are a

428

00:18:15,500 --> 00:18:21,660
crime was a slightly lesser form of lack

429
00:18:18,450 --> 00:18:25,440
of originality so we do try and come up

430
00:18:21,660 --> 00:18:26,850
with most of the stuff ourselves not

431
00:18:25,440 --> 00:18:29,539
necessarily because it's better just cuz

432
00:18:26,849 --> 00:18:31,500
we're you know rabid egomaniacs

433
00:18:29,539 --> 00:18:32,579
incapable of collaborating with anyone

434
00:18:31,500 --> 00:18:35,849
other than the people that we happen to

435
00:18:32,579 --> 00:18:36,839
start working with a decade ago so but

436
00:18:35,849 --> 00:18:39,689
but I suppose we do take some

437
00:18:36,839 --> 00:18:42,119
suggestions often with savn road tests

438
00:18:39,690 --> 00:18:43,470
that we used to do people would would

439
00:18:42,119 --> 00:18:46,259
see the

440
00:18:43,470 --> 00:18:47,850
ads on TV that they thought were well

441
00:18:46,259 --> 00:18:49,980
primed for a road test and that was

442
00:18:47,849 --> 00:18:52,558

quite useful because obviously we didn't

443

00:18:49,980 --> 00:18:54,450

watch that may ads because we were

444

00:18:52,558 --> 00:18:56,158

working so high so yeah so we did take

445

00:18:54,450 --> 00:18:57,450

suggestion what plans have you got for

446

00:18:56,159 --> 00:18:59,610

the rest of the year now that you've

447

00:18:57,450 --> 00:19:01,350

done the global atheist conference would

448

00:18:59,609 --> 00:19:05,009

you be interested in the amazing meeting

449

00:19:01,349 --> 00:19:06,990

Australia well when's that on that will

450

00:19:05,009 --> 00:19:08,849

be on in November and that should have

451

00:19:06,990 --> 00:19:11,009

James Randi and a variety of other

452

00:19:08,849 --> 00:19:13,349

skeptical because attending oh well look

453

00:19:11,009 --> 00:19:15,779

at that that sounds awesome one

454

00:19:13,349 --> 00:19:18,209

potential complication around that time

455

00:19:15,779 --> 00:19:21,210

which is in the hands of the gods or at

456

00:19:18,210 --> 00:19:22,890

least the Prime Minister is the

457
00:19:21,210 --> 00:19:26,400
possibility of a federal election around

458
00:19:22,890 --> 00:19:29,190
that time we we haven't kind of got

459
00:19:26,400 --> 00:19:31,860
anything teed up yet but we're quite

460
00:19:29,190 --> 00:19:34,409
interested in getting back to what I

461
00:19:31,859 --> 00:19:36,058
suppose was where the chaser on

462
00:19:34,409 --> 00:19:39,270
television started which was covering

463
00:19:36,058 --> 00:19:40,889
federal election campaigns and the

464
00:19:39,269 --> 00:19:44,009
prospect of a campaign between Kevin

465
00:19:40,890 --> 00:19:45,720
Rudd and Tony Abbott seems well it

466
00:19:44,009 --> 00:19:46,950
practically satirizes itself but we

467
00:19:45,720 --> 00:19:49,798
figure we might give it a bit of a nudge

468
00:19:46,950 --> 00:19:52,288
along at some point so um but yeah

469
00:19:49,798 --> 00:19:54,509
amazing in November sounds sounds good

470
00:19:52,288 --> 00:19:56,158
if not we're looking forward after what

471
00:19:54,509 --> 00:19:58,259
Richard Dawkins said to maybe some sort

472
00:19:56,159 --> 00:20:01,169
of intergalactic atheist convention

473
00:19:58,259 --> 00:20:03,119
sometime soon which will be more than

474
00:20:01,169 --> 00:20:05,280
more than happily willing to make

475
00:20:03,119 --> 00:20:08,038
ourselves available for great okay well

476
00:20:05,279 --> 00:20:09,990
look I'll have a look and we enjoyed it

477
00:20:08,038 --> 00:20:12,419
are you gonna do another a theist

478
00:20:09,990 --> 00:20:14,400
convention I sincerely hope so um i

479
00:20:12,419 --> 00:20:16,470
don't know if i'll get to be the emcee

480
00:20:14,400 --> 00:20:18,570
again because i imagine if it gets even

481
00:20:16,470 --> 00:20:21,720
bigger and better and huger and wider

482
00:20:18,569 --> 00:20:23,519
and border for 2012 they might choose

483
00:20:21,720 --> 00:20:25,980
somebody else but i'd love to be able to

484
00:20:23,519 --> 00:20:27,869
do more research that I'm doing um by

485

00:20:25,980 --> 00:20:30,390
the time it comes around off maybe I'll

486
00:20:27,869 --> 00:20:32,668
be doing my PhD on paranormal beliefs

487
00:20:30,390 --> 00:20:34,110
Sonia yeah well look I mean yeah I mean

488
00:20:32,669 --> 00:20:35,669
nothing you guys did a great job and if

489
00:20:34,109 --> 00:20:37,139
you if you've been involved in starting

490
00:20:35,669 --> 00:20:39,570
it you should hang onto that podium as

491
00:20:37,140 --> 00:20:41,880
long as you can erect one of the things

492
00:20:39,569 --> 00:20:44,038
I did think yeah like if it's if it's

493
00:20:41,880 --> 00:20:46,380
done another time I think even if it's

494
00:20:44,038 --> 00:20:48,119
from a marketing perspective that you

495
00:20:46,380 --> 00:20:50,940
could enhance the program a little bit

496
00:20:48,119 --> 00:20:53,129
by kind of engaging the other side of

497
00:20:50,940 --> 00:20:54,840
the brain a bit more I don't know if

498
00:20:53,130 --> 00:20:56,200
that brain yeah left and right side

499
00:20:54,839 --> 00:20:57,879

stuff I have a vague

500

00:20:56,200 --> 00:20:59,558

collection that's that's not as clear as

501

00:20:57,880 --> 00:21:02,110

people say but but you know what I mean

502

00:20:59,558 --> 00:21:04,720

kind of I'm sure we agree that I mean it

503

00:21:02,109 --> 00:21:07,178

is just true that not believing in God

504

00:21:04,720 --> 00:21:11,230

doesn't prevent you from any of the kind

505

00:21:07,179 --> 00:21:13,419

of wonder in the in both the human world

506

00:21:11,230 --> 00:21:15,759

or appreciation of the arts or any of

507

00:21:13,419 --> 00:21:21,549

that sort of stuff I reckon hearing from

508

00:21:15,759 --> 00:21:24,970

kind of Beast full artistic atheists

509

00:21:21,548 --> 00:21:27,879

would be you know a nice way of kind of

510

00:21:24,970 --> 00:21:29,860

enriching the picture of atheism you

511

00:21:27,880 --> 00:21:31,899

know some future con convention as well

512

00:21:29,859 --> 00:21:33,939

this is something that we try to do all

513

00:21:31,898 --> 00:21:36,038

the time with our podcast but I be very

514
00:21:33,940 --> 00:21:38,769
kind of I mean I don't know whether say

515
00:21:36,038 --> 00:21:40,509
someone like tim winton or yeah um you

516
00:21:38,769 --> 00:21:41,740
know I know Liz Murray's religious but

517
00:21:40,509 --> 00:21:47,230
that but I bet you there would be very

518
00:21:41,740 --> 00:21:51,579
kind of you know really arty types who

519
00:21:47,230 --> 00:21:54,308
are also completely atheistic and to

520
00:21:51,579 --> 00:21:56,470
mention 13 yeah yeah exactly yeah yeah I

521
00:21:54,308 --> 00:21:59,470
beat the christus sulcus is a day kids

522
00:21:56,470 --> 00:22:00,788
hmm and you know some of that getting

523
00:21:59,470 --> 00:22:03,548
some of those bonds along would probably

524
00:22:00,788 --> 00:22:04,869
be a good thing as well but then I look

525
00:22:03,548 --> 00:22:06,700
at congratulations on it must have been

526
00:22:04,869 --> 00:22:09,369
a massive thing to have to pull off so

527
00:22:06,700 --> 00:22:11,798
yeah it was great yeah really good crew

528
00:22:09,369 --> 00:22:14,439
the backstage crew was so incredibly on

529
00:22:11,798 --> 00:22:16,148
on the ball the whole time and yeah it's

530
00:22:14,440 --> 00:22:18,639
just wanna thank you very much Julia

531
00:22:16,148 --> 00:22:23,589
it's a pleasure Carla you can check out

532
00:22:18,638 --> 00:22:26,189
the official chaser website at WWDC com

533
00:22:23,589 --> 00:22:26,189
au

534
00:22:36,069 --> 00:22:40,548
examining the truth in exposing the

535
00:22:38,210 --> 00:22:42,558
frauds that psychics co uk is the

536
00:22:40,548 --> 00:22:44,658
website that critically examines mediums

537
00:22:42,558 --> 00:22:46,489
clairvoyants and psychics follow the

538
00:22:44,659 --> 00:22:48,590
controversies news and discussions in

539
00:22:46,489 --> 00:22:50,090
the lively forum community and now you

540
00:22:48,589 --> 00:22:51,769
can download your weekly fix of

541
00:22:50,089 --> 00:22:54,138
righteous indignation the official

542

00:22:51,769 --> 00:22:55,399
podcast of bad psychics khodet UK that

543
00:22:54,138 --> 00:22:58,519
talks hard and critically about

544
00:22:55,398 --> 00:23:00,288
paranormal bad psychics doctor at UK the

545
00:22:58,519 --> 00:23:12,440
UK's largest and most respected

546
00:23:00,288 --> 00:23:15,229
skeptical site looking at psychics now

547
00:23:12,440 --> 00:23:18,580
it's time for dr. Reiter reports with

548
00:23:15,229 --> 00:23:18,580
dr. Rachel Dunlop

549
00:23:19,720 --> 00:23:25,759
hello listeners and welcome to dr.

550
00:23:22,190 --> 00:23:28,130
retching reports this week I talked to

551
00:23:25,759 --> 00:23:31,400
mark Carter who runs an eco-tourism

552
00:23:28,130 --> 00:23:33,410
company in the Northern Territory mark

553
00:23:31,400 --> 00:23:35,090
got in touch with us last week after we

554
00:23:33,410 --> 00:23:37,670
discussed the larger man who fish

555
00:23:35,089 --> 00:23:41,089
falling from the sky story in the think

556
00:23:37,670 --> 00:23:43,430

tank here I talked to mark about this

557

00:23:41,089 --> 00:23:45,709

story and also some of the other unique

558

00:23:43,430 --> 00:23:47,890

wildlife that survives in the extreme

559

00:23:45,710 --> 00:23:50,660

conditions of the Northern Territory

560

00:23:47,890 --> 00:23:52,820

mark also tells us about the local

561

00:23:50,660 --> 00:23:55,480

newspaper that has a reputation for

562

00:23:52,819 --> 00:23:58,339

reporting some pretty credulous stories

563

00:23:55,480 --> 00:24:01,039

so hello mark and welcome to the skeptic

564

00:23:58,339 --> 00:24:04,339

zone thanks for joining us today I there

565

00:24:01,039 --> 00:24:06,500

right now mark you sent an email to us

566

00:24:04,339 --> 00:24:10,159

last week because you live in an area

567

00:24:06,500 --> 00:24:12,349

near the larger Marnie fish raining from

568

00:24:10,160 --> 00:24:14,600

the sky and you know something about

569

00:24:12,349 --> 00:24:18,230

this story because you run an

570

00:24:14,599 --> 00:24:19,490

eco-tourism company in Alice Springs now

571
00:24:18,230 --> 00:24:21,559
can you tell us a little bit about

572
00:24:19,490 --> 00:24:24,410
larger man who it's a very isolated

573
00:24:21,559 --> 00:24:26,839
remote community isn't it yeah that's

574
00:24:24,410 --> 00:24:28,640
right it's hundreds of kilometers really

575
00:24:26,839 --> 00:24:30,589
from anywhere else you have to spend

576
00:24:28,640 --> 00:24:33,380
several hours in a four-wheel drive

577
00:24:30,589 --> 00:24:36,470
vehicle and dirt roads and even to get

578
00:24:33,380 --> 00:24:40,280
close to the place it really is a very

579
00:24:36,470 --> 00:24:41,750
very remote place to go it's quite an

580
00:24:40,279 --> 00:24:44,690
impoverished community it's an

581
00:24:41,750 --> 00:24:46,880
Aboriginal community and yeah it's quite

582
00:24:44,690 --> 00:24:49,279
it's quite hard place to live it's a

583
00:24:46,880 --> 00:24:50,660
very beautiful place and the landscape

584
00:24:49,279 --> 00:24:53,660
around there is really really

585
00:24:50,660 --> 00:24:55,070
sensational very beautiful but yeah

586
00:24:53,660 --> 00:24:56,390
people out there they don't have a lot

587
00:24:55,069 --> 00:24:59,450
of money and there's a lot of

588
00:24:56,390 --> 00:25:01,160
traditional people out there too so they

589
00:24:59,450 --> 00:25:03,230
don't have a lot of access to technology

590
00:25:01,160 --> 00:25:05,090
in the same way that maybe people in

591
00:25:03,230 --> 00:25:07,160
cities might expect so that's why

592
00:25:05,089 --> 00:25:09,049
there's that distracts the occasional

593
00:25:07,160 --> 00:25:10,940
photograph of the alleged fish raining

594
00:25:09,049 --> 00:25:13,099
from the sky there's no good quality

595
00:25:10,940 --> 00:25:15,350
video or anything like that so to get

596
00:25:13,099 --> 00:25:18,230
there from say Darwin you'd have to

597
00:25:15,349 --> 00:25:21,109
drive for about 13 hours and about 900

598
00:25:18,230 --> 00:25:23,089
kilometres and from Adelaide it's around

599

00:25:21,109 --> 00:25:24,679
two and a half thousand kilometers which

600
00:25:23,089 --> 00:25:27,169
would take longer than a day so we're

601
00:25:24,680 --> 00:25:29,420
really talking about the real australian

602
00:25:27,170 --> 00:25:31,289
outback here aren't we yeah that's right

603
00:25:29,420 --> 00:25:33,180
it's real so hello

604
00:25:31,289 --> 00:25:35,009
road trip getting out there I have

605
00:25:33,180 --> 00:25:37,650
friends who work out there and sometimes

606
00:25:35,009 --> 00:25:39,900
takes them several days they do they

607
00:25:37,650 --> 00:25:42,690
make a big big song and dance about it

608
00:25:39,900 --> 00:25:43,980
but I think they love it yeah so you you

609
00:25:42,690 --> 00:25:46,230
know if they've been about the wildlife

610
00:25:43,980 --> 00:25:48,299
in there in the area around Alice

611
00:25:46,230 --> 00:25:50,819
Springs and larger man who in particular

612
00:25:48,299 --> 00:25:53,250
you know something about the sort of the

613
00:25:50,819 --> 00:25:55,980

fish species and also the frogs can you

614

00:25:53,250 --> 00:25:59,880

tell us about how they can live in such

615

00:25:55,980 --> 00:26:02,549

extreme conditions yeah the Como here is

616

00:25:59,880 --> 00:26:04,800

pretty extreme and in winter it can get

617

00:26:02,549 --> 00:26:07,230

down to minus five or below and in

618

00:26:04,799 --> 00:26:09,509

summer the temperatures can soar up into

619

00:26:07,230 --> 00:26:11,460

the mid 40s and the the ground

620

00:26:09,509 --> 00:26:14,490

temperature can actually get up to 60

621

00:26:11,460 --> 00:26:16,470

degrees so it's a very hostile place for

622

00:26:14,490 --> 00:26:18,299

creatures to live any creatures never

623

00:26:16,470 --> 00:26:20,309

mind that creatures that need water like

624

00:26:18,299 --> 00:26:21,779

fish and frogs so they've had to come up

625

00:26:20,309 --> 00:26:24,509

with some pretty severe and their

626

00:26:21,779 --> 00:26:26,039

adaptations to life right here the way

627

00:26:24,509 --> 00:26:28,379

that the frogs have adapted is by

628
00:26:26,039 --> 00:26:30,299
burying themselves through the dry times

629
00:26:28,380 --> 00:26:31,440
and estimating that kind of means that

630
00:26:30,299 --> 00:26:33,839
they're going to suspended animation

631
00:26:31,440 --> 00:26:36,240
underground and they wait for the range

632
00:26:33,839 --> 00:26:38,129
to come again as soon as it rains they

633
00:26:36,240 --> 00:26:39,750
dig their way up to the surface and they

634
00:26:38,130 --> 00:26:42,270
go into a frenzy of feeding and breeding

635
00:26:39,750 --> 00:26:43,769
and we're actually in the middle of one

636
00:26:42,269 --> 00:26:45,089
of those events right now here in our

637
00:26:43,769 --> 00:26:47,970
Springs we had a lot of rain recently

638
00:26:45,089 --> 00:26:49,909
and it's very spectacular and these

639
00:26:47,970 --> 00:26:52,440
frogs really go hell for leather at it

640
00:26:49,910 --> 00:26:53,759
but for the rest of the year since it

641
00:26:52,440 --> 00:26:55,080
starts to dry up they're going to bury

642
00:26:53,759 --> 00:26:57,390
themselves and we're not going to see

643
00:26:55,079 --> 00:26:58,829
them again until it rains next and the

644
00:26:57,390 --> 00:27:00,420
fish have a different strategy though

645
00:26:58,829 --> 00:27:02,250
they can't survive despite what you

646
00:27:00,420 --> 00:27:04,230
might read in a few places or hear

647
00:27:02,250 --> 00:27:07,190
banded around they cannot survive on

648
00:27:04,230 --> 00:27:09,900
the ground and they retreat back to

649
00:27:07,190 --> 00:27:11,880
permanent water holes in water courses

650
00:27:09,900 --> 00:27:14,550
and that's where they will survive the

651
00:27:11,880 --> 00:27:17,220
drought hopefully there's only a few

652
00:27:14,549 --> 00:27:19,619
species generally in each water hole and

653
00:27:17,220 --> 00:27:21,210
some of them some of these water holes

654
00:27:19,619 --> 00:27:23,819
are actually are really hot spots for

655
00:27:21,210 --> 00:27:26,130
evolution and some of the fish species

656

00:27:23,819 --> 00:27:27,480
can be very confined to one or two river

657
00:27:26,130 --> 00:27:28,950
systems you might find them anywhere

658
00:27:27,480 --> 00:27:30,509
else in the world they're quite amazing

659
00:27:28,950 --> 00:27:32,700
little things yeah and one of those

660
00:27:30,509 --> 00:27:35,789
species is the Fink goby is that right

661
00:27:32,700 --> 00:27:38,279
that's specific to one type of one river

662
00:27:35,789 --> 00:27:40,649
system is that correct mark yeah that's

663
00:27:38,279 --> 00:27:42,599
right it's only fine from the Fink right

664
00:27:40,650 --> 00:27:44,130
now the Fink is actually flowing in

665
00:27:42,599 --> 00:27:44,639
sections there's been so much water

666
00:27:44,130 --> 00:27:45,960
around

667
00:27:44,640 --> 00:27:48,180
landscape so the faint go bees are

668
00:27:45,960 --> 00:27:50,130
having a rare old time there there there

669
00:27:48,180 --> 00:27:52,080
to be fine pretty much up and down the

670
00:27:50,130 --> 00:27:54,150

length of the Finke River but those

671

00:27:52,079 --> 00:27:56,129

water holes are starting to dry out the

672

00:27:54,150 --> 00:27:58,590

water is running out and stopping

673

00:27:56,130 --> 00:28:00,210

flowing now so those little pockets of

674

00:27:58,589 --> 00:28:03,839

fish they're going to get increasingly

675

00:28:00,210 --> 00:28:06,240

isolated and one by one they're going to

676

00:28:03,839 --> 00:28:08,399

dry out those fish are capable dealing

677

00:28:06,240 --> 00:28:09,960

with extreme salinity the the Finke

678

00:28:08,400 --> 00:28:12,060

River that they live in is quite salty

679

00:28:09,960 --> 00:28:14,759

anyway it's too salty really for you and

680

00:28:12,059 --> 00:28:16,440

I to drink but they can deal with very

681

00:28:14,759 --> 00:28:18,390

high levels salt and they can also deal

682

00:28:16,440 --> 00:28:21,000

with very high or very low temperatures

683

00:28:18,390 --> 00:28:22,680

they're incredible first very unassuming

684

00:28:21,000 --> 00:28:26,700

you you you wouldn't look at one and

685
00:28:22,680 --> 00:28:28,680
think wow I make sure a fish nutr but

686
00:28:26,700 --> 00:28:31,170
they are incredible with creatures

687
00:28:28,680 --> 00:28:33,570
they're really inspiring so can you give

688
00:28:31,170 --> 00:28:35,250
our listeners are not that familiar with

689
00:28:33,569 --> 00:28:39,000
the extremes of the Australian outback

690
00:28:35,250 --> 00:28:41,789
when you get these heavy rains I mean

691
00:28:39,000 --> 00:28:44,009
most of the time the desert is what gets

692
00:28:41,789 --> 00:28:45,839
a very small amount of rain compared to

693
00:28:44,009 --> 00:28:48,180
the amount of evaporation that occurs is

694
00:28:45,839 --> 00:28:50,039
that right yeah that's right we can have

695
00:28:48,180 --> 00:28:52,440
as little or well we can have as little

696
00:28:50,039 --> 00:28:55,379
as 20 centimeters of rainfall year or

697
00:28:52,440 --> 00:28:57,509
even less I think in 2009 we only had 15

698
00:28:55,380 --> 00:28:59,730
centimeters of rainfall in total and

699
00:28:57,509 --> 00:29:01,980
that gully came in dribs and drabs so

700
00:28:59,730 --> 00:29:03,509
the ground was looking very bare the

701
00:29:01,980 --> 00:29:06,839
world of the points were having a hard

702
00:29:03,509 --> 00:29:08,789
time and but then in other years you can

703
00:29:06,839 --> 00:29:11,129
have incredible amounts of rain and

704
00:29:08,789 --> 00:29:13,379
we've actually had I think it's like 36

705
00:29:11,130 --> 00:29:15,480
centimeters of rain just in the last two

706
00:29:13,380 --> 00:29:17,850
months here in our Springs and some

707
00:29:15,480 --> 00:29:20,279
areas have had even more than that but

708
00:29:17,849 --> 00:29:23,579
that can come in in massive dying pores

709
00:29:20,279 --> 00:29:26,339
and what happens is that the normally

710
00:29:23,579 --> 00:29:28,559
dry riverbeds very quickly fill up with

711
00:29:26,339 --> 00:29:31,109
water the soils here comes really store

712
00:29:28,559 --> 00:29:33,929
much water and it just sheet floods off

713

00:29:31,109 --> 00:29:35,399
and very quickly the rivers start

714
00:29:33,930 --> 00:29:38,789
running again it's quite spectacular

715
00:29:35,400 --> 00:29:42,509
sight mmm so this isn't the first time

716
00:29:38,789 --> 00:29:45,329
that fish raining from the sky has been

717
00:29:42,509 --> 00:29:47,519
reported in the Northern Territory you

718
00:29:45,329 --> 00:29:50,009
have a newspaper that's a little bit

719
00:29:47,519 --> 00:29:51,599
credulous in reporting things like this

720
00:29:50,009 --> 00:29:54,900
can you tell us a little bit about the

721
00:29:51,599 --> 00:29:57,119
Northern Territory newspaper yes the NT

722
00:29:54,900 --> 00:29:58,400
news or as some of the locals call it

723
00:29:57,119 --> 00:30:01,949
the empty

724
00:29:58,400 --> 00:30:04,440
as a real reputation for no story is too

725
00:30:01,950 --> 00:30:06,330
daft for them really and they also have

726
00:30:04,440 --> 00:30:08,308
a reputation for having a crocodile in

727
00:30:06,329 --> 00:30:11,250

front of every edition or a woman in a

728

00:30:08,308 --> 00:30:13,769

swimsuit uh-huh but ya know that they

729

00:30:11,250 --> 00:30:16,019

seem to be ramping up the number of kind

730

00:30:13,769 --> 00:30:19,289

of supernatural stories or just silly

731

00:30:16,019 --> 00:30:21,480

stories for example the last edition has

732

00:30:19,289 --> 00:30:23,220

a story on the front about a local land

733

00:30:21,480 --> 00:30:27,150

manager who claims to be seeing lots of

734

00:30:23,220 --> 00:30:28,980

UFOs and yeah it's hard to tell whether

735

00:30:27,150 --> 00:30:30,960

the joking or not in the recovery Java

736

00:30:28,980 --> 00:30:32,910

but uh but front page is that really the

737

00:30:30,960 --> 00:30:35,669

most important thing going on the NT at

738

00:30:32,910 --> 00:30:37,259

the moment I really don't think so but

739

00:30:35,669 --> 00:30:39,900

yeah they covered this story of the

740

00:30:37,259 --> 00:30:41,429

raining fish and they made a big song

741

00:30:39,900 --> 00:30:43,200

and dance about it was very quickly

742
00:30:41,429 --> 00:30:44,669
syndicates to ride the world it's the

743
00:30:43,200 --> 00:30:47,220
stories popped up in all manner of

744
00:30:44,669 --> 00:30:50,400
places but there's been very little kind

745
00:30:47,220 --> 00:30:53,160
of informal kind of analysis really of

746
00:30:50,400 --> 00:30:55,679
the claims that have been made and yeah

747
00:30:53,160 --> 00:30:57,298
so that's how I came into this sort of

748
00:30:55,679 --> 00:31:00,360
skeptical community I suppose everyone

749
00:30:57,298 --> 00:31:02,160
read the story and thought what and so

750
00:31:00,359 --> 00:31:04,199
what's your opinion being that you are

751
00:31:02,160 --> 00:31:06,029
fairly familiar with the region and

752
00:31:04,200 --> 00:31:07,890
you've heard of these stories before

753
00:31:06,029 --> 00:31:09,480
what what do you think actually happened

754
00:31:07,890 --> 00:31:11,640
mark yeah I think there's two

755
00:31:09,480 --> 00:31:15,289
possibilities here one is that actually

756
00:31:11,640 --> 00:31:19,740
is possible that I rains that the rains

757
00:31:15,289 --> 00:31:21,509
caused some fish from a waterhole to be

758
00:31:19,740 --> 00:31:24,150
able to travel further than they

759
00:31:21,509 --> 00:31:26,279
normally would and the Sheep flooding

760
00:31:24,150 --> 00:31:28,080
that I talked about can wash fish into

761
00:31:26,279 --> 00:31:30,389
strange places and the fish themselves

762
00:31:28,079 --> 00:31:32,039
will actually really try and get

763
00:31:30,390 --> 00:31:33,240
themselves into strange places because

764
00:31:32,039 --> 00:31:35,009
of course that's their best hope of

765
00:31:33,240 --> 00:31:37,620
surviving into the future as if they can

766
00:31:35,009 --> 00:31:39,750
get to other water holes and lay more

767
00:31:37,619 --> 00:31:41,369
eggs then that's a really good strategy

768
00:31:39,750 --> 00:31:44,819
for them and so they aren't quite

769
00:31:41,369 --> 00:31:48,839
adventurous these little fish but having

770

00:31:44,819 --> 00:31:50,519
said that um they are not capable of

771
00:31:48,839 --> 00:31:52,199
these incredible feats of endurance that

772
00:31:50,519 --> 00:31:54,839
people were claimed that they are so

773
00:31:52,200 --> 00:31:56,519
that's one possibility for them getting

774
00:31:54,839 --> 00:31:57,839
there is being carried by floodwaters

775
00:31:56,519 --> 00:32:00,029
the other possibility and this is a

776
00:31:57,839 --> 00:32:02,459
probably a lot less likelihood to this

777
00:32:00,029 --> 00:32:04,589
but it isn't impossible is that they

778
00:32:02,460 --> 00:32:06,900
were picked up by a water spoke and

779
00:32:04,589 --> 00:32:08,879
carried a small distance before being

780
00:32:06,900 --> 00:32:11,220
dropped where they were fine

781
00:32:08,880 --> 00:32:12,990
and it doesn't we get small tornadoes

782
00:32:11,220 --> 00:32:14,910
dust devils there sometimes cold in

783
00:32:12,990 --> 00:32:17,279
other parts of the world and that which

784
00:32:14,910 --> 00:32:19,050

will pick up dirt and debris and carry

785

00:32:17,279 --> 00:32:20,730

it for a few hundred meters they're very

786

00:32:19,049 --> 00:32:22,589

very common if you spend time I wish

787

00:32:20,730 --> 00:32:24,950

you'll definitely see these and they

788

00:32:22,589 --> 00:32:27,329

tend to occur around about clay pans or

789

00:32:24,950 --> 00:32:29,309

dry creek beds example the sort of

790

00:32:27,329 --> 00:32:30,899

places that when it rains these places

791

00:32:29,309 --> 00:32:33,929

have water now is the sort of place that

792

00:32:30,900 --> 00:32:35,820

fish can turn up and I know the original

793

00:32:33,930 --> 00:32:37,140

fellow that I know here each told me

794

00:32:35,819 --> 00:32:38,669

that he's seen it with his own eyes and

795

00:32:37,140 --> 00:32:40,290

there is something that you'll see if

796

00:32:38,670 --> 00:32:43,140

you spend a lot of time out Bush is

797

00:32:40,289 --> 00:32:45,240

these water spots picking up things from

798

00:32:43,140 --> 00:32:48,000

from water bodies and dumping them

799
00:32:45,240 --> 00:32:49,620
elsewhere and a very good friend of mine

800
00:32:48,000 --> 00:32:50,910
is actually seen it happen up in the top

801
00:32:49,619 --> 00:32:52,889
leg where admitted there's a lot more

802
00:32:50,910 --> 00:32:54,630
water but she did see a waterspout pick

803
00:32:52,890 --> 00:32:57,030
up some water with some fish in it and

804
00:32:54,630 --> 00:32:59,430
drop it about a hundred meters away on

805
00:32:57,029 --> 00:33:02,730
land so it is possible that it happens

806
00:32:59,430 --> 00:33:04,529
how likely it is I really wouldn't like

807
00:33:02,730 --> 00:33:06,150
to say and as no one actually saw it

808
00:33:04,529 --> 00:33:07,980
happen at larger money they just find

809
00:33:06,150 --> 00:33:11,009
the fish in a strange place and jump to

810
00:33:07,980 --> 00:33:13,079
the conclusion of the war spy my money's

811
00:33:11,009 --> 00:33:16,440
on it just being adventurous fish that's

812
00:33:13,079 --> 00:33:18,059
right so it's possible that this there's

813
00:33:16,440 --> 00:33:21,230
worley well is that you refer to may

814
00:33:18,059 --> 00:33:24,059
have picked up fish that had become

815
00:33:21,230 --> 00:33:25,710
waterborne after these rains but in your

816
00:33:24,059 --> 00:33:27,089
opinion do you think it's possible that

817
00:33:25,710 --> 00:33:28,799
a whirly well he could have traveled

818
00:33:27,089 --> 00:33:30,859
from the coast which is what nine

819
00:33:28,799 --> 00:33:34,379
hundred kilometers away is the closest

820
00:33:30,859 --> 00:33:35,909
ocean waters yeah that was mentioned in

821
00:33:34,380 --> 00:33:39,570
some of the news articles about those

822
00:33:35,910 --> 00:33:41,370
bonkers that possible and the other

823
00:33:39,569 --> 00:33:43,529
thing that makes me just laugh at that

824
00:33:41,369 --> 00:33:45,389
is the the photographs of the fish that

825
00:33:43,529 --> 00:33:47,039
they have it's hard to say because the

826
00:33:45,390 --> 00:33:48,990
fish are upside down there dead in the

827

00:33:47,039 --> 00:33:50,849
photos but they they pretty much look

828
00:33:48,990 --> 00:33:52,650
like water hole fish they look like the

829
00:33:50,849 --> 00:33:55,319
kind of fish you'd be seeing in a water

830
00:33:52,650 --> 00:33:56,820
hole near larger money so there's no

831
00:33:55,319 --> 00:33:59,730
question of it being brought from the

832
00:33:56,819 --> 00:34:03,240
seaside or anything like that okay so

833
00:33:59,730 --> 00:34:05,910
mark you you run ecotourism trips to you

834
00:34:03,240 --> 00:34:07,980
in the outback so I are you going to be

835
00:34:05,910 --> 00:34:11,309
taking out some skeptics for maybe tam

836
00:34:07,980 --> 00:34:12,719
Australia in November 2010 absolutely I

837
00:34:11,309 --> 00:34:14,159
think anybody you want to see the real

838
00:34:12,719 --> 00:34:15,779
Australia you've got to come out to our

839
00:34:14,159 --> 00:34:18,269
Springs you've got to see the outback

840
00:34:15,780 --> 00:34:20,070
and yeah our company will gladly take

841
00:34:18,269 --> 00:34:22,369

you out it's November so it's a bit hot

842

00:34:20,070 --> 00:34:24,080

for our tracking that we normally do

843

00:34:22,369 --> 00:34:26,299

but we do do a good range of

844

00:34:24,079 --> 00:34:28,250

bird-watching trips and if you've got a

845

00:34:26,300 --> 00:34:30,019

special interest than anything odd like

846

00:34:28,250 --> 00:34:31,849

reptiles we've got some of the finest

847

00:34:30,019 --> 00:34:34,489

reptiles on earth I hear it's really

848

00:34:31,849 --> 00:34:36,619

spectacular giant lizards and that kind

849

00:34:34,489 --> 00:34:39,019

of thing then yeah I think you have a

850

00:34:36,619 --> 00:34:40,309

lot of fun so come on skeptics come out

851

00:34:39,019 --> 00:34:42,349

to the over now what's the name of your

852

00:34:40,309 --> 00:34:46,699

company mark we're called Trek claro

853

00:34:42,349 --> 00:34:48,259

Pinta and if you search for Lara Pinta

854

00:34:46,699 --> 00:34:50,480

trail that's the name of the trail that

855

00:34:48,260 --> 00:34:54,260

we work we work on most of the year then

856
00:34:50,480 --> 00:34:57,320
you'll find us on a large search engine

857
00:34:54,260 --> 00:34:59,390
near you well if you can promise US Fish

858
00:34:57,320 --> 00:35:01,100
raining from the sky and UFOs and I'm

859
00:34:59,389 --> 00:35:03,219
sure lots of skeptics will be keen to

860
00:35:01,099 --> 00:35:05,360
come out and meet you in November so

861
00:35:03,219 --> 00:35:07,519
thanks for taking the time to talk to us

862
00:35:05,360 --> 00:35:09,200
today mark no worries i'll give the

863
00:35:07,519 --> 00:35:15,280
empty user ring and see what we can

864
00:35:09,199 --> 00:35:15,279
arrange oh thanks very much mass matrix

865
00:35:22,719 --> 00:35:27,529
want to know how to live skeptically and

866
00:35:24,829 --> 00:35:29,779
still have friends will soda why join me

867
00:35:27,530 --> 00:35:31,400
for actually speaking a new podcast that

868
00:35:29,780 --> 00:35:33,740
explores the human side of skepticism

869
00:35:31,400 --> 00:35:35,599
will set the science side and discuss

870
00:35:33,739 --> 00:35:38,029
familiar skeptical topics from an inner

871
00:35:35,599 --> 00:35:39,469
personal perspective along the way will

872
00:35:38,030 --> 00:35:41,090
highlight specific social and

873
00:35:39,469 --> 00:35:43,519
communication skills need it to promote

874
00:35:41,090 --> 00:35:45,410
critical thinking scientific facts are

875
00:35:43,519 --> 00:35:46,670
only part of the equation let's take an

876
00:35:45,409 --> 00:35:49,039
extra step and learn how to share that

877
00:35:46,670 --> 00:35:51,139
knowledge effectively actually speaking

878
00:35:49,039 --> 00:35:53,420
a podcast that explores the human side

879
00:35:51,139 --> 00:35:54,889
of skepticism critical thinking and the

880
00:35:53,420 --> 00:35:57,170
skills we need to make it through the

881
00:35:54,889 --> 00:36:06,769
day visit actually speaking calm to

882
00:35:57,170 --> 00:36:15,200
learn more let's all take this with a

883
00:36:06,769 --> 00:36:17,059
grain of salt he's around ticket hello

884

00:36:15,199 --> 00:36:19,879
this is aaron sega taking life with a

885
00:36:17,059 --> 00:36:22,239
grain of salt the topic of my talk today

886
00:36:19,880 --> 00:36:24,710
would usually be tackled by dr. ecchi

887
00:36:22,239 --> 00:36:26,299
unfortunately dr. HC shows no interest

888
00:36:24,710 --> 00:36:28,190
in this specific type of scientific

889
00:36:26,300 --> 00:36:30,440
claim perhaps the fact that she's a

890
00:36:28,190 --> 00:36:32,360
woman has something to do with this i'm

891
00:36:30,440 --> 00:36:34,970
referring to claims about treating male

892
00:36:32,360 --> 00:36:36,470
pattern balding in particular i will

893
00:36:34,969 --> 00:36:38,509
investigate the claims of one company

894
00:36:36,469 --> 00:36:40,250
piling such treatments which has been

895
00:36:38,510 --> 00:36:43,280
running TV ads in australia over the

896
00:36:40,250 --> 00:36:44,900
past year before i discuss treatments it

897
00:36:43,280 --> 00:36:47,120
is worth giving some facts regarding

898
00:36:44,900 --> 00:36:50,389

hair loss in general and hereditary hair

899

00:36:47,119 --> 00:36:53,299

loss in particular the human skin male

900

00:36:50,389 --> 00:36:55,039

and female is covered with hair the only

901

00:36:53,300 --> 00:36:57,620

parts of the body that do not have here

902

00:36:55,039 --> 00:37:00,199

are the feet and palms the lips in parts

903

00:36:57,619 --> 00:37:01,789

of the genitalia Harry's produced in

904

00:37:00,199 --> 00:37:04,069

follicles that produce hair for as long

905

00:37:01,789 --> 00:37:06,230

as they're alive which very often is as

906

00:37:04,070 --> 00:37:08,059

long as the person lives but they do so

907

00:37:06,230 --> 00:37:10,699

in bursts stopping her production from

908

00:37:08,059 --> 00:37:12,739

time to time when a follicle stops

909

00:37:10,699 --> 00:37:15,289

producing hair for a while the hair from

910

00:37:12,739 --> 00:37:17,809

that follicle falls out this is called

911

00:37:15,289 --> 00:37:19,880

the cottage enphase for most of the rest

912

00:37:17,809 --> 00:37:21,949

of the time the hair follicle is in the

913
00:37:19,880 --> 00:37:24,410
anagen phase during which the hair

914
00:37:21,949 --> 00:37:26,239
actively grows the length of the anagen

915
00:37:24,409 --> 00:37:28,609
phase determines the maximum length of

916
00:37:26,239 --> 00:37:30,459
the hair possible from a follicle the

917
00:37:28,610 --> 00:37:33,160
anagen phase for a typical scalp

918
00:37:30,460 --> 00:37:34,900
is measured in years whereas for shorter

919
00:37:33,159 --> 00:37:37,269
hair such as eyelashes and the hair on

920
00:37:34,900 --> 00:37:39,579
arms and legs it is measured in days and

921
00:37:37,269 --> 00:37:41,469
weeks there are multiple types of

922
00:37:39,579 --> 00:37:43,679
follicles producing hair of varying

923
00:37:41,469 --> 00:37:46,209
thicknesses colors and other properties

924
00:37:43,679 --> 00:37:48,608
for most humans the majority of their

925
00:37:46,210 --> 00:37:51,010
hair is short and thin and often light

926
00:37:48,608 --> 00:37:53,019
colored or semi-translucent making it

927
00:37:51,010 --> 00:37:55,599
appear as if we are naked of here hence

928
00:37:53,019 --> 00:37:58,000
the term naked ape but in fact humans

929
00:37:55,599 --> 00:38:00,490
have no less hair than other Apes hair

930
00:37:58,000 --> 00:38:02,199
production however is not fixed it is

931
00:38:00,489 --> 00:38:04,598
heavily affected by hormonal changes

932
00:38:02,199 --> 00:38:07,239
chemical changes in our bodies and other

933
00:38:04,599 --> 00:38:09,070
environmental factors one example of

934
00:38:07,239 --> 00:38:11,199
this we all know is that the same

935
00:38:09,070 --> 00:38:13,300
follicle that produced short fine hair

936
00:38:11,199 --> 00:38:16,629
on the face of a boy starts producing

937
00:38:13,300 --> 00:38:18,280
long coarse hair once puberty hits body

938
00:38:16,630 --> 00:38:20,260
hair also varies widely between ethnic

939
00:38:18,280 --> 00:38:21,880
groups and the attitude to body hair

940
00:38:20,260 --> 00:38:23,980
varies between cultures and even

941

00:38:21,880 --> 00:38:25,358
subcultures the only hair about which

942
00:38:23,980 --> 00:38:27,670
there seems to be widespread agreement

943
00:38:25,358 --> 00:38:30,460
that it is desirable is the hair on our

944
00:38:27,670 --> 00:38:32,710
heads both males and females in most

945
00:38:30,460 --> 00:38:34,990
cultures use the hair on their heads for

946
00:38:32,710 --> 00:38:37,570
decoration engaging in elaborate and

947
00:38:34,989 --> 00:38:39,699
sometimes costly processes of sculpting

948
00:38:37,570 --> 00:38:42,190
it to see trends fashions and perceive

949
00:38:39,699 --> 00:38:43,719
Beauty the snag is that some here

950
00:38:42,190 --> 00:38:45,780
especially that on the head often

951
00:38:43,719 --> 00:38:48,219
doesn't last as long as we wanted to

952
00:38:45,780 --> 00:38:50,470
that in other parts of the body often

953
00:38:48,219 --> 00:38:52,118
lasts longer than we wanted to is not

954
00:38:50,469 --> 00:38:54,969
considered to be any kind of consolation

955
00:38:52,119 --> 00:38:56,858

by most people permanent hair loss is

956

00:38:54,969 --> 00:38:58,779

usually the result of follicle death

957

00:38:56,858 --> 00:39:01,420

which could be caused by a variety of

958

00:38:58,780 --> 00:39:03,880

reasons many hair follicles dies the

959

00:39:01,420 --> 00:39:06,159

body ages and elderly people both male

960

00:39:03,880 --> 00:39:08,650

and female tend to have less hair both

961

00:39:06,159 --> 00:39:10,539

on their heads and all their bodies in

962

00:39:08,650 --> 00:39:11,889

order to combat hair loss the reasons

963

00:39:10,539 --> 00:39:14,710

for the hair loss need to be detected

964

00:39:11,889 --> 00:39:16,629

and understood simply strengthening the

965

00:39:14,710 --> 00:39:18,579

follicles if that even means anything is

966

00:39:16,630 --> 00:39:20,410

unlikely to be effective as such

967

00:39:18,579 --> 00:39:21,848

generalist approach is unlikely to

968

00:39:20,409 --> 00:39:24,639

protect the follicles against the

969

00:39:21,849 --> 00:39:26,470

specific cause of failure or death the

970
00:39:24,639 --> 00:39:28,358
most common type of boldness that is not

971
00:39:26,469 --> 00:39:30,579
comorbid with some other syndrome is

972
00:39:28,358 --> 00:39:32,259
hereditary hair loss which is also

973
00:39:30,579 --> 00:39:34,929
commonly known as male pattern balding

974
00:39:32,260 --> 00:39:36,250
and female pattern balding to the best

975
00:39:34,929 --> 00:39:38,289
of current scientific knowledge

976
00:39:36,250 --> 00:39:40,108
hereditary hair loss occurs due to the

977
00:39:38,289 --> 00:39:44,110
accumulation in the top of the scalp of

978
00:39:40,108 --> 00:39:46,599
dihydrotestosterone also known as DHT

979
00:39:44,110 --> 00:39:48,700
DHT causes follicles to shrink until

980
00:39:46,599 --> 00:39:50,650
they stop producing hair it is a

981
00:39:48,699 --> 00:39:52,419
metabolite of testosterone which

982
00:39:50,650 --> 00:39:54,849
explains why hereditary hair loss is

983
00:39:52,420 --> 00:39:57,159
more pronounced in men if it drug to

984
00:39:54,849 --> 00:39:59,289
treat this type of hair loss is found it

985
00:39:57,159 --> 00:40:00,759
would be very big business indeed as it

986
00:39:59,289 --> 00:40:02,409
would generally be expected to be taken

987
00:40:00,760 --> 00:40:05,260
for as long as the patient cares to keep

988
00:40:02,409 --> 00:40:07,029
their hair a permanent cure is unlikely

989
00:40:05,260 --> 00:40:09,730
if our understanding of the causes of

990
00:40:07,030 --> 00:40:11,560
hereditary hair loss is correct despite

991
00:40:09,730 --> 00:40:13,030
the huge incentive to date only two

992
00:40:11,559 --> 00:40:16,179
drugs have been approved for treatment

993
00:40:13,030 --> 00:40:18,280
of our editorial loss minoxidil marketed

994
00:40:16,179 --> 00:40:20,489
under the brand name regain is approved

995
00:40:18,280 --> 00:40:22,720
for both men and women finasteride

996
00:40:20,489 --> 00:40:26,309
marketed under the brand name propecia

997
00:40:22,719 --> 00:40:28,629
or propecia is approved for men only

998

00:40:26,309 --> 00:40:30,489
minoxidil is applied topically to the

999
00:40:28,630 --> 00:40:32,320
scalp and it is believed that it works

1000
00:40:30,489 --> 00:40:34,599
by improving blood flow to the follicles

1001
00:40:32,320 --> 00:40:37,150
and therefore delaying follicle death in

1002
00:40:34,599 --> 00:40:38,980
promoting hair growth finasteride is

1003
00:40:37,150 --> 00:40:42,550
taken orally and combats the

1004
00:40:38,980 --> 00:40:44,559
accumulation of DHT in this cup so far

1005
00:40:42,550 --> 00:40:47,500
we've discussed the science now let's

1006
00:40:44,559 --> 00:40:49,539
talk business ads promoting treatments

1007
00:40:47,500 --> 00:40:51,849
for hereditary hair loss are very common

1008
00:40:49,539 --> 00:40:54,070
also common are the claims that they are

1009
00:40:51,849 --> 00:40:56,860
clinically proven or scientifically

1010
00:40:54,070 --> 00:40:58,840
tested or other such words often used to

1011
00:40:56,860 --> 00:41:01,809
suggest that some treatment modality has

1012
00:40:58,840 --> 00:41:03,640

passed proper clinical trials very often

1013

00:41:01,809 --> 00:41:06,219

they promote a combination of chemicals

1014

00:41:03,639 --> 00:41:08,559

in some sort of laser or other light

1015

00:41:06,219 --> 00:41:10,480

treatment I decided to dig a little

1016

00:41:08,559 --> 00:41:14,320

deeper regarding the claims of one such

1017

00:41:10,480 --> 00:41:16,119

company named Li mo le IM o which sells

1018

00:41:14,320 --> 00:41:18,100

an alleged treatment comprising some

1019

00:41:16,119 --> 00:41:20,559

chemicals and a laser instrument to be

1020

00:41:18,099 --> 00:41:22,839

used on the scalp Lima has been

1021

00:41:20,559 --> 00:41:25,539

advertising quite aggressively on TV at

1022

00:41:22,840 --> 00:41:28,000

what must be very high costs that they

1023

00:41:25,539 --> 00:41:29,739

can afford this is no surprise while

1024

00:41:28,000 --> 00:41:31,420

minoxidil and finasteride cost about

1025

00:41:29,739 --> 00:41:33,009

sixty dollars per month and are

1026

00:41:31,420 --> 00:41:35,619

partially covered by some health funds

1027
00:41:33,010 --> 00:41:39,760
the limo laser and enough chemicals for

1028
00:41:35,619 --> 00:41:42,099
six weeks cost 1310 dollars a 12 month

1029
00:41:39,760 --> 00:41:45,910
supply package the cheapest option for

1030
00:41:42,099 --> 00:41:48,009
continual use costs 1014 dollars so the

1031
00:41:45,909 --> 00:41:50,259
minimum spend on li mo over the first 12

1032
00:41:48,010 --> 00:41:53,890
months is more than three times the spin

1033
00:41:50,260 --> 00:41:56,050
on minoxidil or finasteride red flags

1034
00:41:53,889 --> 00:41:57,009
around lemur waving as if a violent

1035
00:41:56,050 --> 00:41:58,990
storm was approaching

1036
00:41:57,010 --> 00:42:00,760
as I knew there were only two approved

1037
00:41:58,989 --> 00:42:03,099
treatments for hair loss and they did

1038
00:42:00,760 --> 00:42:05,260
not include lasers but I wanted to know

1039
00:42:03,099 --> 00:42:06,969
more before I made up my mind so I

1040
00:42:05,260 --> 00:42:08,710
called their toll free number and spoke

1041
00:42:06,969 --> 00:42:11,349
to a very friendly sales representative

1042
00:42:08,710 --> 00:42:13,300
she explained how limo is to be used and

1043
00:42:11,349 --> 00:42:15,130
that my request promised to send me

1044
00:42:13,300 --> 00:42:17,170
information about how it worked in the

1045
00:42:15,130 --> 00:42:19,240
scientific evidence that he did I

1046
00:42:17,170 --> 00:42:21,789
received an email message containing a

1047
00:42:19,239 --> 00:42:23,079
lot of information it started with an

1048
00:42:21,789 --> 00:42:25,000
accurate description of the cause of

1049
00:42:23,079 --> 00:42:27,849
hereditary Hallows which I found very

1050
00:42:25,000 --> 00:42:30,039
encouraging the next paragraph said the

1051
00:42:27,849 --> 00:42:31,989
following the limo system is extremely

1052
00:42:30,039 --> 00:42:34,599
effective because he targets the cause

1053
00:42:31,989 --> 00:42:37,059
of hair loss which is DHT and reverses

1054
00:42:34,599 --> 00:42:38,920
the effect of DHT the system is a

1055

00:42:37,059 --> 00:42:41,380
combination of laser treatment and web

1056
00:42:38,920 --> 00:42:44,079
products which consists of bio cleansing

1057
00:42:41,380 --> 00:42:48,369
shampoo thickening conditioner scalp

1058
00:42:44,079 --> 00:42:50,469
scrub scalp therapy and scope serum the

1059
00:42:48,369 --> 00:42:52,000
laser will help you regrow your hair and

1060
00:42:50,469 --> 00:42:53,739
the wet products will stop your hair

1061
00:42:52,000 --> 00:42:55,900
loss and save the hair that's left on

1062
00:42:53,739 --> 00:42:58,899
your head right now there are no drugs

1063
00:42:55,900 --> 00:43:01,840
to be taken no side effects and is one

1064
00:42:58,900 --> 00:43:03,970
hundred percent safe two things that

1065
00:43:01,840 --> 00:43:06,220
immediately raised my suspicions with

1066
00:43:03,969 --> 00:43:08,019
the use of the term wet products to

1067
00:43:06,219 --> 00:43:10,239
denote what i would call drugs or

1068
00:43:08,019 --> 00:43:12,610
chemicals in the claim of no side

1069
00:43:10,239 --> 00:43:15,189

effects in one hundred percent safety in

1070

00:43:12,610 --> 00:43:16,840

fact I was so suspicious that I

1071

00:43:15,190 --> 00:43:18,820

immediately searched the email and

1072

00:43:16,840 --> 00:43:21,340

attached documents for the word natural

1073

00:43:18,820 --> 00:43:23,519

which is another red flag word but it

1074

00:43:21,340 --> 00:43:26,200

was not there so I continued to read a

1075

00:43:23,519 --> 00:43:28,539

document listing the ingredients in each

1076

00:43:26,199 --> 00:43:30,399

of the wet products suggested that most

1077

00:43:28,539 --> 00:43:32,619

of them were plant extracts and common

1078

00:43:30,400 --> 00:43:33,910

hair and body care chemicals having

1079

00:43:32,619 --> 00:43:35,589

spent a significant amount of time

1080

00:43:33,909 --> 00:43:37,899

trying to figure out what the

1081

00:43:35,590 --> 00:43:39,670

ingredients meant I found none that are

1082

00:43:37,900 --> 00:43:41,950

claimed anywhere else to have any effect

1083

00:43:39,670 --> 00:43:44,530

on hair loss and most were completely

1084
00:43:41,949 --> 00:43:46,629
inert it was interesting to know that

1085
00:43:44,530 --> 00:43:48,760
all the web products included mistletoe

1086
00:43:46,630 --> 00:43:50,849
so even if your hair doesn't grow at

1087
00:43:48,760 --> 00:43:53,830
least you might get kissed on Christmas

1088
00:43:50,849 --> 00:43:55,509
curiously the ingredients list concluded

1089
00:43:53,829 --> 00:43:57,969
with an explanation of what cedar plank

1090
00:43:55,510 --> 00:43:59,890
Richter was according to the document

1091
00:43:57,969 --> 00:44:01,299
the explanation came from that well

1092
00:43:59,889 --> 00:44:04,509
known source of medical information

1093
00:44:01,300 --> 00:44:06,310
Google the last and most interesting

1094
00:44:04,510 --> 00:44:09,190
document was the one titled limo

1095
00:44:06,309 --> 00:44:10,429
clinical trial this is what the trial

1096
00:44:09,190 --> 00:44:12,950
abstract said

1097
00:44:10,429 --> 00:44:14,659
the purpose of this study was for

1098
00:44:12,949 --> 00:44:16,699
confirming the efficacy of low laser

1099
00:44:14,659 --> 00:44:19,279
light therapy using a limo for the

1100
00:44:16,699 --> 00:44:21,828
stimulation of hair growth 15 patients

1101
00:44:19,280 --> 00:44:24,530
10 males and five females with under

1102
00:44:21,829 --> 00:44:26,960
genetic alopecia underwent treatment for

1103
00:44:24,530 --> 00:44:28,579
a four-month period hair counts were

1104
00:44:26,960 --> 00:44:30,829
affected very been officially in both

1105
00:44:28,579 --> 00:44:33,769
sexes but the female shows more

1106
00:44:30,829 --> 00:44:35,510
improvement than the mail to anyone with

1107
00:44:33,769 --> 00:44:38,659
even a moderate understanding of science

1108
00:44:35,510 --> 00:44:40,579
this will be it a studied dedicated to

1109
00:44:38,659 --> 00:44:42,858
confirm rather than test the veracity of

1110
00:44:40,579 --> 00:44:44,750
a hypothesis is so inherently flawed

1111
00:44:42,858 --> 00:44:47,568
that its value as evidence would be

1112

00:44:44,750 --> 00:44:49,280
extremely low scientific testing is all

1113
00:44:47,568 --> 00:44:52,308
about finding out whether something

1114
00:44:49,280 --> 00:44:55,760
works not confirming that it does yet I

1115
00:44:52,309 --> 00:44:57,829
read on the next sections claimed that

1116
00:44:55,760 --> 00:44:59,809
low-level laser therapy has been shown

1117
00:44:57,829 --> 00:45:01,839
to have several effects including

1118
00:44:59,809 --> 00:45:05,359
anti-inflammation in immunosuppression

1119
00:45:01,838 --> 00:45:06,980
yes according to the document low-level

1120
00:45:05,358 --> 00:45:09,799
laser therapy will suppress the immune

1121
00:45:06,980 --> 00:45:11,449
system obviously none of the claims are

1122
00:45:09,800 --> 00:45:13,369
referenced then the study is not signed

1123
00:45:11,449 --> 00:45:15,048
so there is no way to know whether this

1124
00:45:13,369 --> 00:45:18,170
is an honest mistake by a knowledgeable

1125
00:45:15,048 --> 00:45:20,088
person or as I suspect a sign of utter

1126
00:45:18,170 --> 00:45:23,180

ignorance and careless disregard for the

1127

00:45:20,088 --> 00:45:25,940

truth the materials in methods section

1128

00:45:23,179 --> 00:45:27,558

is 18 lines longer six of which are used

1129

00:45:25,940 --> 00:45:30,139

to exalt the safety and reported

1130

00:45:27,559 --> 00:45:32,000

efficacy of the limo laser most of the

1131

00:45:30,139 --> 00:45:34,429

rest of this section describes how the

1132

00:45:32,000 --> 00:45:37,010

limo was used and only the very last

1133

00:45:34,429 --> 00:45:39,949

sentence two lines long explains how

1134

00:45:37,010 --> 00:45:41,660

hair growth was measured naturally there

1135

00:45:39,949 --> 00:45:43,399

is so little information that it is

1136

00:45:41,659 --> 00:45:45,139

virtually impossible to tell whether the

1137

00:45:43,400 --> 00:45:46,700

measurements are meaningful it is not

1138

00:45:45,139 --> 00:45:47,989

even clear whether the before and after

1139

00:45:46,699 --> 00:45:50,808

measurements were taken from the same

1140

00:45:47,989 --> 00:45:52,578

place there is certainly no mention of

1141
00:45:50,809 --> 00:45:55,700
testing being blind let alone

1142
00:45:52,579 --> 00:45:57,650
double-blind perhaps the most curious

1143
00:45:55,699 --> 00:45:59,750
aspect of the materials in methods

1144
00:45:57,650 --> 00:46:01,910
section is that it says nothing at all

1145
00:45:59,750 --> 00:46:03,769
about the lima wet products in other

1146
00:46:01,909 --> 00:46:06,710
words the one extremely small

1147
00:46:03,769 --> 00:46:09,858
unreferenced poorly documented control

1148
00:46:06,710 --> 00:46:11,869
free unblinded in unsigned study which

1149
00:46:09,858 --> 00:46:14,269
is the entire evidence base for limors

1150
00:46:11,869 --> 00:46:15,798
efficacy says nothing at all about the

1151
00:46:14,269 --> 00:46:19,579
part of the product that provides

1152
00:46:15,798 --> 00:46:21,259
ongoing revenue the document ends with

1153
00:46:19,579 --> 00:46:22,630
the results and this is the description

1154
00:46:21,260 --> 00:46:24,970
of the results

1155
00:46:22,630 --> 00:46:27,910
the scientific data for the hair counts

1156
00:46:24,969 --> 00:46:30,098
is demonstrated in table 1 in summary

1157
00:46:27,909 --> 00:46:31,778
table 1 shows that the hair counts

1158
00:46:30,099 --> 00:46:36,220
increased in the temporal area an

1159
00:46:31,778 --> 00:46:39,278
average of 67.2 percent in men 72.3

1160
00:46:36,219 --> 00:46:41,199
percent in women and 68.2 percent for

1161
00:46:39,278 --> 00:46:44,559
all patients there was greater

1162
00:46:41,199 --> 00:46:47,710
improvement in females both sexes did

1163
00:46:44,559 --> 00:46:49,420
benefit significantly in addition there

1164
00:46:47,710 --> 00:46:52,420
can be improvement of scalp blindness

1165
00:46:49,420 --> 00:46:53,920
and flakiness in all patients they may

1166
00:46:52,420 --> 00:46:56,019
also be an increase in hair shaft

1167
00:46:53,920 --> 00:46:59,318
diameter along with an increased number

1168
00:46:56,018 --> 00:47:00,909
of total hair follicles overall almost

1169

00:46:59,318 --> 00:47:02,920
all patients felt that their hair and

1170
00:47:00,909 --> 00:47:05,949
scalp felt healthier and fuller after

1171
00:47:02,920 --> 00:47:08,019
using the limo the document ends with

1172
00:47:05,949 --> 00:47:10,210
before and after photos most of which

1173
00:47:08,018 --> 00:47:14,469
clearly show longer hearing the after

1174
00:47:10,210 --> 00:47:16,599
shot not more here just longer here from

1175
00:47:14,469 --> 00:47:18,459
a scientific perspective I'd have to say

1176
00:47:16,599 --> 00:47:20,048
that the study limon sent me falls well

1177
00:47:18,460 --> 00:47:22,690
short of providing evidence of efficacy

1178
00:47:20,048 --> 00:47:24,909
for its products based on available

1179
00:47:22,690 --> 00:47:26,528
information purchasing and using Lima

1180
00:47:24,909 --> 00:47:28,659
could very well turn out to be an

1181
00:47:26,528 --> 00:47:30,730
expensive exercise in wishful thinking

1182
00:47:28,659 --> 00:47:33,219
and it would advise anyone contemplating

1183
00:47:30,730 --> 00:47:36,059

taking out the credit card to take the

1184

00:47:33,219 --> 00:47:39,909

claims limo makes with a grain of salt

1185

00:47:36,059 --> 00:47:41,829

PostScript lemos scalp scrub is referred

1186

00:47:39,909 --> 00:47:45,399

to several times in all documents as

1187

00:47:41,829 --> 00:47:49,170

scalp and body scrub does any lemo

1188

00:47:45,400 --> 00:47:49,170

client want extra hair on their body

1189

00:47:58,179 --> 00:48:02,539

today in a big shout out to Desiree

1190

00:48:00,800 --> 00:48:05,120

shell and the rest of the skeptically

1191

00:48:02,539 --> 00:48:07,009

speaking team we love you very much all

1192

00:48:05,119 --> 00:48:10,039

of us here from the skeptics own podcast

1193

00:48:07,010 --> 00:48:13,070

and the token skeptic podcast so keep it

1194

00:48:10,039 --> 00:48:14,630

going on you don't want to know what out

1195

00:48:13,070 --> 00:48:16,640

of the morning it is that I'm recording

1196

00:48:14,630 --> 00:48:20,090

this but I'm certainly something really

1197

00:48:16,639 --> 00:48:22,309

respectable over there in Canada yeah

1198
00:48:20,090 --> 00:48:27,559
I'll just leave it much love from all of

1199
00:48:22,309 --> 00:48:30,590
us oh happy Anniversary happy

1200
00:48:27,559 --> 00:48:36,409
Anniversary happy Anniversary happy

1201
00:48:30,590 --> 00:48:45,110
Anniversary join us now for drinking

1202
00:48:36,409 --> 00:48:47,389
skeptically in the think tank um hello

1203
00:48:45,110 --> 00:48:49,670
around hello Rachel how are you today

1204
00:48:47,389 --> 00:48:51,739
very good now we're with a very special

1205
00:48:49,670 --> 00:48:56,450
guest today at Canberra skeptics in the

1206
00:48:51,739 --> 00:49:00,649
pub hello to mr. PZ Myers hello sir hey

1207
00:48:56,449 --> 00:49:03,769
Zed professor okay peez it no well it's

1208
00:49:00,650 --> 00:49:05,420
we say pays it but we also say pz

1209
00:49:03,769 --> 00:49:08,539
because that is how you pronounce it yes

1210
00:49:05,420 --> 00:49:10,250
I tell my mother yeah okay we've also

1211
00:49:08,539 --> 00:49:13,610
got some other skeptics here with us and

1212
00:49:10,250 --> 00:49:16,579
we have bread pirate Mick good five week

1213
00:49:13,610 --> 00:49:19,430
on Twitter we have at laws on Twitter

1214
00:49:16,579 --> 00:49:22,909
and leave all this evil dees on Twitter

1215
00:49:19,429 --> 00:49:24,769
yeah and at Corrin stone at car and stow

1216
00:49:22,909 --> 00:49:27,949
on Twitter Hawaii anybody have real

1217
00:49:24,769 --> 00:49:31,420
names here no just no one has romantic

1218
00:49:27,949 --> 00:49:35,409
said hey I was i at pz myers

1219
00:49:31,420 --> 00:49:37,269
that work that works too so you just

1220
00:49:35,409 --> 00:49:41,469
gave us a very interesting talk pc about

1221
00:49:37,269 --> 00:49:43,088
well god lots of things actually there

1222
00:49:41,469 --> 00:49:46,328
was a lot of discussion as well after

1223
00:49:43,088 --> 00:49:48,509
your talk and a lot of it was about sort

1224
00:49:46,329 --> 00:49:50,769
of what someone referred to as a secular

1225
00:49:48,510 --> 00:49:53,460
what was the word they used to describe

1226

00:49:50,769 --> 00:49:55,750
Mike a secular Mecca or something uh

1227
00:49:53,460 --> 00:49:58,630
well we heard the word secular movement

1228
00:49:55,750 --> 00:50:01,838
want a lot of secular utopia actually

1229
00:49:58,630 --> 00:50:03,338
utopia yeah yeah yeah and I don't

1230
00:50:01,838 --> 00:50:06,730
believe in utopias there's no such thing

1231
00:50:03,338 --> 00:50:09,849
no okay but there are ideals we can

1232
00:50:06,730 --> 00:50:12,579
strive for and the kind of ideal I see

1233
00:50:09,849 --> 00:50:15,010
is in a secular world is one where we

1234
00:50:12,579 --> 00:50:18,789
argue over the evidence and try to

1235
00:50:15,010 --> 00:50:21,160
follow where it leads it won't always

1236
00:50:18,789 --> 00:50:23,048
work but it will work better than the

1237
00:50:21,159 --> 00:50:25,690
alternative which is to argue over no

1238
00:50:23,048 --> 00:50:27,519
evidence at all who knows where that

1239
00:50:25,690 --> 00:50:29,380
will go can I just say something before

1240
00:50:27,519 --> 00:50:31,000

you go on and you what you're saying is

1241
00:50:29,380 --> 00:50:32,349
incredibly interesting but you just

1242
00:50:31,000 --> 00:50:34,420
mentioned something about arguing the

1243
00:50:32,349 --> 00:50:36,730
evidence over or arguing for the

1244
00:50:34,420 --> 00:50:41,920
evidence you helped me when the shorty

1245
00:50:36,730 --> 00:50:44,318
awards recently and thank you very much

1246
00:50:41,920 --> 00:50:46,358
for all the whole you're cheating but um

1247
00:50:44,318 --> 00:50:48,099
yes just when you said evidence such as

1248
00:50:46,358 --> 00:50:50,440
made me think of joseph mercola and my

1249
00:50:48,099 --> 00:50:53,798
cat is actually evidence free yeah but

1250
00:50:50,440 --> 00:50:56,440
it's free zone exactly actually can I

1251
00:50:53,798 --> 00:50:58,659
tell you a little anecdote pressuring I

1252
00:50:56,440 --> 00:51:01,510
also asked him mention to help me out

1253
00:50:58,659 --> 00:51:03,338
with the shorties and the thing that I

1254
00:51:01,510 --> 00:51:05,109
noticed when you blogged about it and

1255
00:51:03,338 --> 00:51:06,489
when you tweeted it I would open up my

1256
00:51:05,108 --> 00:51:08,078
email every morning and I would have

1257
00:51:06,489 --> 00:51:10,149
pages and pages and pages of

1258
00:51:08,079 --> 00:51:12,250
notifications but so and so is now

1259
00:51:10,150 --> 00:51:14,108
following you on Twitter and that's when

1260
00:51:12,250 --> 00:51:16,389
of course I took over from McCullough

1261
00:51:14,108 --> 00:51:19,058
and when I asked him mentioned to help

1262
00:51:16,389 --> 00:51:21,730
me out and he has 56 thousand fans I

1263
00:51:19,059 --> 00:51:25,450
think on Twitter and I got a total of

1264
00:51:21,730 --> 00:51:26,980
nine votes out of that you won't love

1265
00:51:25,449 --> 00:51:28,669
you learn in this critical the invention

1266
00:51:26,980 --> 00:51:30,710
is a weapon

1267
00:51:28,670 --> 00:51:33,230
how do you train your fans so well

1268
00:51:30,710 --> 00:51:36,880
that's what I'm well they're not fans

1269
00:51:33,230 --> 00:51:41,659
are minions mention his fans I have

1270
00:51:36,880 --> 00:51:44,480
slaves minions yeah that apparently do

1271
00:51:41,659 --> 00:51:47,690
whatever you Austin tape it tomorrow

1272
00:51:44,480 --> 00:51:49,280
very obviously no but I think one

1273
00:51:47,690 --> 00:51:51,200
difference might be is that that people

1274
00:51:49,280 --> 00:51:54,559
follow Tim Minchin for the humor and

1275
00:51:51,199 --> 00:51:58,338
music and I have people who are

1276
00:51:54,559 --> 00:52:00,079
extremely fanatically rabidly dedicated

1277
00:51:58,338 --> 00:52:02,000
to the scientific method never insane

1278
00:52:00,079 --> 00:52:04,099
isn't it isn't it a bit of a

1279
00:52:02,000 --> 00:52:06,289
contradiction intense though maybe three

1280
00:52:04,099 --> 00:52:07,250
dedicated to know because that's

1281
00:52:06,289 --> 00:52:09,230
something else we talked about in the

1282
00:52:07,250 --> 00:52:10,489
discussions here wasn't it is that yeah

1283

00:52:09,230 --> 00:52:12,349
we're spending at the back of tomorrow

1284
00:52:10,489 --> 00:52:15,318
yeah we had several people talking about

1285
00:52:12,349 --> 00:52:18,048
how atheists have this reputation as

1286
00:52:15,318 --> 00:52:20,690
being cold and distant and calculating

1287
00:52:18,048 --> 00:52:23,179
and they don't connect a neiman way and

1288
00:52:20,690 --> 00:52:26,690
so forth but of course we do I mean

1289
00:52:23,179 --> 00:52:29,389
words are not yeah we're human and i

1290
00:52:26,690 --> 00:52:35,240
think it's i think it's great that

1291
00:52:29,389 --> 00:52:37,368
people love the scientific method you

1292
00:52:35,239 --> 00:52:39,108
know imagining oh my gosh oh don't get

1293
00:52:37,369 --> 00:52:41,710
me wrong of course oh yeah i definitely

1294
00:52:39,108 --> 00:52:45,619
agree just that i would hope that

1295
00:52:41,710 --> 00:52:47,780
something that is rational if it just

1296
00:52:45,619 --> 00:52:48,980
somehow it does seems to be to be if it

1297
00:52:47,780 --> 00:52:51,140

seems to me there's a bit of

1298

00:52:48,980 --> 00:52:53,150

contradiction between daddy rapidly

1299

00:52:51,139 --> 00:52:54,679

devoted to something no no no that

1300

00:52:53,150 --> 00:52:56,150

that's the problem is if so many people

1301

00:52:54,679 --> 00:52:58,308

think that rational means something

1302

00:52:56,150 --> 00:52:59,838

entirely different from emotional and I

1303

00:52:58,309 --> 00:53:04,220

think rational emotional go together

1304

00:52:59,838 --> 00:53:06,230

beautifully yes like like butter and

1305

00:53:04,219 --> 00:53:08,719

vegemite or something whatever whatever

1306

00:53:06,230 --> 00:53:10,460

you got was i wasn't born here okay i

1307

00:53:08,719 --> 00:53:12,230

don't hate that stuff it's an alien

1308

00:53:10,460 --> 00:53:14,119

concept to be different but now it's

1309

00:53:12,230 --> 00:53:16,490

it's these are concepts that work

1310

00:53:14,119 --> 00:53:19,250

together very very well and i think that

1311

00:53:16,489 --> 00:53:21,828

what we want as human beings is for a

1312
00:53:19,250 --> 00:53:25,750
rational movement that doesn't deny the

1313
00:53:21,829 --> 00:53:27,789
fact that you know we bunk we care

1314
00:53:25,750 --> 00:53:29,909
we're passionate we have emotions and

1315
00:53:27,789 --> 00:53:34,029
feelings and and there's things we

1316
00:53:29,909 --> 00:53:36,250
dearly loved and I would just like to be

1317
00:53:34,030 --> 00:53:38,650
feel free to say well science is all

1318
00:53:36,250 --> 00:53:40,329
those things I'm really love well I say

1319
00:53:38,650 --> 00:53:42,940
it all the time I think a flip side of

1320
00:53:40,329 --> 00:53:45,069
that too is that perhaps people wouldn't

1321
00:53:42,940 --> 00:53:46,720
be so passionate about getting behind

1322
00:53:45,070 --> 00:53:49,900
science if it was just obviously

1323
00:53:46,719 --> 00:53:52,989
accepted that it worked but I because it

1324
00:53:49,900 --> 00:53:54,760
gets attacked but they think they've got

1325
00:53:52,989 --> 00:53:58,000
evidence should they've got their

1326
00:53:54,760 --> 00:53:59,890
evidence is just very bad because the

1327
00:53:58,000 --> 00:54:01,449
scientific method gets attacked I think

1328
00:53:59,889 --> 00:54:03,069
those of us who think it does work I

1329
00:54:01,449 --> 00:54:04,509
think we do get passionate about and

1330
00:54:03,070 --> 00:54:07,420
getting behind it and defending it

1331
00:54:04,510 --> 00:54:10,060
because it's it does work with a Cena

1332
00:54:07,420 --> 00:54:12,220
yeah I created there there's always this

1333
00:54:10,059 --> 00:54:13,449
backlash effect and if you tag something

1334
00:54:12,219 --> 00:54:14,739
people will defend it more passionately

1335
00:54:13,449 --> 00:54:17,529
but I think there's more to it than that

1336
00:54:14,739 --> 00:54:19,959
because people are into science

1337
00:54:17,530 --> 00:54:22,780
appreciate the fact that that we see so

1338
00:54:19,960 --> 00:54:25,240
much more with science that that it's a

1339
00:54:22,780 --> 00:54:27,250
very human thing to wreck recognize that

1340

00:54:25,239 --> 00:54:29,169
we are little beings on a small planet

1341
00:54:27,250 --> 00:54:30,849
and it little speck in the galaxy and

1342
00:54:29,170 --> 00:54:33,400
annals kind of thing and there are

1343
00:54:30,849 --> 00:54:35,440
things that are greater than us there

1344
00:54:33,400 --> 00:54:37,059
was some sorry oh and I'm just going to

1345
00:54:35,440 --> 00:54:38,889
say that that science is the way that

1346
00:54:37,059 --> 00:54:41,259
shows us those things are greater than

1347
00:54:38,889 --> 00:54:43,150
us and religion doesn't religion makes a

1348
00:54:41,260 --> 00:54:45,700
fairy tales about what's greater than us

1349
00:54:43,150 --> 00:54:48,430
and and it's so fake and phony in it

1350
00:54:45,699 --> 00:54:49,869
it's annoying what why you get excited

1351
00:54:48,429 --> 00:54:53,230
about God when you can get excited about

1352
00:54:49,869 --> 00:54:54,849
Oh planet Saturn or hox genes or

1353
00:54:53,230 --> 00:54:59,820
something that's really marvelous and

1354
00:54:54,849 --> 00:55:02,319

powerful there was 365 days of astronomy

1355

00:54:59,820 --> 00:55:06,370

episode that I heard on on the way down

1356

00:55:02,320 --> 00:55:08,860

here that they did survey of the people

1357

00:55:06,369 --> 00:55:12,339

who contributed to Galaxy Zoo which is a

1358

00:55:08,860 --> 00:55:15,070

we're basically of public science it's a

1359

00:55:12,340 --> 00:55:17,050

they asked people to categorize galaxies

1360

00:55:15,070 --> 00:55:18,700

so these the people would download

1361

00:55:17,050 --> 00:55:21,340

images of galaxies and we have to

1362

00:55:18,699 --> 00:55:22,960

categorize them as rotating clockwise or

1363

00:55:21,340 --> 00:55:24,220

counterclockwise and they categorize the

1364

00:55:22,960 --> 00:55:27,099

colors and all kinds of things like that

1365

00:55:24,219 --> 00:55:28,899

and hundreds of thousands of people

1366

00:55:27,099 --> 00:55:31,449

signed up and 10,000 people actually

1367

00:55:28,900 --> 00:55:34,840

responded to a survey that they did

1368

00:55:31,449 --> 00:55:38,598

about why they decided to sign up and a

1369
00:55:34,840 --> 00:55:40,519
lot of the responses were around the

1370
00:55:38,599 --> 00:55:43,489
pneus of the universe and our place in

1371
00:55:40,518 --> 00:55:45,949
it and about and about you know the

1372
00:55:43,489 --> 00:55:47,869
overwhelming feeling that they have

1373
00:55:45,949 --> 00:55:50,929
about the universe but quite a

1374
00:55:47,869 --> 00:55:53,539
significant proportion did it because

1375
00:55:50,929 --> 00:55:56,538
they wanted they like the idea of being

1376
00:55:53,539 --> 00:55:58,130
part of a scientific exploration and

1377
00:55:56,539 --> 00:55:59,930
some of them actually like the idea of

1378
00:55:58,130 --> 00:56:01,818
perhaps they'll be the first to see

1379
00:55:59,929 --> 00:56:03,919
something the first to find something

1380
00:56:01,818 --> 00:56:05,748
because there are hundreds of thousands

1381
00:56:03,920 --> 00:56:07,970
of galaxies in that or millions of

1382
00:56:05,748 --> 00:56:10,278
galaxies in that certain that project

1383
00:56:07,969 --> 00:56:12,498
and some of them will be the first to

1384
00:56:10,278 --> 00:56:15,349
see that galaxy right so that people

1385
00:56:12,498 --> 00:56:18,228
really like that sense of exploration in

1386
00:56:15,349 --> 00:56:20,119
to those who are not active scientists

1387
00:56:18,228 --> 00:56:22,129
who you know working in there in the

1388
00:56:20,119 --> 00:56:24,349
field every day that could be very

1389
00:56:22,130 --> 00:56:26,028
strong enough oh yeah and I know there's

1390
00:56:24,349 --> 00:56:27,650
projects out there they do so much alike

1391
00:56:26,028 --> 00:56:29,298
folding at home if you heard that the

1392
00:56:27,650 --> 00:56:31,039
protein game project is distributed

1393
00:56:29,298 --> 00:56:32,748
computing and and and things like that

1394
00:56:31,039 --> 00:56:34,880
are popular because people want to be a

1395
00:56:32,748 --> 00:56:36,139
part of it and by the way 29 people

1396
00:56:34,880 --> 00:56:37,700
actually responded that they did it

1397

00:56:36,139 --> 00:56:43,548
because they were bored at work so this

1398
00:56:37,699 --> 00:56:44,960
ah they are honest realism okay but I

1399
00:56:43,548 --> 00:56:46,759
guess that's a little bit like city as

1400
00:56:44,960 --> 00:56:48,108
well isn't it that people use their

1401
00:56:46,759 --> 00:56:50,179
computers when they're not using them to

1402
00:56:48,108 --> 00:56:51,650
search for that stuff and when you can

1403
00:56:50,179 --> 00:56:53,929
imagine if you were the first person to

1404
00:56:51,650 --> 00:56:58,068
get something back from space that you

1405
00:56:53,929 --> 00:57:01,429
could dad yeah if we could understand it

1406
00:56:58,068 --> 00:57:03,170
I don't know hi yeah I think there's a

1407
00:57:01,429 --> 00:57:06,440
lot of people out there who love science

1408
00:57:03,170 --> 00:57:07,880
and grew up loving it moved into

1409
00:57:06,440 --> 00:57:10,700
something else it's something else but

1410
00:57:07,880 --> 00:57:12,588
still want to be they want to be part of

1411
00:57:10,699 --> 00:57:15,319

its like I ought to tell my kids we roll

1412

00:57:12,588 --> 00:57:18,440

in a study for diabetes research we're

1413

00:57:15,320 --> 00:57:20,330

certain I sediment you know even if

1414

00:57:18,440 --> 00:57:23,599

nothing comes out of it for you we will

1415

00:57:20,329 --> 00:57:24,920

be contributing to the Great Society be

1416

00:57:23,599 --> 00:57:28,159

contributing the scientific knowledge

1417

00:57:24,920 --> 00:57:29,809

and that's awesome yes I get letters all

1418

00:57:28,159 --> 00:57:31,489

the time from people who say well you

1419

00:57:29,809 --> 00:57:33,590

know I'm I'm 40 years old and I'm an

1420

00:57:31,489 --> 00:57:37,129

insurance agent and I learned that I

1421

00:57:33,590 --> 00:57:38,420

love science what can I do and I usually

1422

00:57:37,130 --> 00:57:43,070

tell them yeah Chuck your career and go

1423

00:57:38,420 --> 00:57:44,360

back to school seriously I mean you've

1424

00:57:43,070 --> 00:57:46,160

got one life to live do what you love

1425

00:57:44,360 --> 00:57:48,320

doing and if you think you love science

1426
00:57:46,159 --> 00:57:51,349
do it but yeah these other little things

1427
00:57:48,320 --> 00:57:52,730
and and there's also now there's other

1428
00:57:51,349 --> 00:57:55,009
things that you can do that are much

1429
00:57:52,730 --> 00:57:58,280
more personal like you know volunteering

1430
00:57:55,010 --> 00:58:00,500
at your local zoo or museum helping out

1431
00:57:58,280 --> 00:58:03,530
at the local school just getting out

1432
00:58:00,500 --> 00:58:06,019
there and introducing young people to

1433
00:58:03,530 --> 00:58:08,570
things that you know you don't even have

1434
00:58:06,019 --> 00:58:10,070
to be a science scientists be smarter

1435
00:58:08,570 --> 00:58:11,809
about some things in science than a

1436
00:58:10,070 --> 00:58:14,300
little kid you also get out there and

1437
00:58:11,809 --> 00:58:16,449
teach it's always a good thing to do do

1438
00:58:14,300 --> 00:58:19,820
you find hazy that you spend more time

1439
00:58:16,449 --> 00:58:21,379
debunking nonsense than trying to get

1440
00:58:19,820 --> 00:58:23,059
out that sort of what you talk about

1441
00:58:21,380 --> 00:58:25,340
educating people about a beauty of

1442
00:58:23,059 --> 00:58:28,369
science and the intricacies oh it

1443
00:58:25,340 --> 00:58:30,320
depends on on where I am this year I'm

1444
00:58:28,369 --> 00:58:32,299
on sabbatical which I found has an

1445
00:58:30,320 --> 00:58:33,650
unfortunate effect and that I'm not

1446
00:58:32,300 --> 00:58:35,150
reading as much of the current

1447
00:58:33,650 --> 00:58:37,190
scientific literature because I've got

1448
00:58:35,150 --> 00:58:39,740
all these other things I'm doing during

1449
00:58:37,190 --> 00:58:42,019
the school year though no that's the big

1450
00:58:39,739 --> 00:58:43,279
thing is I'm constantly reading the

1451
00:58:42,019 --> 00:58:44,929
journals to keep up on the material my

1452
00:58:43,280 --> 00:58:47,990
field because I'm having to teach it and

1453
00:58:44,929 --> 00:58:50,389
and so what I find then is that I

1454

00:58:47,989 --> 00:58:53,299
express myself in the blog by explaining

1455
00:58:50,389 --> 00:58:54,920
here's here's what i read this week plop

1456
00:58:53,300 --> 00:58:56,840
here it is this is stuff that's going to

1457
00:58:54,920 --> 00:58:58,820
go into my lectures so it all works

1458
00:58:56,840 --> 00:59:01,789
together so yeah I spend a fair amount

1459
00:58:58,820 --> 00:59:04,580
of time on the positive aspects in the

1460
00:59:01,789 --> 00:59:05,900
right context right I don't ever want to

1461
00:59:04,579 --> 00:59:08,299
lose my job because if I'm not teaching

1462
00:59:05,900 --> 00:59:11,450
I think that just goes spiraling into

1463
00:59:08,300 --> 00:59:12,530
nothingness but yeah and this year it's

1464
00:59:11,449 --> 00:59:13,929
been a little slack but it's going to

1465
00:59:12,530 --> 00:59:16,670
change again next year when i get back

1466
00:59:13,929 --> 00:59:18,889
teaching off an almond course i'm very

1467
00:59:16,670 --> 00:59:21,240
excited about and

1468
00:59:18,889 --> 00:59:25,049

expect a whole bunch of post about you

1469

00:59:21,239 --> 00:59:27,449

eco devo next fall k be there I want to

1470

00:59:25,050 --> 00:59:29,190

ask not just like do you think if we can

1471

00:59:27,449 --> 00:59:31,169

do a better job event educating people

1472

00:59:29,190 --> 00:59:33,059

about science generally will have to

1473

00:59:31,170 --> 00:59:38,280

spend less time debunking specific

1474

00:59:33,059 --> 00:59:40,139

issues I think that what I've talked to

1475

00:59:38,280 --> 00:59:41,970

educators what I've often told him is

1476

00:59:40,139 --> 00:59:44,489

I'm not that concerned about teaching

1477

00:59:41,969 --> 00:59:45,989

evolution in high schools I'm much more

1478

00:59:44,489 --> 00:59:47,909

concerned about teaching critical

1479

00:59:45,989 --> 00:59:49,500

thinking skills in the grade schools in

1480

00:59:47,909 --> 00:59:51,929

the elementary schools you know that

1481

00:59:49,500 --> 00:59:53,789

little eight year olds ought to be

1482

00:59:51,929 --> 00:59:56,929

taught how to do an experiment with

1483
00:59:53,789 --> 00:59:58,980
controls and analyze it appropriately

1484
00:59:56,929 --> 01:00:01,649
that I think would be a multiple

1485
00:59:58,980 --> 01:00:03,860
powerful tool to eradicate a lot of the

1486
01:00:01,650 --> 01:00:07,050
nonsense that's going on out there I

1487
01:00:03,860 --> 01:00:08,420
wanted to ask you but something that you

1488
01:00:07,050 --> 01:00:13,110
might be familiar with and that's

1489
01:00:08,420 --> 01:00:17,190
atheism well yeah that's nothing i've

1490
01:00:13,110 --> 01:00:18,930
heard that there's nothing to it are you

1491
01:00:17,190 --> 01:00:22,289
being australia for what a couple of

1492
01:00:18,929 --> 01:00:25,799
weeks now almost ten days yes right so

1493
01:00:22,289 --> 01:00:28,800
so you've had a bit of a chance to see

1494
01:00:25,800 --> 01:00:31,880
what things are like here and my my own

1495
01:00:28,800 --> 01:00:34,830
feeling is that australians much more

1496
01:00:31,880 --> 01:00:37,829
well australians care less about

1497
01:00:34,829 --> 01:00:41,130
religion then Americans that's how Steve

1498
01:00:37,829 --> 01:00:45,569
field and got a like a great be fielding

1499
01:00:41,130 --> 01:00:47,280
got 50 6735 primary votes which is a

1500
01:00:45,570 --> 01:00:49,350
very very small number there's something

1501
01:00:47,280 --> 01:00:50,970
in the electrical system in electoral

1502
01:00:49,349 --> 01:00:54,059
system in Australia that allowed him to

1503
01:00:50,969 --> 01:00:55,589
actually get into the Senate so it's a

1504
01:00:54,059 --> 01:00:58,679
felt fault of the system not of the

1505
01:00:55,590 --> 01:01:01,289
people in circles 56,000 except for the

1506
01:00:58,679 --> 01:01:06,839
56,000 but it allows about 56,000 not as

1507
01:01:01,289 --> 01:01:08,429
I although to you I want you to ask you

1508
01:01:06,840 --> 01:01:11,670
about what your senses of the

1509
01:01:08,429 --> 01:01:14,519
differences in the way religion religion

1510
01:01:11,670 --> 01:01:16,740
and atheism are in the public sphere in

1511

01:01:14,519 --> 01:01:18,059
those two countries well it's it's a

1512
01:01:16,739 --> 01:01:20,219
little tough for me to judge because I'm

1513
01:01:18,059 --> 01:01:21,420
going to bubble here right then I come

1514
01:01:20,219 --> 01:01:22,519
here and all these atheists come

1515
01:01:21,420 --> 01:01:24,920
flocking around me

1516
01:01:22,519 --> 01:01:27,230
they hide the ugly seamy side of

1517
01:01:24,920 --> 01:01:31,309
Australia from me so I only see the

1518
01:01:27,230 --> 01:01:34,039
beauty all right but um no but you know

1519
01:01:31,309 --> 01:01:36,349
I wheat the papers too and you know that

1520
01:01:34,039 --> 01:01:37,639
if you read the papers United States and

1521
01:01:36,349 --> 01:01:39,500
read the papers in Australia at the same

1522
01:01:37,639 --> 01:01:41,629
time what you find is pretty much

1523
01:01:39,500 --> 01:01:44,360
everybody's more concerned about sports

1524
01:01:41,630 --> 01:01:46,190
and celebrities then they are these

1525
01:01:44,360 --> 01:01:47,480

kinds of issues so you just throw that

1526

01:01:46,190 --> 01:01:51,320

all out there's a lot of commonality

1527

01:01:47,480 --> 01:01:54,349

there that in the United States it's

1528

01:01:51,320 --> 01:01:56,269

considered more of an asset to wear your

1529

01:01:54,349 --> 01:01:57,650

religion on your sleeve and it is here I

1530

01:01:56,269 --> 01:01:59,420

get the distinct impression that if

1531

01:01:57,650 --> 01:02:00,980

somebody went out waving across and

1532

01:01:59,420 --> 01:02:04,670

saying vote for me because Christ loves

1533

01:02:00,980 --> 01:02:07,610

me he'll be laughed out of you know they

1534

01:02:04,670 --> 01:02:09,980

would get 56,000 yeah that's the same

1535

01:02:07,610 --> 01:02:11,750

wing nuts applause yeah yeah yeah yeah

1536

01:02:09,980 --> 01:02:13,130

but in the united states that you know

1537

01:02:11,750 --> 01:02:16,820

that would that would qualify you to run

1538

01:02:13,130 --> 01:02:18,410

for president united states so there

1539

01:02:16,820 --> 01:02:20,450

there is a difference in attitude that

1540
01:02:18,409 --> 01:02:22,489
we actually had an atheist climb in a

1541
01:02:20,449 --> 01:02:24,710
particular in a bar you know declared

1542
01:02:22,489 --> 01:02:27,639
atheist Prime Minister many years ago oh

1543
01:02:24,710 --> 01:02:29,869
ho but uh we can imagine that thing is

1544
01:02:27,639 --> 01:02:32,150
the funny thing about Bob Hawke was

1545
01:02:29,869 --> 01:02:33,289
people didn't really consider that an

1546
01:02:32,150 --> 01:02:35,389
issue at all I don't think we'll be

1547
01:02:33,289 --> 01:02:38,570
considered an issue nowadays either no

1548
01:02:35,389 --> 01:02:40,759
but I think I mean even though we are we

1549
01:02:38,570 --> 01:02:44,809
now have one of the more religious prime

1550
01:02:40,760 --> 01:02:46,370
ministers in a long long time and that's

1551
01:02:44,809 --> 01:02:49,400
not considered an issue either because

1552
01:02:46,369 --> 01:02:51,409
racing to oh yeah i think when we when

1553
01:02:49,400 --> 01:02:53,840
we win when the eight years conquer the

1554
01:02:51,409 --> 01:02:55,549
world what will happen is it will not be

1555
01:02:53,840 --> 01:02:57,740
considered an asset it's somebody's an

1556
01:02:55,550 --> 01:03:00,820
atheist running for office yeah it will

1557
01:02:57,739 --> 01:03:02,899
be an irrelevance ewc so what who cares

1558
01:03:00,820 --> 01:03:05,240
eunos already could run from calf with

1559
01:03:02,900 --> 01:03:07,340
his captor for president and we just say

1560
01:03:05,239 --> 01:03:09,469
who cares if this becomes something

1561
01:03:07,340 --> 01:03:10,550
that's a private issue that's removed

1562
01:03:09,469 --> 01:03:12,500
from the public sphere and we're not

1563
01:03:10,550 --> 01:03:14,750
going to worry and that's when we learn

1564
01:03:12,500 --> 01:03:16,389
that hasn't happened yet now you said

1565
01:03:14,750 --> 01:03:19,719
when

1566
01:03:16,389 --> 01:03:23,259
will you say hey you said wedding so the

1567
01:03:19,719 --> 01:03:25,058
only thing that's gonna happen barring

1568

01:03:23,260 --> 01:03:27,609
catastrophe do i hear the words going to

1569
01:03:25,059 --> 01:03:29,798
end in 2012 which is a smiley-faced yeah

1570
01:03:27,608 --> 01:03:31,750
yeah 30 days before my birthday I'm not

1571
01:03:29,798 --> 01:03:34,329
allowed so sorry you can happen on the

1572
01:03:31,750 --> 01:03:35,559
30th you know what you have to do is you

1573
01:03:34,329 --> 01:03:37,990
have to say that year you have to

1574
01:03:35,559 --> 01:03:39,309
celebrate your shape early it's a good

1575
01:03:37,989 --> 01:03:42,759
idea and then when the world doesn't end

1576
01:03:39,309 --> 01:03:44,048
you celebrate again you cannot lose but

1577
01:03:42,760 --> 01:03:46,720
yeah it's so aside from something like

1578
01:03:44,048 --> 01:03:47,949
that happening I think the trends are

1579
01:03:46,719 --> 01:03:49,449
going the right direction even in that

1580
01:03:47,949 --> 01:03:52,689
even in the crazy lil United States

1581
01:03:49,449 --> 01:03:56,558
there are so many outspoken atheist and

1582
01:03:52,690 --> 01:03:59,079

so much more acceptable that you know I

1583

01:03:56,559 --> 01:04:02,680

think if I have a reasonable lifespan

1584

01:03:59,079 --> 01:04:03,830

and all that kind of good stuff I'll see

1585

01:04:02,679 --> 01:04:05,809

it happen

1586

01:04:03,829 --> 01:04:08,630

what did you think of have you had a

1587

01:04:05,809 --> 01:04:10,849

chance to look at much the coverage from

1588

01:04:08,630 --> 01:04:12,950

atheists convention pz there was a lot

1589

01:04:10,849 --> 01:04:15,170

of bad coverage i wasn't me i actually

1590

01:04:12,949 --> 01:04:17,839

pushed a few things better yeah what did

1591

01:04:15,170 --> 01:04:20,059

you think about that I was surprised at

1592

01:04:17,840 --> 01:04:22,010

the one good article that reviewed it

1593

01:04:20,059 --> 01:04:24,619

and partially and said nice things about

1594

01:04:22,010 --> 01:04:25,970

it was in the Australian which I

1595

01:04:24,619 --> 01:04:27,380

understand is Rupert Murdoch's people

1596

01:04:25,969 --> 01:04:29,389

yeah that's right so it's generally can

1597
01:04:27,380 --> 01:04:31,400
see the right-wing paper yes and he

1598
01:04:29,389 --> 01:04:33,349
actually said you know they didn't come

1599
01:04:31,400 --> 01:04:34,550
out and endorse it isn't Lee just came

1600
01:04:33,349 --> 01:04:35,869
on so do you know there's a pretty good

1601
01:04:34,550 --> 01:04:40,370
meeting and people got more involved

1602
01:04:35,869 --> 01:04:45,679
good time no the ABC agents others are

1603
01:04:40,369 --> 01:04:48,349
red dude if it doesn't show up I'm still

1604
01:04:45,679 --> 01:04:50,989
thumbs down yeah and yeah they were just

1605
01:04:48,349 --> 01:04:54,559
awful yeah oh but you didn't get did you

1606
01:04:50,989 --> 01:04:56,049
read and revolts oh no i haven't i don't

1607
01:04:54,559 --> 01:05:00,049
know if i want to now you don't want to

1608
01:04:56,050 --> 01:05:03,530
do not want to yeah it's a good example

1609
01:05:00,050 --> 01:05:06,800
is actually take and really sort of

1610
01:05:03,530 --> 01:05:08,320
extreme view and then don't listen to

1611
01:05:06,800 --> 01:05:10,250
the evidence and don't change their

1612
01:05:08,320 --> 01:05:12,590
position when they're deemed to be wrong

1613
01:05:10,250 --> 01:05:15,139
Andrew Bolt is an example of a

1614
01:05:12,590 --> 01:05:17,930
right-wing extremist that anything that

1615
01:05:15,139 --> 01:05:19,699
is a right-wing extreme will he will

1616
01:05:17,929 --> 01:05:22,069
adopt regardless of anything year so

1617
01:05:19,699 --> 01:05:24,230
heating's religion is climate change

1618
01:05:22,070 --> 01:05:26,300
skepticism it's it's not a clearly

1619
01:05:24,230 --> 01:05:27,829
creationist surprisingly but I would

1620
01:05:26,300 --> 01:05:31,460
have expected him to pick that up too

1621
01:05:27,829 --> 01:05:33,949
but the overall theme is like you know

1622
01:05:31,460 --> 01:05:36,650
if it's right wing extremist view yes he

1623
01:05:33,949 --> 01:05:39,799
picked up on the Nazi tokens thing which

1624
01:05:36,650 --> 01:05:41,360
you probably heard then I just knew what

1625

01:05:39,800 --> 01:05:44,600
I heard Richard say that they're going

1626
01:05:41,360 --> 01:05:49,700
to happen yeah boy I'm so glad he said

1627
01:05:44,599 --> 01:05:50,929
it yeah not both of those people who

1628
01:05:49,699 --> 01:05:53,068
will not be my reading list in your

1629
01:05:50,929 --> 01:05:57,129
future don't worry

1630
01:05:53,068 --> 01:06:02,469
I've added Katherine's Ebony's my little

1631
01:05:57,130 --> 01:06:04,869
list of people I should read more no I

1632
01:06:02,469 --> 01:06:08,048
thought what was interesting about the

1633
01:06:04,869 --> 01:06:09,640
ABC coverage to was they often get

1634
01:06:08,048 --> 01:06:11,619
accused of being too left-wing and so I

1635
01:06:09,639 --> 01:06:14,318
can't they in an attempt to find balance

1636
01:06:11,619 --> 01:06:16,809
they actually do too much false balance

1637
01:06:14,318 --> 01:06:19,179
yes or I know that radio national sent

1638
01:06:16,809 --> 01:06:24,039
in about six or seven Christian people's

1639
01:06:19,179 --> 01:06:26,199

to Paisley plea criticize and write bad

1640

01:06:24,039 --> 01:06:28,089

things about the conference but I don't

1641

01:06:26,199 --> 01:06:30,219

think they sent him six atheist sturdy

1642

01:06:28,088 --> 01:06:31,960

the same thing you know show you they

1643

01:06:30,219 --> 01:06:33,639

try to compensate for being accused of

1644

01:06:31,960 --> 01:06:36,159

left-wing by going right to the other

1645

01:06:33,639 --> 01:06:38,558

side but I'm not adjustable and I say

1646

01:06:36,159 --> 01:06:41,159

though that there were quite critical

1647

01:06:38,559 --> 01:06:44,410

articles about the what's called the

1648

01:06:41,159 --> 01:06:46,778

Parliament of world religions or yeah a

1649

01:06:44,409 --> 01:06:49,358

few a few a couple of months ago I think

1650

01:06:46,778 --> 01:06:52,259

was the in Melbourne government-funded

1651

01:06:49,358 --> 01:06:54,578

race unlike the eighties convention

1652

01:06:52,259 --> 01:06:55,900

there was a parliament of world

1653

01:06:54,579 --> 01:06:57,269

religions or something like that and

1654
01:06:55,900 --> 01:07:00,519
they had representatives of various

1655
01:06:57,268 --> 01:07:02,768
religions and that was I felt that was

1656
01:07:00,518 --> 01:07:05,348
covered fairly critically as well so

1657
01:07:02,768 --> 01:07:07,209
perhaps into the overall attitude of

1658
01:07:05,349 --> 01:07:09,400
criticizing a conference around

1659
01:07:07,210 --> 01:07:11,769
something to do with religion well yeah

1660
01:07:09,400 --> 01:07:12,730
and also because you know you made the

1661
01:07:11,768 --> 01:07:15,429
distinction of left-wing and right-wing

1662
01:07:12,730 --> 01:07:16,838
those don't matter for atheism that

1663
01:07:15,429 --> 01:07:20,379
there are right-wing ideas and then

1664
01:07:16,838 --> 01:07:22,690
Tobias and and often what I found is I I

1665
01:07:20,380 --> 01:07:24,759
can't stand either of them when it comes

1666
01:07:22,690 --> 01:07:27,278
to religion they are all sucking up to

1667
01:07:24,759 --> 01:07:28,960
religion and if they're not second to

1668
01:07:27,278 --> 01:07:31,869
religion their stuff in there sucking up

1669
01:07:28,960 --> 01:07:33,608
to New Age nonsense in the u.s. Prince

1670
01:07:31,869 --> 01:07:35,019
it's a big website that there's really

1671
01:07:33,608 --> 01:07:36,848
popular among the left wing is they're

1672
01:07:35,018 --> 01:07:40,719
having a post and you know this I

1673
01:07:36,849 --> 01:07:43,390
nothing device I mean it's a hotbed of

1674
01:07:40,719 --> 01:07:46,328
whack culinary esperas eat there yes

1675
01:07:43,389 --> 01:07:47,480
it's awful and there's all this new age

1676
01:07:46,329 --> 01:07:50,220
stuff don't work

1677
01:07:47,480 --> 01:07:52,349
Jenny max well they don't even pay lip

1678
01:07:50,219 --> 01:07:54,329
service to journalistic standards so

1679
01:07:52,349 --> 01:07:57,239
yeah I wouldn't gonna do whatever you

1680
01:07:54,329 --> 01:08:00,509
want so so it's a weird thing because

1681
01:07:57,239 --> 01:08:03,239
science and atheism do not have a friend

1682

01:08:00,510 --> 01:08:07,050
on the left or the right we're kind of

1683
01:08:03,239 --> 01:08:08,579
going it alone no ideally we would

1684
01:08:07,050 --> 01:08:11,700
building be building a political

1685
01:08:08,579 --> 01:08:13,170
coalition that you know a a rationalist

1686
01:08:11,699 --> 01:08:15,379
party or something but I just don't see

1687
01:08:13,170 --> 01:08:17,819
that happening in the near future but

1688
01:08:15,380 --> 01:08:19,619
somewhere down the road it would be

1689
01:08:17,819 --> 01:08:23,490
great to have something like that well

1690
01:08:19,619 --> 01:08:25,199
we had an atheist secular party standing

1691
01:08:23,489 --> 01:08:29,699
for the state elections in New South

1692
01:08:25,199 --> 01:08:31,559
Wales second was okay i would i would

1693
01:08:29,699 --> 01:08:33,659
actually oppose the idea of something

1694
01:08:31,560 --> 01:08:37,230
like an atheist party because i want it

1695
01:08:33,659 --> 01:08:40,108
to be religion blind it just you know

1696
01:08:37,229 --> 01:08:42,028

you can be a Lutheran and run for office

1697

01:08:40,109 --> 01:08:43,620

in the framework of this party as long

1698

01:08:42,029 --> 01:08:45,210

as you willing to say yeah we should

1699

01:08:43,619 --> 01:08:47,039

make our decisions and politics and

1700

01:08:45,210 --> 01:08:49,048

science on the basis of the available

1701

01:08:47,039 --> 01:08:51,298

evidence and we should arrive at it

1702

01:08:49,048 --> 01:08:54,539

logically reasonably and try as hard as

1703

01:08:51,298 --> 01:08:56,548

we can't overcome our biases I don't

1704

01:08:54,539 --> 01:09:01,890

care if the Pope did that I would say

1705

01:08:56,548 --> 01:09:04,949

good for him somehow I don't know to

1706

01:09:01,890 --> 01:09:06,150

mystic yeah I don't mention can you tell

1707

01:09:04,949 --> 01:09:09,179

us a little bit about your book before

1708

01:09:06,149 --> 01:09:12,509

we go payday in please well sure I'm

1709

01:09:09,180 --> 01:09:16,770

writing a book I'm late I'm going to be

1710

01:09:12,509 --> 01:09:19,560

later I'm feeling really awful but I had

1711
01:09:16,770 --> 01:09:23,540
to come to Australia and it's a it's a

1712
01:09:19,560 --> 01:09:27,000
it's another atheist book among the many

1713
01:09:23,539 --> 01:09:28,920
we're kind of what kind of positioning

1714
01:09:27,000 --> 01:09:33,420
it as I'm the Richard Dawkins with a

1715
01:09:28,920 --> 01:09:34,920
sense of humor ok which I unfortunately

1716
01:09:33,420 --> 01:09:36,270
makes it really hard to write because if

1717
01:09:34,920 --> 01:09:39,838
you sit down say well today I'm gonna be

1718
01:09:36,270 --> 01:09:41,759
funny maybe it just doesn't fly but I'm

1719
01:09:39,838 --> 01:09:44,579
struggling a little bit but we'll get it

1720
01:09:41,759 --> 01:09:46,800
out there and yeah that I think the plan

1721
01:09:44,579 --> 01:09:49,529
is to get out sometime this summer

1722
01:09:46,800 --> 01:09:53,210
they specifically told me they didn't

1723
01:09:49,529 --> 01:09:53,210
think it would sell well as a Christmas

1724
01:09:53,689 --> 01:09:57,869
what does it have a title radio working

1725
01:09:56,399 --> 01:10:00,119
title since all those kind of working

1726
01:09:57,869 --> 01:10:02,130
title i absolutely hate do I have to say

1727
01:10:00,119 --> 01:10:06,029
it no you don't you don't have to do

1728
01:10:02,130 --> 01:10:07,829
anything I'm free open it I'll the

1729
01:10:06,029 --> 01:10:13,349
working title right now is the Hat happy

1730
01:10:07,829 --> 01:10:15,869
atheist okay I think website is yes we

1731
01:10:13,350 --> 01:10:20,660
are you know I'd rather be the

1732
01:10:15,869 --> 01:10:23,399
disgruntled ages the cranky atheist

1733
01:10:20,659 --> 01:10:25,829
something but no we'll work it out I'm

1734
01:10:23,399 --> 01:10:27,779
I'll come up with something done when my

1735
01:10:25,829 --> 01:10:29,369
publisher reads the first drafts that

1736
01:10:27,779 --> 01:10:31,829
are i'll be sending to him this week

1737
01:10:29,369 --> 01:10:35,479
your pricing wait a minute that's not

1738
01:10:31,829 --> 01:10:37,890
just happy that's that's awfully vicious

1739

01:10:35,479 --> 01:10:40,109
so you said you might be doing a book to

1740
01:10:37,890 --> 01:10:42,539
it sometime these are we might well I

1741
01:10:40,109 --> 01:10:44,460
can assign yeah I'm dreaming okay this

1742
01:10:42,539 --> 01:10:47,039
is my fantasy is that the book sells

1743
01:10:44,460 --> 01:10:48,480
well yeah and so the publisher says you

1744
01:10:47,039 --> 01:10:52,050
get to go on a book tour of the entire

1745
01:10:48,479 --> 01:10:54,269
universe and they and they pay to send

1746
01:10:52,050 --> 01:10:55,980
me around the world and your worries

1747
01:10:54,270 --> 01:10:57,690
that's when they decide to send you to

1748
01:10:55,979 --> 01:11:00,329
Alpha Centauri because you know violent

1749
01:10:57,689 --> 01:11:03,389
rape is a bit of a long way oh yeah but

1750
01:11:00,329 --> 01:11:05,250
if we reach a speed of light see I'll go

1751
01:11:03,390 --> 01:11:06,660
there and i'll come back and all you

1752
01:11:05,250 --> 01:11:10,859
guys will be in the grave must will be

1753
01:11:06,659 --> 01:11:13,439

dancing well thanks for talking to us

1754

01:11:10,859 --> 01:11:15,469
today pays a my pleasure

1755

01:11:13,439 --> 01:11:15,469
Oh

1756

01:11:37,059 --> 01:11:41,510
thank you for listening to this week's

1757

01:11:39,198 --> 01:11:44,478
episode of the skeptic zone I certainly

1758

01:11:41,510 --> 01:11:45,979
hope you enjoyed it and as ever I really

1759

01:11:44,479 --> 01:11:49,010
hope that the show does keep you company

1760

01:11:45,979 --> 01:11:52,130
on those lonely long walks or whatever

1761

01:11:49,010 --> 01:11:54,559
you're doing until our next show this is

1762

01:11:52,130 --> 01:11:59,538
Richard Saunders signing off from Sydney

1763

01:11:54,559 --> 01:12:03,829
Australia you've been listening to the

1764

01:11:59,538 --> 01:12:07,069
skeptic zone visit our website at wwc a

1765

01:12:03,828 --> 01:12:10,509
petting zoo TV for comments contacts and

1766

01:12:07,069 --> 01:12:14,079
extra video reports

1767

01:12:10,510 --> 01:12:14,079
my skin

1768

01:12:29,119 --> 01:12:31,180

you