

The Skeptic Zone

Show 75 - 26 Mar 2010



Julian Morrow

1
00:00:20,640 --> 00:00:09,500
welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

2
00:00:27,280 --> 00:00:23,530
hello and welcome to the skeptic zone

3
00:00:30,100 --> 00:00:27,290
episode number 75 on the twenty-sixth of

4
00:00:32,650 --> 00:00:30,110
march 2010 Richard Saunders here with

5
00:00:34,630 --> 00:00:32,660
you once again on this week's show we

6
00:00:36,910 --> 00:00:34,640
have an interview with Julian morrow

7
00:00:40,240 --> 00:00:36,920
from the chasers war on everything

8
00:00:42,729 --> 00:00:40,250
program shown here on the ABC and

9
00:00:45,130 --> 00:00:42,739
Australia it's conducted by Kylie

10
00:00:47,170 --> 00:00:45,140
Sturgis very funny man he's going to

11
00:00:50,440 --> 00:00:47,180
discuss being at the Atheist convention

12
00:00:52,180 --> 00:00:50,450
earlier this month and some of the more

13
00:00:54,520 --> 00:00:52,190

outrageous stunts they got up to during

14

00:00:57,400 --> 00:00:54,530

the filming of the chasers war and

15

00:00:59,740 --> 00:00:57,410

everything that's followed by dr. Reggie

16

00:01:01,390 --> 00:00:59,750

reports she's going to be talking to

17

00:01:05,260 --> 00:01:01,400

mark Carter in the Northern Territory

18

00:01:08,410 --> 00:01:05,270

here in Australia about things like fish

19

00:01:10,030 --> 00:01:08,420

falling from the sky after that we have

20

00:01:12,550 --> 00:01:10,040

a grain of salt with a run so give

21

00:01:16,389 --> 00:01:12,560

looking at hair loss or should I say

22

00:01:18,310 --> 00:01:16,399

hair regrowth following that a very

23

00:01:21,969 --> 00:01:18,320

special thing tank with a special guest

24

00:01:24,730 --> 00:01:21,979

none other than PZ Myers now before we

25

00:01:27,820 --> 00:01:24,740

get on to the show a special thank you

26

00:01:30,969 --> 00:01:27,830

from me to all the skeptics own team

27

00:01:33,040 --> 00:01:30,979

members who work so hard every week to

28

00:01:36,580 --> 00:01:33,050

bring interviews and other great things

29

00:01:38,710 --> 00:01:36,590

to you so sit back grab that knife soda

30

00:01:56,180 --> 00:01:38,720

water and enjoy this week's episode of

31

00:02:02,430 --> 00:01:59,460

I'm Carly Sturgis and I'm talking to

32

00:02:05,160 --> 00:02:02,440

Julian morrow Julian morrow is a member

33

00:02:07,230 --> 00:02:05,170

of the chaser an Australian satirical

34

00:02:10,380 --> 00:02:07,240

comedian group most famous for their

35

00:02:12,210 --> 00:02:10,390

television programs on the ABC The

36

00:02:14,340 --> 00:02:12,220

Chaser originated as a satirical

37

00:02:16,410 --> 00:02:14,350

newspaper which was known to push the

38

00:02:18,870 --> 00:02:16,420

limits as to what it published and for

39

00:02:20,970 --> 00:02:18,880

enacting its mission statement striving

40

00:02:23,160 --> 00:02:20,980

for mediocrity in a world of excellence

41

00:02:24,960 --> 00:02:23,170

after attending the global atheist

42

00:02:27,210 --> 00:02:24,970

convention in Melbourne I had the

43

00:02:29,130 --> 00:02:27,220

opportunity to speak to Julian about his

44

00:02:31,710 --> 00:02:29,140

career as a comedian his views on

45

00:02:33,570 --> 00:02:31,720

atheism and of course skepticism

46

00:02:35,610 --> 00:02:33,580

Julianne Moore i first started his

47

00:02:38,010 --> 00:02:35,620

career as a lawyer and you might be

48

00:02:41,490 --> 00:02:38,020

familiar with the entry of an apex

49

00:02:43,350 --> 00:02:41,500

security zone in 2007 masquerading is

50

00:02:46,320 --> 00:02:43,360

the motorcade of the Canadian delegation

51
00:02:48,270 --> 00:02:46,330
to a pet furious about a security breach

52
00:02:50,310 --> 00:02:48,280
at the APEC conference in Sydney a

53
00:02:52,140 --> 00:02:50,320
motorcade of vehicles got through the

54
00:02:54,270 --> 00:02:52,150
cordons and delivered a man dressed as

55
00:02:57,030 --> 00:02:54,280
Osama bin Laden to the front door of

56
00:02:59,280 --> 00:02:57,040
George Bush's hotel it turns out those

57
00:03:01,740 --> 00:02:59,290
responsible were from a TV satire

58
00:03:04,050 --> 00:03:01,750
program the chase report Channel Seven's

59
00:03:06,150 --> 00:03:04,060
Chris freeze and reports thank you very

60
00:03:08,640 --> 00:03:06,160
much for joining me Julian it's a great

61
00:03:10,949 --> 00:03:08,650
pleasure now we met at the global

62
00:03:12,960 --> 00:03:10,959
atheist convention Saturday night dinner

63
00:03:14,910 --> 00:03:12,970

which was held in Melbourne earlier this

64

00:03:17,640 --> 00:03:14,920

month that's right I found out the name

65

00:03:19,740 --> 00:03:17,650

of the first person you kissed oh no

66

00:03:23,960 --> 00:03:19,750

that's going to be everywhere now isn't

67

00:03:27,900 --> 00:03:23,970

it well it was because of a very

68

00:03:29,610 --> 00:03:27,910

skeptical illusionist to who managed to

69

00:03:31,590 --> 00:03:29,620

get you on stage without realizing

70

00:03:34,080 --> 00:03:31,600

you're the conference convener yes yes

71

00:03:35,430 --> 00:03:34,090

the fabulous Simon Taylor he's um quite

72

00:03:37,710 --> 00:03:35,440

a bit of a figure over there in the

73

00:03:39,750 --> 00:03:37,720

Victorian skeptic scene with his magical

74

00:03:42,150 --> 00:03:39,760

illusions and so forth you know he was

75

00:03:47,130 --> 00:03:42,160

really good hmm so how difficult is it

76
00:03:51,150 --> 00:03:47,140
to make fun of religion oh look it's not

77
00:03:54,240 --> 00:03:51,160
that hard it's almost as hard as making

78
00:03:55,979 --> 00:03:54,250
fun of atheism yes and you managed to do

79
00:03:58,290 --> 00:03:55,989
that quite well by posting up a large

80
00:04:00,539 --> 00:03:58,300
poster which made a lot of fun of the

81
00:04:02,099 --> 00:04:00,549
Atheist bus banners that have been going

82
00:04:04,180 --> 00:04:02,109
around yeah that's what that was

83
00:04:06,700 --> 00:04:04,190
actually it was fun too

84
00:04:09,010 --> 00:04:06,710
lay that at the convention because it

85
00:04:11,620 --> 00:04:09,020
was actually a piece of footage that

86
00:04:13,980 --> 00:04:11,630
we've made for the chases war on

87
00:04:17,020 --> 00:04:13,990
everything series 3 but didn't broadcast

88
00:04:20,289 --> 00:04:17,030

and it followed from the you know the

89

00:04:23,590 --> 00:04:20,299

Atheist bus ad thing that started in in

90

00:04:26,380 --> 00:04:23,600

London and we happen to be in London

91

00:04:28,600 --> 00:04:26,390

around the time because we were shooting

92

00:04:33,300 --> 00:04:28,610

for the war and everything and we

93

00:04:36,040 --> 00:04:33,310

basically made our own little sign for

94

00:04:39,040 --> 00:04:36,050

you know in treating the London

95

00:04:41,860 --> 00:04:39,050

commuters to bow down to the the Dark

96

00:04:44,650 --> 00:04:41,870

Lord Satan just to try and even out the

97

00:04:46,390 --> 00:04:44,660

the debate between atheism and and and

98

00:04:47,920 --> 00:04:46,400

religious people we thought that Satan

99

00:04:49,810 --> 00:04:47,930

need to get a bit of a look in it was

100

00:04:53,170 --> 00:04:49,820

actually really fun stunt to do although

101
00:04:54,850 --> 00:04:53,180
it didn't quite work for the just as a

102
00:04:55,840 --> 00:04:54,860
package for our general audience and

103
00:04:57,700 --> 00:04:55,850
what was kind of sitting there on the

104
00:04:59,050 --> 00:04:57,710
shelf and we figured if it didn't get a

105
00:05:00,070 --> 00:04:59,060
laugh or the ideas convention it was

106
00:05:01,510 --> 00:05:00,080
never going to get one and we were

107
00:05:02,620 --> 00:05:01,520
pretty glad that it did it went down

108
00:05:04,750 --> 00:05:02,630
pretty well I said it went down

109
00:05:06,610 --> 00:05:04,760
wonderfully well yeah now to set the

110
00:05:08,290 --> 00:05:06,620
scene a little for people who might be

111
00:05:10,270 --> 00:05:08,300
listening to our show who aren't

112
00:05:11,950 --> 00:05:10,280
familiar with your work there's an

113
00:05:13,600 --> 00:05:11,960

article that was originally printed in

114

00:05:15,190 --> 00:05:13,610

The Sydney Morning Herald and it's

115

00:05:17,590 --> 00:05:15,200

featured on a Richard Dawkins website

116

00:05:19,600 --> 00:05:17,600

that's right yeah the one about the

117

00:05:22,659 --> 00:05:19,610

crack annoyance squad for what was then

118

00:05:24,370 --> 00:05:22,669

the 2008 world youth day and you

119

00:05:27,490 --> 00:05:24,380

describe yourself as a lapsed Catholic

120

00:05:31,120 --> 00:05:27,500

elapsed lawyer elapsed chaser comedian

121

00:05:34,420 --> 00:05:31,130

and a practicing criminal so do you also

122

00:05:36,880 --> 00:05:34,430

describe yourself as a skeptic I look

123

00:05:39,280 --> 00:05:36,890

I'd say so I mean I'm not a mean yeah

124

00:05:41,409 --> 00:05:39,290

look I'm a great believer in there in

125

00:05:45,880 --> 00:05:41,419

rationalism I'm not a very scientific

126

00:05:48,190 --> 00:05:45,890

person and basically you know elementary

127

00:05:49,600 --> 00:05:48,200

concepts that most intelligent people

128

00:05:53,080 --> 00:05:49,610

should understand in the science world

129

00:05:55,090 --> 00:05:53,090

completely bemuse me but but I do

130

00:05:57,310 --> 00:05:55,100

believe that there are always rational

131

00:05:59,020 --> 00:05:57,320

explanations for for things and I

132

00:06:03,970 --> 00:05:59,030

suppose the other thing I would say is

133

00:06:09,130 --> 00:06:03,980

that I I do think that excessive

134

00:06:13,180 --> 00:06:09,140

rationality is as much a flaw as

135

00:06:14,380 --> 00:06:13,190

excessive spiritualism or occultism so

136

00:06:15,700 --> 00:06:14,390

you know the other I think that there's

137

00:06:16,900 --> 00:06:15,710

a balance to be struck in all these

138

00:06:18,250 --> 00:06:16,910

things

139

00:06:20,500 --> 00:06:18,260

asserts we're having a laugh at oneself

140

00:06:23,500 --> 00:06:20,510

comes into it as well well it comes

141

00:06:25,690 --> 00:06:23,510

naturally to us a funny thing being a

142

00:06:28,270 --> 00:06:25,700

comedian in one sense all the sort of

143

00:06:31,560 --> 00:06:28,280

kind of lowbrow cheap shot comedians

144

00:06:34,530 --> 00:06:31,570

that we are is it's essentially a

145

00:06:39,220 --> 00:06:34,540

negative pursuit you know it's about

146

00:06:40,960 --> 00:06:39,230

knocking down well hopefully those

147

00:06:42,220 --> 00:06:40,970

people in positions of authority but

148

00:06:44,140 --> 00:06:42,230

sometimes just innocent victims as well

149

00:06:48,630 --> 00:06:44,150

we can't pretend otherwise at the chaser

150

00:06:52,630 --> 00:06:48,640

and as I suppose to some extent that's

151

00:06:56,020 --> 00:06:52,640

similar to skepticism in terms of trying

152

00:06:59,020 --> 00:06:56,030

to you know the pierce the well you know

153

00:07:00,280 --> 00:06:59,030

falsehoods and pretensions claims that

154

00:07:03,490 --> 00:07:00,290

are more extravagant than they can

155

00:07:04,690 --> 00:07:03,500

possibly realistically be but as far as

156

00:07:07,930 --> 00:07:04,700

that's not the end of the game either

157

00:07:09,760 --> 00:07:07,940

there's there is a place for for the

158

00:07:11,020 --> 00:07:09,770

more positive side of things it's just

159

00:07:12,550 --> 00:07:11,030

that you add the chaser we're

160

00:07:15,340 --> 00:07:12,560

chronically incapable of it so we'd over

161

00:07:19,140 --> 00:07:15,350

Tim what led you to begin firstly as a

162

00:07:23,830 --> 00:07:19,150

lawyer and then become an entertainer um

163

00:07:26,830 --> 00:07:23,840

well look III did law for lack of

164

00:07:29,230 --> 00:07:26,840

imagination really ah what you like but

165

00:07:32,950 --> 00:07:29,240

yeah but I but actually I mean there's a

166

00:07:34,300 --> 00:07:32,960

kind of common thing of lawyers going

167

00:07:36,220 --> 00:07:34,310

into comedy and talking about how much

168

00:07:37,690 --> 00:07:36,230

they hated their law career I'm far more

169

00:07:40,000 --> 00:07:37,700

boring that actually really liked my

170

00:07:44,020 --> 00:07:40,010

career as a lawyer I became a lawyer

171

00:07:46,750 --> 00:07:44,030

because I was taught in an employment

172

00:07:49,930 --> 00:07:46,760

and industrial law by a fantastic man

173

00:07:53,440 --> 00:07:49,940

called professor Ranma Callum is

174

00:07:55,750 --> 00:07:53,450

actually I believe the first blind law

175

00:07:59,460 --> 00:07:55,760

professor in Australia at least and he's

176

00:08:02,740 --> 00:07:59,470

an amazing guy very inspirational and

177

00:08:05,800 --> 00:08:02,750

certainly inspired me to to work as an

178

00:08:08,230 --> 00:08:05,810

employment lawyer for a while but I

179

00:08:11,380 --> 00:08:08,240

suppose the link with comedy is that as

180

00:08:13,240 --> 00:08:11,390

a lawyer essentially your job is to play

181

00:08:15,130 --> 00:08:13,250

with the meaning of words you know

182

00:08:17,830 --> 00:08:15,140

essentially clients pay you to twist the

183

00:08:19,690 --> 00:08:17,840

meaning of words in their favor in a way

184

00:08:23,230 --> 00:08:19,700

which sometimes is very useful in other

185

00:08:27,219 --> 00:08:23,240

times is outrageously unjust and

186

00:08:28,450 --> 00:08:27,229

disgraceful but it's about playing with

187

00:08:30,399 --> 00:08:28,460

the meaning of words and comedy

188

00:08:32,230 --> 00:08:30,409

essentially is

189

00:08:33,699 --> 00:08:32,240

about setting up expectations in the

190

00:08:36,790 --> 00:08:33,709

meaning of words and then and then

191

00:08:38,529 --> 00:08:36,800

submerging them more often than not so

192

00:08:40,480 --> 00:08:38,539

how did you become an entertainer than

193

00:08:45,040 --> 00:08:40,490

joining the chases and becoming the

194

00:08:48,970 --> 00:08:45,050

powerhouse that you are media well that

195

00:08:51,100 --> 00:08:48,980

there was a period in the late 1990s

196

00:08:52,449 --> 00:08:51,110

where some of my mates from University

197

00:08:54,699 --> 00:08:52,459

who'd done Arts degrees they weren't

198

00:08:57,460 --> 00:08:54,709

they hadn't done the law degrees were in

199

00:09:00,850 --> 00:08:57,470

serious danger of having to get a real

200

00:09:03,610 --> 00:09:00,860

job oh no no that was that was untenable

201
00:09:04,900 --> 00:09:03,620
as far as we were concerned yes I think

202
00:09:07,629 --> 00:09:04,910
as far as a lot of the legitimate work

203
00:09:09,069 --> 00:09:07,639
force that was well there were no real

204
00:09:10,329 --> 00:09:09,079
prospects but we thought the just in

205
00:09:12,490 --> 00:09:10,339
case that happened we should start up

206
00:09:15,879 --> 00:09:12,500
this satirical newspaper so we also

207
00:09:17,619 --> 00:09:15,889
started really as writers writing the

208
00:09:22,300 --> 00:09:17,629
chase of newspaper which was a parody of

209
00:09:24,759 --> 00:09:22,310
a tabloid newspaper and we did that for

210
00:09:26,019 --> 00:09:24,769
a while we had a we had I think probably

211
00:09:27,429 --> 00:09:26,029
one of the funniest things we've ever

212
00:09:29,019 --> 00:09:27,439
written was our business plan that was

213
00:09:32,050 --> 00:09:29,029

an absolute it was a complete joke and

214

00:09:33,939 --> 00:09:32,060

we we were going to do I think eight

215

00:09:36,160 --> 00:09:33,949

editions of the print newspaper and if

216

00:09:38,679 --> 00:09:36,170

it if it didn't succeed after eight

217

00:09:41,499 --> 00:09:38,689

editions on financial grounds we were

218

00:09:43,329 --> 00:09:41,509

going to end the paper and you know go

219

00:09:45,670 --> 00:09:43,339

back to it to whatever our other

220

00:09:47,530 --> 00:09:45,680

pursuits were and after eight editions

221

00:09:49,689 --> 00:09:47,540

it was an absolute disaster financially

222

00:09:51,280 --> 00:09:49,699

but we were kind of enjoying ourselves

223

00:09:52,540 --> 00:09:51,290

that we resolved it to close the

224

00:09:53,860 --> 00:09:52,550

newspaper down but because we're so

225

00:09:57,100 --> 00:09:53,870

administratively lacks it took us about

226

00:09:59,170 --> 00:09:57,110

five years to do and in the meantime we

227

00:10:00,699 --> 00:09:59,180

just kept pumping out this this

228

00:10:03,759 --> 00:10:00,709

newspaper it was an act of phenomenal

229

00:10:05,710 --> 00:10:03,769

arrogant it's because nobody read it but

230

00:10:08,499 --> 00:10:05,720

we did send it to the sorts of people

231

00:10:11,429 --> 00:10:08,509

who we you know would have liked to to

232

00:10:14,740 --> 00:10:11,439

meet really it was basically a kind of

233

00:10:18,160 --> 00:10:14,750

kind of intellectual comedy flirt

234

00:10:20,230 --> 00:10:18,170

routine but but Andrew Denton started

235

00:10:21,879 --> 00:10:20,240

subscribing and then came along to one

236

00:10:24,639 --> 00:10:21,889

of our parties and then he gave us out

237

00:10:26,740 --> 00:10:24,649

our first break in television so we were

238

00:10:33,699 --> 00:10:26,750

very lucky so what do you consider good

239

00:10:35,049 --> 00:10:33,709

comedy then look it well I mean we know

240

00:10:36,759 --> 00:10:35,059

more than most of these things are

241

00:10:39,549 --> 00:10:36,769

matters of taste I have a you know a

242

00:10:41,949 --> 00:10:39,559

dark a sense of humor than a lot of of

243

00:10:44,170 --> 00:10:41,959

our audience does I mean I i I'm a very

244

00:10:45,460 --> 00:10:44,180

worthy person I tend to like

245

00:10:47,829 --> 00:10:45,470

of things that play with the structure

246

00:10:49,150 --> 00:10:47,839

of language and stuff like that so a lot

247

00:10:51,220 --> 00:10:49,160

of british comedies great along those

248

00:10:54,910 --> 00:10:51,230

lines are particularly like the mighty

249

00:10:59,079 --> 00:10:54,920

boosh oh yeah and and some of niall

250

00:11:01,750 --> 00:10:59,089

Fielding's live routines which are ya

251
00:11:02,920 --> 00:11:01,760
this sort of stuff that Noam Chomsky

252
00:11:05,530 --> 00:11:02,930
should should wrap his head around

253
00:11:08,560 --> 00:11:05,540
sometime because it's it's completely

254
00:11:11,440 --> 00:11:08,570
nonsensical in its content but at the

255
00:11:13,360 --> 00:11:11,450
same time has a certain logic to it that

256
00:11:14,320 --> 00:11:13,370
you intuitively understand so I think

257
00:11:16,480 --> 00:11:14,330
he's pretty good I think she won the

258
00:11:20,260 --> 00:11:16,490
Caliph's that probably the best comedian

259
00:11:22,329 --> 00:11:20,270
in Australia at the moment and one of

260
00:11:25,360 --> 00:11:22,339
things I like about him is that he kind

261
00:11:27,040 --> 00:11:25,370
of deconstructs the the will plant plays

262
00:11:30,310 --> 00:11:27,050
with the structure of language more than

263
00:11:33,100 --> 00:11:30,320

most average Australian comedians I'm a

264

00:11:37,660 --> 00:11:33,110

complete devotee of the daily show and

265

00:11:39,639 --> 00:11:37,670

the colbert report and I like well I

266

00:11:40,570 --> 00:11:39,649

like Bill Maher show real-time probably

267

00:11:42,329 --> 00:11:40,580

more for the comedy than for the

268

00:11:44,290 --> 00:11:42,339

intellectual content to be honest but

269

00:11:45,250 --> 00:11:44,300

but yeah there's plenty there's plenty

270

00:11:46,990 --> 00:11:45,260

of good comedy to keep you going

271

00:11:49,269 --> 00:11:47,000

actually do you think that there's a

272

00:11:51,699 --> 00:11:49,279

rising number of comedian entertainers

273

00:11:53,769 --> 00:11:51,709

who use Pro atheists and pro skeptic

274

00:11:56,470 --> 00:11:53,779

material in their acts or how we just

275

00:12:01,440 --> 00:11:56,480

noticing them or look I think there's

276

00:12:04,090 --> 00:12:01,450

always been you know that kind of strain

277

00:12:07,960 --> 00:12:04,100

in comedy because it because comedies

278

00:12:10,840 --> 00:12:07,970

sit essentially pretty cynical and so I

279

00:12:13,810 --> 00:12:10,850

suppose there's a there's a natural kind

280

00:12:15,400 --> 00:12:13,820

of commonality between those two things

281

00:12:19,810 --> 00:12:15,410

we're probably noticing a little bit

282

00:12:21,220 --> 00:12:19,820

more but by the many in the end I think

283

00:12:22,449 --> 00:12:21,230

there's good comedy and bad comedy i

284

00:12:25,680 --> 00:12:22,459

think that the beliefs that you have

285

00:12:27,640 --> 00:12:25,690

behind it don't really matter that much

286

00:12:30,910 --> 00:12:27,650

you've got to make your audience laughs

287

00:12:33,269 --> 00:12:30,920

and and and that's true if it's a

288

00:12:36,340 --> 00:12:33,279

religion sort religious audience or a

289

00:12:37,840 --> 00:12:36,350

theist one a favorite chaser sketch of

290

00:12:39,579 --> 00:12:37,850

mine is when the members of the team

291

00:12:41,829 --> 00:12:39,589

dress up as the Ghostbusters and

292

00:12:44,949 --> 00:12:41,839

confront John Edward with a

293

00:12:46,870 --> 00:12:44,959

meter ok ok how did that come about how

294

00:12:48,760 --> 00:12:46,880

did you get all that was that that was

295

00:12:52,180 --> 00:12:48,770

funny actually because we knew that John

296

00:12:54,430 --> 00:12:52,190

Edward was in town and we knew that he

297

00:12:56,680 --> 00:12:54,440

was doing an interview on The Today Show

298

00:13:00,850 --> 00:12:56,690

so we'd actually sent

299

00:13:03,430 --> 00:13:00,860

our researchers up to to kind of stake

300

00:13:05,650 --> 00:13:03,440

out the channel 9 studios or willoughby

301
00:13:07,840 --> 00:13:05,660
and then to follow John Edwards car when

302
00:13:10,290 --> 00:13:07,850
he came off air they did that but

303
00:13:12,970 --> 00:13:10,300
unfortunately we weren't able to get the

304
00:13:15,070 --> 00:13:12,980
all the props and stuff together our art

305
00:13:16,300 --> 00:13:15,080
department did an amazing job that day

306
00:13:17,800 --> 00:13:16,310
because we briefed them at about eight

307
00:13:21,610 --> 00:13:17,810
o'clock that we wanted to dress up as

308
00:13:23,500 --> 00:13:21,620
Ghostbusters and they made now what do

309
00:13:26,260 --> 00:13:23,510
they call those Power Packs that the

310
00:13:29,650 --> 00:13:26,270
Ghostbusters had oh yes a sort of laser

311
00:13:31,930 --> 00:13:29,660
yeah yeah yeah well how versions were

312
00:13:34,900 --> 00:13:31,940
like a kind of play school mock up of

313
00:13:36,670 --> 00:13:34,910

made out of items of office station read

314

00:13:39,850 --> 00:13:36,680

about 10 minutes notice but I did a

315

00:13:43,590 --> 00:13:39,860

great job and unfortunately however we

316

00:13:46,690 --> 00:13:43,600

missed Edward before he got back to his

317

00:13:49,360 --> 00:13:46,700

his hotel in the city so we kind of

318

00:13:51,580 --> 00:13:49,370

staked out the hotel for a while and

319

00:13:52,960 --> 00:13:51,590

eventually we were kind of in visiting

320

00:13:54,640 --> 00:13:52,970

or gonna have to follow this guy to the

321

00:13:56,650 --> 00:13:54,650

entertainment center or whatever and try

322

00:13:58,960 --> 00:13:56,660

and get past his security eventually

323

00:14:01,390 --> 00:13:58,970

wandered out the front door and was

324

00:14:04,420 --> 00:14:01,400

walking along circular key as it turned

325

00:14:08,230 --> 00:14:04,430

out in his very mainstream American ways

326

00:14:10,570 --> 00:14:08,240

to go down to mcdonalds to to try the

327

00:14:11,830 --> 00:14:10,580

local mcdonalds cuisine you know

328

00:14:14,110 --> 00:14:11,840

obviously it wasn't Australia so I

329

00:14:17,920 --> 00:14:14,120

wanted to have him Agha's to see what

330

00:14:19,780 --> 00:14:17,930

our culture was like and and so we all

331

00:14:21,280 --> 00:14:19,790

ran after him and while hiding around

332

00:14:24,460 --> 00:14:21,290

the corner waiting for him to come out

333

00:14:26,410 --> 00:14:24,470

of his of McDonald's it was really funny

334

00:14:28,480 --> 00:14:26,420

actually because we were hiding in this

335

00:14:31,480 --> 00:14:28,490

place and mysteriously he just started

336

00:14:33,100 --> 00:14:31,490

walking straight towards us we would

337

00:14:35,050 --> 00:14:33,110

completely freaked out all our

338

00:14:36,850 --> 00:14:35,060

skepticism evaporated we're like he

339

00:14:38,440 --> 00:14:36,860

knows we're here this is amazing how

340

00:14:40,210 --> 00:14:38,450

could why is he walking here this guy's

341

00:14:45,010 --> 00:14:40,220

incredible we were about to buy tickets

342

00:14:46,210 --> 00:14:45,020

to his to his show and then of course he

343

00:14:48,970 --> 00:14:46,220

walked straight past is having no idea

344

00:14:50,560 --> 00:14:48,980

they were there and then we we hijacked

345

00:14:53,140 --> 00:14:50,570

and we kind of felt a bit sorry for him

346

00:14:56,110 --> 00:14:53,150

actually because we heard later on from

347

00:14:57,310 --> 00:14:56,120

his publicist that you know doing all

348

00:14:58,900 --> 00:14:57,320

that bollocks that he does about

349

00:15:02,079 --> 00:14:58,910

pretending dogs dead people he actually

350

00:15:04,390 --> 00:15:02,089

attracts quite a lot of nutters and so

351

00:15:06,880 --> 00:15:04,400

when we ran up to him and started

352

00:15:09,880 --> 00:15:06,890

behaving in a bizarre manner I think he

353

00:15:10,120 --> 00:15:09,890

was slightly afraid that we might make

354

00:15:13,420 --> 00:15:10,130

him

355

00:15:15,640 --> 00:15:13,430

crossover so to speak and so when he

356

00:15:17,740 --> 00:15:15,650

found out that we were just mean

357

00:15:26,560 --> 00:15:17,750

rationalist comedians I think he was a

358

00:15:28,150 --> 00:15:26,570

bit relieved it's another long list of

359

00:15:29,500 --> 00:15:28,160

problems on us like jewels so let's get

360

00:15:32,380 --> 00:15:29,510

straight into it with problem number one

361

00:15:34,030 --> 00:15:32,390

Johnny yes now he's the American psychic

362

00:15:35,680 --> 00:15:34,040

guy that communicates with dead people

363

00:15:37,210 --> 00:15:35,690

who've crossed over and he's crossed

364

00:15:38,590 --> 00:15:37,220

over to Australia at the moment as he

365

00:15:40,480 --> 00:15:38,600

has find out what stanza mannequin

366

00:15:42,490 --> 00:15:40,490

brockie thought of the LG song yeah look

367

00:15:44,260 --> 00:15:42,500

with a celebrity psychic like John

368

00:15:45,970 --> 00:15:44,270

Edward in town there's obviously a lot

369

00:15:48,280 --> 00:15:45,980

of excitement surrounding amongst

370

00:15:50,050 --> 00:15:48,290

gullible people of course but also Craig

371

00:15:51,670 --> 00:15:50,060

I've noticed the amount of paranormal

372

00:15:53,560 --> 00:15:51,680

activity in this country has skyrocketed

373

00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:53,570

yes there's something strange in the

374

00:15:56,740 --> 00:15:55,010

neighborhood all right which really

375

00:16:02,920 --> 00:15:56,750

raises the question who are you gonna

376

00:16:04,450 --> 00:16:02,930

call John where the Ghostbusters we're

377

00:16:06,430 --> 00:16:04,460

gonna report of unusually high levels of

378

00:16:08,020 --> 00:16:06,440

ghost activity in this area are you the

379

00:16:10,840 --> 00:16:08,030

gatekeeper nobody gave you from the

380

00:16:12,520 --> 00:16:10,850

movie get oh my god you check your

381

00:16:14,260 --> 00:16:12,530

made out of noodles darting

382

00:16:16,030 --> 00:16:14,270

through the road there's definitely some

383

00:16:17,860 --> 00:16:16,040

unusually high levels of paranormal

384

00:16:31,120 --> 00:16:17,870

in this area don't worry John

385

00:16:36,350 --> 00:16:34,100

is there any bit that you ever really

386

00:16:40,820 --> 00:16:36,360

wanted to do but just have not been able

387

00:16:43,750 --> 00:16:40,830

to get due to logistical reasons um look

388

00:16:47,840 --> 00:16:43,760

we've been pretty lucky it's amazing how

389

00:16:50,150 --> 00:16:47,850

many long shots have come off over the

390

00:16:53,480 --> 00:16:50,160

years that the the biggest one of course

391

00:16:55,340 --> 00:16:53,490

being the APEC summit which was what we

392

00:16:56,750 --> 00:16:55,350

thought it was a million-to-one at best

393

00:16:58,880 --> 00:16:56,760

and that turned out to be a damn sight

394

00:17:02,630 --> 00:16:58,890

easier than we expected there have been

395

00:17:05,990 --> 00:17:02,640

plenty of days where you know you sit

396

00:17:08,750 --> 00:17:06,000

outside someone's house in the rain in

397

00:17:11,390 --> 00:17:08,760

some stupid costume from about six a.m.

398

00:17:13,220 --> 00:17:11,400

and then at about 11am you kind of

399

00:17:15,950 --> 00:17:13,230

realize that they probably aren't in the

400

00:17:18,950 --> 00:17:15,960

house I did that once with what was it

401
00:17:22,850 --> 00:17:18,960
the guys name is I think Jacob vice Minh

402
00:17:25,820 --> 00:17:22,860
who's the the guy who runs the advanced

403
00:17:29,660 --> 00:17:25,830
medical institute you know the the

404
00:17:32,270 --> 00:17:29,670
people that offer longer lasting sex and

405
00:17:34,960 --> 00:17:32,280
you know those kind of he has an oral

406
00:17:37,400 --> 00:17:34,970
solution for erectile dysfunction which

407
00:17:40,100 --> 00:17:37,410
I'm a little bit skeptical about to be

408
00:17:41,450 --> 00:17:40,110
honest so yeah so I said outside his

409
00:17:43,070 --> 00:17:41,460
place well I think he was away on

410
00:17:45,860 --> 00:17:43,080
holiday somewhere for for the best part

411
00:17:48,410 --> 00:17:45,870
of half a day that's an occupational

412
00:17:50,330 --> 00:17:48,420
hazard yeah and people ever written in

413
00:17:53,720 --> 00:17:50,340

and suggested right you've done John

414

00:17:55,160 --> 00:17:53,730

Edward next Sylvia Browne or this person

415

00:17:56,660 --> 00:17:55,170

and yeah look we get lots of suggestions

416

00:17:59,420 --> 00:17:56,670

we were a little bit burnt by them in

417

00:18:00,680 --> 00:17:59,430

fact early on somebody suggested a

418

00:18:03,170 --> 00:18:00,690

sketch to us which we thought was a good

419

00:18:06,140 --> 00:18:03,180

idea we wrote it up and then found out

420

00:18:08,690 --> 00:18:06,150

that whether knowingly or not the person

421

00:18:10,130 --> 00:18:08,700

who'd suggested a sketch to us which

422

00:18:13,250 --> 00:18:10,140

they'd actually seen all the simpsons

423

00:18:15,490 --> 00:18:13,260

earlier on so we were accused of

424

00:18:18,440 --> 00:18:15,500

plagiarism when in fact there are a

425

00:18:21,650 --> 00:18:18,450

crime was a slightly lesser form of lack

426

00:18:25,430 --> 00:18:21,660

of originality so we do try and come up

427

00:18:26,840 --> 00:18:25,440

with most of the stuff ourselves not

428

00:18:29,530 --> 00:18:26,850

necessarily because it's better just cuz

429

00:18:31,490 --> 00:18:29,540

we're you know rabid egomaniacs

430

00:18:32,570 --> 00:18:31,500

incapable of collaborating with anyone

431

00:18:35,840 --> 00:18:32,580

other than the people that we happen to

432

00:18:36,830 --> 00:18:35,850

start working with a decade ago so but

433

00:18:39,680 --> 00:18:36,840

but I suppose we do take some

434

00:18:42,110 --> 00:18:39,690

suggestions often with savn road tests

435

00:18:43,460 --> 00:18:42,120

that we used to do people would would

436

00:18:46,250 --> 00:18:43,470

see the

437

00:18:47,840 --> 00:18:46,260

ads on TV that they thought were well

438

00:18:49,970 --> 00:18:47,850

primed for a road test and that was

439

00:18:52,549 --> 00:18:49,980

quite useful because obviously we didn't

440

00:18:54,440 --> 00:18:52,559

watch that may ads because we were

441

00:18:56,149 --> 00:18:54,450

working so high so yeah so we did take

442

00:18:57,440 --> 00:18:56,159

suggestion what plans have you got for

443

00:18:59,600 --> 00:18:57,450

the rest of the year now that you've

444

00:19:01,340 --> 00:18:59,610

done the global atheist conference would

445

00:19:05,000 --> 00:19:01,350

you be interested in the amazing meeting

446

00:19:06,980 --> 00:19:05,010

Australia well when's that on that will

447

00:19:08,840 --> 00:19:06,990

be on in November and that should have

448

00:19:11,000 --> 00:19:08,850

James Randi and a variety of other

449

00:19:13,340 --> 00:19:11,010

skeptical because attending oh well look

450

00:19:15,770 --> 00:19:13,350

at that that sounds awesome one

451
00:19:18,200 --> 00:19:15,780
potential complication around that time

452
00:19:21,200 --> 00:19:18,210
which is in the hands of the gods or at

453
00:19:22,880 --> 00:19:21,210
least the Prime Minister is the

454
00:19:26,390 --> 00:19:22,890
possibility of a federal election around

455
00:19:29,180 --> 00:19:26,400
that time we we haven't kind of got

456
00:19:31,850 --> 00:19:29,190
anything teed up yet but we're quite

457
00:19:34,399 --> 00:19:31,860
interested in getting back to what I

458
00:19:36,049 --> 00:19:34,409
suppose was where the chaser on

459
00:19:39,260 --> 00:19:36,059
television started which was covering

460
00:19:40,880 --> 00:19:39,270
federal election campaigns and the

461
00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:40,890
prospect of a campaign between Kevin

462
00:19:45,710 --> 00:19:44,010
Rudd and Tony Abbott seems well it

463
00:19:46,940 --> 00:19:45,720

practically satirizes itself but we

464

00:19:49,789 --> 00:19:46,950

figure we might give it a bit of a nudge

465

00:19:52,279 --> 00:19:49,799

along at some point so um but yeah

466

00:19:54,500 --> 00:19:52,289

amazing in November sounds sounds good

467

00:19:56,149 --> 00:19:54,510

if not we're looking forward after what

468

00:19:58,250 --> 00:19:56,159

Richard Dawkins said to maybe some sort

469

00:20:01,159 --> 00:19:58,260

of intergalactic atheist convention

470

00:20:03,110 --> 00:20:01,169

sometime soon which will be more than

471

00:20:05,270 --> 00:20:03,120

more than happily willing to make

472

00:20:08,029 --> 00:20:05,280

ourselves available for great okay well

473

00:20:09,980 --> 00:20:08,039

look I'll have a look and we enjoyed it

474

00:20:12,409 --> 00:20:09,990

are you gonna do another a theist

475

00:20:14,390 --> 00:20:12,419

convention I sincerely hope so um i

476

00:20:16,460 --> 00:20:14,400

don't know if i'll get to be the emcee

477

00:20:18,560 --> 00:20:16,470

again because i imagine if it gets even

478

00:20:21,710 --> 00:20:18,570

bigger and better and huger and wider

479

00:20:23,510 --> 00:20:21,720

and border for 2012 they might choose

480

00:20:25,970 --> 00:20:23,520

somebody else but i'd love to be able to

481

00:20:27,860 --> 00:20:25,980

do more research that I'm doing um by

482

00:20:30,380 --> 00:20:27,870

the time it comes around off maybe I'll

483

00:20:32,659 --> 00:20:30,390

be doing my PhD on paranormal beliefs

484

00:20:34,100 --> 00:20:32,669

Sonia yeah well look I mean yeah I mean

485

00:20:35,659 --> 00:20:34,110

nothing you guys did a great job and if

486

00:20:37,130 --> 00:20:35,669

you if you've been involved in starting

487

00:20:39,560 --> 00:20:37,140

it you should hang onto that podium as

488

00:20:41,870 --> 00:20:39,570

long as you can erect one of the things

489

00:20:44,029 --> 00:20:41,880

I did think yeah like if it's if it's

490

00:20:46,370 --> 00:20:44,039

done another time I think even if it's

491

00:20:48,110 --> 00:20:46,380

from a marketing perspective that you

492

00:20:50,930 --> 00:20:48,120

could enhance the program a little bit

493

00:20:53,120 --> 00:20:50,940

by kind of engaging the other side of

494

00:20:54,830 --> 00:20:53,130

the brain a bit more I don't know if

495

00:20:56,190 --> 00:20:54,840

that brain yeah left and right side

496

00:20:57,870 --> 00:20:56,200

stuff I have a vague

497

00:20:59,549 --> 00:20:57,880

collection that's that's not as clear as

498

00:21:02,100 --> 00:20:59,559

people say but but you know what I mean

499

00:21:04,710 --> 00:21:02,110

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

500

00:21:07,169 --> 00:21:04,720

is just true that not believing in God

501
00:21:11,220 --> 00:21:07,179
doesn't prevent you from any of the kind

502
00:21:13,409 --> 00:21:11,230
of wonder in the in both the human world

503
00:21:15,750 --> 00:21:13,419
or appreciation of the arts or any of

504
00:21:21,539 --> 00:21:15,760
that sort of stuff I reckon hearing from

505
00:21:24,960 --> 00:21:21,549
kind of Beast full artistic atheists

506
00:21:27,870 --> 00:21:24,970
would be you know a nice way of kind of

507
00:21:29,850 --> 00:21:27,880
enriching the picture of atheism you

508
00:21:31,889 --> 00:21:29,860
know some future con convention as well

509
00:21:33,930 --> 00:21:31,899
this is something that we try to do all

510
00:21:36,029 --> 00:21:33,940
the time with our podcast but I be very

511
00:21:38,759 --> 00:21:36,039
kind of I mean I don't know whether say

512
00:21:40,500 --> 00:21:38,769
someone like tim winton or yeah um you

513
00:21:41,730 --> 00:21:40,510

know I know Liz Murray's religious but

514

00:21:47,220 --> 00:21:41,740

that but I bet you there would be very

515

00:21:51,570 --> 00:21:47,230

kind of you know really arty types who

516

00:21:54,299 --> 00:21:51,580

are also completely atheistic and to

517

00:21:56,460 --> 00:21:54,309

mention 13 yeah yeah exactly yeah yeah I

518

00:21:59,460 --> 00:21:56,470

beat the christus sulcus is a day kids

519

00:22:00,779 --> 00:21:59,470

hmm and you know some of that getting

520

00:22:03,539 --> 00:22:00,789

some of those bonds along would probably

521

00:22:04,860 --> 00:22:03,549

be a good thing as well but then I look

522

00:22:06,690 --> 00:22:04,870

at congratulations on it must have been

523

00:22:09,360 --> 00:22:06,700

a massive thing to have to pull off so

524

00:22:11,789 --> 00:22:09,370

yeah it was great yeah really good crew

525

00:22:14,430 --> 00:22:11,799

the backstage crew was so incredibly on

526

00:22:16,139 --> 00:22:14,440

on the ball the whole time and yeah it's

527

00:22:18,629 --> 00:22:16,149

just wanna thank you very much Julia

528

00:22:23,580 --> 00:22:18,639

it's a pleasure Carla you can check out

529

00:22:36,060 --> 00:22:23,590

the official chaser website at WWDC com

530

00:22:40,539 --> 00:22:38,200

examining the truth in exposing the

531

00:22:42,549 --> 00:22:40,549

frauds that psychics co uk is the

532

00:22:44,649 --> 00:22:42,559

website that critically examines mediums

533

00:22:46,479 --> 00:22:44,659

clairvoyants and psychics follow the

534

00:22:48,580 --> 00:22:46,489

controversies news and discussions in

535

00:22:50,080 --> 00:22:48,590

the lively forum community and now you

536

00:22:51,759 --> 00:22:50,090

can download your weekly fix of

537

00:22:54,129 --> 00:22:51,769

righteous indignation the official

538

00:22:55,389 --> 00:22:54,139

podcast of bad psychics khodet UK that

539

00:22:58,509 --> 00:22:55,399

talks hard and critically about

540

00:23:00,279 --> 00:22:58,519

paranormal bad psychics doctor at UK the

541

00:23:12,430 --> 00:23:00,289

UK's largest and most respected

542

00:23:15,219 --> 00:23:12,440

skeptical site looking at psychics now

543

00:23:19,710 --> 00:23:15,229

it's time for dr. Reiter reports with

544

00:23:25,750 --> 00:23:22,180

hello listeners and welcome to dr.

545

00:23:28,120 --> 00:23:25,760

retching reports this week I talked to

546

00:23:31,390 --> 00:23:28,130

mark Carter who runs an eco-tourism

547

00:23:33,400 --> 00:23:31,400

company in the Northern Territory mark

548

00:23:35,080 --> 00:23:33,410

got in touch with us last week after we

549

00:23:37,660 --> 00:23:35,090

discussed the larger man who fish

550

00:23:41,080 --> 00:23:37,670

falling from the sky story in the think

551

00:23:43,420 --> 00:23:41,090

tank here I talked to mark about this

552

00:23:45,700 --> 00:23:43,430

story and also some of the other unique

553

00:23:47,880 --> 00:23:45,710

wildlife that survives in the extreme

554

00:23:50,650 --> 00:23:47,890

conditions of the Northern Territory

555

00:23:52,810 --> 00:23:50,660

mark also tells us about the local

556

00:23:55,470 --> 00:23:52,820

newspaper that has a reputation for

557

00:23:58,330 --> 00:23:55,480

reporting some pretty credulous stories

558

00:24:01,030 --> 00:23:58,340

so hello mark and welcome to the skeptic

559

00:24:04,330 --> 00:24:01,040

zone thanks for joining us today I there

560

00:24:06,490 --> 00:24:04,340

right now mark you sent an email to us

561

00:24:10,150 --> 00:24:06,500

last week because you live in an area

562

00:24:12,340 --> 00:24:10,160

near the larger Marnie fish raining from

563

00:24:14,590 --> 00:24:12,350

the sky and you know something about

564

00:24:18,220 --> 00:24:14,600

this story because you run an

565

00:24:19,480 --> 00:24:18,230

eco-tourism company in Alice Springs now

566

00:24:21,550 --> 00:24:19,490

can you tell us a little bit about

567

00:24:24,400 --> 00:24:21,560

larger man who it's a very isolated

568

00:24:26,830 --> 00:24:24,410

remote community isn't it yeah that's

569

00:24:28,630 --> 00:24:26,840

right it's hundreds of kilometers really

570

00:24:30,580 --> 00:24:28,640

from anywhere else you have to spend

571

00:24:33,370 --> 00:24:30,590

several hours in a four-wheel drive

572

00:24:36,460 --> 00:24:33,380

vehicle and dirt roads and even to get

573

00:24:40,270 --> 00:24:36,470

close to the place it really is a very

574

00:24:41,740 --> 00:24:40,280

very remote place to go it's quite an

575

00:24:44,680 --> 00:24:41,750

impoverished community it's an

576
00:24:46,870 --> 00:24:44,690
Aboriginal community and yeah it's quite

577
00:24:49,270 --> 00:24:46,880
it's quite hard place to live it's a

578
00:24:50,650 --> 00:24:49,280
very beautiful place and the landscape

579
00:24:53,650 --> 00:24:50,660
around there is really really

580
00:24:55,060 --> 00:24:53,660
sensational very beautiful but yeah

581
00:24:56,380 --> 00:24:55,070
people out there they don't have a lot

582
00:24:59,440 --> 00:24:56,390
of money and there's a lot of

583
00:25:01,150 --> 00:24:59,450
traditional people out there too so they

584
00:25:03,220 --> 00:25:01,160
don't have a lot of access to technology

585
00:25:05,080 --> 00:25:03,230
in the same way that maybe people in

586
00:25:07,150 --> 00:25:05,090
cities might expect so that's why

587
00:25:09,040 --> 00:25:07,160
there's that distracts the occasional

588
00:25:10,930 --> 00:25:09,050

photograph of the alleged fish raining

589

00:25:13,090 --> 00:25:10,940

from the sky there's no good quality

590

00:25:15,340 --> 00:25:13,100

video or anything like that so to get

591

00:25:18,220 --> 00:25:15,350

there from say Darwin you'd have to

592

00:25:21,100 --> 00:25:18,230

drive for about 13 hours and about 900

593

00:25:23,080 --> 00:25:21,110

kilometres and from Adelaide it's around

594

00:25:24,670 --> 00:25:23,090

two and a half thousand kilometers which

595

00:25:27,160 --> 00:25:24,680

would take longer than a day so we're

596

00:25:29,410 --> 00:25:27,170

really talking about the real Australian

597

00:25:31,280 --> 00:25:29,420

outback here aren't we yeah that's right

598

00:25:33,170 --> 00:25:31,290

it's real so hello

599

00:25:35,000 --> 00:25:33,180

road trip getting out there I have

600

00:25:37,640 --> 00:25:35,010

friends who work out there and sometimes

601
00:25:39,890 --> 00:25:37,650
takes them several days they do they

602
00:25:42,680 --> 00:25:39,900
make a big big song and dance about it

603
00:25:43,970 --> 00:25:42,690
but I think they love it yeah so you you

604
00:25:46,220 --> 00:25:43,980
know if they've been about the wildlife

605
00:25:48,290 --> 00:25:46,230
in there in the area around Alice

606
00:25:50,810 --> 00:25:48,300
Springs and larger man who in particular

607
00:25:53,240 --> 00:25:50,820
you know something about the sort of the

608
00:25:55,970 --> 00:25:53,250
fish species and also the frogs can you

609
00:25:59,870 --> 00:25:55,980
tell us about how they can live in such

610
00:26:02,540 --> 00:25:59,880
extreme conditions yeah the Como here is

611
00:26:04,790 --> 00:26:02,550
pretty extreme and in winter it can get

612
00:26:07,220 --> 00:26:04,800
down to minus five or below and in

613
00:26:09,500 --> 00:26:07,230

summer the temperatures can soar up into

614

00:26:11,450 --> 00:26:09,510

the mid 40s and the the ground

615

00:26:14,480 --> 00:26:11,460

temperature can actually get up to 60

616

00:26:16,460 --> 00:26:14,490

degrees so it's a very hostile place for

617

00:26:18,290 --> 00:26:16,470

creatures to live any creatures never

618

00:26:20,300 --> 00:26:18,300

mind that creatures that need water like

619

00:26:21,770 --> 00:26:20,310

fish and frogs so they've had to come up

620

00:26:24,500 --> 00:26:21,780

with some pretty severe and their

621

00:26:26,030 --> 00:26:24,510

adaptations to life right here the way

622

00:26:28,370 --> 00:26:26,040

that the frogs have adapted is by

623

00:26:30,290 --> 00:26:28,380

burying themselves through the dry times

624

00:26:31,430 --> 00:26:30,300

and estimating that kind of means that

625

00:26:33,830 --> 00:26:31,440

they're going to suspended animation

626
00:26:36,230 --> 00:26:33,840
underground and they wait for the range

627
00:26:38,120 --> 00:26:36,240
to come again as soon as it rains they

628
00:26:39,740 --> 00:26:38,130
dig their way up to the surface and they

629
00:26:42,260 --> 00:26:39,750
go into a frenzy of feeding and breeding

630
00:26:43,760 --> 00:26:42,270
and we're actually in the middle of one

631
00:26:45,080 --> 00:26:43,770
of those events right now here in our

632
00:26:47,960 --> 00:26:45,090
Springs we had a lot of rain recently

633
00:26:49,900 --> 00:26:47,970
and it's very spectacular and these

634
00:26:52,430 --> 00:26:49,910
frogs really go hell for leather at it

635
00:26:53,750 --> 00:26:52,440
but for the rest of the year since it

636
00:26:55,070 --> 00:26:53,760
starts to dry up they're going to bury

637
00:26:57,380 --> 00:26:55,080
themselves and we're not going to see

638
00:26:58,820 --> 00:26:57,390

them again until it rains next and the

639

00:27:00,410 --> 00:26:58,830

fish have a different strategy though

640

00:27:02,240 --> 00:27:00,420

they can't survive despite what you

641

00:27:04,220 --> 00:27:02,250

might read in a few places or hear

642

00:27:07,180 --> 00:27:04,230

banded around they cannot survive on

643

00:27:09,890 --> 00:27:07,190

the ground and they retreat back to

644

00:27:11,870 --> 00:27:09,900

permanent water holes in water courses

645

00:27:14,540 --> 00:27:11,880

and that's where they will survive the

646

00:27:17,210 --> 00:27:14,550

drought hopefully there's only a few

647

00:27:19,610 --> 00:27:17,220

species generally in each water hole and

648

00:27:21,200 --> 00:27:19,620

some of them some of these water holes

649

00:27:23,810 --> 00:27:21,210

are actually are really hot spots for

650

00:27:26,120 --> 00:27:23,820

evolution and some of the fish species

651
00:27:27,470 --> 00:27:26,130
can be very confined to one or two river

652
00:27:28,940 --> 00:27:27,480
systems you might find them anywhere

653
00:27:30,500 --> 00:27:28,950
else in the world they're quite amazing

654
00:27:32,690 --> 00:27:30,510
little things yeah and one of those

655
00:27:35,780 --> 00:27:32,700
species is the Fink goby is that right

656
00:27:38,270 --> 00:27:35,790
that's specific to one type of one river

657
00:27:40,640 --> 00:27:38,280
system is that correct mark yeah that's

658
00:27:42,590 --> 00:27:40,650
right it's only fine from the Fink right

659
00:27:44,120 --> 00:27:42,600
now the Fink is actually flowing in

660
00:27:44,630 --> 00:27:44,130
sections there's been so much water

661
00:27:45,950 --> 00:27:44,640
around

662
00:27:48,170 --> 00:27:45,960
landscape so the faint go bees are

663
00:27:50,120 --> 00:27:48,180

having a rare old time there there there

664

00:27:52,070 --> 00:27:50,130

to be fine pretty much up and down the

665

00:27:54,140 --> 00:27:52,080

length of the Finke River but those

666

00:27:56,120 --> 00:27:54,150

water holes are starting to dry out the

667

00:27:58,580 --> 00:27:56,130

water is running out and stopping

668

00:28:00,200 --> 00:27:58,590

flowing now so those little pockets of

669

00:28:03,830 --> 00:28:00,210

fish they're going to get increasingly

670

00:28:06,230 --> 00:28:03,840

isolated and one by one they're going to

671

00:28:08,390 --> 00:28:06,240

dry out those fish are capable dealing

672

00:28:09,950 --> 00:28:08,400

with extreme salinity the the Finke

673

00:28:12,050 --> 00:28:09,960

River that they live in is quite salty

674

00:28:14,750 --> 00:28:12,060

anyway it's too salty really for you and

675

00:28:16,430 --> 00:28:14,760

I to drink but they can deal with very

676

00:28:18,380 --> 00:28:16,440

high levels salt and they can also deal

677

00:28:20,990 --> 00:28:18,390

with very high or very low temperatures

678

00:28:22,670 --> 00:28:21,000

they're incredible first very unassuming

679

00:28:26,690 --> 00:28:22,680

you you you wouldn't look at one and

680

00:28:28,670 --> 00:28:26,700

think wow I make sure a fish nutr but

681

00:28:31,160 --> 00:28:28,680

they are incredible with creatures

682

00:28:33,560 --> 00:28:31,170

they're really inspiring so can you give

683

00:28:35,240 --> 00:28:33,570

our listeners are not that familiar with

684

00:28:38,990 --> 00:28:35,250

the extremes of the Australian outback

685

00:28:41,780 --> 00:28:39,000

when you get these heavy rains I mean

686

00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:41,790

most of the time the desert is what gets

687

00:28:45,830 --> 00:28:44,010

a very small amount of rain compared to

688

00:28:48,170 --> 00:28:45,840

the amount of evaporation that occurs is

689

00:28:50,030 --> 00:28:48,180

that right yeah that's right we can have

690

00:28:52,430 --> 00:28:50,040

as little or well we can have as little

691

00:28:55,370 --> 00:28:52,440

as 20 centimeters of rainfall year or

692

00:28:57,500 --> 00:28:55,380

even less I think in 2009 we only had 15

693

00:28:59,720 --> 00:28:57,510

centimeters of rainfall in total and

694

00:29:01,970 --> 00:28:59,730

that gully came in dribs and drabs so

695

00:29:03,500 --> 00:29:01,980

the ground was looking very bare the

696

00:29:06,830 --> 00:29:03,510

world of the points were having a hard

697

00:29:08,780 --> 00:29:06,840

time and but then in other years you can

698

00:29:11,120 --> 00:29:08,790

have incredible amounts of rain and

699

00:29:13,370 --> 00:29:11,130

we've actually had I think it's like 36

700

00:29:15,470 --> 00:29:13,380

centimeters of rain just in the last two

701
00:29:17,840 --> 00:29:15,480
months here in our Springs and some

702
00:29:20,270 --> 00:29:17,850
areas have had even more than that but

703
00:29:23,570 --> 00:29:20,280
that can come in in massive dying pores

704
00:29:26,330 --> 00:29:23,580
and what happens is that the normally

705
00:29:28,550 --> 00:29:26,340
dry riverbeds very quickly fill up with

706
00:29:31,100 --> 00:29:28,560
water the soils here comes really store

707
00:29:33,920 --> 00:29:31,110
much water and it just sheet floods off

708
00:29:35,390 --> 00:29:33,930
and very quickly the rivers start

709
00:29:38,780 --> 00:29:35,400
running again it's quite spectacular

710
00:29:42,500 --> 00:29:38,790
sight mmm so this isn't the first time

711
00:29:45,320 --> 00:29:42,510
that fish raining from the sky has been

712
00:29:47,510 --> 00:29:45,330
reported in the Northern Territory you

713
00:29:50,000 --> 00:29:47,520

have a newspaper that's a little bit

714

00:29:51,590 --> 00:29:50,010

credulous in reporting things like this

715

00:29:54,890 --> 00:29:51,600

can you tell us a little bit about the

716

00:29:57,110 --> 00:29:54,900

Northern Territory newspaper yes the NT

717

00:29:58,390 --> 00:29:57,120

news or as some of the locals call it

718

00:30:01,940 --> 00:29:58,400

the empty

719

00:30:04,430 --> 00:30:01,950

as a real reputation for no story is too

720

00:30:06,320 --> 00:30:04,440

daft for them really and they also have

721

00:30:08,299 --> 00:30:06,330

a reputation for having a crocodile in

722

00:30:11,240 --> 00:30:08,309

front of every edition or a woman in a

723

00:30:13,760 --> 00:30:11,250

swimsuit uh-huh but ya know that they

724

00:30:16,010 --> 00:30:13,770

seem to be ramping up the number of kind

725

00:30:19,280 --> 00:30:16,020

of supernatural stories or just silly

726

00:30:21,470 --> 00:30:19,290

stories for example the last edition has

727

00:30:23,210 --> 00:30:21,480

a story on the front about a local land

728

00:30:27,140 --> 00:30:23,220

manager who claims to be seeing lots of

729

00:30:28,970 --> 00:30:27,150

UFOs and yeah it's hard to tell whether

730

00:30:30,950 --> 00:30:28,980

the joking or not in the recovery Java

731

00:30:32,900 --> 00:30:30,960

but uh but front page is that really the

732

00:30:35,659 --> 00:30:32,910

most important thing going on the NT at

733

00:30:37,250 --> 00:30:35,669

the moment I really don't think so but

734

00:30:39,890 --> 00:30:37,260

yeah they covered this story of the

735

00:30:41,419 --> 00:30:39,900

raining fish and they made a big song

736

00:30:43,190 --> 00:30:41,429

and dance about it was very quickly

737

00:30:44,659 --> 00:30:43,200

syndicates to ride the world it's the

738

00:30:47,210 --> 00:30:44,669

stories popped up in all manner of

739

00:30:50,390 --> 00:30:47,220

places but there's been very little kind

740

00:30:53,150 --> 00:30:50,400

of informal kind of analysis really of

741

00:30:55,669 --> 00:30:53,160

the claims that have been made and yeah

742

00:30:57,289 --> 00:30:55,679

so that's how I came into this sort of

743

00:31:00,350 --> 00:30:57,299

skeptical community I suppose everyone

744

00:31:02,150 --> 00:31:00,360

read the story and thought what and so

745

00:31:04,190 --> 00:31:02,160

what's your opinion being that you are

746

00:31:06,020 --> 00:31:04,200

fairly familiar with the region and

747

00:31:07,880 --> 00:31:06,030

you've heard of these stories before

748

00:31:09,470 --> 00:31:07,890

what what do you think actually happened

749

00:31:11,630 --> 00:31:09,480

mark yeah I think there's two

750

00:31:15,280 --> 00:31:11,640

possibilities here one is that actually

751

00:31:19,730 --> 00:31:15,290

is possible that I rains that the rains

752

00:31:21,500 --> 00:31:19,740

caused some fish from a waterhole to be

753

00:31:24,140 --> 00:31:21,510

able to travel further than they

754

00:31:26,270 --> 00:31:24,150

normally would and the Sheep flooding

755

00:31:28,070 --> 00:31:26,280

that I talked about can wash fish into

756

00:31:30,380 --> 00:31:28,080

strange places and the fish themselves

757

00:31:32,030 --> 00:31:30,390

will actually really try and get

758

00:31:33,230 --> 00:31:32,040

themselves into strange places because

759

00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:33,240

of course that's their best hope of

760

00:31:37,610 --> 00:31:35,010

surviving into the future as if they can

761

00:31:39,740 --> 00:31:37,620

get to other water holes and lay more

762

00:31:41,360 --> 00:31:39,750

eggs then that's a really good strategy

763

00:31:44,810 --> 00:31:41,370

for them and so they aren't quite

764

00:31:48,830 --> 00:31:44,820

adventurous these little fish but having

765

00:31:50,510 --> 00:31:48,840

said that um they are not capable of

766

00:31:52,190 --> 00:31:50,520

these incredible feats of endurance that

767

00:31:54,830 --> 00:31:52,200

people were claimed that they are so

768

00:31:56,510 --> 00:31:54,840

that's one possibility for them getting

769

00:31:57,830 --> 00:31:56,520

there is being carried by floodwaters

770

00:32:00,020 --> 00:31:57,840

the other possibility and this is a

771

00:32:02,450 --> 00:32:00,030

probably a lot less likelihood to this

772

00:32:04,580 --> 00:32:02,460

but it isn't impossible is that they

773

00:32:06,890 --> 00:32:04,590

were picked up by a water spoke and

774

00:32:08,870 --> 00:32:06,900

carried a small distance before being

775

00:32:11,210 --> 00:32:08,880

dropped where they were fine

776

00:32:12,980 --> 00:32:11,220

and it doesn't we get small tornadoes

777

00:32:14,900 --> 00:32:12,990

dust devils there sometimes cold in

778

00:32:17,270 --> 00:32:14,910

other parts of the world and that which

779

00:32:19,040 --> 00:32:17,280

will pick up dirt and debris and carry

780

00:32:20,720 --> 00:32:19,050

it for a few hundred meters they're very

781

00:32:22,580 --> 00:32:20,730

very common if you spend time I wish

782

00:32:24,940 --> 00:32:22,590

you'll definitely see these and they

783

00:32:27,320 --> 00:32:24,950

tend to occur around about clay pans or

784

00:32:29,300 --> 00:32:27,330

dry creek beds example the sort of

785

00:32:30,890 --> 00:32:29,310

places that when it rains these places

786

00:32:33,920 --> 00:32:30,900

have water now is the sort of place that

787

00:32:35,810 --> 00:32:33,930

fish can turn up and I know the original

788

00:32:37,130 --> 00:32:35,820

fellow that I know here each told me

789

00:32:38,660 --> 00:32:37,140

that he's seen it with his own eyes and

790

00:32:40,280 --> 00:32:38,670

there is something that you'll see if

791

00:32:43,130 --> 00:32:40,290

you spend a lot of time out Bush is

792

00:32:45,230 --> 00:32:43,140

these water spots picking up things from

793

00:32:47,990 --> 00:32:45,240

from water bodies and dumping them

794

00:32:49,610 --> 00:32:48,000

elsewhere and a very good friend of mine

795

00:32:50,900 --> 00:32:49,620

is actually seen it happen up in the top

796

00:32:52,880 --> 00:32:50,910

leg where admitted there's a lot more

797

00:32:54,620 --> 00:32:52,890

water but she did see a waterspout pick

798

00:32:57,020 --> 00:32:54,630

up some water with some fish in it and

799

00:32:59,420 --> 00:32:57,030

drop it about a hundred meters away on

800

00:33:02,720 --> 00:32:59,430

land so it is possible that it happens

801
00:33:04,520 --> 00:33:02,730
how likely it is I really wouldn't like

802
00:33:06,140 --> 00:33:04,530
to say and as no one actually saw it

803
00:33:07,970 --> 00:33:06,150
happen at larger money they just find

804
00:33:11,000 --> 00:33:07,980
the fish in a strange place and jump to

805
00:33:13,070 --> 00:33:11,010
the conclusion of the war spy my money's

806
00:33:16,430 --> 00:33:13,080
on it just being adventurous fish that's

807
00:33:18,050 --> 00:33:16,440
right so it's possible that this there's

808
00:33:21,220 --> 00:33:18,060
worley well is that you refer to may

809
00:33:24,050 --> 00:33:21,230
have picked up fish that had become

810
00:33:25,700 --> 00:33:24,060
waterborne after these rains but in your

811
00:33:27,080 --> 00:33:25,710
opinion do you think it's possible that

812
00:33:28,790 --> 00:33:27,090
a whirly well he could have traveled

813
00:33:30,850 --> 00:33:28,800

from the coast which is what nine

814

00:33:34,370 --> 00:33:30,860

hundred kilometers away is the closest

815

00:33:35,900 --> 00:33:34,380

ocean waters yeah that was mentioned in

816

00:33:39,560 --> 00:33:35,910

some of the news articles about those

817

00:33:41,360 --> 00:33:39,570

bonkers that possible and the other

818

00:33:43,520 --> 00:33:41,370

thing that makes me just laugh at that

819

00:33:45,380 --> 00:33:43,530

is the the photographs of the fish that

820

00:33:47,030 --> 00:33:45,390

they have it's hard to say because the

821

00:33:48,980 --> 00:33:47,040

fish are upside down there dead in the

822

00:33:50,840 --> 00:33:48,990

photos but they they pretty much look

823

00:33:52,640 --> 00:33:50,850

like water hole fish they look like the

824

00:33:55,310 --> 00:33:52,650

kind of fish you'd be seeing in a water

825

00:33:56,810 --> 00:33:55,320

hole near larger money so there's no

826

00:33:59,720 --> 00:33:56,820

question of it being brought from the

827

00:34:03,230 --> 00:33:59,730

seaside or anything like that okay so

828

00:34:05,900 --> 00:34:03,240

mark you you run ecotourism trips to you

829

00:34:07,970 --> 00:34:05,910

in the outback so I are you going to be

830

00:34:11,300 --> 00:34:07,980

taking out some skeptics for maybe tam

831

00:34:12,710 --> 00:34:11,310

Australia in November 2010 absolutely I

832

00:34:14,149 --> 00:34:12,720

think anybody you want to see the real

833

00:34:15,770 --> 00:34:14,159

Australia you've got to come out to our

834

00:34:18,260 --> 00:34:15,780

Springs you've got to see the outback

835

00:34:20,060 --> 00:34:18,270

and yeah our company will gladly take

836

00:34:22,360 --> 00:34:20,070

you out it's November so it's a bit hot

837

00:34:24,070 --> 00:34:22,370

for our tracking that we normally do

838

00:34:26,290 --> 00:34:24,080

but we do do a good range of

839

00:34:28,240 --> 00:34:26,300

bird-watching trips and if you've got a

840

00:34:30,010 --> 00:34:28,250

special interest than anything odd like

841

00:34:31,840 --> 00:34:30,020

reptiles we've got some of the finest

842

00:34:34,480 --> 00:34:31,850

reptiles on earth I hear it's really

843

00:34:36,610 --> 00:34:34,490

spectacular giant lizards and that kind

844

00:34:39,010 --> 00:34:36,620

of thing then yeah I think you have a

845

00:34:40,300 --> 00:34:39,020

lot of fun so come on skeptics come out

846

00:34:42,340 --> 00:34:40,310

to the over now what's the name of your

847

00:34:46,690 --> 00:34:42,350

company mark we're called Trek claro

848

00:34:48,250 --> 00:34:46,700

Pinta and if you search for Lara Pinta

849

00:34:50,470 --> 00:34:48,260

trail that's the name of the trail that

850

00:34:54,250 --> 00:34:50,480

we work we work on most of the year then

851
00:34:57,310 --> 00:34:54,260
you'll find us on a large search engine

852
00:34:59,380 --> 00:34:57,320
near you well if you can promise US Fish

853
00:35:01,090 --> 00:34:59,390
raining from the sky and UFOs and I'm

854
00:35:03,210 --> 00:35:01,100
sure lots of skeptics will be keen to

855
00:35:05,350 --> 00:35:03,220
come out and meet you in November so

856
00:35:07,510 --> 00:35:05,360
thanks for taking the time to talk to us

857
00:35:09,190 --> 00:35:07,520
today mark no worries i'll give the

858
00:35:22,710 --> 00:35:09,200
empty user ring and see what we can

859
00:35:27,520 --> 00:35:24,820
want to know how to live skeptically and

860
00:35:29,770 --> 00:35:27,530
still have friends will soda why join me

861
00:35:31,390 --> 00:35:29,780
for actually speaking a new podcast that

862
00:35:33,730 --> 00:35:31,400
explores the human side of skepticism

863
00:35:35,590 --> 00:35:33,740

will set the science side and discuss

864

00:35:38,020 --> 00:35:35,600

familiar skeptical topics from an inner

865

00:35:39,460 --> 00:35:38,030

personal perspective along the way will

866

00:35:41,080 --> 00:35:39,470

highlight specific social and

867

00:35:43,510 --> 00:35:41,090

communication skills need it to promote

868

00:35:45,400 --> 00:35:43,520

critical thinking scientific facts are

869

00:35:46,660 --> 00:35:45,410

only part of the equation let's take an

870

00:35:49,030 --> 00:35:46,670

extra step and learn how to share that

871

00:35:51,130 --> 00:35:49,040

knowledge effectively actually speaking

872

00:35:53,410 --> 00:35:51,140

a podcast that explores the human side

873

00:35:54,880 --> 00:35:53,420

of skepticism critical thinking and the

874

00:35:57,160 --> 00:35:54,890

skills we need to make it through the

875

00:36:06,760 --> 00:35:57,170

day visit actually speaking calm to

876

00:36:15,190 --> 00:36:06,770

learn more let's all take this with a

877

00:36:17,050 --> 00:36:15,200

grain of salt he's around ticket hello

878

00:36:19,870 --> 00:36:17,060

this is aaron sega taking life with a

879

00:36:22,230 --> 00:36:19,880

grain of salt the topic of my talk today

880

00:36:24,700 --> 00:36:22,240

would usually be tackled by dr. ecchi

881

00:36:26,290 --> 00:36:24,710

unfortunately dr. HC shows no interest

882

00:36:28,180 --> 00:36:26,300

in this specific type of scientific

883

00:36:30,430 --> 00:36:28,190

claim perhaps the fact that she's a

884

00:36:32,350 --> 00:36:30,440

woman has something to do with this i'm

885

00:36:34,960 --> 00:36:32,360

referring to claims about treating male

886

00:36:36,460 --> 00:36:34,970

pattern balding in particular i will

887

00:36:38,500 --> 00:36:36,470

investigate the claims of one company

888

00:36:40,240 --> 00:36:38,510

piling such treatments which has been

889

00:36:43,270 --> 00:36:40,250

running TV ads in australia over the

890

00:36:44,890 --> 00:36:43,280

past year before i discuss treatments it

891

00:36:47,110 --> 00:36:44,900

is worth giving some facts regarding

892

00:36:50,380 --> 00:36:47,120

hair loss in general and hereditary hair

893

00:36:53,290 --> 00:36:50,390

loss in particular the human skin male

894

00:36:55,030 --> 00:36:53,300

and female is covered with hair the only

895

00:36:57,610 --> 00:36:55,040

parts of the body that do not have here

896

00:37:00,190 --> 00:36:57,620

are the feet and palms the lips in parts

897

00:37:01,780 --> 00:37:00,200

of the genitalia Harry's produced in

898

00:37:04,060 --> 00:37:01,790

follicles that produce hair for as long

899

00:37:06,220 --> 00:37:04,070

as they're alive which very often is as

900

00:37:08,050 --> 00:37:06,230

long as the person lives but they do so

901
00:37:10,690 --> 00:37:08,060
in bursts stopping her production from

902
00:37:12,730 --> 00:37:10,700
time to time when a follicle stops

903
00:37:15,280 --> 00:37:12,740
producing hair for a while the hair from

904
00:37:17,800 --> 00:37:15,290
that follicle falls out this is called

905
00:37:19,870 --> 00:37:17,810
the catagen phase for most of the rest

906
00:37:21,940 --> 00:37:19,880
of the time the hair follicle is in the

907
00:37:24,400 --> 00:37:21,950
anagen phase during which the hair

908
00:37:26,230 --> 00:37:24,410
actively grows the length of the anagen

909
00:37:28,600 --> 00:37:26,240
phase determines the maximum length of

910
00:37:30,450 --> 00:37:28,610
the hair possible from a follicle the

911
00:37:33,150 --> 00:37:30,460
anagen phase for a typical scalp

912
00:37:34,890 --> 00:37:33,160
is measured in years whereas for shorter

913
00:37:37,260 --> 00:37:34,900

hair such as eyelashes and the hair on

914

00:37:39,570 --> 00:37:37,270

arms and legs it is measured in days and

915

00:37:41,460 --> 00:37:39,580

weeks there are multiple types of

916

00:37:43,670 --> 00:37:41,470

follicles producing hair of varying

917

00:37:46,200 --> 00:37:43,680

thicknesses colors and other properties

918

00:37:48,599 --> 00:37:46,210

for most humans the majority of their

919

00:37:51,000 --> 00:37:48,609

hair is short and thin and often light

920

00:37:53,010 --> 00:37:51,010

colored or semi-translucent making it

921

00:37:55,589 --> 00:37:53,020

appear as if we are naked of here hence

922

00:37:57,990 --> 00:37:55,599

the term naked ape but in fact humans

923

00:38:00,480 --> 00:37:58,000

have no less hair than other Apes hair

924

00:38:02,190 --> 00:38:00,490

production however is not fixed it is

925

00:38:04,589 --> 00:38:02,200

heavily affected by hormonal changes

926
00:38:07,230 --> 00:38:04,599
chemical changes in our bodies and other

927
00:38:09,060 --> 00:38:07,240
environmental factors one example of

928
00:38:11,190 --> 00:38:09,070
this we all know is that the same

929
00:38:13,290 --> 00:38:11,200
follicle that produced short fine hair

930
00:38:16,620 --> 00:38:13,300
on the face of a boy starts producing

931
00:38:18,270 --> 00:38:16,630
long coarse hair once puberty hits body

932
00:38:20,250 --> 00:38:18,280
hair also varies widely between ethnic

933
00:38:21,870 --> 00:38:20,260
groups and the attitude to body hair

934
00:38:23,970 --> 00:38:21,880
varies between cultures and even

935
00:38:25,349 --> 00:38:23,980
subcultures the only hair about which

936
00:38:27,660 --> 00:38:25,359
there seems to be widespread agreement

937
00:38:30,450 --> 00:38:27,670
that it is desirable is the hair on our

938
00:38:32,700 --> 00:38:30,460

heads both males and females in most

939

00:38:34,980 --> 00:38:32,710

cultures use the hair on their heads for

940

00:38:37,560 --> 00:38:34,990

decoration engaging in elaborate and

941

00:38:39,690 --> 00:38:37,570

sometimes costly processes of sculpting

942

00:38:42,180 --> 00:38:39,700

it to see trends fashions and perceive

943

00:38:43,710 --> 00:38:42,190

Beauty the snag is that some here

944

00:38:45,770 --> 00:38:43,720

especially that on the head often

945

00:38:48,210 --> 00:38:45,780

doesn't last as long as we wanted to

946

00:38:50,460 --> 00:38:48,220

that in other parts of the body often

947

00:38:52,109 --> 00:38:50,470

lasts longer than we wanted to is not

948

00:38:54,960 --> 00:38:52,119

considered to be any kind of consolation

949

00:38:56,849 --> 00:38:54,970

by most people permanent hair loss is

950

00:38:58,770 --> 00:38:56,859

usually the result of follicle death

951
00:39:01,410 --> 00:38:58,780
which could be caused by a variety of

952
00:39:03,870 --> 00:39:01,420
reasons many hair follicles dies the

953
00:39:06,150 --> 00:39:03,880
body ages and elderly people both male

954
00:39:08,640 --> 00:39:06,160
and female tend to have less hair both

955
00:39:10,530 --> 00:39:08,650
on their heads and all their bodies in

956
00:39:11,880 --> 00:39:10,540
order to combat hair loss the reasons

957
00:39:14,700 --> 00:39:11,890
for the hair loss need to be detected

958
00:39:16,620 --> 00:39:14,710
and understood simply strengthening the

959
00:39:18,570 --> 00:39:16,630
follicles if that even means anything is

960
00:39:20,400 --> 00:39:18,580
unlikely to be effective as such

961
00:39:21,839 --> 00:39:20,410
generalist approach is unlikely to

962
00:39:24,630 --> 00:39:21,849
protect the follicles against the

963
00:39:26,460 --> 00:39:24,640

specific cause of failure or death the

964

00:39:28,349 --> 00:39:26,470

most common type of baldness that is not

965

00:39:30,570 --> 00:39:28,359

comorbid with some other syndrome is

966

00:39:32,250 --> 00:39:30,580

hereditary hair loss which is also

967

00:39:34,920 --> 00:39:32,260

commonly known as male pattern balding

968

00:39:36,240 --> 00:39:34,930

and female pattern balding to the best

969

00:39:38,280 --> 00:39:36,250

of current scientific knowledge

970

00:39:40,099 --> 00:39:38,290

hereditary hair loss occurs due to the

971

00:39:44,100 --> 00:39:40,109

accumulation in the top of the scalp of

972

00:39:46,590 --> 00:39:44,110

dihydrotestosterone also known as DHT

973

00:39:48,690 --> 00:39:46,600

DHT causes follicles to shrink until

974

00:39:50,640 --> 00:39:48,700

they stop producing hair it is a

975

00:39:52,410 --> 00:39:50,650

metabolite of testosterone which

976

00:39:54,840 --> 00:39:52,420

explains why hereditary hair loss is

977

00:39:57,150 --> 00:39:54,850

more pronounced in men if it drug to

978

00:39:59,280 --> 00:39:57,160

treat this type of hair loss is found it

979

00:40:00,750 --> 00:39:59,290

would be very big business indeed as it

980

00:40:02,400 --> 00:40:00,760

would generally be expected to be taken

981

00:40:05,250 --> 00:40:02,410

for as long as the patient cares to keep

982

00:40:07,020 --> 00:40:05,260

their hair a permanent cure is unlikely

983

00:40:09,720 --> 00:40:07,030

if our understanding of the causes of

984

00:40:11,550 --> 00:40:09,730

hereditary hair loss is correct despite

985

00:40:13,020 --> 00:40:11,560

the huge incentive to date only two

986

00:40:16,170 --> 00:40:13,030

drugs have been approved for treatment

987

00:40:18,270 --> 00:40:16,180

of our editorial loss minoxidil marketed

988

00:40:20,480 --> 00:40:18,280

under the brand name regain is approved

989

00:40:22,710 --> 00:40:20,490

for both men and women finasteride

990

00:40:26,300 --> 00:40:22,720

marketed under the brand name propecia

991

00:40:28,620 --> 00:40:26,310

or propecia is approved for men only

992

00:40:30,480 --> 00:40:28,630

minoxidil is applied topically to the

993

00:40:32,310 --> 00:40:30,490

scalp and it is believed that it works

994

00:40:34,590 --> 00:40:32,320

by improving blood flow to the follicles

995

00:40:37,140 --> 00:40:34,600

and therefore delaying follicle death in

996

00:40:38,970 --> 00:40:37,150

promoting hair growth finasteride is

997

00:40:42,540 --> 00:40:38,980

taken orally and combats the

998

00:40:44,550 --> 00:40:42,550

accumulation of DHT in this cup so far

999

00:40:47,490 --> 00:40:44,560

we've discussed the science now let's

1000

00:40:49,530 --> 00:40:47,500

talk business ads promoting treatments

1001
00:40:51,840 --> 00:40:49,540
for hereditary hair loss are very common

1002
00:40:54,060 --> 00:40:51,850
also common are the claims that they are

1003
00:40:56,850 --> 00:40:54,070
clinically proven or scientifically

1004
00:40:58,830 --> 00:40:56,860
tested or other such words often used to

1005
00:41:01,800 --> 00:40:58,840
suggest that some treatment modality has

1006
00:41:03,630 --> 00:41:01,810
passed proper clinical trials very often

1007
00:41:06,210 --> 00:41:03,640
they promote a combination of chemicals

1008
00:41:08,550 --> 00:41:06,220
in some sort of laser or other light

1009
00:41:10,470 --> 00:41:08,560
treatment I decided to dig a little

1010
00:41:14,310 --> 00:41:10,480
deeper regarding the claims of one such

1011
00:41:16,110 --> 00:41:14,320
company named Li mo le IM o which sells

1012
00:41:18,090 --> 00:41:16,120
an alleged treatment comprising some

1013
00:41:20,550 --> 00:41:18,100

chemicals and a laser instrument to be

1014

00:41:22,830 --> 00:41:20,560

used on the scalp Lima has been

1015

00:41:25,530 --> 00:41:22,840

advertising quite aggressively on TV at

1016

00:41:27,990 --> 00:41:25,540

what must be very high costs that they

1017

00:41:29,730 --> 00:41:28,000

can afford this is no surprise while

1018

00:41:31,410 --> 00:41:29,740

minoxidil and finasteride cost about

1019

00:41:33,000 --> 00:41:31,420

sixty dollars per month and are

1020

00:41:35,610 --> 00:41:33,010

partially covered by some health funds

1021

00:41:39,750 --> 00:41:35,620

the limo laser and enough chemicals for

1022

00:41:42,090 --> 00:41:39,760

six weeks cost 1310 dollars a 12 month

1023

00:41:45,900 --> 00:41:42,100

supply package the cheapest option for

1024

00:41:48,000 --> 00:41:45,910

continual use costs 1014 dollars so the

1025

00:41:50,250 --> 00:41:48,010

minimum spend on li mo over the first 12

1026
00:41:53,880 --> 00:41:50,260
months is more than three times the spin

1027
00:41:56,040 --> 00:41:53,890
on minoxidil or finasteride red flags

1028
00:41:57,000 --> 00:41:56,050
around lemur waving as if a violent

1029
00:41:58,980 --> 00:41:57,010
storm was approaching

1030
00:42:00,750 --> 00:41:58,990
as I knew there were only two approved

1031
00:42:03,090 --> 00:42:00,760
treatments for hair loss and they did

1032
00:42:05,250 --> 00:42:03,100
not include lasers but I wanted to know

1033
00:42:06,960 --> 00:42:05,260
more before I made up my mind so I

1034
00:42:08,700 --> 00:42:06,970
called their toll free number and spoke

1035
00:42:11,340 --> 00:42:08,710
to a very friendly sales representative

1036
00:42:13,290 --> 00:42:11,350
she explained how limo is to be used and

1037
00:42:15,120 --> 00:42:13,300
that my request promised to send me

1038
00:42:17,160 --> 00:42:15,130

information about how it worked in the

1039

00:42:19,230 --> 00:42:17,170

scientific evidence that he did I

1040

00:42:21,780 --> 00:42:19,240

received an email message containing a

1041

00:42:23,070 --> 00:42:21,790

lot of information it started with an

1042

00:42:24,990 --> 00:42:23,080

accurate description of the cause of

1043

00:42:27,840 --> 00:42:25,000

hereditary Hallows which I found very

1044

00:42:30,030 --> 00:42:27,850

encouraging the next paragraph said the

1045

00:42:31,980 --> 00:42:30,040

following the limo system is extremely

1046

00:42:34,590 --> 00:42:31,990

effective because he targets the cause

1047

00:42:37,050 --> 00:42:34,600

of hair loss which is DHT and reverses

1048

00:42:38,910 --> 00:42:37,060

the effect of DHT the system is a

1049

00:42:41,370 --> 00:42:38,920

combination of laser treatment and web

1050

00:42:44,070 --> 00:42:41,380

products which consists of bio cleansing

1051
00:42:48,360 --> 00:42:44,080
shampoo thickening conditioner scalp

1052
00:42:50,460 --> 00:42:48,370
scrub scalp therapy and scope serum the

1053
00:42:51,990 --> 00:42:50,470
laser will help you regrow your hair and

1054
00:42:53,730 --> 00:42:52,000
the wet products will stop your hair

1055
00:42:55,890 --> 00:42:53,740
loss and save the hair that's left on

1056
00:42:58,890 --> 00:42:55,900
your head right now there are no drugs

1057
00:43:01,830 --> 00:42:58,900
to be taken no side effects and is one

1058
00:43:03,960 --> 00:43:01,840
hundred percent safe two things that

1059
00:43:06,210 --> 00:43:03,970
immediately raised my suspicions with

1060
00:43:08,010 --> 00:43:06,220
the use of the term wet products to

1061
00:43:10,230 --> 00:43:08,020
denote what i would call drugs or

1062
00:43:12,600 --> 00:43:10,240
chemicals in the claim of no side

1063
00:43:15,180 --> 00:43:12,610

effects in one hundred percent safety in

1064

00:43:16,830 --> 00:43:15,190

fact I was so suspicious that I

1065

00:43:18,810 --> 00:43:16,840

immediately searched the email and

1066

00:43:21,330 --> 00:43:18,820

attached documents for the word natural

1067

00:43:23,510 --> 00:43:21,340

which is another red flag word but it

1068

00:43:26,190 --> 00:43:23,520

was not there so I continued to read a

1069

00:43:28,530 --> 00:43:26,200

document listing the ingredients in each

1070

00:43:30,390 --> 00:43:28,540

of the wet products suggested that most

1071

00:43:32,610 --> 00:43:30,400

of them were plant extracts and common

1072

00:43:33,900 --> 00:43:32,620

hair and body care chemicals having

1073

00:43:35,580 --> 00:43:33,910

spent a significant amount of time

1074

00:43:37,890 --> 00:43:35,590

trying to figure out what the

1075

00:43:39,660 --> 00:43:37,900

ingredients meant I found none that are

1076
00:43:41,940 --> 00:43:39,670
claimed anywhere else to have any effect

1077
00:43:44,520 --> 00:43:41,950
on hair loss and most were completely

1078
00:43:46,620 --> 00:43:44,530
inert it was interesting to know that

1079
00:43:48,750 --> 00:43:46,630
all the web products included mistletoe

1080
00:43:50,840 --> 00:43:48,760
so even if your hair doesn't grow at

1081
00:43:53,820 --> 00:43:50,850
least you might get kissed on Christmas

1082
00:43:55,500 --> 00:43:53,830
curiously the ingredients list concluded

1083
00:43:57,960 --> 00:43:55,510
with an explanation of what cedar plank

1084
00:43:59,880 --> 00:43:57,970
Richter was according to the document

1085
00:44:01,290 --> 00:43:59,890
the explanation came from that well

1086
00:44:04,500 --> 00:44:01,300
known source of medical information

1087
00:44:06,300 --> 00:44:04,510
Google the last and most interesting

1088
00:44:09,180 --> 00:44:06,310

document was the one titled limo

1089

00:44:10,420 --> 00:44:09,190

clinical trial this is what the trial

1090

00:44:12,940 --> 00:44:10,430

abstract said

1091

00:44:14,650 --> 00:44:12,950

the purpose of this study was for

1092

00:44:16,690 --> 00:44:14,660

confirming the efficacy of low laser

1093

00:44:19,270 --> 00:44:16,700

light therapy using a limo for the

1094

00:44:21,819 --> 00:44:19,280

stimulation of hair growth 15 patients

1095

00:44:24,520 --> 00:44:21,829

10 males and five females with under

1096

00:44:26,950 --> 00:44:24,530

genetic alopecia underwent treatment for

1097

00:44:28,569 --> 00:44:26,960

a four-month period hair counts were

1098

00:44:30,819 --> 00:44:28,579

affected very been officially in both

1099

00:44:33,760 --> 00:44:30,829

sexes but the female shows more

1100

00:44:35,500 --> 00:44:33,770

improvement than the mail to anyone with

1101

00:44:38,650 --> 00:44:35,510

even a moderate understanding of science

1102

00:44:40,569 --> 00:44:38,660

this will be it a studied dedicated to

1103

00:44:42,849 --> 00:44:40,579

confirm rather than test the veracity of

1104

00:44:44,740 --> 00:44:42,859

a hypothesis is so inherently flawed

1105

00:44:47,559 --> 00:44:44,750

that its value as evidence would be

1106

00:44:49,270 --> 00:44:47,569

extremely low scientific testing is all

1107

00:44:52,299 --> 00:44:49,280

about finding out whether something

1108

00:44:55,750 --> 00:44:52,309

works not confirming that it does yet I

1109

00:44:57,819 --> 00:44:55,760

read on the next sections claimed that

1110

00:44:59,799 --> 00:44:57,829

low-level laser therapy has been shown

1111

00:45:01,829 --> 00:44:59,809

to have several effects including

1112

00:45:05,349 --> 00:45:01,839

anti-inflammation in immunosuppression

1113

00:45:06,970 --> 00:45:05,359

yes according to the document low-level

1114

00:45:09,790 --> 00:45:06,980

laser therapy will suppress the immune

1115

00:45:11,440 --> 00:45:09,800

system obviously none of the claims are

1116

00:45:13,359 --> 00:45:11,450

referenced then the study is not signed

1117

00:45:15,039 --> 00:45:13,369

so there is no way to know whether this

1118

00:45:18,160 --> 00:45:15,049

is an honest mistake by a knowledgeable

1119

00:45:20,079 --> 00:45:18,170

person or as I suspect a sign of utter

1120

00:45:23,170 --> 00:45:20,089

ignorance and careless disregard for the

1121

00:45:25,930 --> 00:45:23,180

truth the materials in methods section

1122

00:45:27,549 --> 00:45:25,940

is 18 lines longer six of which are used

1123

00:45:30,130 --> 00:45:27,559

to exalt the safety and reported

1124

00:45:31,990 --> 00:45:30,140

efficacy of the limo laser most of the

1125

00:45:34,420 --> 00:45:32,000

rest of this section describes how the

1126
00:45:37,000 --> 00:45:34,430
limo was used and only the very last

1127
00:45:39,940 --> 00:45:37,010
sentence two lines long explains how

1128
00:45:41,650 --> 00:45:39,950
hair growth was measured naturally there

1129
00:45:43,390 --> 00:45:41,660
is so little information that it is

1130
00:45:45,130 --> 00:45:43,400
virtually impossible to tell whether the

1131
00:45:46,690 --> 00:45:45,140
measurements are meaningful it is not

1132
00:45:47,980 --> 00:45:46,700
even clear whether the before and after

1133
00:45:50,799 --> 00:45:47,990
measurements were taken from the same

1134
00:45:52,569 --> 00:45:50,809
place there is certainly no mention of

1135
00:45:55,690 --> 00:45:52,579
testing being blind let alone

1136
00:45:57,640 --> 00:45:55,700
double-blind perhaps the most curious

1137
00:45:59,740 --> 00:45:57,650
aspect of the materials in methods

1138
00:46:01,900 --> 00:45:59,750

section is that it says nothing at all

1139

00:46:03,760 --> 00:46:01,910

about the lima wet products in other

1140

00:46:06,700 --> 00:46:03,770

words the one extremely small

1141

00:46:09,849 --> 00:46:06,710

unreferenced poorly documented control

1142

00:46:11,859 --> 00:46:09,859

free unblinded in unsigned study which

1143

00:46:14,260 --> 00:46:11,869

is the entire evidence base for limors

1144

00:46:15,789 --> 00:46:14,270

efficacy says nothing at all about the

1145

00:46:19,569 --> 00:46:15,799

part of the product that provides

1146

00:46:21,250 --> 00:46:19,579

ongoing revenue the document ends with

1147

00:46:22,620 --> 00:46:21,260

the results and this is the description

1148

00:46:24,960 --> 00:46:22,630

of the results

1149

00:46:27,900 --> 00:46:24,970

the scientific data for the hair counts

1150

00:46:30,089 --> 00:46:27,910

is demonstrated in table 1 in summary

1151
00:46:31,769 --> 00:46:30,099
table 1 shows that the hair counts

1152
00:46:36,210 --> 00:46:31,779
increased in the temporal area an

1153
00:46:39,269 --> 00:46:36,220
average of 67.2 percent in men 72.3

1154
00:46:41,190 --> 00:46:39,279
percent in women and 68.2 percent for

1155
00:46:44,549 --> 00:46:41,200
all patients there was greater

1156
00:46:47,700 --> 00:46:44,559
improvement in females both sexes did

1157
00:46:49,410 --> 00:46:47,710
benefit significantly in addition there

1158
00:46:52,410 --> 00:46:49,420
can be improvement of scalp blindness

1159
00:46:53,910 --> 00:46:52,420
and flakiness in all patients they may

1160
00:46:56,009 --> 00:46:53,920
also be an increase in hair shaft

1161
00:46:59,309 --> 00:46:56,019
diameter along with an increased number

1162
00:47:00,900 --> 00:46:59,319
of total hair follicles overall almost

1163
00:47:02,910 --> 00:47:00,910

all patients felt that their hair and

1164

00:47:05,940 --> 00:47:02,920

scalp felt healthier and fuller after

1165

00:47:08,009 --> 00:47:05,950

using the limo the document ends with

1166

00:47:10,200 --> 00:47:08,019

before and after photos most of which

1167

00:47:14,460 --> 00:47:10,210

clearly show longer hearing the after

1168

00:47:16,589 --> 00:47:14,470

shot not more here just longer here from

1169

00:47:18,450 --> 00:47:16,599

a scientific perspective I'd have to say

1170

00:47:20,039 --> 00:47:18,460

that the study limon sent me falls well

1171

00:47:22,680 --> 00:47:20,049

short of providing evidence of efficacy

1172

00:47:24,900 --> 00:47:22,690

for its products based on available

1173

00:47:26,519 --> 00:47:24,910

information purchasing and using Lima

1174

00:47:28,650 --> 00:47:26,529

could very well turn out to be an

1175

00:47:30,720 --> 00:47:28,660

expensive exercise in wishful thinking

1176
00:47:33,210 --> 00:47:30,730
and it would advise anyone contemplating

1177
00:47:36,049 --> 00:47:33,220
taking out the credit card to take the

1178
00:47:39,900 --> 00:47:36,059
claims limo makes with a grain of salt

1179
00:47:41,819 --> 00:47:39,910
PostScript lemos scalp scrub is referred

1180
00:47:45,390 --> 00:47:41,829
to several times in all documents as

1181
00:47:58,170 --> 00:47:45,400
scalp and body scrub does any lemo

1182
00:48:02,530 --> 00:48:00,790
today in a big shout out to Desiree

1183
00:48:05,110 --> 00:48:02,540
shell and the rest of the skeptically

1184
00:48:07,000 --> 00:48:05,120
speaking team we love you very much all

1185
00:48:10,030 --> 00:48:07,010
of us here from the skeptics own podcast

1186
00:48:13,060 --> 00:48:10,040
and the token skeptic podcast so keep it

1187
00:48:14,620 --> 00:48:13,070
going on you don't want to know what out

1188
00:48:16,630 --> 00:48:14,630

of the morning it is that I'm recording

1189

00:48:20,080 --> 00:48:16,640

this but I'm certainly something really

1190

00:48:22,300 --> 00:48:20,090

respectable over there in Canada yeah

1191

00:48:27,550 --> 00:48:22,310

I'll just leave it much love from all of

1192

00:48:30,580 --> 00:48:27,560

us oh happy Anniversary happy

1193

00:48:36,400 --> 00:48:30,590

Anniversary happy Anniversary happy

1194

00:48:45,100 --> 00:48:36,410

Anniversary join us now for drinking

1195

00:48:47,380 --> 00:48:45,110

skeptically in the think tank um hello

1196

00:48:49,660 --> 00:48:47,390

around hello Rachel how are you today

1197

00:48:51,730 --> 00:48:49,670

very good now we're with a very special

1198

00:48:56,440 --> 00:48:51,740

guest today at Canberra skeptics in the

1199

00:49:00,640 --> 00:48:56,450

pub hello to mr. PZ Myers hello sir hey

1200

00:49:03,760 --> 00:49:00,650

Zed professor okay peez it no well it's

1201
00:49:05,410 --> 00:49:03,770
we say pays it but we also say pz

1202
00:49:08,530 --> 00:49:05,420
because that is how you pronounce it yes

1203
00:49:10,240 --> 00:49:08,540
I tell my mother yeah okay we've also

1204
00:49:13,600 --> 00:49:10,250
got some other skeptics here with us and

1205
00:49:16,570 --> 00:49:13,610
we have bread pirate Mick good five week

1206
00:49:19,420 --> 00:49:16,580
on Twitter we have at laws on Twitter

1207
00:49:22,900 --> 00:49:19,430
and leave all this evil dees on Twitter

1208
00:49:24,760 --> 00:49:22,910
yeah and at Corrin stone at car and stow

1209
00:49:27,940 --> 00:49:24,770
on Twitter Hawaii anybody have real

1210
00:49:31,410 --> 00:49:27,950
names here no just no one has romantic

1211
00:49:35,400 --> 00:49:31,420
said hey I was i at pz myers

1212
00:49:37,260 --> 00:49:35,410
that work that works too so you just

1213
00:49:41,460 --> 00:49:37,270

gave us a very interesting talk pc about

1214

00:49:43,079 --> 00:49:41,470

well god lots of things actually there

1215

00:49:46,319 --> 00:49:43,089

was a lot of discussion as well after

1216

00:49:48,500 --> 00:49:46,329

your talk and a lot of it was about sort

1217

00:49:50,760 --> 00:49:48,510

of what someone referred to as a secular

1218

00:49:53,450 --> 00:49:50,770

what was the word they used to describe

1219

00:49:55,740 --> 00:49:53,460

Mike a secular Mecca or something uh

1220

00:49:58,620 --> 00:49:55,750

well we heard the word secular movement

1221

00:50:01,829 --> 00:49:58,630

want a lot of secular utopia actually

1222

00:50:03,329 --> 00:50:01,839

utopia yeah yeah yeah and I don't

1223

00:50:06,720 --> 00:50:03,339

believe in utopias there's no such thing

1224

00:50:09,839 --> 00:50:06,730

no okay but there are ideals we can

1225

00:50:12,569 --> 00:50:09,849

strive for and the kind of ideal I see

1226
00:50:15,000 --> 00:50:12,579
is in a secular world is one where we

1227
00:50:18,780 --> 00:50:15,010
argue over the evidence and try to

1228
00:50:21,150 --> 00:50:18,790
follow where it leads it won't always

1229
00:50:23,039 --> 00:50:21,160
work but it will work better than the

1230
00:50:25,680 --> 00:50:23,049
alternative which is to argue over no

1231
00:50:27,510 --> 00:50:25,690
evidence at all who knows where that

1232
00:50:29,370 --> 00:50:27,520
will go can I just say something before

1233
00:50:30,990 --> 00:50:29,380
you go on and you what you're saying is

1234
00:50:32,339 --> 00:50:31,000
incredibly interesting but you just

1235
00:50:34,410 --> 00:50:32,349
mentioned something about arguing the

1236
00:50:36,720 --> 00:50:34,420
evidence over or arguing for the

1237
00:50:41,910 --> 00:50:36,730
evidence you helped me when the shorty

1238
00:50:44,309 --> 00:50:41,920

awards recently and thank you very much

1239

00:50:46,349 --> 00:50:44,319

for all the whole you're cheating but um

1240

00:50:48,089 --> 00:50:46,359

yes just when you said evidence such as

1241

00:50:50,430 --> 00:50:48,099

made me think of joseph mercola and my

1242

00:50:53,789 --> 00:50:50,440

cat is actually evidence free yeah but

1243

00:50:56,430 --> 00:50:53,799

it's free zone exactly actually can I

1244

00:50:58,650 --> 00:50:56,440

tell you a little anecdote pressuring I

1245

00:51:01,500 --> 00:50:58,660

also asked him mention to help me out

1246

00:51:03,329 --> 00:51:01,510

with the shorties and the thing that I

1247

00:51:05,099 --> 00:51:03,339

noticed when you blogged about it and

1248

00:51:06,480 --> 00:51:05,109

when you tweeted it I would open up my

1249

00:51:08,069 --> 00:51:06,490

email every morning and I would have

1250

00:51:10,140 --> 00:51:08,079

pages and pages and pages of

1251
00:51:12,240 --> 00:51:10,150
notifications but so and so is now

1252
00:51:14,099 --> 00:51:12,250
following you on Twitter and that's when

1253
00:51:16,380 --> 00:51:14,109
of course I took over from McCullough

1254
00:51:19,049 --> 00:51:16,390
and when I asked him mentioned to help

1255
00:51:21,720 --> 00:51:19,059
me out and he has 56 thousand fans I

1256
00:51:25,440 --> 00:51:21,730
think on Twitter and I got a total of

1257
00:51:26,970 --> 00:51:25,450
nine votes out of that you won't love

1258
00:51:28,660 --> 00:51:26,980
you learn in this critical the invention

1259
00:51:30,700 --> 00:51:28,670
is a weapon

1260
00:51:33,220 --> 00:51:30,710
how do you train your fans so well

1261
00:51:36,870 --> 00:51:33,230
that's what I'm well they're not fans

1262
00:51:41,650 --> 00:51:36,880
are minions mention his fans I have

1263
00:51:44,470 --> 00:51:41,660

slaves minions yeah that apparently do

1264

00:51:47,680 --> 00:51:44,480

whatever you Austin tape it tomorrow

1265

00:51:49,270 --> 00:51:47,690

very obviously no but I think one

1266

00:51:51,190 --> 00:51:49,280

difference might be is that that people

1267

00:51:54,549 --> 00:51:51,200

follow Tim Minchin for the humor and

1268

00:51:58,329 --> 00:51:54,559

music and I have people who are

1269

00:52:00,069 --> 00:51:58,339

extremely fanatically rabidly dedicated

1270

00:52:01,990 --> 00:52:00,079

to the scientific method never insane

1271

00:52:04,089 --> 00:52:02,000

isn't it isn't it a bit of a

1272

00:52:06,280 --> 00:52:04,099

contradiction intense though maybe three

1273

00:52:07,240 --> 00:52:06,290

dedicated to know because that's

1274

00:52:09,220 --> 00:52:07,250

something else we talked about in the

1275

00:52:10,480 --> 00:52:09,230

discussions here wasn't it is that yeah

1276
00:52:12,339 --> 00:52:10,490
we're spending at the back of tomorrow

1277
00:52:15,309 --> 00:52:12,349
yeah we had several people talking about

1278
00:52:18,039 --> 00:52:15,319
how atheists have this reputation as

1279
00:52:20,680 --> 00:52:18,049
being cold and distant and calculating

1280
00:52:23,170 --> 00:52:20,690
and they don't connect a neiman way and

1281
00:52:26,680 --> 00:52:23,180
so forth but of course we do I mean

1282
00:52:29,380 --> 00:52:26,690
words are not yeah we're human and i

1283
00:52:35,230 --> 00:52:29,390
think it's i think it's great that

1284
00:52:37,359 --> 00:52:35,240
people love the scientific method you

1285
00:52:39,099 --> 00:52:37,369
know imagining oh my gosh oh don't get

1286
00:52:41,700 --> 00:52:39,109
me wrong of course oh yeah i definitely

1287
00:52:45,609 --> 00:52:41,710
agree just that i would hope that

1288
00:52:47,770 --> 00:52:45,619

something that is rational if it just

1289

00:52:48,970 --> 00:52:47,780

somehow it does seems to be to be if it

1290

00:52:51,130 --> 00:52:48,980

seems to me there's a bit of

1291

00:52:53,140 --> 00:52:51,140

contradiction between daddy rapidly

1292

00:52:54,670 --> 00:52:53,150

devoted to something no no no that

1293

00:52:56,140 --> 00:52:54,680

that's the problem is if so many people

1294

00:52:58,299 --> 00:52:56,150

think that rational means something

1295

00:52:59,829 --> 00:52:58,309

entirely different from emotional and I

1296

00:53:04,210 --> 00:52:59,839

think rational emotional go together

1297

00:53:06,220 --> 00:53:04,220

beautifully yes like like butter and

1298

00:53:08,710 --> 00:53:06,230

vegemite or something whatever whatever

1299

00:53:10,450 --> 00:53:08,720

you got was i wasn't born here okay i

1300

00:53:12,220 --> 00:53:10,460

don't hate that stuff it's an alien

1301

00:53:14,109 --> 00:53:12,230

concept to be different but now it's

1302

00:53:16,480 --> 00:53:14,119

it's these are concepts that work

1303

00:53:19,240 --> 00:53:16,490

together very very well and i think that

1304

00:53:21,819 --> 00:53:19,250

what we want as human beings is for a

1305

00:53:25,740 --> 00:53:21,829

rational movement that doesn't deny the

1306

00:53:27,780 --> 00:53:25,750

fact that you know we bunk we care

1307

00:53:29,900 --> 00:53:27,790

we're passionate we have emotions and

1308

00:53:34,020 --> 00:53:29,910

feelings and and there's things we

1309

00:53:36,240 --> 00:53:34,030

dearly loved and I would just like to be

1310

00:53:38,640 --> 00:53:36,250

feel free to say well science is all

1311

00:53:40,320 --> 00:53:38,650

those things I'm really love well I say

1312

00:53:42,930 --> 00:53:40,330

it all the time I think a flip side of

1313

00:53:45,060 --> 00:53:42,940

that too is that perhaps people wouldn't

1314

00:53:46,710 --> 00:53:45,070

be so passionate about getting behind

1315

00:53:49,890 --> 00:53:46,720

science if it was just obviously

1316

00:53:52,980 --> 00:53:49,900

accepted that it worked but I because it

1317

00:53:54,750 --> 00:53:52,990

gets attacked but they think they've got

1318

00:53:57,990 --> 00:53:54,760

evidence should they've got their

1319

00:53:59,880 --> 00:53:58,000

evidence is just very bad because the

1320

00:54:01,440 --> 00:53:59,890

scientific method gets attacked I think

1321

00:54:03,060 --> 00:54:01,450

those of us who think it does work I

1322

00:54:04,500 --> 00:54:03,070

think we do get passionate about and

1323

00:54:07,410 --> 00:54:04,510

getting behind it and defending it

1324

00:54:10,050 --> 00:54:07,420

because it's it does work with a Cena

1325

00:54:12,210 --> 00:54:10,060

yeah I created there there's always this

1326
00:54:13,440 --> 00:54:12,220
backlash effect and if you tag something

1327
00:54:14,730 --> 00:54:13,450
people will defend it more passionately

1328
00:54:17,520 --> 00:54:14,740
but I think there's more to it than that

1329
00:54:19,950 --> 00:54:17,530
because people are into science

1330
00:54:22,770 --> 00:54:19,960
appreciate the fact that that we see so

1331
00:54:25,230 --> 00:54:22,780
much more with science that that it's a

1332
00:54:27,240 --> 00:54:25,240
very human thing to wreck recognize that

1333
00:54:29,160 --> 00:54:27,250
we are little beings on a small planet

1334
00:54:30,840 --> 00:54:29,170
and it little speck in the galaxy and

1335
00:54:33,390 --> 00:54:30,850
annals kind of thing and there are

1336
00:54:35,430 --> 00:54:33,400
things that are greater than us there

1337
00:54:37,050 --> 00:54:35,440
was some sorry oh and I'm just going to

1338
00:54:38,880 --> 00:54:37,060

say that that science is the way that

1339

00:54:41,250 --> 00:54:38,890

shows us those things are greater than

1340

00:54:43,140 --> 00:54:41,260

us and religion doesn't religion makes a

1341

00:54:45,690 --> 00:54:43,150

fairly tales about what's greater than us

1342

00:54:48,420 --> 00:54:45,700

and and it's so fake and phony in it

1343

00:54:49,860 --> 00:54:48,430

it's annoying what why you get excited

1344

00:54:53,220 --> 00:54:49,870

about God when you can get excited about

1345

00:54:54,840 --> 00:54:53,230

Oh planet Saturn or hox genes or

1346

00:54:59,810 --> 00:54:54,850

something that's really marvelous and

1347

00:55:02,310 --> 00:54:59,820

powerful there was 365 days of astronomy

1348

00:55:06,360 --> 00:55:02,320

episode that I heard on on the way down

1349

00:55:08,850 --> 00:55:06,370

here that they did survey of the people

1350

00:55:12,330 --> 00:55:08,860

who contributed to Galaxy Zoo which is a

1351
00:55:15,060 --> 00:55:12,340
we're basically of public science it's a

1352
00:55:17,040 --> 00:55:15,070
they asked people to categorize galaxies

1353
00:55:18,690 --> 00:55:17,050
so these the people would download

1354
00:55:21,330 --> 00:55:18,700
images of galaxies and we have to

1355
00:55:22,950 --> 00:55:21,340
categorize them as rotating clockwise or

1356
00:55:24,210 --> 00:55:22,960
counterclockwise and they categorize the

1357
00:55:27,090 --> 00:55:24,220
colors and all kinds of things like that

1358
00:55:28,890 --> 00:55:27,100
and hundreds of thousands of people

1359
00:55:31,440 --> 00:55:28,900
signed up and 10,000 people actually

1360
00:55:34,830 --> 00:55:31,450
responded to a survey that they did

1361
00:55:38,589 --> 00:55:34,840
about why they decided to sign up and a

1362
00:55:40,509 --> 00:55:38,599
lot of the responses were around the

1363
00:55:43,479 --> 00:55:40,519

pneus of the universe and our place in

1364

00:55:45,940 --> 00:55:43,489

it and about and about you know the

1365

00:55:47,859 --> 00:55:45,950

overwhelming feeling that they have

1366

00:55:50,920 --> 00:55:47,869

about the universe but quite a

1367

00:55:53,529 --> 00:55:50,930

significant proportion did it because

1368

00:55:56,529 --> 00:55:53,539

they wanted they like the idea of being

1369

00:55:58,120 --> 00:55:56,539

part of a scientific exploration and

1370

00:55:59,920 --> 00:55:58,130

some of them actually like the idea of

1371

00:56:01,809 --> 00:55:59,930

perhaps they'll be the first to see

1372

00:56:03,910 --> 00:56:01,819

something the first to find something

1373

00:56:05,739 --> 00:56:03,920

because there are hundreds of thousands

1374

00:56:07,960 --> 00:56:05,749

of galaxies in that or millions of

1375

00:56:10,269 --> 00:56:07,970

galaxies in that certain that project

1376
00:56:12,489 --> 00:56:10,279
and some of them will be the first to

1377
00:56:15,339 --> 00:56:12,499
see that galaxy right so that people

1378
00:56:18,219 --> 00:56:15,349
really like that sense of exploration in

1379
00:56:20,109 --> 00:56:18,229
to those who are not active scientists

1380
00:56:22,120 --> 00:56:20,119
who you know working in there in the

1381
00:56:24,339 --> 00:56:22,130
field every day that could be very

1382
00:56:26,019 --> 00:56:24,349
strong enough oh yeah and I know there's

1383
00:56:27,640 --> 00:56:26,029
projects out there they do so much alike

1384
00:56:29,289 --> 00:56:27,650
folding at home if you heard that the

1385
00:56:31,029 --> 00:56:29,299
protein game project is distributed

1386
00:56:32,739 --> 00:56:31,039
computing and and and things like that

1387
00:56:34,870 --> 00:56:32,749
are popular because people want to be a

1388
00:56:36,130 --> 00:56:34,880

part of it and by the way 29 people

1389

00:56:37,690 --> 00:56:36,140

actually responded that they did it

1390

00:56:43,539 --> 00:56:37,700

because they were bored at work so this

1391

00:56:44,950 --> 00:56:43,549

ah they are honest realism okay but I

1392

00:56:46,749 --> 00:56:44,960

guess that's a little bit like city as

1393

00:56:48,099 --> 00:56:46,759

well isn't it that people use their

1394

00:56:50,170 --> 00:56:48,109

computers when they're not using them to

1395

00:56:51,640 --> 00:56:50,180

search for that stuff and when you can

1396

00:56:53,920 --> 00:56:51,650

imagine if you were the first person to

1397

00:56:58,059 --> 00:56:53,930

get something back from space that you

1398

00:57:01,420 --> 00:56:58,069

could dad yeah if we could understand it

1399

00:57:03,160 --> 00:57:01,430

I don't know hi yeah I think there's a

1400

00:57:06,430 --> 00:57:03,170

lot of people out there who love science

1401
00:57:07,870 --> 00:57:06,440
and grew up loving it moved into

1402
00:57:10,690 --> 00:57:07,880
something else it's something else but

1403
00:57:12,579 --> 00:57:10,700
still want to be they want to be part of

1404
00:57:15,310 --> 00:57:12,589
its like I ought to tell my kids we roll

1405
00:57:18,430 --> 00:57:15,320
in a study for diabetes research we're

1406
00:57:20,320 --> 00:57:18,440
certain I sediment you know even if

1407
00:57:23,590 --> 00:57:20,330
nothing comes out of it for you we will

1408
00:57:24,910 --> 00:57:23,600
be contributing to the Great Society be

1409
00:57:28,150 --> 00:57:24,920
contributing the scientific knowledge

1410
00:57:29,800 --> 00:57:28,160
and that's awesome yes I get letters all

1411
00:57:31,480 --> 00:57:29,810
the time from people who say well you

1412
00:57:33,580 --> 00:57:31,490
know I'm I'm 40 years old and I'm an

1413
00:57:37,120 --> 00:57:33,590

insurance agent and I learned that I

1414

00:57:38,410 --> 00:57:37,130

love science what can I do and I usually

1415

00:57:43,060 --> 00:57:38,420

tell them yeah Chuck your career and go

1416

00:57:44,350 --> 00:57:43,070

back to school seriously I mean you've

1417

00:57:46,150 --> 00:57:44,360

got one life to live do what you love

1418

00:57:48,310 --> 00:57:46,160

doing and if you think you love science

1419

00:57:51,340 --> 00:57:48,320

do it but yeah these other little things

1420

00:57:52,720 --> 00:57:51,350

and and there's also now there's other

1421

00:57:55,000 --> 00:57:52,730

things that you can do that are much

1422

00:57:58,270 --> 00:57:55,010

more personal like you know volunteering

1423

00:58:00,490 --> 00:57:58,280

at your local zoo or museum helping out

1424

00:58:03,520 --> 00:58:00,500

at the local school just getting out

1425

00:58:06,010 --> 00:58:03,530

there and introducing young people to

1426
00:58:08,560 --> 00:58:06,020
things that you know you don't even have

1427
00:58:10,060 --> 00:58:08,570
to be a science scientists be smarter

1428
00:58:11,800 --> 00:58:10,070
about some things in science than a

1429
00:58:14,290 --> 00:58:11,810
little kid you also get out there and

1430
00:58:16,440 --> 00:58:14,300
teach it's always a good thing to do do

1431
00:58:19,810 --> 00:58:16,450
you find hazy that you spend more time

1432
00:58:21,370 --> 00:58:19,820
debunking nonsense than trying to get

1433
00:58:23,050 --> 00:58:21,380
out that sort of what you talk about

1434
00:58:25,330 --> 00:58:23,060
educating people about a beauty of

1435
00:58:28,360 --> 00:58:25,340
science and the intricacies oh it

1436
00:58:30,310 --> 00:58:28,370
depends on on where I am this year I'm

1437
00:58:32,290 --> 00:58:30,320
on sabbatical which I found has an

1438
00:58:33,640 --> 00:58:32,300

unfortunate effect and that I'm not

1439

00:58:35,140 --> 00:58:33,650

reading as much of the current

1440

00:58:37,180 --> 00:58:35,150

scientific literature because I've got

1441

00:58:39,730 --> 00:58:37,190

all these other things I'm doing during

1442

00:58:42,010 --> 00:58:39,740

the school year though no that's the big

1443

00:58:43,270 --> 00:58:42,020

thing is I'm constantly reading the

1444

00:58:44,920 --> 00:58:43,280

journals to keep up on the material my

1445

00:58:47,980 --> 00:58:44,930

field because I'm having to teach it and

1446

00:58:50,380 --> 00:58:47,990

and so what I find then is that I

1447

00:58:53,290 --> 00:58:50,390

express myself in the blog by explaining

1448

00:58:54,910 --> 00:58:53,300

here's here's what i read this week plop

1449

00:58:56,830 --> 00:58:54,920

here it is this is stuff that's going to

1450

00:58:58,810 --> 00:58:56,840

go into my lectures so it all works

1451
00:59:01,780 --> 00:58:58,820
together so yeah I spend a fair amount

1452
00:59:04,570 --> 00:59:01,790
of time on the positive aspects in the

1453
00:59:05,890 --> 00:59:04,580
right context right I don't ever want to

1454
00:59:08,290 --> 00:59:05,900
lose my job because if I'm not teaching

1455
00:59:11,440 --> 00:59:08,300
I think that just goes spiraling into

1456
00:59:12,520 --> 00:59:11,450
nothingness but yeah and this year it's

1457
00:59:13,920 --> 00:59:12,530
been a little slack but it's going to

1458
00:59:16,660 --> 00:59:13,930
change again next year when i get back

1459
00:59:18,880 --> 00:59:16,670
teaching off an almond course i'm very

1460
00:59:21,230 --> 00:59:18,890
excited about and

1461
00:59:25,040 --> 00:59:21,240
expect a whole bunch of post about you

1462
00:59:27,440 --> 00:59:25,050
eco devo next fall k be there I want to

1463
00:59:29,180 --> 00:59:27,450

ask not just like do you think if we can

1464

00:59:31,160 --> 00:59:29,190

do a better job event educating people

1465

00:59:33,050 --> 00:59:31,170

about science generally will have to

1466

00:59:38,270 --> 00:59:33,060

spend less time debunking specific

1467

00:59:40,130 --> 00:59:38,280

issues I think that what I've talked to

1468

00:59:41,960 --> 00:59:40,140

educators what I've often told him is

1469

00:59:44,480 --> 00:59:41,970

I'm not that concerned about teaching

1470

00:59:45,980 --> 00:59:44,490

evolution in high schools I'm much more

1471

00:59:47,900 --> 00:59:45,990

concerned about teaching critical

1472

00:59:49,490 --> 00:59:47,910

thinking skills in the grade schools in

1473

00:59:51,920 --> 00:59:49,500

the elementary schools you know that

1474

00:59:53,780 --> 00:59:51,930

little eight year olds ought to be

1475

00:59:56,920 --> 00:59:53,790

taught how to do an experiment with

1476
00:59:58,970 --> 00:59:56,930
controls and analyze it appropriately

1477
01:00:01,640 --> 00:59:58,980
that I think would be a multiple

1478
01:00:03,850 --> 01:00:01,650
powerful tool to eradicate a lot of the

1479
01:00:07,040 --> 01:00:03,860
nonsense that's going on out there I

1480
01:00:08,410 --> 01:00:07,050
wanted to ask you but something that you

1481
01:00:13,100 --> 01:00:08,420
might be familiar with and that's

1482
01:00:17,180 --> 01:00:13,110
atheism well yeah that's nothing i've

1483
01:00:18,920 --> 01:00:17,190
heard that there's nothing to it are you

1484
01:00:22,280 --> 01:00:18,930
being australia for what a couple of

1485
01:00:25,790 --> 01:00:22,290
weeks now almost ten days yes right so

1486
01:00:28,790 --> 01:00:25,800
so you've had a bit of a chance to see

1487
01:00:31,870 --> 01:00:28,800
what things are like here and my my own

1488
01:00:34,820 --> 01:00:31,880

feeling is that australians much more

1489

01:00:37,820 --> 01:00:34,830

well australians care less about

1490

01:00:41,120 --> 01:00:37,830

religion then Americans that's how Steve

1491

01:00:45,560 --> 01:00:41,130

field and got a like a great be fielding

1492

01:00:47,270 --> 01:00:45,570

got 50 6735 primary votes which is a

1493

01:00:49,340 --> 01:00:47,280

very very small number there's something

1494

01:00:50,960 --> 01:00:49,350

in the electrical system in electoral

1495

01:00:54,050 --> 01:00:50,970

system in Australia that allowed him to

1496

01:00:55,580 --> 01:00:54,060

actually get into the Senate so it's a

1497

01:00:58,670 --> 01:00:55,590

felt fault of the system not of the

1498

01:01:01,280 --> 01:00:58,680

people in circles 56,000 except for the

1499

01:01:06,830 --> 01:01:01,290

56,000 but it allows about 56,000 not as

1500

01:01:08,420 --> 01:01:06,840

I although to you I want you to ask you

1501

01:01:11,660 --> 01:01:08,430

about what your senses of the

1502

01:01:14,510 --> 01:01:11,670

differences in the way religion religion

1503

01:01:16,730 --> 01:01:14,520

and atheism are in the public sphere in

1504

01:01:18,050 --> 01:01:16,740

those two countries well it's it's a

1505

01:01:20,210 --> 01:01:18,060

little tough for me to judge because I'm

1506

01:01:21,410 --> 01:01:20,220

going to bubble here right then I come

1507

01:01:22,510 --> 01:01:21,420

here and all these atheists come

1508

01:01:24,910 --> 01:01:22,520

flocking around me

1509

01:01:27,220 --> 01:01:24,920

they hide the ugly seamy side of

1510

01:01:31,300 --> 01:01:27,230

Australia from me so I only see the

1511

01:01:34,030 --> 01:01:31,310

beauty all right but um no but you know

1512

01:01:36,340 --> 01:01:34,040

I wheat the papers too and you know that

1513

01:01:37,630 --> 01:01:36,350

if you read the papers United States and

1514

01:01:39,490 --> 01:01:37,640

read the papers in Australia at the same

1515

01:01:41,620 --> 01:01:39,500

time what you find is pretty much

1516

01:01:44,350 --> 01:01:41,630

everybody's more concerned about sports

1517

01:01:46,180 --> 01:01:44,360

and celebrities then they are these

1518

01:01:47,470 --> 01:01:46,190

kinds of issues so you just throw that

1519

01:01:51,310 --> 01:01:47,480

all out there's a lot of commonality

1520

01:01:54,340 --> 01:01:51,320

there that in the United States it's

1521

01:01:56,260 --> 01:01:54,350

considered more of an asset to wear your

1522

01:01:57,640 --> 01:01:56,270

religion on your sleeve and it is here I

1523

01:01:59,410 --> 01:01:57,650

get the distinct impression that if

1524

01:02:00,970 --> 01:01:59,420

somebody went out waving across and

1525

01:02:04,660 --> 01:02:00,980

saying vote for me because Christ loves

1526

01:02:07,600 --> 01:02:04,670

me he'll be laughed out of you know they

1527

01:02:09,970 --> 01:02:07,610

would get 56,000 yeah that's the same

1528

01:02:11,740 --> 01:02:09,980

wing nuts applause yeah yeah yeah yeah

1529

01:02:13,120 --> 01:02:11,750

but in the united states that you know

1530

01:02:16,810 --> 01:02:13,130

that would that would qualify you to run

1531

01:02:18,400 --> 01:02:16,820

for president united states so there

1532

01:02:20,440 --> 01:02:18,410

there is a difference in attitude that

1533

01:02:22,480 --> 01:02:20,450

we actually had an atheist climb in a

1534

01:02:24,700 --> 01:02:22,490

particular in a bar you know declared

1535

01:02:27,630 --> 01:02:24,710

atheist Prime Minister many years ago oh

1536

01:02:29,860 --> 01:02:27,640

ho but uh we can imagine that thing is

1537

01:02:32,140 --> 01:02:29,870

the funny thing about Bob Hawke was

1538

01:02:33,280 --> 01:02:32,150

people didn't really consider that an

1539

01:02:35,380 --> 01:02:33,290

issue at all I don't think we'll be

1540

01:02:38,560 --> 01:02:35,390

considered an issue nowadays either no

1541

01:02:40,750 --> 01:02:38,570

but I think I mean even though we are we

1542

01:02:44,800 --> 01:02:40,760

now have one of the more religious prime

1543

01:02:46,360 --> 01:02:44,810

ministers in a long long time and that's

1544

01:02:49,390 --> 01:02:46,370

not considered an issue either because

1545

01:02:51,400 --> 01:02:49,400

racing to oh yeah i think when we when

1546

01:02:53,830 --> 01:02:51,410

we win when the eight years conquer the

1547

01:02:55,540 --> 01:02:53,840

world what will happen is it will not be

1548

01:02:57,730 --> 01:02:55,550

considered an asset it's somebody's an

1549

01:03:00,810 --> 01:02:57,740

atheist running for office yeah it will

1550

01:03:02,890 --> 01:03:00,820

be an irrelevance ewc so what who cares

1551

01:03:05,230 --> 01:03:02,900

eunos already could run from calf with

1552

01:03:07,330 --> 01:03:05,240

his captor for president and we just say

1553

01:03:09,460 --> 01:03:07,340

who cares if this becomes something

1554

01:03:10,540 --> 01:03:09,470

that's a private issue that's removed

1555

01:03:12,490 --> 01:03:10,550

from the public sphere and we're not

1556

01:03:14,740 --> 01:03:12,500

going to worry and that's when we learn

1557

01:03:16,380 --> 01:03:14,750

that hasn't happened yet now you said

1558

01:03:19,710 --> 01:03:16,390

when

1559

01:03:23,250 --> 01:03:19,720

will you say hey you said wedding so the

1560

01:03:25,049 --> 01:03:23,260

only thing that's gonna happen barring

1561

01:03:27,599 --> 01:03:25,059

catastrophe do i hear the words going to

1562

01:03:29,789 --> 01:03:27,609

end in 2012 which is a smiley-faced yeah

1563

01:03:31,740 --> 01:03:29,799

yeah 30 days before my birthday I'm not

1564

01:03:34,319 --> 01:03:31,750

allowed so sorry you can happen on the

1565

01:03:35,549 --> 01:03:34,329

30th you know what you have to do is you

1566

01:03:37,980 --> 01:03:35,559

have to say that year you have to

1567

01:03:39,299 --> 01:03:37,990

celebrate your shape early it's a good

1568

01:03:42,750 --> 01:03:39,309

idea and then when the world doesn't end

1569

01:03:44,039 --> 01:03:42,760

you celebrate again you cannot lose but

1570

01:03:46,710 --> 01:03:44,049

yeah it's so aside from something like

1571

01:03:47,940 --> 01:03:46,720

that happening I think the trends are

1572

01:03:49,440 --> 01:03:47,950

going the right direction even in that

1573

01:03:52,680 --> 01:03:49,450

even in the crazy lil United States

1574

01:03:56,549 --> 01:03:52,690

there are so many outspoken atheist and

1575

01:03:59,069 --> 01:03:56,559

so much more acceptable that you know I

1576

01:04:02,670 --> 01:03:59,079

think if I have a reasonable lifespan

1577

01:04:03,820 --> 01:04:02,680

and all that kind of good stuff I'll see

1578

01:04:05,800 --> 01:04:03,830

it happen

1579

01:04:08,620 --> 01:04:05,810

what did you think of have you had a

1580

01:04:10,840 --> 01:04:08,630

chance to look at much the coverage from

1581

01:04:12,940 --> 01:04:10,850

atheists convention pz there was a lot

1582

01:04:15,160 --> 01:04:12,950

of bad coverage i wasn't me i actually

1583

01:04:17,830 --> 01:04:15,170

pushed a few things better yeah what did

1584

01:04:20,050 --> 01:04:17,840

you think about that I was surprised at

1585

01:04:22,000 --> 01:04:20,060

the one good article that reviewed it

1586

01:04:24,610 --> 01:04:22,010

and partially and said nice things about

1587

01:04:25,960 --> 01:04:24,620

it was in the Australian which I

1588

01:04:27,370 --> 01:04:25,970

understand is Rupert Murdoch's people

1589

01:04:29,380 --> 01:04:27,380

yeah that's right so it's generally can

1590

01:04:31,390 --> 01:04:29,390

see the right-wing paper yes and he

1591

01:04:33,340 --> 01:04:31,400

actually said you know they didn't come

1592

01:04:34,540 --> 01:04:33,350

out and endorse it isn't Lee just came

1593

01:04:35,860 --> 01:04:34,550

on so do you know there's a pretty good

1594

01:04:40,360 --> 01:04:35,870

meeting and people got more involved

1595

01:04:45,670 --> 01:04:40,370

good time no the ABC agents others are

1596

01:04:48,340 --> 01:04:45,680

red dude if it doesn't show up I'm still

1597

01:04:50,980 --> 01:04:48,350

thumbs down yeah and yeah they were just

1598

01:04:54,550 --> 01:04:50,990

awful yeah oh but you didn't get did you

1599

01:04:56,040 --> 01:04:54,560

read and revolts oh no i haven't i don't

1600

01:05:00,040 --> 01:04:56,050

know if i want to now you don't want to

1601
01:05:03,520 --> 01:05:00,050
do not want to yeah it's a good example

1602
01:05:06,790 --> 01:05:03,530
is actually take and really sort of

1603
01:05:08,310 --> 01:05:06,800
extreme view and then don't listen to

1604
01:05:10,240 --> 01:05:08,320
the evidence and don't change their

1605
01:05:12,580 --> 01:05:10,250
position when they're deemed to be wrong

1606
01:05:15,130 --> 01:05:12,590
Andrew Bolt is an example of a

1607
01:05:17,920 --> 01:05:15,140
right-wing extremist that anything that

1608
01:05:19,690 --> 01:05:17,930
is a right-wing extreme will he will

1609
01:05:22,060 --> 01:05:19,700
adopt regardless of anything year so

1610
01:05:24,220 --> 01:05:22,070
heating's religion is climate change

1611
01:05:26,290 --> 01:05:24,230
skepticism it's it's not a clearly

1612
01:05:27,820 --> 01:05:26,300
creationist surprisingly but I would

1613
01:05:31,450 --> 01:05:27,830

have expected him to pick that up too

1614

01:05:33,940 --> 01:05:31,460

but the overall theme is like you know

1615

01:05:36,640 --> 01:05:33,950

if it's right wing extremist view yes he

1616

01:05:39,790 --> 01:05:36,650

picked up on the Nazi tokens thing which

1617

01:05:41,350 --> 01:05:39,800

you probably heard then I just knew what

1618

01:05:44,590 --> 01:05:41,360

I heard Richard say that they're going

1619

01:05:49,690 --> 01:05:44,600

to happen yeah boy I'm so glad he said

1620

01:05:50,920 --> 01:05:49,700

it yeah not both of those people who

1621

01:05:53,059 --> 01:05:50,930

will not be my reading list in your

1622

01:05:57,120 --> 01:05:53,069

future don't worry

1623

01:06:02,460 --> 01:05:57,130

I've added Katherine's Ebony's my little

1624

01:06:04,859 --> 01:06:02,470

list of people I should read more no I

1625

01:06:08,039 --> 01:06:04,869

thought what was interesting about the

1626

01:06:09,630 --> 01:06:08,049

ABC coverage to was they often get

1627

01:06:11,609 --> 01:06:09,640

accused of being too left-wing and so I

1628

01:06:14,309 --> 01:06:11,619

can't they in an attempt to find balance

1629

01:06:16,799 --> 01:06:14,319

they actually do too much false balance

1630

01:06:19,170 --> 01:06:16,809

yes or I know that radio national sent

1631

01:06:24,029 --> 01:06:19,180

in about six or seven Christian people's

1632

01:06:26,190 --> 01:06:24,039

to Paisley plea criticize and write bad

1633

01:06:28,079 --> 01:06:26,200

things about the conference but I don't

1634

01:06:30,210 --> 01:06:28,089

think they sent him six atheist sturdy

1635

01:06:31,950 --> 01:06:30,220

the same thing you know show you they

1636

01:06:33,630 --> 01:06:31,960

try to compensate for being accused of

1637

01:06:36,150 --> 01:06:33,640

left-wing by going right to the other

1638

01:06:38,549 --> 01:06:36,160

side but I'm not adjustable and I say

1639

01:06:41,150 --> 01:06:38,559

though that there were quite critical

1640

01:06:44,400 --> 01:06:41,160

articles about the what's called the

1641

01:06:46,769 --> 01:06:44,410

Parliament of world religions or yeah a

1642

01:06:49,349 --> 01:06:46,779

few a few a couple of months ago I think

1643

01:06:52,249 --> 01:06:49,359

was the in Melbourne government-funded

1644

01:06:54,569 --> 01:06:52,259

race unlike the eighties convention

1645

01:06:55,890 --> 01:06:54,579

there was a parliament of world

1646

01:06:57,259 --> 01:06:55,900

religions or something like that and

1647

01:07:00,509 --> 01:06:57,269

they had representatives of various

1648

01:07:02,759 --> 01:07:00,519

religions and that was I felt that was

1649

01:07:05,339 --> 01:07:02,769

covered fairly critically as well so

1650

01:07:07,200 --> 01:07:05,349

perhaps into the overall attitude of

1651

01:07:09,390 --> 01:07:07,210

criticizing a conference around

1652

01:07:11,759 --> 01:07:09,400

something to do with religion well yeah

1653

01:07:12,720 --> 01:07:11,769

and also because you know you made the

1654

01:07:15,420 --> 01:07:12,730

distinction of left-wing and right-wing

1655

01:07:16,829 --> 01:07:15,430

those don't matter for atheism that

1656

01:07:20,370 --> 01:07:16,839

there are right-wing ideas and then

1657

01:07:22,680 --> 01:07:20,380

Tobias and and often what I found is I I

1658

01:07:24,749 --> 01:07:22,690

can't stand either of them when it comes

1659

01:07:27,269 --> 01:07:24,759

to religion they are all sucking up to

1660

01:07:28,950 --> 01:07:27,279

religion and if they're not second to

1661

01:07:31,859 --> 01:07:28,960

religion their stuff in there sucking up

1662

01:07:33,599 --> 01:07:31,869

to New Age nonsense in the u.s. Prince

1663

01:07:35,009 --> 01:07:33,609

it's a big website that there's really

1664

01:07:36,839 --> 01:07:35,019

popular among the left wing is they're

1665

01:07:40,710 --> 01:07:36,849

having a post and you know this I

1666

01:07:43,380 --> 01:07:40,720

nothing device I mean it's a hotbed of

1667

01:07:46,319 --> 01:07:43,390

whack culinary esperas eat there yes

1668

01:07:47,470 --> 01:07:46,329

it's awful and there's all this new age

1669

01:07:50,210 --> 01:07:47,480

stuff don't work

1670

01:07:52,340 --> 01:07:50,220

Jenny max well they don't even pay lip

1671

01:07:54,320 --> 01:07:52,350

service to journalistic standards so

1672

01:07:57,230 --> 01:07:54,330

yeah I wouldn't gonna do whatever you

1673

01:08:00,500 --> 01:07:57,240

want so so it's a weird thing because

1674

01:08:03,230 --> 01:08:00,510

science and atheism do not have a friend

1675

01:08:07,040 --> 01:08:03,240

on the left or the right we're kind of

1676

01:08:08,570 --> 01:08:07,050

going it alone no ideally we would

1677

01:08:11,690 --> 01:08:08,580

building be building a political

1678

01:08:13,160 --> 01:08:11,700

coalition that you know a a rationalist

1679

01:08:15,370 --> 01:08:13,170

party or something but I just don't see

1680

01:08:17,809 --> 01:08:15,380

that happening in the near future but

1681

01:08:19,610 --> 01:08:17,819

somewhere down the road it would be

1682

01:08:23,480 --> 01:08:19,620

great to have something like that well

1683

01:08:25,190 --> 01:08:23,490

we had an atheist secular party standing

1684

01:08:29,690 --> 01:08:25,200

for the state elections in New South

1685

01:08:31,550 --> 01:08:29,700

Wales second was okay i would i would

1686

01:08:33,650 --> 01:08:31,560

actually oppose the idea of something

1687

01:08:37,220 --> 01:08:33,660

like an atheist party because i want it

1688

01:08:40,099 --> 01:08:37,230

to be religion blind it just you know

1689

01:08:42,019 --> 01:08:40,109

you can be a Lutheran and run for office

1690

01:08:43,610 --> 01:08:42,029

in the framework of this party as long

1691

01:08:45,200 --> 01:08:43,620

as you willing to say yeah we should

1692

01:08:47,030 --> 01:08:45,210

make our decisions and politics and

1693

01:08:49,039 --> 01:08:47,040

science on the basis of the available

1694

01:08:51,289 --> 01:08:49,049

evidence and we should arrive at it

1695

01:08:54,530 --> 01:08:51,299

logically reasonably and try as hard as

1696

01:08:56,539 --> 01:08:54,540

we can't overcome our biases I don't

1697

01:09:01,880 --> 01:08:56,549

care if the Pope did that I would say

1698

01:09:04,940 --> 01:09:01,890

good for him somehow I don't know to

1699

01:09:06,140 --> 01:09:04,950

mystic yeah I don't mention can you tell

1700

01:09:09,170 --> 01:09:06,150

us a little bit about your book before

1701

01:09:12,499 --> 01:09:09,180

we go payday in please well sure I'm

1702

01:09:16,760 --> 01:09:12,509

writing a book I'm late I'm going to be

1703

01:09:19,550 --> 01:09:16,770

later I'm feeling really awful but I had

1704

01:09:23,530 --> 01:09:19,560

to come to Australia and it's a it's a

1705

01:09:26,990 --> 01:09:23,540

it's another atheist book among the many

1706

01:09:28,910 --> 01:09:27,000

we're kind of what kind of positioning

1707

01:09:33,410 --> 01:09:28,920

it as I'm the Richard Dawkins with a

1708

01:09:34,910 --> 01:09:33,420

sense of humor ok which I unfortunately

1709

01:09:36,260 --> 01:09:34,920

makes it really hard to write because if

1710

01:09:39,829 --> 01:09:36,270

you sit down say well today I'm gonna be

1711

01:09:41,749 --> 01:09:39,839

funny maybe it just doesn't fly but I'm

1712

01:09:44,570 --> 01:09:41,759

struggling a little bit but we'll get it

1713

01:09:46,790 --> 01:09:44,580

out there and yeah that I think the plan

1714

01:09:49,520 --> 01:09:46,800

is to get out sometime this summer

1715

01:09:53,680 --> 01:09:49,530

they specifically told me they didn't

1716

01:09:57,860 --> 01:09:56,390

what does it have a title radio working

1717

01:10:00,110 --> 01:09:57,870

title since all those kind of working

1718

01:10:02,120 --> 01:10:00,120

title i absolutely hate do I have to say

1719

01:10:06,020 --> 01:10:02,130

it no you don't you don't have to do

1720

01:10:07,820 --> 01:10:06,030

anything I'm free open it I'll the

1721

01:10:13,340 --> 01:10:07,830

working title right now is the Hat happy

1722

01:10:15,860 --> 01:10:13,350

atheist okay I think website is yes we

1723

01:10:20,650 --> 01:10:15,870

are you know I'd rather be the

1724

01:10:23,390 --> 01:10:20,660

disgruntled ages the cranky atheist

1725

01:10:25,820 --> 01:10:23,400

something but no we'll work it out I'm

1726

01:10:27,770 --> 01:10:25,830

I'll come up with something done when my

1727

01:10:29,360 --> 01:10:27,780

publisher reads the first drafts that

1728

01:10:31,820 --> 01:10:29,370

are i'll be sending to him this week

1729

01:10:35,470 --> 01:10:31,830

your pricing wait a minute that's not

1730

01:10:37,880 --> 01:10:35,480

just happy that's that's awfully vicious

1731

01:10:40,100 --> 01:10:37,890

so you said you might be doing a book to

1732

01:10:42,530 --> 01:10:40,110

it sometime these are we might well I

1733

01:10:44,450 --> 01:10:42,540

can assign yeah I'm dreaming okay this

1734

01:10:47,030 --> 01:10:44,460

is my fantasy is that the book sells

1735

01:10:48,470 --> 01:10:47,040

well yeah and so the publisher says you

1736

01:10:52,040 --> 01:10:48,480

get to go on a book tour of the entire

1737

01:10:54,260 --> 01:10:52,050

universe and they and they pay to send

1738

01:10:55,970 --> 01:10:54,270

me around the world and your worries

1739

01:10:57,680 --> 01:10:55,980

that's when they decide to send you to

1740

01:11:00,320 --> 01:10:57,690

Alpha Centauri because you know violent

1741

01:11:03,380 --> 01:11:00,330

rape is a bit of a long way oh yeah but

1742

01:11:05,240 --> 01:11:03,390

if we reach a speed of light see I'll go

1743

01:11:06,650 --> 01:11:05,250

there and i'll come back and all you

1744

01:11:10,850 --> 01:11:06,660

guys will be in the grave must will be

1745

01:11:13,430 --> 01:11:10,860

dancing well thanks for talking to us

1746

01:11:37,049 --> 01:11:13,440

today pays a my pleasure

1747

01:11:41,500 --> 01:11:39,189

thank you for listening to this week's

1748

01:11:44,469 --> 01:11:41,510

episode of the skeptic zone I certainly

1749

01:11:45,969 --> 01:11:44,479

hope you enjoyed it and as ever I really

1750

01:11:49,000 --> 01:11:45,979

hope that the show does keep you company

1751

01:11:52,120 --> 01:11:49,010

on those lonely long walks or whatever

1752

01:11:54,549 --> 01:11:52,130

you're doing until our next show this is

1753

01:11:59,529 --> 01:11:54,559

Richard Saunders signing off from Sydney

1754

01:12:03,819 --> 01:11:59,539

Australia you've been listening to the

1755

01:12:07,060 --> 01:12:03,829

skeptic zone visit our website at wwc a

1756

01:12:10,500 --> 01:12:07,070

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