

Show 483

THE  
**SKEPTIC  
ZONE**  
PODCAST

[www.skepticzone.tv](http://www.skepticzone.tv)

21 Jan 2018



Vale Barry Williams

**VALE BARRY WILLIAMS**  
We look back at the life and skeptical work of the late Barry Williams, a founder and former president of Australian Skeptics.

Susan Gerbic from Guerrilla Skepticism on Wikipedia joins us to talk about her grant from the James Randi Educational Foundation and an upcoming "psychic" sting.



Susan Gerbic

1  
00:00:09,080 --> 00:00:05,920

[Music]

2  
00:00:11,830 --> 00:00:09,090

welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

3  
00:00:13,910 --> 00:00:11,840

from Australia for science and reason

4  
00:00:16,840 --> 00:00:13,920

[Music]

5  
00:00:22,790 --> 00:00:16,850

[Applause]

6  
00:00:26,509 --> 00:00:22,800

[Music]

7  
00:00:31,529 --> 00:00:26,519

yes it's the skeptic zone podcast number

8  
00:00:33,030 --> 00:00:31,539

483 for the 21st of January 2018 Richard

9  
00:00:35,189 --> 00:00:33,040

Saunders here with you from Sydney

10  
00:00:37,490 --> 00:00:35,199

Australia and the news I must bring you

11  
00:00:40,110 --> 00:00:37,500

this week is the the skeptical world

12  
00:00:42,780 --> 00:00:40,120

surely is in mourning for the loss of

13  
00:00:45,210 --> 00:00:42,790

our dear friend Barry Williams the

14

00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:45,220

former president and longtime

15

00:00:50,670 --> 00:00:48,010

Australian skeptic and one of the people

16

00:00:53,459 --> 00:00:50,680

instrumental in starting the skeptical

17

00:00:55,319 --> 00:00:53,469

movement in Australia Barry died just

18

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:55,329

yesterday following complications from

19

00:01:00,930 --> 00:00:58,000

recent heart surgery so a good portion

20

00:01:04,259 --> 00:01:00,940

of this show the first part is dedicated

21

00:01:06,029 --> 00:01:04,269

to Barry I'm going to read the tribute

22

00:01:08,609 --> 00:01:06,039

written by Tim Mendham published at

23

00:01:13,940 --> 00:01:08,619

skeptics comdata you then will have a

24

00:01:17,460 --> 00:01:13,950

series of snippets starting off with a

25

00:01:19,950 --> 00:01:17,470

media appearance buried in 32 years ago

26

00:01:21,840 --> 00:01:19,960

on the Today Show here in Australia

27

00:01:24,810 --> 00:01:21,850

where he was interviewed by George Negus

28

00:01:28,560 --> 00:01:24,820

the famous journalist after that a

29

00:01:33,420 --> 00:01:28,570

newspaper article featuring Barry from

30

00:01:36,780 --> 00:01:33,430

the mid-90s from about 1994 then to

31

00:01:38,670 --> 00:01:36,790

round off the tributes to Barry an

32

00:01:43,020 --> 00:01:38,680

interview with him conducted by me not

33

00:01:45,030 --> 00:01:43,030

only in 2015 when Barry was volunteering

34

00:01:48,209 --> 00:01:45,040

after retirement at an Australian

35

00:01:50,340 --> 00:01:48,219

skeptics convention there are many

36

00:01:51,990 --> 00:01:50,350

stories that we all have or the

37

00:01:55,010 --> 00:01:52,000

skeptical community in Australia have

38

00:01:57,569 --> 00:01:55,020

about Barry Williams larger-than-life

39

00:01:59,760 --> 00:01:57,579

friendly fellow loved these cups of tea

40

00:02:04,050 --> 00:01:59,770

I can tell you when I used to go around

41

00:02:06,649 --> 00:02:04,060

to his place for meetings just friendly

42

00:02:08,490 --> 00:02:06,659

biscuits tea dogs cats everywhere

43

00:02:12,390 --> 00:02:08,500

jumping all over me

44

00:02:14,580 --> 00:02:12,400

barking and Barry was always he was a

45

00:02:17,160 --> 00:02:14,590

very knowledgeable man always ready with

46

00:02:18,930 --> 00:02:17,170

background information about sceptics

47

00:02:21,840 --> 00:02:18,940

and psychics and people he'd met along

48

00:02:24,930 --> 00:02:21,850

the way he knew a lot of the early

49

00:02:26,730 --> 00:02:24,940

sceptics in Australia annal and had

50

00:02:28,430 --> 00:02:26,740

run-ins or meetings or

51  
00:02:31,430 --> 00:02:28,440  
[Music]

52  
00:02:33,900 --> 00:02:31,440  
encounters with a lot of psychics

53  
00:02:37,170 --> 00:02:33,910  
so-called psychics and clairvoyance from

54  
00:02:39,570 --> 00:02:37,180  
the early 80s onwards he used to go on

55  
00:02:42,780 --> 00:02:39,580  
TV from time to time with the late

56  
00:02:45,510 --> 00:02:42,790  
Simon Turnbull the then president of the

57  
00:02:48,030 --> 00:02:45,520  
Australian psychics Association and

58  
00:02:52,020 --> 00:02:48,040  
luckily for me I have many of those on

59  
00:02:54,180 --> 00:02:52,030  
archive in fact when I first got started

60  
00:02:55,680 --> 00:02:54,190  
in the skeptical movement here in

61  
00:03:00,510 --> 00:02:55,690  
Australia I would visit Barry at his

62  
00:03:05,820 --> 00:03:00,520  
house and he would give me boxes of

63  
00:03:07,620 --> 00:03:05,830

videotapes with sceptical material and

64

00:03:10,230 --> 00:03:07,630

TV interviews and things going back

65

00:03:13,860 --> 00:03:10,240

quite a quite a number of years and I

66

00:03:16,260 --> 00:03:13,870

was able to digitize all those that's

67

00:03:18,120 --> 00:03:16,270

why we have for example coming up an

68

00:03:22,560 --> 00:03:18,130

interview with Barry on The Today Show

69

00:03:24,300 --> 00:03:22,570

from from 32 years ago and I feel I

70

00:03:26,610 --> 00:03:24,310

could almost reach over the phone now

71

00:03:30,230 --> 00:03:26,620

dial his number and hear the voice on

72

00:03:34,020 --> 00:03:30,240

the other end saying all our skeptics

73

00:03:37,770 --> 00:03:34,030

poor imitation Barry we will miss you

74

00:03:43,530 --> 00:03:37,780

and your contribution to the skeptical

75

00:03:45,000 --> 00:03:43,540

movement in Australia is legendary well

76

00:03:47,010 --> 00:03:45,010

following our a tribute to Barry

77

00:03:49,050 --> 00:03:47,020

Williams we have an interview with Susan

78

00:03:51,840 --> 00:03:49,060

go back from guerrilla skepticism on

79

00:03:52,949 --> 00:03:51,850

Wikipedia who recently received a grant

80

00:03:55,410 --> 00:03:52,959

from the James Randi Educational

81

00:03:58,980 --> 00:03:55,420

Foundation she's going to tell us all

82

00:04:02,280 --> 00:03:58,990

about that and also about some psychic

83

00:04:04,290 --> 00:04:02,290

stings she and guerrilla skepticism are

84

00:04:08,100 --> 00:04:04,300

working on at the moment and you'll pick

85

00:04:12,180 --> 00:04:08,110

up a few tips some tricks when it comes

86

00:04:14,760 --> 00:04:12,190

to live stage performances of certain

87

00:04:17,010 --> 00:04:14,770

psychics but now it's time for me to run

88

00:04:20,280 --> 00:04:17,020

downstairs and I will have a cup of tea

89

00:04:23,490 --> 00:04:20,290

and a biscuit in honor of Barry Williams

90

00:04:24,250 --> 00:04:23,500

and while I do that I hope you enjoy the

91

00:04:46,670 --> 00:04:24,260

skeptic zone

92

00:04:50,999 --> 00:04:46,680

[Music]

93

00:04:54,779 --> 00:04:51,009

from WWC optics calm day you published

94

00:05:01,499 --> 00:04:54,789

on the 21st of January 2018 by Tim

95

00:05:03,959 --> 00:05:01,509

Mendham valet Barry Williams it is with

96

00:05:06,749 --> 00:05:03,969

great sadness that we report the news of

97

00:05:10,110 --> 00:05:06,759

the passing of Barry Williams who died

98

00:05:12,570 --> 00:05:10,120

on January the 20th 2018 at the age of

99

00:05:16,230 --> 00:05:12,580

79 following a series of heart

100

00:05:18,330 --> 00:05:16,240

operations Barry was intrinsic to the

101  
00:05:20,700 --> 00:05:18,340  
history and development of the skeptical

102  
00:05:23,189 --> 00:05:20,710  
movement in Australia and for many years

103  
00:05:25,619 --> 00:05:23,199  
he was the face of skepticism in this

104  
00:05:28,320 --> 00:05:25,629  
country as fellow sceptic Peter Bowdish

105  
00:05:32,089 --> 00:05:28,330  
said quote we should all remember that

106  
00:05:35,129 --> 00:05:32,099  
we are here because he was there unquote

107  
00:05:38,129 --> 00:05:35,139  
Barry was born in Queensland on the 10th

108  
00:05:40,050 --> 00:05:38,139  
of November 1938 he joined the Royal

109  
00:05:42,240 --> 00:05:40,060  
Australian Air Force and served in

110  
00:05:45,689 --> 00:05:42,250  
various places including at Butterworth

111  
00:05:47,369 --> 00:05:45,699  
airbase in what was then Malaya while he

112  
00:05:48,179 --> 00:05:47,379  
was a member of the ground crew rather

113  
00:05:50,040 --> 00:05:48,189

than airborne

114

00:05:52,950 --> 00:05:50,050

he was particularly proud of being the

115

00:05:54,839 --> 00:05:52,960

leader of a parade bringing back a jet

116

00:05:57,899 --> 00:05:54,849

plane that had made an emergency landing

117

00:06:00,269 --> 00:05:57,909

on the highway north of Newcastle New

118

00:06:03,119 --> 00:06:00,279

South Wales on a long trek back to

119

00:06:05,790 --> 00:06:03,129

Williamstown Air Force Base traffic jam

120

00:06:07,920 --> 00:06:05,800

notwithstanding he followed this Royal

121

00:06:10,559 --> 00:06:07,930

Australian Air Force career with stints

122

00:06:12,629 --> 00:06:10,569

in scientific instrument sales and as

123

00:06:15,749 --> 00:06:12,639

exhibits manager for the United States

124

00:06:17,579 --> 00:06:15,759

Department of Commerce in Sydney and as

125

00:06:20,850 --> 00:06:17,589

an aside I remember Barry telling me

126

00:06:23,639 --> 00:06:20,860

once that he had his photograph taken

127

00:06:27,300 --> 00:06:23,649

with then President George Bush Senior

128

00:06:28,980 --> 00:06:27,310

and Mrs. Bush wanted especially to have

129

00:06:32,159 --> 00:06:28,990

her photograph taken with Barry cause

130

00:06:35,790 --> 00:06:32,169

Barry looked like Santa Claus we read on

131

00:06:37,529 --> 00:06:35,800

in 1985 the first Australian skeptics

132

00:06:41,129 --> 00:06:37,539

National Convention was held in Sydney

133

00:06:43,230 --> 00:06:41,139

and the following year the National

134

00:06:46,469 --> 00:06:43,240

Office of the skeptics moved there

135

00:06:48,749 --> 00:06:46,479

followed by the magazine the skeptic in

136

00:06:50,879 --> 00:06:48,759

the next year in his capacity as

137

00:06:53,490 --> 00:06:50,889

president of the notionally National

138

00:06:56,399 --> 00:06:53,500

Australian skeptics Barry took up a high

139

00:06:58,340 --> 00:06:56,409

media and community profile which he

140

00:07:02,900 --> 00:06:58,350

maintained until his retirement

141

00:07:04,730 --> 00:07:02,910

active skepticism in 2009 in 1990 he

142

00:07:08,600 --> 00:07:04,740

took over editorship of the magazine

143

00:07:11,750 --> 00:07:08,610

quote just for one issue in quote which

144

00:07:13,370 --> 00:07:11,760

lasted another 18 years he continued to

145

00:07:14,570 --> 00:07:13,380

be a contributor to the magazine with

146

00:07:17,270 --> 00:07:14,580

articles of whimsy and

147

00:07:17,810 --> 00:07:17,280

erudition contributing many hundreds of

148

00:07:20,300 --> 00:07:17,820

pieces

149

00:07:24,200 --> 00:07:20,310

he wrote during and before his role as

150

00:07:26,870 --> 00:07:24,210

editor in 1995 the skeptics received a

151  
00:07:29,870 --> 00:07:26,880  
sizable bequests from the estate of Stan

152  
00:07:31,880 --> 00:07:29,880  
Lee David Whaley we have these funds the

153  
00:07:34,100 --> 00:07:31,890  
organization established the Australian

154  
00:07:38,240 --> 00:07:34,110  
skeptics science and educational

155  
00:07:40,460 --> 00:07:38,250  
foundation a ss EF and was able to

156  
00:07:42,830 --> 00:07:40,470  
create the position of executive officer

157  
00:07:45,500 --> 00:07:42,840  
which Barry took up relinquishing the

158  
00:07:47,930 --> 00:07:45,510  
presidential chair in his off hours

159  
00:07:49,880 --> 00:07:47,940  
Barry was a prodigious reader with a

160  
00:07:52,550 --> 00:07:49,890  
leaning toward science fiction and

161  
00:07:55,580 --> 00:07:52,560  
detective novels he also had a strong

162  
00:07:58,130 --> 00:07:55,590  
interest in Egyptology and astronomy but

163  
00:07:59,240 --> 00:07:58,140

more importantly he was a cricket tragic

164

00:08:02,210 --> 00:07:59,250

to the nth degree

165

00:08:04,610 --> 00:08:02,220

he could turn any conversation around to

166

00:08:05,120 --> 00:08:04,620

cricket regardless of the time place or

167

00:08:08,030 --> 00:08:05,130

topic

168

00:08:10,430 --> 00:08:08,040

he wrote the definitive article on the

169

00:08:13,160 --> 00:08:10,440

myths of the number 87

170

00:08:15,110 --> 00:08:13,170

the legendary but not totally misplaced

171

00:08:17,870 --> 00:08:15,120

nemesis of the Australian cricket team

172

00:08:22,280 --> 00:08:17,880

that article was first published in the

173

00:08:25,040 --> 00:08:22,290

skeptic in 1993 reprinted in 2012 and in

174

00:08:28,010 --> 00:08:25,050

2001 it was selected to be published in

175

00:08:31,990 --> 00:08:28,020

a book titled the best ever Australian

176

00:08:34,550 --> 00:08:32,000

sports writing a 200 year collection

177

00:08:36,589 --> 00:08:34,560

appropriately when Barry was awarded the

178

00:08:37,790 --> 00:08:36,599

first Australian skeptics Lifetime

179

00:08:40,010 --> 00:08:37,800

Achievement Award

180

00:08:43,130 --> 00:08:40,020

the plaque was mounted on a facsimile of

181

00:08:44,780 --> 00:08:43,140

the ashes urn he was thrilled cricket

182

00:08:48,470 --> 00:08:44,790

was the answer to the meaning of life

183

00:08:51,440 --> 00:08:48,480

the universe and everything that is when

184

00:08:55,070 --> 00:08:51,450

the answer wasn't skepticism throughout

185

00:08:57,020 --> 00:08:55,080

his skeptical and other careers he was

186

00:08:58,790 --> 00:08:57,030

always known as someone who wasn't

187

00:09:00,950 --> 00:08:58,800

backward in letting people know his

188

00:09:03,260 --> 00:09:00,960

opinions and shared his truly broad

189

00:09:05,780 --> 00:09:03,270

knowledge he once spent an encyclopedia

190

00:09:07,400 --> 00:09:05,790

salesman that if the latter could ask

191

00:09:09,170 --> 00:09:07,410

Barry a question he didn't know the

192

00:09:09,989 --> 00:09:09,180

answer to he would buy a set of the

193

00:09:13,329 --> 00:09:09,999

overpriced

194

00:09:16,090 --> 00:09:13,339

he didn't need to buy one his height

195

00:09:18,369 --> 00:09:16,100

strong voice and shall we say more than

196

00:09:21,609 --> 00:09:18,379

adequate size meant that he was an

197

00:09:23,530 --> 00:09:21,619

imposing figure in any discussion and he

198

00:09:26,019 --> 00:09:23,540

was never shy of confronting the

199

00:09:28,059 --> 00:09:26,029

purveyors of Wu and the shank selling

200

00:09:30,819 --> 00:09:28,069

any form of pseudoscience and the

201  
00:09:33,849 --> 00:09:30,829  
paranormal in the days before social

202  
00:09:37,449 --> 00:09:33,859  
media Barry was ever present on TV radio

203  
00:09:39,849 --> 00:09:37,459  
in the press and was instrumental in the

204  
00:09:42,699 --> 00:09:39,859  
transition of the skeptics image from an

205  
00:09:45,220 --> 00:09:42,709  
amusing novelty to serious players and

206  
00:09:48,099 --> 00:09:45,230  
activists he might have been a command

207  
00:09:50,309 --> 00:09:48,109  
at times a description he wouldn't did

208  
00:09:52,960 --> 00:09:50,319  
approve of but he also had great

209  
00:09:54,069 --> 00:09:52,970  
enthusiasm and a strong sense of humor

210  
00:09:58,419 --> 00:09:54,079  
and the ridiculous

211  
00:10:01,599 --> 00:09:58,429  
a jolly Santa with a quote bah humbug

212  
00:10:03,609 --> 00:10:01,609  
end quote never far from his lips he

213  
00:10:06,849 --> 00:10:03,619

could probably quote every word of the

214

00:10:09,639 --> 00:10:06,859

goon shows and just as another aside

215

00:10:12,069 --> 00:10:09,649

when I was first getting to know Barry

216

00:10:14,979 --> 00:10:12,079

one of our common interests was the the

217

00:10:16,809 --> 00:10:14,989

legendary goon show the BBC comedy show

218

00:10:19,720 --> 00:10:16,819

written by Spike Milligan starring Peter

219

00:10:23,829 --> 00:10:19,730

Sellers and Harry cecum from the 1950s

220

00:10:26,289 --> 00:10:23,839

and he was a mine of information on

221

00:10:28,419 --> 00:10:26,299

British comedy boredom was never an

222

00:10:31,239 --> 00:10:28,429

issue in long conversations with him and

223

00:10:33,879 --> 00:10:31,249

I had many of those seeing him with the

224

00:10:36,699 --> 00:10:33,889

long lineage of dogs and cats he owned

225

00:10:38,530 --> 00:10:36,709

and sometimes found over the years you

226

00:10:41,850 --> 00:10:38,540

realized that he very much had a soft

227

00:10:44,799 --> 00:10:41,860

side that came readily into play

228

00:10:47,019 --> 00:10:44,809

likewise he was extremely proud of his

229

00:10:49,239 --> 00:10:47,029

family and would regularly cite the

230

00:10:51,489 --> 00:10:49,249

successes of his daughter Peter in the

231

00:10:52,720 --> 00:10:51,499

legal profession one of his last

232

00:10:55,029 --> 00:10:52,730

comments during his recent

233

00:10:58,090 --> 00:10:55,039

hospitalization was that he wanted to

234

00:11:00,549 --> 00:10:58,100

quote ensure he doesn't croak before the

235

00:11:03,069 --> 00:11:00,559

humiliation of the palms in the ashes is

236

00:11:04,929 --> 00:11:03,079

complete and quote he might not have

237

00:11:06,639 --> 00:11:04,939

seriously intended the croak but the

238

00:11:08,889 --> 00:11:06,649

Australian Test team did manage to

239

00:11:11,349 --> 00:11:08,899

fulfill his wish he would have been very

240

00:11:14,169 --> 00:11:11,359

pleased that they had taken a positive

241

00:11:18,009 --> 00:11:14,179

notice of his request it was the least

242

00:11:20,079 --> 00:11:18,019

they can do for Peter Rose Palin Stephen

243

00:11:22,629 --> 00:11:20,089

Nicholas Christopher and the rest of his

244

00:11:23,650 --> 00:11:22,639

family and wide circle of friends our

245

00:11:26,980 --> 00:11:23,660

sincere and

246

00:11:28,000 --> 00:11:26,990

as condolences rest in peace Barry we

247

00:11:36,130 --> 00:11:28,010

will miss you

248

00:11:38,770 --> 00:11:36,140

Tim Mendham and that tribute to Barry

249

00:11:42,070 --> 00:11:38,780

Williams can be found at skeptics calm

250

00:11:43,730 --> 00:11:42,080

day you published on the 21st of January

251  
00:11:49,860 --> 00:11:43,740  
2018

252  
00:11:53,440 --> 00:11:49,870  
[Music]

253  
00:11:56,110 --> 00:11:53,450  
and now from 1986

254  
00:11:58,740 --> 00:11:56,120  
here is barri williams appearing on the

255  
00:12:07,570 --> 00:11:58,750  
Australian version of The Today Show

256  
00:12:09,280 --> 00:12:07,580  
interviewed by George Negus welcome back

257  
00:12:11,650 --> 00:12:09,290  
to today will a journalist is supposed

258  
00:12:13,270 --> 00:12:11,660  
to be a pretty skeptical lot but not

259  
00:12:14,860 --> 00:12:13,280  
many of them would pass up the chance of

260  
00:12:15,790 --> 00:12:14,870  
picking up an easy thousand dollars

261  
00:12:18,070 --> 00:12:15,800  
especially if it was for a

262  
00:12:20,710 --> 00:12:18,080  
tongue-in-cheek bit of writing but this

263  
00:12:22,270 --> 00:12:20,720

year \$1000 is going to go begging

264

00:12:23,860 --> 00:12:22,280

because no journalist has submitted an

265

00:12:26,260 --> 00:12:23,870

entry to a competition run by the

266

00:12:27,490 --> 00:12:26,270

Australian skeptics the Australian

267

00:12:30,430 --> 00:12:27,500

skeptics are offering the money as a

268

00:12:32,650 --> 00:12:30,440

prize for the best skeptical report on

269

00:12:34,120 --> 00:12:32,660

the paranormal barry williams is the

270

00:12:35,290 --> 00:12:34,130

president of the australian skeptics and

271

00:12:36,640 --> 00:12:35,300

he's with us in the studio good morning

272

00:12:38,500 --> 00:12:36,650

Barry Ronnie George I have to agree with

273

00:12:40,060 --> 00:12:38,510

that I thought a rather amazing that

274

00:12:41,740 --> 00:12:40,070

Australian journalist wouldn't wouldn't

275

00:12:43,540 --> 00:12:41,750

leak that the opportunity of a thousand

276

00:12:45,790 --> 00:12:43,550

dollars for writing a piece about the

277

00:12:47,860 --> 00:12:45,800

paranormal I'm wondering though wouldn't

278

00:12:49,690 --> 00:12:47,870

I know what the paranormal is I mean I

279

00:12:51,190 --> 00:12:49,700

we have to tell people about this

280

00:12:54,010 --> 00:12:51,200

running sceptics before this this

281

00:12:55,900 --> 00:12:54,020

interview makes much sense you suggest

282

00:12:57,190 --> 00:12:55,910

in the imes and I've read the blurb -

283

00:12:59,290 --> 00:12:57,200

that your aim is to investigate

284

00:13:01,630 --> 00:12:59,300

scientifically with an open mind claims

285

00:13:04,030 --> 00:13:01,640

and events of an apparently paranormal

286

00:13:05,410 --> 00:13:04,040

or pseudo scientific nature relevant to

287

00:13:07,420 --> 00:13:05,420

Australia so the words we need to

288

00:13:09,970 --> 00:13:07,430

explain our paranormal and pseudo

289

00:13:11,280 --> 00:13:09,980

scientific yes George they cover a

290

00:13:17,890 --> 00:13:11,290

multitude of sins

291

00:13:19,630 --> 00:13:17,900

paranormal means loosely not explainable

292

00:13:20,710 --> 00:13:19,640

by the laws of nature as we know that

293

00:13:23,110 --> 00:13:20,720

what not a lot of people would call

294

00:13:24,400 --> 00:13:23,120

supernaturals mmm yeah there's there are

295

00:13:25,770 --> 00:13:24,410

subtle differences between the two words

296

00:13:28,120 --> 00:13:25,780

but essentially that's what it is

297

00:13:29,980 --> 00:13:28,130

scientifically well you know scientific

298

00:13:31,510 --> 00:13:29,990

is when you get people coming on with a

299

00:13:33,460 --> 00:13:31,520

great new scientific breakthrough that

300

00:13:35,950 --> 00:13:33,470

like perpetual motion machines that's a

301

00:13:38,380 --> 00:13:35,960

pseudoscience because it just can't

302

00:13:40,660 --> 00:13:38,390

happen right scientific laws I guess the

303

00:13:42,520 --> 00:13:40,670

best no and the paranormal or pseudo

304

00:13:44,920 --> 00:13:42,530

scientific trick that's been fooled of

305

00:13:47,860 --> 00:13:44,930

course was was Yuri gillers that spoon

306

00:13:49,630 --> 00:13:47,870

bending that's probably the most widely

307

00:13:51,430 --> 00:13:49,640

covered yeah is that what set off your

308

00:13:54,610 --> 00:13:51,440

your association why you came into

309

00:13:57,430 --> 00:13:54,620

existence actually because of that but

310

00:13:59,230 --> 00:13:57,440

generally there are a lot of areas such

311

00:14:01,120 --> 00:13:59,240

as astrology astrology is on the rise

312

00:14:03,160 --> 00:14:01,130

again actually coming down again now but

313

00:14:05,800 --> 00:14:03,170

it was on the rise a few years ago

314

00:14:07,509 --> 00:14:05,810

we've only just offended about 70% of

315

00:14:10,300 --> 00:14:07,519

the audience so it'd be five I think of

316

00:14:11,980 --> 00:14:10,310

the last 65% of people believe in

317

00:14:13,990 --> 00:14:11,990

astrology well to a greater or lesser

318

00:14:15,550 --> 00:14:14,000

degree much smaller percentage actually

319

00:14:16,690 --> 00:14:15,560

believe it in based their life on some

320

00:14:19,030 --> 00:14:16,700

people of course believe that when it

321

00:14:20,590 --> 00:14:19,040

suits oven we've got that's perfectly

322

00:14:22,060 --> 00:14:20,600

all right here well apart from uri

323

00:14:23,650 --> 00:14:22,070

geller in astrology what are some of the

324

00:14:25,090 --> 00:14:23,660

other paranormal and pseudo scientific

325

00:14:25,600 --> 00:14:25,100

things that would concern a group like

326  
00:14:28,210 --> 00:14:25,610  
yours

327  
00:14:30,030 --> 00:14:28,220  
UFOs we have another UFO flap for a

328  
00:14:32,380 --> 00:14:30,040  
while but they're always on the cards

329  
00:14:34,090 --> 00:14:32,390  
UFOs being unexplained lights in the

330  
00:14:35,500 --> 00:14:34,100  
skies one thing claiming they're from

331  
00:14:37,240 --> 00:14:35,510  
other planets with people giving us

332  
00:14:38,769 --> 00:14:37,250  
messages on that entirely another one

333  
00:14:43,600 --> 00:14:38,779  
there's no evidence for that the latter

334  
00:14:46,780 --> 00:14:43,610  
thing von daniken's books about the

335  
00:14:50,590 --> 00:14:46,790  
ancient astronauts spiritualism talking

336  
00:14:53,860 --> 00:14:50,600  
to your dead relatives various health

337  
00:14:55,449 --> 00:14:53,870  
things psychic surgery is one we got

338  
00:14:56,949 --> 00:14:55,459

involved with recently they do it a lot

339

00:14:59,350 --> 00:14:56,959

in the Philippines and it's not the body

340

00:15:01,600 --> 00:14:59,360

and any other cares for that so we we

341

00:15:03,850 --> 00:15:01,610

had some of our members go to a psychic

342

00:15:05,259 --> 00:15:03,860

surgeon in Melbourne and and he

343

00:15:06,699 --> 00:15:05,269

performed some tricks one of our members

344

00:15:08,650 --> 00:15:06,709

was a magician he knew what he was doing

345

00:15:10,150 --> 00:15:08,660

and they later and information with the

346

00:15:11,740 --> 00:15:10,160

police and the man was charged in the

347

00:15:13,120 --> 00:15:11,750

case were thrown out because our people

348

00:15:15,730 --> 00:15:13,130

were skeptics and weren't fooled

349

00:15:17,350 --> 00:15:15,740

do we have our Australian equivalent of

350

00:15:19,569 --> 00:15:17,360

the Loch Ness monster anything like that

351

00:15:21,519 --> 00:15:19,579

oh yes we have Yowies yeah I'm surprised

352

00:15:23,740 --> 00:15:21,529

you haven't interviewed one a cool we

353

00:15:25,389 --> 00:15:23,750

will we'll send a team best right away

354

00:15:28,240 --> 00:15:25,399

where would we find a Yowie

355

00:15:30,790 --> 00:15:28,250

well around the Blue Mountains seems to

356

00:15:35,139 --> 00:15:30,800

be a place that that they believers know

357

00:15:37,150 --> 00:15:35,149

that is imagination but they strongly

358

00:15:39,400 --> 00:15:37,160

suspect their lie they think it's a it's

359

00:15:42,600 --> 00:15:39,410

like the the Yeti in the Himalayas or

360

00:15:44,980 --> 00:15:42,610

the Squatch in North America a large

361

00:15:49,180 --> 00:15:44,990

ape-like being that wanders around but

362

00:15:50,590 --> 00:15:49,190

your hardrive aguirre not big enough

363

00:15:51,460 --> 00:15:50,600

it's bigger than Brian so what about

364

00:15:53,560 --> 00:15:51,470

there's the surprise that you're

365

00:15:55,240 --> 00:15:53,570

offering is \$1,000 for somebody who's

366

00:15:57,840 --> 00:15:55,250

written a piece or survived a television

367

00:16:00,880 --> 00:15:57,850

radio who would be our dealers well it's

368

00:16:02,410 --> 00:16:00,890

there's no lack of journalists writing

369

00:16:03,759 --> 00:16:02,420

stories about the paranormal it's just

370

00:16:05,500 --> 00:16:03,769

there's a lack of journalists writing or

371

00:16:07,060 --> 00:16:05,510

producing stories about them from a

372

00:16:08,350 --> 00:16:07,070

skeptical view point where they tend to

373

00:16:10,930 --> 00:16:08,360

look at them hard and say now listen

374

00:16:11,949 --> 00:16:10,940

this thing's not what about the raster

375

00:16:13,660 --> 00:16:11,959

is really where journalists take these

376

00:16:14,680 --> 00:16:13,670

things seriously I don't have another

377

00:16:15,850 --> 00:16:14,690

take him seriously or not but I

378

00:16:16,190 --> 00:16:15,860

certainly write him up that way I write

379

00:16:20,150 --> 00:16:16,200

them

380

00:16:22,280 --> 00:16:20,160

right yeah yeah I guess that it must be

381

00:16:23,390 --> 00:16:22,290

disappointing to you because this is the

382

00:16:24,860 --> 00:16:23,400

way you would find out about some of

383

00:16:26,660 --> 00:16:24,870

these paranormal and pseudo scientific

384

00:16:28,580 --> 00:16:26,670

things that are being touted around the

385

00:16:30,410 --> 00:16:28,590

place yes interesting thing of course

386

00:16:32,510 --> 00:16:30,420

since I story appeared in the paper the

387

00:16:33,860 --> 00:16:32,520

other day we've had a couple of

388

00:16:36,380 --> 00:16:33,870

journalists contact us and say what

389

00:16:38,030 --> 00:16:36,390

about this thousand dollar prize

390

00:16:39,350 --> 00:16:38,040

publicity is always good of course there

391

00:16:40,460 --> 00:16:39,360

is a slightly serious aspect to what you

392

00:16:42,860 --> 00:16:40,470

do isn't they try to protect the

393

00:16:44,690 --> 00:16:42,870

community from Spears and con men who do

394

00:16:46,850 --> 00:16:44,700

tout these ideas or yes it's no

395

00:16:48,650 --> 00:16:46,860

different really from the people who are

396

00:16:50,570 --> 00:16:48,660

selling shocking shocking swimming bills

397

00:16:52,820 --> 00:16:50,580

shonky cars houses that fall down and

398

00:16:54,620 --> 00:16:52,830

really we're looking at the people we

399

00:16:56,960 --> 00:16:54,630

believe that are ripping off people's

400

00:16:58,550 --> 00:16:56,970

minds rather than blindly thought that's

401  
00:16:59,300 --> 00:16:58,560  
a good way of putting it isn't it very

402  
00:17:01,010 --> 00:16:59,310  
good talking dear

403  
00:17:05,090 --> 00:17:01,020  
thanks to this is a very paranormal

404  
00:17:06,590 --> 00:17:05,100  
normal interview Thank You Barry

405  
00:17:11,280 --> 00:17:06,600  
Williams president of the Australian

406  
00:17:18,850 --> 00:17:13,960  
from The Sydney Morning Herald dated

407  
00:17:22,530 --> 00:17:18,860  
11th of September 1994 the story by

408  
00:17:27,429 --> 00:17:22,540  
Elizabeth Wynn Heusen under the banner

409  
00:17:31,950 --> 00:17:27,439  
snooping around about those little green

410  
00:17:36,760 --> 00:17:34,240  
Australians may think of themselves as

411  
00:17:39,880 --> 00:17:36,770  
skeptical but there are only 1500

412  
00:17:42,010 --> 00:17:39,890  
official skeptics here and if Barry

413  
00:17:45,100 --> 00:17:42,020

Williams is right our celebrated

414

00:17:47,740 --> 00:17:45,110

skepticism is fading out what Williams

415

00:17:51,070 --> 00:17:47,750

the president of the Australian skeptics

416

00:17:53,140 --> 00:17:51,080

the text instead is a rise in the sort

417

00:17:54,880 --> 00:17:53,150

of magical thinking that leads people to

418

00:17:56,830 --> 00:17:54,890

blame their problems on the

419

00:17:59,500 --> 00:17:56,840

configuration of the planets or the

420

00:18:01,870 --> 00:17:59,510

malignant influence of extraterrestrials

421

00:18:03,880 --> 00:18:01,880

people are seeking certainty in a very

422

00:18:07,000 --> 00:18:03,890

uncertain world end quote said Williams

423

00:18:09,280 --> 00:18:07,010

a big bearded red-cheeked man with a

424

00:18:11,380 --> 00:18:09,290

paunch who sounds like broadcaster

425

00:18:14,320 --> 00:18:11,390

Philip Adams but looks like a defrocked

426

00:18:16,120 --> 00:18:14,330

Santa Claus next Sunday at the Great

427

00:18:17,140 --> 00:18:16,130

Australian science show at the

428

00:18:20,350 --> 00:18:17,150

Powerhouse Museum

429

00:18:22,710 --> 00:18:20,360

Williams will give a talk titled I was

430

00:18:25,360 --> 00:18:22,720

captured by aliens true or false

431

00:18:27,610 --> 00:18:25,370

not many Australians believe they've

432

00:18:29,140 --> 00:18:27,620

been abducted by aliens you believe so

433

00:18:31,210 --> 00:18:29,150

common in the u.s. that there are

434

00:18:33,549 --> 00:18:31,220

networks of support groups for those

435

00:18:36,940 --> 00:18:33,559

convinced they have been captured by the

436

00:18:41,320 --> 00:18:36,950

little green men nowadays this delusion

437

00:18:44,049 --> 00:18:41,330

may arise after counseling the trend

438

00:18:45,790 --> 00:18:44,059

bothers Williams whose talk at the

439

00:18:48,520 --> 00:18:45,800

Museum will question the sudden

440

00:18:50,919 --> 00:18:48,530

emergence of the therapists who claim to

441

00:18:54,130 --> 00:18:50,929

be helping people uncover previously

442

00:18:56,680 --> 00:18:54,140

repressed memories quote whether of

443

00:18:58,750 --> 00:18:56,690

alien abductions satanic cults or

444

00:19:01,270 --> 00:18:58,760

childhood sexual abuse then quote

445

00:19:03,580 --> 00:19:01,280

children do get abused of course Kurt

446

00:19:06,070 --> 00:19:03,590

but we have no evidence that alien

447

00:19:08,740 --> 00:19:06,080

abduction goes on in quote he said quote

448

00:19:11,110 --> 00:19:08,750

yet you've got people remembering both

449

00:19:13,060 --> 00:19:11,120

things quite clearly so how do you tell

450

00:19:15,070 --> 00:19:13,070

something that's happened from something

451

00:19:18,010 --> 00:19:15,080

planted in a person's mind by one of

452

00:19:19,690 --> 00:19:18,020

these so-called therapists end quote it

453

00:19:22,510 --> 00:19:19,700

has to be said that Williams was

454

00:19:26,380 --> 00:19:22,520

skeptical and what else about the

455

00:19:28,630 --> 00:19:26,390

prevalence of psychotherapy now creeping

456

00:19:30,250 --> 00:19:28,640

into all spheres of modern life quote

457

00:19:33,340 --> 00:19:30,260

it's good that people are counseled

458

00:19:34,900 --> 00:19:33,350

after a catastrophe once upon a time

459

00:19:37,860 --> 00:19:34,910

they were left to their own devices and

460

00:19:39,940 --> 00:19:37,870

suffered in quote in his opinion however

461

00:19:42,880 --> 00:19:39,950

psychologists seemed to be marshaled on

462

00:19:43,710 --> 00:19:42,890

the slimmest excuse quote when wearing a

463

00:19:46,140 --> 00:19:43,720

council's

464

00:19:48,750 --> 00:19:46,150

two and half the staff went off to part

465

00:19:51,299 --> 00:19:48,760

of the new Pittwater council they

466

00:19:53,370 --> 00:19:51,309

brought psychologists in to council

467

00:19:56,010 --> 00:19:53,380

these people when they had just changed

468

00:19:58,049 --> 00:19:56,020

jobs been quite whatever the reasons for

469

00:20:00,390 --> 00:19:58,059

the proliferation of such reputable

470

00:20:02,789 --> 00:20:00,400

professions William seems to think that

471

00:20:05,460 --> 00:20:02,799

their very existence provides cover for

472

00:20:08,549 --> 00:20:05,470

his enemy where you and I might seem

473

00:20:11,010 --> 00:20:08,559

mild-mannered mediums or clairvoyance he

474

00:20:12,840 --> 00:20:11,020

sees an advancing horde of quacks and

475

00:20:15,029 --> 00:20:12,850

charlatans quote there is no

476

00:20:16,560 --> 00:20:15,039

registration for people who set

477

00:20:18,570 --> 00:20:16,570

themselves up as counselors or

478

00:20:20,730 --> 00:20:18,580

therapists which is what a lot of these

479

00:20:23,010 --> 00:20:20,740

astrologers and psychics tend to do in

480

00:20:25,950 --> 00:20:23,020

quote he said at his Roseville home

481

00:20:28,799 --> 00:20:25,960

quote people think they're very accurate

482

00:20:31,620 --> 00:20:28,809

because they tell generalized truths I

483

00:20:33,480 --> 00:20:31,630

do a bit of a party trick I'll say I've

484

00:20:35,460 --> 00:20:33,490

got this very strong feeling that

485

00:20:37,320 --> 00:20:35,470

someone in the room is really concerned

486

00:20:40,230 --> 00:20:37,330

about their finances end quote he said

487

00:20:43,169 --> 00:20:40,240

he was beaming faced replaced by a drew

488

00:20:46,080 --> 00:20:43,179

bee look as if he were snuffing up an

489

00:20:49,500 --> 00:20:46,090

aura in his Roseville living room in his

490

00:20:51,810 --> 00:20:49,510

working life Williams 54 arranges trade

491

00:20:53,789 --> 00:20:51,820

exhibits for the American consulate the

492

00:20:56,640 --> 00:20:53,799

place was closed last Monday because of

493

00:20:58,320 --> 00:20:56,650

their labor day so he was at home he

494

00:21:01,200 --> 00:20:58,330

happens to have worked for the North

495

00:21:03,630 --> 00:21:01,210

Americans for 15 years without once

496

00:21:05,210 --> 00:21:03,640

going there he doesn't like to travel

497

00:21:08,070 --> 00:21:05,220

instead he sits at his computer

498

00:21:10,470 --> 00:21:08,080

exchanging email messages with sceptics

499

00:21:13,200 --> 00:21:10,480

around the globe one of his discoveries

500

00:21:15,690 --> 00:21:13,210

in fact is that credulity comes with its

501  
00:21:18,149 --> 00:21:15,700  
own national characteristics Russians

502  
00:21:20,340 --> 00:21:18,159  
and Georgians go in for the same sort of

503  
00:21:23,730 --> 00:21:20,350  
soft-headed things as small-town

504  
00:21:26,130 --> 00:21:23,740  
Americans but in the former USSR William

505  
00:21:28,049 --> 00:21:26,140  
says quote they've got all the things

506  
00:21:31,409 --> 00:21:28,059  
that were popular in the West in the

507  
00:21:33,480 --> 00:21:31,419  
1950s in quote in short Russians are

508  
00:21:36,840 --> 00:21:33,490  
still being abducted by aliens from

509  
00:21:38,610 --> 00:21:36,850  
faraway places like Venus where the

510  
00:21:41,310 --> 00:21:38,620  
actual surface temperature is hot enough

511  
00:21:44,070 --> 00:21:41,320  
to melt landed the French in contrast

512  
00:21:46,230 --> 00:21:44,080  
don't seem to get abducted at all or so

513  
00:21:48,600 --> 00:21:46,240

a Frenchman on the email network told

514

00:21:51,480 --> 00:21:48,610

him and Williams managed not to retort

515

00:21:54,360 --> 00:21:51,490

that he could see why Australians don't

516

00:21:56,669 --> 00:21:54,370

much get abducted either what we will go

517

00:21:57,420 --> 00:21:56,679

in for instead is what the skeptics have

518

00:22:00,420 --> 00:21:57,430

demonstrate

519

00:22:03,240 --> 00:22:00,430

to be a rather fetch was faith in water

520

00:22:05,250 --> 00:22:03,250

divining four years ago William said the

521

00:22:07,950 --> 00:22:05,260

Australian skeptics tested nine water

522

00:22:10,800 --> 00:22:07,960

diviners they picked a piece of land of

523

00:22:13,620 --> 00:22:10,810

a farm out west of Sydney quote and

524

00:22:15,900 --> 00:22:13,630

these nine blokes wandered around doing

525

00:22:18,540 --> 00:22:15,910

all sorts of things with sticks and bent

526

00:22:22,080 --> 00:22:18,550

wires and bits of pendulums one was a

527

00:22:24,240 --> 00:22:22,090

CSIRO scientists unquote but as a water

528

00:22:26,580 --> 00:22:24,250

diviner he had no more success than the

529

00:22:28,860 --> 00:22:26,590

others on the occasions when the

530

00:22:31,830 --> 00:22:28,870

divining had appeared to work the

531

00:22:34,380 --> 00:22:31,840

scientists agreed he not only knew a bit

532

00:22:36,750 --> 00:22:34,390

about the place beforehand but filled it

533

00:22:40,080 --> 00:22:36,760

out with local knowledge the sceptics

534

00:22:42,360 --> 00:22:40,090

this proof didn't seem to impinge on our

535

00:22:45,180 --> 00:22:42,370

belief in water divining a belief that

536

00:22:48,000 --> 00:22:45,190

persists even in the face of widespread

537

00:22:50,430 --> 00:22:48,010

drought whether or not this superstition

538

00:22:52,410 --> 00:22:50,440

sticks like thorns to the Earth's driest

539

00:22:56,070 --> 00:22:52,420

continent there is a limit to our

540

00:22:58,830 --> 00:22:56,080

ability to suspend disbelief uri geller

541

00:23:01,440 --> 00:22:58,840

once world-famous for bending spoons by

542

00:23:03,300 --> 00:23:01,450

telepathy is trying to make it come back

543

00:23:06,240 --> 00:23:03,310

and was in Australia earlier this year

544

00:23:09,660 --> 00:23:06,250

no one much went to see him the result

545

00:23:12,750 --> 00:23:09,670

Williams said beaming quote was that he

546

00:23:15,510 --> 00:23:12,760

cut his trip short saying he had to go

547

00:23:16,470 --> 00:23:15,520

home because his mother was sick we've

548

00:23:18,960 --> 00:23:16,480

seen it all before

549

00:23:21,060 --> 00:23:18,970

man quote Erich von däniken who made his

550

00:23:24,120 --> 00:23:21,070

name and his fortune years ago with

551

00:23:26,370 --> 00:23:24,130

Chariots of the Gods a book suggesting

552

00:23:28,650 --> 00:23:26,380

that ancient astronauts of one sort or

553

00:23:30,660 --> 00:23:28,660

another built the pyramids was in this

554

00:23:34,200 --> 00:23:30,670

country a while back on a speaking tour

555

00:23:36,270 --> 00:23:34,210

he went from Perth to Adelaide not many

556

00:23:39,300 --> 00:23:36,280

people turned up for a lecture in a

557

00:23:41,520 --> 00:23:39,310

1,000 seat hall so he canceled the rest

558

00:23:47,399 --> 00:23:41,530

of the trip saying his mother was sick

559

00:23:51,669 --> 00:23:49,960

and that story was published in The

560

00:23:56,180 --> 00:23:51,679

Sydney Morning Herald newspaper on the

561

00:24:01,780 --> 00:23:56,190

11th of September 1994

562

00:24:04,820 --> 00:24:03,920

he's someone I haven't seen for a while

563

00:24:07,250 --> 00:24:04,830

who've we got here

564

00:24:08,900 --> 00:24:07,260

very well yours is my name and what are

565

00:24:10,400 --> 00:24:08,910

you up to today berry how many how many

566

00:24:13,130 --> 00:24:10,410

of these have you been to now

567

00:24:14,780 --> 00:24:13,140

well I'm here as a volunteer I was

568

00:24:16,910 --> 00:24:14,790

running the skeptics for a number of

569

00:24:19,340 --> 00:24:16,920

years night ended 27 of these on the

570

00:24:21,980 --> 00:24:19,350

trot and I retired about five years ago

571

00:24:23,510 --> 00:24:21,990

and decided just to drop in occasionally

572

00:24:25,280 --> 00:24:23,520

but they they needed somebody to give

573

00:24:27,560 --> 00:24:25,290

them a bit of a hand and I live locally

574

00:24:29,600 --> 00:24:27,570

so I'm giving help yeah I haven't seen

575

00:24:30,950 --> 00:24:29,610

you around for a while Barry and last

576

00:24:33,260 --> 00:24:30,960

time I spoke to you you talked about

577

00:24:34,850 --> 00:24:33,270

your early history with the skeptics

578

00:24:37,310 --> 00:24:34,860

movement and have you thought that

579

00:24:39,560 --> 00:24:37,320

sometimes the interest in paranormal

580

00:24:41,810 --> 00:24:39,570

divided upon gender line sometimes like

581

00:24:44,060 --> 00:24:41,820

guys tend to go for UFOs while women

582

00:24:46,750 --> 00:24:44,070

tend to go for the more spiritual that

583

00:24:49,670 --> 00:24:46,760

was my observation over the years yeah

584

00:24:52,400 --> 00:24:49,680

and I guess that's that's similar in

585

00:24:54,590 --> 00:24:52,410

real life to the sort of more technical

586

00:24:58,480 --> 00:24:54,600

things men tend to be more interesting

587

00:25:00,950 --> 00:24:58,490

women tend to be Morrison in the in the

588

00:25:02,990 --> 00:25:00,960

emotional things I suppose now I'll

589

00:25:04,910 --> 00:25:03,000

probably get castigated for that but you

590

00:25:07,370 --> 00:25:04,920

know I don't mean that in a negative way

591

00:25:09,290 --> 00:25:07,380

it's just the way people are now is

592

00:25:11,000 --> 00:25:09,300

there some new wow that's come around

593

00:25:12,290 --> 00:25:11,010

that you haven't seen before because

594

00:25:16,790 --> 00:25:12,300

you've just about seen it or is there

595

00:25:18,050 --> 00:25:16,800

something new you've seen whoever said

596

00:25:19,370 --> 00:25:18,060

there's nothing new handle the Sun I

597

00:25:21,680 --> 00:25:19,380

think I might have been Shakespeare was

598

00:25:25,340 --> 00:25:21,690

right right a lot of them in the Bible

599

00:25:27,650 --> 00:25:25,350

but yeah look they all like come and go

600

00:25:29,810 --> 00:25:27,660

and maybe things slightly different

601  
00:25:33,530 --> 00:25:29,820  
guises some of these things come in with

602  
00:25:35,600 --> 00:25:33,540  
by and large the same old fundamental

603  
00:25:37,010 --> 00:25:35,610  
beliefs keep coming back they get

604  
00:25:39,700 --> 00:25:37,020  
knocked on the head for a world and like

605  
00:25:42,740 --> 00:25:39,710  
I'm back again you can guarantee it I

606  
00:25:45,440 --> 00:25:42,750  
expect possibly spoon bending might be

607  
00:25:46,820 --> 00:25:45,450  
due for a comeback anytime you think it

608  
00:25:48,380 --> 00:25:46,830  
all gets back to people wanting

609  
00:25:49,970 --> 00:25:48,390  
something for nothing they want to lose

610  
00:25:51,710 --> 00:25:49,980  
weight without doing anything they want

611  
00:25:53,030 --> 00:25:51,720  
to be smart or without going and doing

612  
00:25:54,740 --> 00:25:53,040  
any more learning that sort of thing

613  
00:25:57,200 --> 00:25:54,750

there's no question about that yeah sure

614

00:25:59,570 --> 00:25:57,210

I mean the it's a quite understandable

615

00:26:03,170 --> 00:25:59,580

thing I mean I think as a species we

616

00:26:05,090 --> 00:26:03,180

really all we'd like to be idle and

617

00:26:07,340 --> 00:26:05,100

those of us are fortunate enough to live

618

00:26:09,050 --> 00:26:07,350

in societies like ours get a lot more

619

00:26:10,700 --> 00:26:09,060

idleness than perhaps if we were living

620

00:26:12,680 --> 00:26:10,710

in Africa or somewhere like that where

621

00:26:16,100 --> 00:26:12,690

you have to actually work pretty hard to

622

00:26:17,510 --> 00:26:16,110

stay alive so and and we get accustomed

623

00:26:19,520 --> 00:26:17,520

there and then we would start wanting

624

00:26:21,590 --> 00:26:19,530

more and more things for nothing so

625

00:26:23,620 --> 00:26:21,600

you've been well and truly retired for a

626

00:26:29,870 --> 00:26:23,630

while now how do you fill up your days

627

00:26:31,430 --> 00:26:29,880

Wow I I do a lot of reading catching up

628

00:26:33,170 --> 00:26:31,440

with a reading I just didn't have time

629

00:26:34,760 --> 00:26:33,180

to there before I got a lot of skeptical

630

00:26:36,440 --> 00:26:34,770

books I'm reading and I'm reading a lot

631

00:26:41,060 --> 00:26:36,450

more fiction these days and they used to

632

00:26:42,830 --> 00:26:41,070

and I've got a couple of grand sons one

633

00:26:44,810 --> 00:26:42,840

of whom is just about just stopped doing

634

00:26:46,640 --> 00:26:44,820

a PhD and one of it was just part it

635

00:26:49,340 --> 00:26:46,650

passed his HSC so they're not little

636

00:26:51,140 --> 00:26:49,350

kids but I still take as much looking

637

00:26:53,570 --> 00:26:51,150

after from our grandfather like driving

638

00:26:55,850 --> 00:26:53,580

them a yet drive that doesn't change

639

00:26:57,620 --> 00:26:55,860

what's your advice to them when it comes

640

00:26:59,960 --> 00:26:57,630

to thinking critically that what's the

641

00:27:01,790 --> 00:26:59,970

first step you should take well I always

642

00:27:04,880 --> 00:27:01,800

tell them never believe anything you

643

00:27:07,460 --> 00:27:04,890

hear without a reason I mean if somebody

644

00:27:08,780 --> 00:27:07,470

and make sure the reason isn't that you

645

00:27:10,580 --> 00:27:08,790

actually want to believe it make sure

646

00:27:13,610 --> 00:27:10,590

there's some good reason for believing

647

00:27:14,810 --> 00:27:13,620

what claims we will make and and I think

648

00:27:18,560 --> 00:27:14,820

that stands people in good stead

649

00:27:19,280 --> 00:27:18,570

anywhere these boys pretty smart pretty

650

00:27:23,380 --> 00:27:19,290

level-headed

651  
00:27:26,000 --> 00:27:23,390  
but like all young men they fall for the

652  
00:27:27,560 --> 00:27:26,010  
zeitgeist of the age if you like I might

653  
00:27:29,060 --> 00:27:27,570  
end up believing some ratbag things that

654  
00:27:30,290 --> 00:27:29,070  
I wouldn't believe in but then with

655  
00:27:32,930 --> 00:27:30,300  
their age I used to believe another

656  
00:27:35,090 --> 00:27:32,940  
threat bag things that's why it guys

657  
00:27:36,950 --> 00:27:35,100  
thanks very enjoy your this would be

658  
00:27:39,440 --> 00:27:36,960  
your 28th convention you'd been to then

659  
00:27:41,450 --> 00:27:39,450  
with yeah I think so I really haven't

660  
00:27:44,030 --> 00:27:41,460  
kept count but it was a round about that

661  
00:27:46,130 --> 00:27:44,040  
yeah I think this is about the 30th and

662  
00:27:48,690 --> 00:27:46,140  
I've been to all except a couple so no

663  
00:28:09,230 --> 00:27:48,700

you go nuts here today Barry I will

664

00:28:12,990 --> 00:28:09,240

[Music]

665

00:28:15,480 --> 00:28:13,000

you may know that RIT homies who is an

666

00:28:16,470 --> 00:28:15,490

international skeptical campaigner about

667

00:28:20,240 --> 00:28:16,480

naturopathy

668

00:28:23,700 --> 00:28:20,250

is currently being sued for defamation

669

00:28:26,300 --> 00:28:23,710

it used to be a naturopath herself but

670

00:28:28,700 --> 00:28:26,310

she now spends a lot of time and effort

671

00:28:31,710 --> 00:28:28,710

exposing naturopathic practices

672

00:28:37,440 --> 00:28:31,720

including on her own blog naturopathic

673

00:28:40,500 --> 00:28:37,450

Diaries she's been taken to court in

674

00:28:43,860 --> 00:28:40,510

Germany by us-based naturopath quote dr.

675

00:28:46,650 --> 00:28:43,870

unquote Coleen Huber who is claiming

676

00:28:49,470 --> 00:28:46,660

that Brit has defamed her on her blog

677

00:28:51,900 --> 00:28:49,480

hooba is a critic of chemotherapy and

678

00:28:56,280 --> 00:28:51,910

radiation therapy in cancer treatment

679

00:28:58,950 --> 00:28:56,290

instead she uses quote natural end quote

680

00:29:03,080 --> 00:28:58,960

therapies that include intravenous

681

00:29:06,150 --> 00:29:03,090

infusions of vitamin C and a baking soda

682

00:29:09,060 --> 00:29:06,160

the international skeptical community is

683

00:29:12,150 --> 00:29:09,070

concerned that the case against Brit may

684

00:29:14,870 --> 00:29:12,160

have the effect of silencing a major

685

00:29:17,670 --> 00:29:14,880

campaigner against unproven and

686

00:29:20,990 --> 00:29:17,680

disproven quote medical and quote

687

00:29:25,670 --> 00:29:21,000

practices through the imposition of

688

00:29:30,220 --> 00:29:27,060

[Music]

689

00:29:33,190 --> 00:29:30,230

for this reason the Australian skeptics

690

00:29:36,220 --> 00:29:33,200

have set up a fund raising campaign to

691

00:29:37,810 --> 00:29:36,230

help cover Brits legal costs if you

692

00:29:39,510 --> 00:29:37,820

would like to contribute to the fund

693

00:29:47,560 --> 00:29:39,520

where you want some more information

694

00:29:56,670 --> 00:29:47,570

then go to WWC upticks calm au / brit

695

00:30:05,100 --> 00:29:56,680

Hermes that's bri TT h er m vs w w

696

00:30:05,110 --> 00:30:32,310

[Music]

697

00:30:37,389 --> 00:30:34,899

joining me now all the way from Salinas

698

00:30:40,600 --> 00:30:37,399

California California I was only just

699

00:30:42,700 --> 00:30:40,610

there experienced an earthquake maybe it

700

00:30:44,850 --> 00:30:42,710

was all The Skeptical activity coming

701  
00:30:48,369 --> 00:30:44,860  
from susan gerbic hello Susan

702  
00:30:50,409 --> 00:30:48,379  
hi Richard that was a terrible lead and

703  
00:30:51,850 --> 00:30:50,419  
I know but when I was in California

704  
00:30:53,739 --> 00:30:51,860  
there was a bit of a bomba

705  
00:30:55,840 --> 00:30:53,749  
four-point-five in Berkeley I think do

706  
00:30:58,899 --> 00:30:55,850  
you get many oh you get many tremors

707  
00:31:01,149 --> 00:30:58,909  
down your way I'm more likely to get

708  
00:31:03,340 --> 00:31:01,159  
trimmers than Berkeley is I'm really

709  
00:31:06,609 --> 00:31:03,350  
really close to the San Andreas Fault

710  
00:31:08,470 --> 00:31:06,619  
Line which is maybe 20 minutes as a crow

711  
00:31:10,690 --> 00:31:08,480  
flies it's very close and then we have

712  
00:31:12,789 --> 00:31:10,700  
other fault lines really nearest yes so

713  
00:31:16,259 --> 00:31:12,799

it's been a while since we've had one

714

00:31:19,960 --> 00:31:16,269

but it is not unusual very very

715

00:31:21,909 --> 00:31:19,970

earthquake prone here wow that must be

716

00:31:24,129 --> 00:31:21,919

interesting I mean I've been through a

717

00:31:26,769 --> 00:31:24,139

few jolts to earthquakes through minor

718

00:31:30,669 --> 00:31:26,779

tremors I guess they're unsettling do

719

00:31:33,700 --> 00:31:30,679

you ever get used to it we brag about it

720

00:31:36,460 --> 00:31:33,710

a lot it's kind of a you know toughie

721

00:31:39,070 --> 00:31:36,470

dad we will my son and I will race to

722

00:31:42,070 --> 00:31:39,080

see who can post on Facebook fastest

723

00:31:44,049 --> 00:31:42,080

what we think the magnitude was and I

724

00:31:46,899 --> 00:31:44,059

always win if we're both home together

725

00:31:48,639 --> 00:31:46,909

because he types out the word earthquake

726

00:31:50,320 --> 00:31:48,649

and then he puts his vote of what he

727

00:31:53,409 --> 00:31:50,330

thinks it is and I just type out a

728

00:31:55,269 --> 00:31:53,419

number and so I usually be them but you

729

00:31:56,919 --> 00:31:55,279

know yeah it's kind of a tough it up

730

00:31:58,749 --> 00:31:56,929

kind of thing it's not a big deal we

731

00:32:01,930 --> 00:31:58,759

just I guess like every part of the

732

00:32:03,789 --> 00:32:01,940

country has some kind of that nature

733

00:32:09,730 --> 00:32:03,799

thing that they're like Oh which is 10

734

00:32:13,359 --> 00:32:09,740

feet of snow no I remember the day when

735

00:32:16,269 --> 00:32:13,369

my nose froze off and you know the end

736

00:32:19,509 --> 00:32:16,279

you don't know heat but here we have our

737

00:32:22,810 --> 00:32:19,519

earthquakes lately here in Sydney

738

00:32:24,249 --> 00:32:22,820

Australia it's been what ridiculous

739

00:32:27,580 --> 00:32:24,259

degree of temperature has it reached

740

00:32:29,980 --> 00:32:27,590

today we've had a lot of a lot of hot

741

00:32:32,919 --> 00:32:29,990

weather but weather and earthquakes and

742

00:32:36,070 --> 00:32:32,929

all that sort of thing aside I'm giving

743

00:32:37,690 --> 00:32:36,080

you a a call of a catch up today that I

744

00:32:40,350 --> 00:32:37,700

saw on the grapevine on the internet

745

00:32:42,940 --> 00:32:40,360

that the guerrilla skepticism on

746

00:32:43,350 --> 00:32:42,950

Wikipedia recently received a bit of a

747

00:32:45,810 --> 00:32:43,360

boost

748

00:32:47,880 --> 00:32:45,820

can you tell us about that oh my gosh

749

00:32:50,490 --> 00:32:47,890

yeah there's a lot happening in my life

750

00:32:54,630 --> 00:32:50,500

right at the moment one of the things

751

00:32:57,630 --> 00:32:54,640

that is has been announced is that the

752

00:33:01,290 --> 00:32:57,640

GSO w project and myself were awarded a

753

00:33:04,020 --> 00:33:01,300

grant a one-time a one-time grant by the

754

00:33:10,920 --> 00:33:04,030

James Randi Educational Foundation

755

00:33:16,890 --> 00:33:10,930

and it was how do I say just it was just

756

00:33:19,680 --> 00:33:16,900

crazy we said what what what seriously

757

00:33:21,570 --> 00:33:19,690

yeah it was unexpected but so now we're

758

00:33:24,210 --> 00:33:21,580

gonna we are a non-profit we're called

759

00:33:27,180 --> 00:33:24,220

about time and we will be able to

760

00:33:28,590 --> 00:33:27,190

receive donations but not in the next

761

00:33:30,750 --> 00:33:28,600

couple weeks we're still working on the

762

00:33:33,780 --> 00:33:30,760

final paperwork but it's going to be

763

00:33:36,540 --> 00:33:33,790

quite interesting what we'll do now

764

00:33:39,240 --> 00:33:36,550

Susan is we'll play a little clip by a

765

00:33:44,220 --> 00:33:39,250

message sent to you by James Randi

766

00:33:46,710 --> 00:33:44,230

himself hi there this is James Randi I

767

00:33:49,260 --> 00:33:46,720

just learned that my good friend susan

768

00:33:50,990 --> 00:33:49,270

gerbic and her gorilla skeptics have

769

00:33:54,630 --> 00:33:51,000

received a well-deserved

770

00:33:57,800 --> 00:33:54,640

no-strings-attached grant from the J res

771

00:34:00,420 --> 00:33:57,810

the James Randi Educational Foundation

772

00:34:02,640 --> 00:34:00,430

the foundation recognizes for

773

00:34:05,580 --> 00:34:02,650

outstanding efforts to enlist and train

774

00:34:08,460 --> 00:34:05,590

a team of editors who continually

775

00:34:11,960 --> 00:34:08,470

improve Wikipedia as a public resource

776

00:34:16,470 --> 00:34:11,970

for rationality and scientific thought

777

00:34:19,140 --> 00:34:16,480

go Susan that's terrific and it's a

778

00:34:21,030 --> 00:34:19,150

terrific acknowledgement of all the hard

779

00:34:22,590 --> 00:34:21,040

work you've been doing at guerrilla

780

00:34:28,620 --> 00:34:22,600

skepticism how long has it been going

781

00:34:32,370 --> 00:34:28,630

now oh my gosh probably since 2010 years

782

00:34:33,780 --> 00:34:32,380

tick by that that's quite right we

783

00:34:36,300 --> 00:34:33,790

started we didn't think we were gonna be

784

00:34:38,460 --> 00:34:36,310

a thing I mean heck I was just going on

785

00:34:39,930 --> 00:34:38,470

Facebook and telling people let's let's

786

00:34:41,550 --> 00:34:39,940

head it Wikipedia you want to help me

787

00:34:43,590 --> 00:34:41,560

here you know let me show you what I'm

788

00:34:46,320 --> 00:34:43,600

doing in you so it wasn't a thing it

789

00:34:47,880 --> 00:34:46,330

started so slowly that we didn't realize

790

00:34:50,700 --> 00:34:47,890

that we needed to keep track of dates

791

00:34:53,520 --> 00:34:50,710

and anything of that sort it's it's been

792

00:34:55,770 --> 00:34:53,530

it's been a world win but we've decided

793

00:34:56,909 --> 00:34:55,780

that we're not going to just handle GS

794

00:34:58,019 --> 00:34:56,919

or W we have

795

00:35:01,740 --> 00:34:58,029

other things we're going to be doing

796

00:35:04,829 --> 00:35:01,750

with with the award and with our our

797

00:35:06,240 --> 00:35:04,839

board so we're we're incorporating

798

00:35:09,809 --> 00:35:06,250

pretty much anything that susan gerbic

799

00:35:12,569 --> 00:35:09,819

is involved in so it looks like some

800

00:35:14,190 --> 00:35:12,579

expansions on the way oh yes we've got

801  
00:35:15,509 --> 00:35:14,200  
we've got quite a thing quite a few

802  
00:35:18,210 --> 00:35:15,519  
things that we've got planned we're

803  
00:35:19,890 --> 00:35:18,220  
gonna be doing a we do a skeptic amp

804  
00:35:23,460 --> 00:35:19,900  
here in Monterey County every year in

805  
00:35:25,620 --> 00:35:23,470  
January we just finished it we had 50

806  
00:35:27,769 --> 00:35:25,630  
people pretty much show up we had great

807  
00:35:31,109 --> 00:35:27,779  
media coverage by the local papers and

808  
00:35:33,870 --> 00:35:31,119  
the talks are terrific the videos are up

809  
00:35:37,769 --> 00:35:33,880  
on the Monterey County skeptics YouTube

810  
00:35:39,210 --> 00:35:37,779  
site they are just I mean I sat in the

811  
00:35:41,910 --> 00:35:39,220  
audience and I listened to some of the

812  
00:35:45,029 --> 00:35:41,920  
people lecturing and I thought this is

813  
00:35:48,269 --> 00:35:45,039

great great stuff and I'm really

814

00:35:50,690 --> 00:35:48,279

surprised that you know more people

815

00:35:52,620 --> 00:35:50,700

don't do skeptic amp sir absolute blast

816

00:35:54,210 --> 00:35:52,630

yes they are they're sort of like

817

00:35:56,640 --> 00:35:54,220

skeptics in the pub once you get into

818

00:35:58,559 --> 00:35:56,650

the swing of them and it gives everybody

819

00:36:01,319 --> 00:35:58,569

an opportunity if they want to talk on a

820

00:36:05,359 --> 00:36:01,329

sceptical issue to stand up and well

821

00:36:08,849 --> 00:36:05,369

give a public address I guess absolutely

822

00:36:10,620 --> 00:36:08,859

now tell me more about what what you

823

00:36:13,049 --> 00:36:10,630

might I mean you can't give too much

824

00:36:15,779 --> 00:36:13,059

away I'm sure what you might be hoping

825

00:36:17,609 --> 00:36:15,789

to do now you have a grant of funds from

826

00:36:19,470 --> 00:36:17,619

the James Randi Educational Foundation

827

00:36:21,299 --> 00:36:19,480

what does that mean for guerrilla

828

00:36:23,720 --> 00:36:21,309

skepticism does it mean more people has

829

00:36:25,890 --> 00:36:23,730

it mean more equipment what do you think

830

00:36:27,240 --> 00:36:25,900

okay well let me read you my mission

831

00:36:29,099 --> 00:36:27,250

statement it's only a couple sentences

832

00:36:30,960 --> 00:36:29,109

long and maybe this will kind of sum up

833

00:36:34,049 --> 00:36:30,970

what we're going to be doing the mission

834

00:36:35,640 --> 00:36:34,059

of about time is to find mentor and

835

00:36:37,289 --> 00:36:35,650

train people to educate and promote

836

00:36:39,779 --> 00:36:37,299

science and scientific skepticism

837

00:36:41,910 --> 00:36:39,789

through crowd-sourced and educational

838

00:36:43,769 --> 00:36:41,920

activities worldwide this is done by

839

00:36:45,960 --> 00:36:43,779

conference attendance lectures videos

840

00:36:48,210 --> 00:36:45,970

podcasts and interaction on social media

841

00:36:49,890 --> 00:36:48,220

and in-person workshops hands-on

842

00:36:53,430 --> 00:36:49,900

instruction online instruction are

843

00:36:55,319 --> 00:36:53,440

encouraged so instead of how do I say

844

00:36:58,950 --> 00:36:55,329

this well you know that old phrase teach

845

00:37:00,809 --> 00:36:58,960

somebody how to fish and they'll fish

846

00:37:05,279 --> 00:37:00,819

for a lifetime as opposed to just giving

847

00:37:09,569 --> 00:37:05,289

them some fish we're more for where we

848

00:37:10,079 --> 00:37:09,579

are more focused on the people than we

849

00:37:10,540 --> 00:37:10,089

are

850

00:37:13,210 --> 00:37:10,550

on

851  
00:37:14,950 --> 00:37:13,220  
if that makes any sense instead of just

852  
00:37:17,980 --> 00:37:14,960  
saying here I'm gonna put out some

853  
00:37:20,920 --> 00:37:17,990  
pamphlets or here's a here's some

854  
00:37:24,310 --> 00:37:20,930  
content maybe it'll get to the right

855  
00:37:28,660 --> 00:37:24,320  
people we're trying to find and motivate

856  
00:37:30,280 --> 00:37:28,670  
and train people who can do more so we

857  
00:37:32,110 --> 00:37:30,290  
kept our mission statement really broad

858  
00:37:34,360 --> 00:37:32,120  
because that's exactly what we're doing

859  
00:37:36,850 --> 00:37:34,370  
with Wikipedia I mean I could spend my

860  
00:37:39,820 --> 00:37:36,860  
day editing Wikipedia and yes I would

861  
00:37:44,470 --> 00:37:39,830  
have an impact I would make a difference

862  
00:37:47,440 --> 00:37:44,480  
but it would be more to the advantage

863  
00:37:50,080 --> 00:37:47,450

for me to to find more people manage

864

00:37:54,100 --> 00:37:50,090

those people and get them learning how

865

00:37:57,820 --> 00:37:54,110

to edit Wikipedia so so my personal

866

00:37:59,770 --> 00:37:57,830

contributions to Wikipedia page view

867

00:38:02,370 --> 00:37:59,780

wise is a little over a million views

868

00:38:04,210 --> 00:38:02,380

well at least a million people have

869

00:38:05,500 --> 00:38:04,220

Wikipedia pages that I have either

870

00:38:10,450 --> 00:38:05,510

rewritten or written

871

00:38:13,840 --> 00:38:10,460

that's sizable but I have 133 people now

872

00:38:17,200 --> 00:38:13,850

and those we've just hit 22 million page

873

00:38:20,350 --> 00:38:17,210

views so and that's in multiple

874

00:38:22,060 --> 00:38:20,360

languages so I you know pretty much

875

00:38:23,950 --> 00:38:22,070

found those people I've trained all

876

00:38:28,180 --> 00:38:23,960

those people recruited them motivate

877

00:38:30,910 --> 00:38:28,190

them so my impact is a lot bigger when

878

00:38:33,400 --> 00:38:30,920

I'm teaching and training and motivating

879

00:38:35,200 --> 00:38:33,410

and finding these people and that's not

880

00:38:37,120 --> 00:38:35,210

we're we're not just keeping it to

881

00:38:39,640 --> 00:38:37,130

Wikipedia we've done other things we've

882

00:38:42,010 --> 00:38:39,650

just finished a psychic sting this

883

00:38:44,890 --> 00:38:42,020

weekend and we've done several other

884

00:38:47,380 --> 00:38:44,900

psychic students and I got by signing

885

00:38:50,710 --> 00:38:47,390

people all across the United States and

886

00:38:53,770 --> 00:38:50,720

all over the place we had somebody from

887

00:38:55,990 --> 00:38:53,780

New Zealand and we had several people

888

00:38:57,820 --> 00:38:56,000

from Australia who were participating in

889

00:39:00,550 --> 00:38:57,830

the sting that was happening on the east

890

00:39:02,140 --> 00:39:00,560

coast of United States my mission in

891

00:39:04,030 --> 00:39:02,150

that my goal is to find those people

892

00:39:05,920 --> 00:39:04,040

motivate them and get them doing more

893

00:39:08,950 --> 00:39:05,930

things and that's what we were able to

894

00:39:11,020 --> 00:39:08,960

do this is a very intriguing Susan I

895

00:39:12,970 --> 00:39:11,030

know you probably can't say too much

896

00:39:15,640 --> 00:39:12,980

about this project at the moment but

897

00:39:19,090 --> 00:39:15,650

what do you mean by a psychic sting what

898

00:39:20,890 --> 00:39:19,100

can you tell us well I can tell you most

899

00:39:22,990 --> 00:39:20,900

anything without telling you the names

900

00:39:23,660 --> 00:39:23,000

of the psychics that we've stung me

901  
00:39:26,150 --> 00:39:23,670  
cently

902  
00:39:28,880 --> 00:39:26,160  
we we they don't know that they have

903  
00:39:30,260 --> 00:39:28,890  
been investigated they don't know

904  
00:39:34,880 --> 00:39:30,270  
they've been stunned because guess what

905  
00:39:37,609 --> 00:39:34,890  
they're not psychic so we caught

906  
00:39:41,030 --> 00:39:37,619  
somebody in March we called it operation

907  
00:39:44,089 --> 00:39:41,040  
pizza roll and we have evidence that he

908  
00:39:47,750 --> 00:39:44,099  
was hot reading in fact he got up on

909  
00:39:50,870 --> 00:39:47,760  
stage and he argued with me as the

910  
00:39:54,829 --> 00:39:50,880  
sitter about what was on my fake

911  
00:39:57,500 --> 00:39:54,839  
Facebook page he was telling me that you

912  
00:39:59,900 --> 00:39:57,510  
know he's like well why don't you know

913  
00:40:03,130 --> 00:39:59,910

this your your brother died of this and

914

00:40:05,240 --> 00:40:03,140

I'm like oh I'm so sorry I'm so nervous

915

00:40:07,579 --> 00:40:05,250

but I didn't know what was on that

916

00:40:09,650 --> 00:40:07,589

Facebook page we blind our Facebook

917

00:40:12,109 --> 00:40:09,660

pages so the person who attends this to

918

00:40:15,289 --> 00:40:12,119

know what's on the pages they have a

919

00:40:19,549 --> 00:40:15,299

very basic information the the sting

920

00:40:21,020 --> 00:40:19,559

that we just did we had a a group of

921

00:40:22,430 --> 00:40:21,030

people from all over the world probably

922

00:40:23,599 --> 00:40:22,440

I think there was nine or ten of us like

923

00:40:27,010 --> 00:40:23,609

I said they were in Australia in New

924

00:40:28,520 --> 00:40:27,020

Zealand all over the United States they

925

00:40:33,859 --> 00:40:28,530

put together

926

00:40:35,750 --> 00:40:33,869

oh ten or twelve fake Facebook pages and

927

00:40:37,520 --> 00:40:35,760

they just communicated with each other

928

00:40:39,799 --> 00:40:37,530

for a month these are pages we've used

929

00:40:43,190 --> 00:40:39,809

repeatedly so they have a history and

930

00:40:45,079 --> 00:40:43,200

then we've found a psychic that we

931

00:40:48,339 --> 00:40:45,089

wanted to target and he lived in the

932

00:40:50,690 --> 00:40:48,349

East Coast and I found a person who I

933

00:40:52,730 --> 00:40:50,700

trusted in the skeptic community and I

934

00:40:54,950 --> 00:40:52,740

said would you like to go to a psychic

935

00:40:57,020 --> 00:40:54,960

sting psychic event and he said

936

00:41:01,400 --> 00:40:57,030

absolutely I said here's the list of

937

00:41:04,130 --> 00:41:01,410

dates pick one and he picked one and he

938

00:41:06,410 --> 00:41:04,140

recruited five more people so six people

939

00:41:08,870 --> 00:41:06,420

went to this sting well went to a

940

00:41:12,980 --> 00:41:08,880

psychic event they recorded it video

941

00:41:14,990 --> 00:41:12,990

audio went with fake personas I went

942

00:41:19,490 --> 00:41:15,000

completely in character went through two

943

00:41:22,280 --> 00:41:19,500

hours and what we're doing now is we're

944

00:41:24,289 --> 00:41:22,290

looking through the audio to see if the

945

00:41:26,450 --> 00:41:24,299

psychic picked up on anything in this

946

00:41:27,440 --> 00:41:26,460

particular case was one that just

947

00:41:32,390 --> 00:41:27,450

happened we're calling it operation

948

00:41:34,970 --> 00:41:32,400

Peach Pit we did not get readings so we

949

00:41:37,999 --> 00:41:34,980

didn't catch him in a hot read but what

950

00:41:40,400 --> 00:41:38,009

we did catch is that

951  
00:41:42,229 --> 00:41:40,410  
well first off if he's really psychic he

952  
00:41:45,049 --> 00:41:42,239  
should have seen a group of six people

953  
00:41:48,200 --> 00:41:45,059  
sitting sitting there totally as

954  
00:41:50,059 --> 00:41:48,210  
skeptics right he didn't you know it's a

955  
00:41:53,049 --> 00:41:50,069  
room about 400 people so the odds were

956  
00:41:55,969 --> 00:41:53,059  
really hard to get picked but he didn't

957  
00:41:58,519 --> 00:41:55,979  
avoid them in fact they went up to him

958  
00:42:00,319 --> 00:41:58,529  
afterwards and they got books signed he

959  
00:42:04,069 --> 00:42:00,329  
autographed the books with their fake

960  
00:42:06,829 --> 00:42:04,079  
names and he also took a lot of selfies

961  
00:42:10,130 --> 00:42:06,839  
with our people so you would think he

962  
00:42:12,049 --> 00:42:10,140  
would know that they are skeptics and

963  
00:42:14,329 --> 00:42:12,059

they were there to catch him you would

964

00:42:16,400 --> 00:42:14,339

you would absolute and but the excuse

965

00:42:18,229 --> 00:42:16,410

I've heard so many times is oh it

966

00:42:22,630 --> 00:42:18,239

doesn't work that way which is the

967

00:42:26,630 --> 00:42:24,829

explain to me how it works because

968

00:42:29,719 --> 00:42:26,640

everything everything we can see you're

969

00:42:32,210 --> 00:42:29,729

doing it is the same as we could have

970

00:42:34,069 --> 00:42:32,220

done cold reading so the thing about

971

00:42:35,930 --> 00:42:34,079

this sting that is really different is

972

00:42:36,829 --> 00:42:35,940

that we had somebody in the audience who

973

00:42:39,349 --> 00:42:36,839

has been through the entire

974

00:42:42,499 --> 00:42:39,359

investigation with us all Skype calls

975

00:42:45,529 --> 00:42:42,509

all meetings he is a investigative

976

00:42:47,420 --> 00:42:45,539

journalist and he is an investigative

977

00:42:51,769 --> 00:42:47,430

journalist for a very big publication

978

00:42:55,269 --> 00:42:51,779

and he is collected a lot of notes and

979

00:42:58,759 --> 00:42:55,279

he's got approval from his editor and in

980

00:43:00,289 --> 00:42:58,769

March probably late March because

981

00:43:02,479 --> 00:43:00,299

there's a lot that goes into this they

982

00:43:04,039 --> 00:43:02,489

have to fact-check everything he'll be

983

00:43:07,069 --> 00:43:04,049

writing an article about the

984

00:43:09,859 --> 00:43:07,079

investigation what we found how we did

985

00:43:11,479 --> 00:43:09,869

it good and bad everything that he went

986

00:43:13,309 --> 00:43:11,489

through and then he's also gonna report

987

00:43:16,279 --> 00:43:13,319

back on the psychic that we stung in

988

00:43:19,519 --> 00:43:16,289

March in operation pizza roll so both of

989

00:43:21,680 --> 00:43:19,529

these psychics will be contacted both of

990

00:43:25,059 --> 00:43:21,690

the psychics will have their chance to

991

00:43:27,769 --> 00:43:25,069

give the reason why they were you know

992

00:43:30,319 --> 00:43:27,779

the first person was not reading us and

993

00:43:31,729 --> 00:43:30,329

the second person why he wasn't able to

994

00:43:33,559 --> 00:43:31,739

tell that there was six

995

00:43:35,239 --> 00:43:33,569

skeptics sitting right in front of them

996

00:43:36,950 --> 00:43:35,249

under his nose and then he took pictures

997

00:43:39,319 --> 00:43:36,960

with them and and so on so they're gonna

998

00:43:41,209 --> 00:43:39,329

be able to have their say so it should

999

00:43:43,390 --> 00:43:41,219

be a very interesting article that it

1000

00:43:46,279 --> 00:43:43,400

will be coming out so watch for that in

1001  
00:43:49,160 --> 00:43:46,289  
March issue that will be the earliest

1002  
00:43:51,230 --> 00:43:49,170  
cuz believe it or not I hadn't realize

1003  
00:43:53,570 --> 00:43:51,240  
this that there's a lot of fact

1004  
00:43:54,650 --> 00:43:53,580  
checking that goes on they have to make

1005  
00:43:55,970 --> 00:43:54,660  
sure everybody's name is spelled

1006  
00:43:59,690 --> 00:43:55,980  
correctly that everything's quoted

1007  
00:44:01,250 --> 00:43:59,700  
correctly and a lot goes on in the media

1008  
00:44:03,170 --> 00:44:01,260  
that I wasn't really aware of so it

1009  
00:44:04,760 --> 00:44:03,180  
takes a lot of time this is really

1010  
00:44:07,580 --> 00:44:04,770  
interesting news indeed and I'm

1011  
00:44:10,910 --> 00:44:07,590  
fascinated to see that you name your

1012  
00:44:18,230 --> 00:44:10,920  
projects after food well we did

1013  
00:44:22,130 --> 00:44:18,240

operation well you know part of the

1014

00:44:23,840 --> 00:44:22,140

logic for this Richard is that when

1015

00:44:25,760 --> 00:44:23,850

you're gonna go deal with a psychic

1016

00:44:28,280 --> 00:44:25,770

you're not trying to convince the

1017

00:44:30,080 --> 00:44:28,290

believers they believe they're not gonna

1018

00:44:31,760 --> 00:44:30,090

listen to you and even if you prove

1019

00:44:34,940 --> 00:44:31,770

their psychic is wrong they're gonna say

1020

00:44:38,480 --> 00:44:34,950

oh well that one over there that's that

1021

00:44:40,640 --> 00:44:38,490

one's not right you know so we found

1022

00:44:45,530 --> 00:44:40,650

that having these really outrageous

1023

00:44:47,630 --> 00:44:45,540

crazy sting names my intention is is

1024

00:44:50,330 --> 00:44:47,640

that somebody could go a skeptic group

1025

00:44:52,400 --> 00:44:50,340

could actually produce maybe a three by

1026  
00:44:54,440 --> 00:44:52,410  
five card with operation pizza roll

1027  
00:44:57,530 --> 00:44:54,450  
operation bumblebee operation ice cream

1028  
00:44:59,750 --> 00:44:57,540  
cone operation Peach Pit written on this

1029  
00:45:03,020 --> 00:44:59,760  
card and maybe just say Google this and

1030  
00:45:07,070 --> 00:45:03,030  
leave these cards all over a venue for a

1031  
00:45:08,960 --> 00:45:07,080  
psychic maybe in the bathrooms or the

1032  
00:45:11,150 --> 00:45:08,970  
venue or hand them out and then just

1033  
00:45:12,760 --> 00:45:11,160  
walk away and some people in the

1034  
00:45:14,870 --> 00:45:12,770  
audience the attendees are going to

1035  
00:45:17,210 --> 00:45:14,880  
google it and they're gonna find out

1036  
00:45:20,090 --> 00:45:17,220  
about operation tater tide which is

1037  
00:45:21,590 --> 00:45:20,100  
another one we did so you know out of

1038  
00:45:23,390 --> 00:45:21,600

curiosity they're gonna look into it

1039

00:45:25,849 --> 00:45:23,400

they're easy to spell easy to remember

1040

00:45:27,590 --> 00:45:25,859

and then the other part is is we want to

1041

00:45:28,700 --> 00:45:27,600

shake up the psychic because they're

1042

00:45:30,620 --> 00:45:28,710

gonna see that these things are out

1043

00:45:33,859 --> 00:45:30,630

floating all over the place and the

1044

00:45:36,560 --> 00:45:33,869

bathrooms and and you know sitting on

1045

00:45:38,300 --> 00:45:36,570

stands and just different places they're

1046

00:45:41,300 --> 00:45:38,310

gonna see these colorful cards handed

1047

00:45:42,710 --> 00:45:41,310

out and they're they're gonna be how do

1048

00:45:44,330 --> 00:45:42,720

I say they're gonna be anticipating that

1049

00:45:46,700 --> 00:45:44,340

there is they're skeptics in the

1050

00:45:48,290 --> 00:45:46,710

audience and then there's ya know their

1051

00:45:49,690 --> 00:45:48,300

performance isn't gonna be as good as it

1052

00:45:52,820 --> 00:45:49,700

usually would be they're gonna be

1053

00:45:56,270 --> 00:45:52,830

nervous and and there really are just

1054

00:45:57,920 --> 00:45:56,280

performers after all so if you can if

1055

00:46:01,550 --> 00:45:57,930

you could shake them up if you can knock

1056

00:46:04,340 --> 00:46:01,560

them off they're there how do I say just

1057

00:46:05,060 --> 00:46:04,350

kind of a normally take them off their

1058

00:46:07,310 --> 00:46:05,070

perch

1059

00:46:09,410 --> 00:46:07,320

yeah just make him feel uncomfortable

1060

00:46:11,000 --> 00:46:09,420

and then weary then their performance

1061

00:46:13,310 --> 00:46:11,010

isn't gonna be as good and in the

1062

00:46:15,590 --> 00:46:13,320

audience that's gonna go you know I kind

1063

00:46:17,990 --> 00:46:15,600

of liked that psychic before but he just

1064

00:46:19,730 --> 00:46:18,000

doesn't seem like on it that much you

1065

00:46:22,580 --> 00:46:19,740

know he just seems to have lost it and

1066

00:46:24,260 --> 00:46:22,590

like he was reaching and baking it okay

1067

00:46:25,670 --> 00:46:24,270

so one of the things that we found that

1068

00:46:28,840 --> 00:46:25,680

was really interesting because mark

1069

00:46:30,800 --> 00:46:28,850

Edward is involved in the whole

1070

00:46:33,760 --> 00:46:30,810

investigations of these psychic stings

1071

00:46:36,700 --> 00:46:33,770

and he has valuable information as being

1072

00:46:38,960 --> 00:46:36,710

in the psychic business for many years

1073

00:46:41,690 --> 00:46:38,970

but the people who attended the event

1074

00:46:44,990 --> 00:46:41,700

this weekend they said that the psychic

1075

00:46:47,360 --> 00:46:45,000

had like a row of people all stand up at

1076

00:46:50,780 --> 00:46:47,370

once so there may be ten people stood up

1077

00:46:53,180 --> 00:46:50,790

and then the psychic said I'm getting a

1078

00:46:56,930 --> 00:46:53,190

suicide over here or I'm getting him a

1079

00:47:00,440 --> 00:46:56,940

baby that was miscarried or some kind of

1080

00:47:03,950 --> 00:47:00,450

statement and then somebody in the in

1081

00:47:06,230 --> 00:47:03,960

the row of ten would say something that

1082

00:47:07,610 --> 00:47:06,240

might make it like that was theirs or it

1083

00:47:09,170 --> 00:47:07,620

might be somebody very near to that

1084

00:47:11,630 --> 00:47:09,180

group of ten you know right in front or

1085

00:47:13,580 --> 00:47:11,640

right behind but what mark noticed and

1086

00:47:15,530 --> 00:47:13,590

he asked the group and we have video so

1087

00:47:17,720 --> 00:47:15,540

we're gonna look at the videos this is

1088

00:47:21,110 --> 00:47:17,730

true is an old mentalism trick that he

1089

00:47:23,480 --> 00:47:21,120

says is that they the psychic extends

1090

00:47:26,830 --> 00:47:23,490

his hand to point to an audience went to

1091

00:47:29,950 --> 00:47:26,840

a group and then he makes the statement

1092

00:47:33,080 --> 00:47:29,960

something like I'm getting a suicide and

1093

00:47:36,350 --> 00:47:33,090

then he's looking at the people's faces

1094

00:47:38,930 --> 00:47:36,360

and somebody will probably react with a

1095

00:47:41,630 --> 00:47:38,940

with an expression of surprise or grief

1096

00:47:45,020 --> 00:47:41,640

and then since his hands already

1097

00:47:48,200 --> 00:47:45,030

extended it just takes a very slight

1098

00:47:50,960 --> 00:47:48,210

movement with his hand to point to the

1099

00:47:55,010 --> 00:47:50,970

person exactly from the perspective of

1100

00:47:57,470 --> 00:47:55,020

the row standing depending on where the

1101  
00:48:00,200 --> 00:47:57,480  
where the psychic is it is a very slight

1102  
00:48:03,710 --> 00:48:00,210  
movement to look like they were being

1103  
00:48:05,540 --> 00:48:03,720  
pointed at the whole time when actually

1104  
00:48:07,280 --> 00:48:05,550  
they weren't being pointed at the whole

1105  
00:48:09,500 --> 00:48:07,290  
time they were just being pointed out in

1106  
00:48:11,870 --> 00:48:09,510  
that general direction and if it hadn't

1107  
00:48:13,640 --> 00:48:11,880  
got a hit that's fine he was skipped and

1108  
00:48:16,910 --> 00:48:13,650  
gone to something else but if he does

1109  
00:48:18,680 --> 00:48:16,920  
say I'm getting a baby that was that

1110  
00:48:21,440 --> 00:48:18,690  
died

1111  
00:48:23,480 --> 00:48:21,450  
birth and some woman automatically just

1112  
00:48:26,270 --> 00:48:23,490  
gets her eyes open up really large and

1113  
00:48:30,890 --> 00:48:26,280

her and she her mouth opens or she makes

1114

00:48:33,260 --> 00:48:30,900

a surprise huh you know gasps his finger

1115

00:48:35,420 --> 00:48:33,270

is already at her so she'll say and the

1116

00:48:37,190 --> 00:48:35,430

audience will say he was pointing right

1117

00:48:39,740 --> 00:48:37,200

at her when he made that statement

1118

00:48:41,240 --> 00:48:39,750

interesting when he really wasn't so

1119

00:48:45,020 --> 00:48:41,250

this is something I didn't really know

1120

00:48:49,910 --> 00:48:45,030

and Mark was able to tell that to us on

1121

00:48:51,470 --> 00:48:49,920

one of our sting calls and we asked if

1122

00:48:52,880 --> 00:48:51,480

that was really what had happened and

1123

00:48:54,020 --> 00:48:52,890

then once they thought about they said

1124

00:48:55,970 --> 00:48:54,030

you know what I think that's exactly

1125

00:48:58,700 --> 00:48:55,980

what was going on it happened so quickly

1126

00:49:00,620 --> 00:48:58,710

that the statement was the fingers

1127

00:49:02,450 --> 00:49:00,630

pointed at the group he says all stand

1128

00:49:04,970 --> 00:49:02,460

up he's still pointing at the group and

1129

00:49:06,530 --> 00:49:04,980

his and he makes a statement so quickly

1130

00:49:08,450 --> 00:49:06,540

that it looks like he would been

1131

00:49:09,620 --> 00:49:08,460

pointing at them that same person the

1132

00:49:10,940 --> 00:49:09,630

whole time and you're not paying that

1133

00:49:15,260 --> 00:49:10,950

much attention you're looking at the

1134

00:49:16,880 --> 00:49:15,270

audience not at the psychics finger I I

1135

00:49:18,440 --> 00:49:16,890

thought that was brilliant it's fun and

1136

00:49:20,330 --> 00:49:18,450

so as I said we're gonna have to watch

1137

00:49:23,540 --> 00:49:20,340

the we're gonna have to watch the video

1138

00:49:25,460 --> 00:49:23,550

to see depending on the angle that it's

1139

00:49:27,050 --> 00:49:25,470

filmed at you know it's hard to say but

1140

00:49:28,760 --> 00:49:27,060

I think other people should kind of

1141

00:49:30,230 --> 00:49:28,770

watch for that it's fascinating I love

1142

00:49:33,590 --> 00:49:30,240

hearing about these little tricks and

1143

00:49:36,350 --> 00:49:33,600

tips because I know there is a well

1144

00:49:38,660 --> 00:49:36,360

there are quite a few here in Australia

1145

00:49:40,370 --> 00:49:38,670

people who build themselves a psychic

1146

00:49:41,900 --> 00:49:40,380

through I'll happen to know use hot

1147

00:49:43,700 --> 00:49:41,910

reading techniques it's a matter of

1148

00:49:46,450 --> 00:49:43,710

sketching them out of course because

1149

00:49:49,340 --> 00:49:46,460

unless you can catch them out properly

1150

00:49:51,440 --> 00:49:49,350

you can't just run around accusing

1151

00:49:54,350 --> 00:49:51,450

people of this sort of thing I look

1152

00:49:56,810 --> 00:49:54,360

forward not much to more information

1153

00:49:59,750 --> 00:49:56,820

soon or about all this Susan how can

1154

00:50:01,730 --> 00:49:59,760

people get in touch with you and help be

1155

00:50:02,540 --> 00:50:01,740

part of guerrilla skepticism on

1156

00:50:04,670 --> 00:50:02,550

Wikipedia

1157

00:50:07,220 --> 00:50:04,680

well the guerrilla skepticism on

1158

00:50:09,260 --> 00:50:07,230

Wikipedia project has always looking for

1159

00:50:12,290 --> 00:50:09,270

volunteers to help it does take months

1160

00:50:13,580 --> 00:50:12,300

for us to train somebody completely and

1161

00:50:15,050 --> 00:50:13,590

then once you're trained obviously we're

1162

00:50:16,460 --> 00:50:15,060

going to expect you to work at it it

1163

00:50:18,770 --> 00:50:16,470

isn't something that you're going to

1164

00:50:21,590 --> 00:50:18,780

have to devote your life to but it is

1165

00:50:23,570 --> 00:50:21,600

something that you know it is gonna take

1166

00:50:25,190 --> 00:50:23,580

a little time and Richard you guys have

1167

00:50:26,870 --> 00:50:25,200

been awesome on this sceptic zone I

1168

00:50:28,340 --> 00:50:26,880

really appreciate all the attention that

1169

00:50:30,080 --> 00:50:28,350

you've given to our project running your

1170

00:50:31,559 --> 00:50:30,090

promos I just finished listening to the

1171

00:50:32,939 --> 00:50:31,569

last episode and

1172

00:50:35,160 --> 00:50:32,949

I heard one of my editors Sharon

1173

00:50:36,509 --> 00:50:35,170

Romney's voice and it's always makes me

1174

00:50:39,779 --> 00:50:36,519

smile we hear from people all the time

1175

00:50:42,630 --> 00:50:39,789

in fact we just got a doctor from Sri

1176

00:50:45,870 --> 00:50:42,640

Lanka who said he heard us on the

1177

00:50:48,120 --> 00:50:45,880

skeptics hello and I thought oh right

1178

00:50:50,489 --> 00:50:48,130

sure Lanka that's great you know and as

1179

00:50:52,739 --> 00:50:50,499

a doctor he's you know just a few years

1180

00:50:55,589 --> 00:50:52,749

into his residence his degree and

1181

00:50:57,239 --> 00:50:55,599

working and has a family and if he's

1182

00:51:00,390 --> 00:50:57,249

finding the time to get their training

1183

00:51:04,920 --> 00:51:00,400

then I think anybody can so we are all

1184

00:51:07,709 --> 00:51:04,930

on Facebook mostly we we have a secret

1185

00:51:09,569 --> 00:51:07,719

cabal on Facebook and so anybody who

1186

00:51:11,959 --> 00:51:09,579

approaches me the best place to find me

1187

00:51:14,459 --> 00:51:11,969

is on Facebook send me a private message

1188

00:51:16,680 --> 00:51:14,469

we will put you into the secret cabal

1189

00:51:20,279 --> 00:51:16,690

the training happens off of Google

1190

00:51:23,459 --> 00:51:20,289

Documents you're receiving a private

1191

00:51:25,380 --> 00:51:23,469

tutor and it is a blast

1192

00:51:27,180 --> 00:51:25,390

absolutely sounds good there's that

1193

00:51:29,939 --> 00:51:27,190

there's the message folks that's what

1194

00:51:31,559 --> 00:51:29,949

you should do to be really active in

1195

00:51:34,469 --> 00:51:31,569

skepticism and hello to all our

1196

00:51:38,099 --> 00:51:34,479

listeners in Sri Lanka we do look

1197

00:51:39,809 --> 00:51:38,109

forward every every so often the Sri

1198

00:51:42,329 --> 00:51:39,819

Lankan cricket team come to Australia

1199

00:51:44,160 --> 00:51:42,339

and they give us a great a great show

1200

00:51:46,709 --> 00:51:44,170

their wonderful cricketers in Sri Lanka

1201  
00:51:48,689 --> 00:51:46,719  
and India and Pakistan of course but for

1202  
00:51:50,130 --> 00:51:48,699  
now susan gerbic all the way over there

1203  
00:51:53,279 --> 00:51:50,140  
and I hope the earthquake doesn't happen

1204  
00:51:55,469 --> 00:51:53,289  
too soon thank you very much thank you

1205  
00:51:56,570 --> 00:51:55,479  
Richard and hello to everybody from the

1206  
00:52:20,610 --> 00:51:56,580  
sceptic zone

1207  
00:52:24,240 --> 00:52:22,950  
in Radford here if I can have a minute

1208  
00:52:26,220 --> 00:52:24,250  
of your time I'd like to shamelessly

1209  
00:52:28,290 --> 00:52:26,230  
plug my new book it's called

1210  
00:52:30,720 --> 00:52:28,300  
investigating ghosts the scientific

1211  
00:52:32,370 --> 00:52:30,730  
search for spirits examines ghost

1212  
00:52:34,470 --> 00:52:32,380  
hunting and ghost investigations from

1213  
00:52:36,720 --> 00:52:34,480

historical cultural and evidence-based

1214

00:52:39,540 --> 00:52:36,730

perspective from the Victorian era to

1215

00:52:41,640 --> 00:52:39,550

modern TV ghost hunters it is in a way a

1216

00:52:43,380 --> 00:52:41,650

follow-up to my 2010 book scientific

1217

00:52:45,690 --> 00:52:43,390

paranormal investigation how to solve

1218

00:52:46,910 --> 00:52:45,700

unexplained mysteries that book was more

1219

00:52:49,380 --> 00:52:46,920

general covering everything from

1220

00:52:51,660 --> 00:52:49,390

psychics to crop circles to monsters and

1221

00:52:53,970 --> 00:52:51,670

ghosts but I realized that ghosts are a

1222

00:52:55,860 --> 00:52:53,980

special category not only are ghosts the

1223

00:52:57,480 --> 00:52:55,870

most popular paranormal pursuit but

1224

00:52:59,580 --> 00:52:57,490

ghost hunting also has its own set of

1225

00:53:01,860 --> 00:52:59,590

assumptions and challenges the book will

1226  
00:53:05,270 --> 00:53:01,870  
be available soon for under 20 bucks and

1227  
00:53:09,410 --> 00:53:07,160  
for more information on the book and me

1228  
00:53:10,300 --> 00:53:09,420  
check out Benjamin Radford com please

1229  
00:53:28,600 --> 00:53:10,310  
check it out Thanks

1230  
00:53:32,600 --> 00:53:30,860  
thank you for listening to the skeptic

1231  
00:53:33,610 --> 00:53:32,610  
zone and again thank you very much to

1232  
00:53:37,490 --> 00:53:33,620  
Barry Williams

1233  
00:53:39,200 --> 00:53:37,500  
it is a sad time for the skeptical

1234  
00:53:41,780 --> 00:53:39,210  
movement in Australia and for his many

1235  
00:53:43,970 --> 00:53:41,790  
friends around the world - I'm sure and

1236  
00:53:46,510 --> 00:53:43,980  
in fact I only just day in the last few

1237  
00:53:48,950 --> 00:53:46,520  
minutes had a message from James Randi

1238  
00:53:51,770 --> 00:53:48,960

expressing his condolences and sadness

1239

00:53:54,950 --> 00:53:51,780

at the loss of Barry Williams so I think

1240

00:53:57,260 --> 00:53:54,960

we'll just wrap the show up now so this

1241

00:54:03,860 --> 00:53:57,270

is Richard Saunders signing off from

1242

00:54:06,860 --> 00:54:03,870

Sydney Australia you've been listening

1243

00:54:11,630 --> 00:54:06,870

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1244

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00:54:18,980 --> 00:54:14,940

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00:54:33,290 --> 00:54:29,580

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00:54:35,150 --> 00:54:33,300

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1252

00:54:39,520 --> 00:54:35,160

part of the show by downloading the

1253

00:54:43,310 --> 00:54:39,530

voice byte app at Voice bite comm and

1254

00:54:46,160 --> 00:54:43,320

using the hashtag skeptic zone the

1255

00:54:48,320 --> 00:54:46,170

skeptic zone podcast is an independent

1256

00:54:50,330 --> 00:54:48,330

production we views and opinions

1257

00:54:52,460 --> 00:54:50,340

expressed on the skeptic zone are not

1258

00:54:55,390 --> 00:54:52,470

necessarily those of Australian skeptics