

Show 484

THE
**SKEPTIC
ZONE**
PODCAST

www.skepticzone.tv

28 Jan 2018

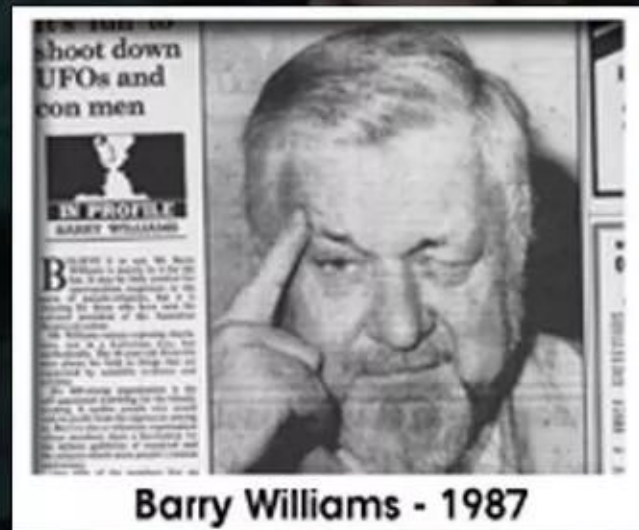


Dr Angela Mattke

18 nurses face disciplinary
action after anti-vax comments on Facebook

Dr Angie Mattke and Dragon*Con.
We chat to Dr Angie who is now the
Assistant Director for the
Skeptrack at Dragon*Con in Atlanta

In Profile - Barry Williams
From the
Sydney Morning Herald newspaper 1987.
It's fun to shoot down UFOs and con men.



Barry Williams - 1987

1
00:00:06,980 --> 00:00:03,679
okay Google Play skeptoid by Brian

2
00:00:10,629 --> 00:00:06,990
Dunning I'm sorry I don't seem to have

3
00:00:13,520 --> 00:00:10,639
anything called skip told by my numbing

4
00:00:17,120 --> 00:00:13,530
okay Google Play the skeptics guide to

5
00:00:18,980 --> 00:00:17,130
the universe okay here's the latest

6
00:00:19,700 --> 00:00:18,990
episode of the skeptics guide to the

7
00:00:22,700 --> 00:00:19,710
universe

8
00:00:30,470 --> 00:00:22,710
the skeptics guide number 655 January

9
00:00:34,940 --> 00:00:30,480
27th 2018 you're listening to the

10
00:00:40,069 --> 00:00:34,950
skeptics guide to the universe hmm

11
00:00:42,470 --> 00:00:40,079
okay google play the skeptic zone okay

12
00:00:51,799 --> 00:00:42,480
playing the do writes J zone + Pablo

13
00:00:55,760 --> 00:00:51,809

Martin on YouTube okay google play the

14

00:00:58,560 --> 00:00:55,770

skeptic zone okay

15

00:01:04,679 --> 00:00:58,570

playing the skeptic zone on YouTube

16

00:01:07,770 --> 00:01:04,689

[Music]

17

00:01:10,510 --> 00:01:07,780

welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

18

00:01:12,600 --> 00:01:10,520

from Australia for science and reason

19

00:01:15,520 --> 00:01:12,610

[Music]

20

00:01:22,219 --> 00:01:15,530

[Applause]

21

00:01:24,990 --> 00:01:22,229

[Music]

22

00:01:27,990 --> 00:01:25,000

yes it's the skeptic zone podcast with a

23

00:01:33,469 --> 00:01:28,000

little help from Google I think show

24

00:01:35,670 --> 00:01:33,479

number 484 for the 28th of January 2018

25

00:01:38,999 --> 00:01:35,680

Richardson is here with you from Sydney

26

00:01:42,389 --> 00:01:39,009

Australia muggy humid moist warm wet

27

00:01:44,280 --> 00:01:42,399

muggy muggy Sydney Australia I was at a

28

00:01:46,139 --> 00:01:44,290

social gathering yesterday with some of

29

00:01:49,440 --> 00:01:46,149

my colleagues from the TV and film

30

00:01:51,540 --> 00:01:49,450

business and we're all walking around

31

00:01:53,660 --> 00:01:51,550

you know how it is when it's really hot

32

00:01:57,810 --> 00:01:53,670

you grab the front of your shirt and you

33

00:02:00,029 --> 00:01:57,820

solder it back and forward it was crazy

34

00:02:02,550 --> 00:02:00,039

it's crazy muggy in Sydney Australia but

35

00:02:04,850 --> 00:02:02,560

never mind be glad you're where you are

36

00:02:07,230 --> 00:02:04,860

unless you're in Sydney at the moment

37

00:02:08,910 --> 00:02:07,240

enough of them weather report coming up

38

00:02:10,590 --> 00:02:08,920

on this week's show we're gonna start

39

00:02:14,729 --> 00:02:10,600

with a report just in the newspapers

40

00:02:18,720 --> 00:02:14,739

today about anti vaccination nurses

41

00:02:21,030 --> 00:02:18,730

being called to account now over the

42

00:02:23,910 --> 00:02:21,040

last year or so many anti vaccination

43

00:02:26,880 --> 00:02:23,920

nurses have come to the attention of

44

00:02:29,490 --> 00:02:26,890

skeptics and the story in today's paper

45

00:02:32,640 --> 00:02:29,500

is about one of them who is taking her

46

00:02:35,220 --> 00:02:32,650

own action to prevent further

47

00:02:38,520 --> 00:02:35,230

investigation or disciplinary action

48

00:02:40,289 --> 00:02:38,530

against her a very interesting story and

49

00:02:43,080 --> 00:02:40,299

one very important to skeptics and

50

00:02:45,420 --> 00:02:43,090

that's to kick off this week's episode

51
00:02:47,220 --> 00:02:45,430
of the skeptic zone following that I

52
00:02:50,190 --> 00:02:47,230
catch up on an old friend of mine dr.

53
00:02:53,550 --> 00:02:50,200
Angie matki who is a an emergency

54
00:02:57,870 --> 00:02:53,560
physician she's the she's one of the

55
00:03:00,690 --> 00:02:57,880
women who looks after patients when

56
00:03:04,710 --> 00:03:00,700
they're brought in from the ambulances

57
00:03:07,140 --> 00:03:04,720
or whatever straight into the ER she's

58
00:03:10,949 --> 00:03:07,150
just a sort of person you really want to

59
00:03:15,210 --> 00:03:10,959
have on your side her amazing skill and

60
00:03:18,690 --> 00:03:15,220
training and the good news is that she's

61
00:03:21,680 --> 00:03:18,700
been appointed to be part of the Skip

62
00:03:24,180 --> 00:03:21,690
track DragonCon the amazing incredible

63
00:03:26,610 --> 00:03:24,190

indescribable science fiction and

64

00:03:29,759 --> 00:03:26,620

fantasy convention in Atlanta Georgia

65

00:03:30,900 --> 00:03:29,769

every year so Angie's going to be on the

66

00:03:32,800 --> 00:03:30,910

line she's going to tell us all about

67

00:03:35,170 --> 00:03:32,810

that what to expect what

68

00:03:37,540 --> 00:03:35,180

like the benefits of having something

69

00:03:39,970 --> 00:03:37,550

like a skeptical outreach at a fantasy

70

00:03:43,260 --> 00:03:39,980

and science fiction convention and also

71

00:03:46,900 --> 00:03:43,270

she'll discuss some of the superstitions

72

00:03:48,220 --> 00:03:46,910

regarding what she does much like we had

73

00:03:51,250 --> 00:03:48,230

a couple of weeks ago with our friend

74

00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:51,260

Trish Han in the emergency departments

75

00:03:55,500 --> 00:03:52,010

and hospitals

76
00:04:01,630 --> 00:03:55,510
what strange beliefs and superstition as

77
00:04:03,400 --> 00:04:01,640
ng dr. Angela Maki encountered then to

78
00:04:06,670 --> 00:04:03,410
round off the show another tribute to

79
00:04:08,650 --> 00:04:06,680
the late Barry Williams some of the

80
00:04:10,690 --> 00:04:08,660
Australian skeptics committee and some

81
00:04:13,570 --> 00:04:10,700
family and some friends over the years

82
00:04:16,180 --> 00:04:13,580
gathered for the funeral of Barry

83
00:04:19,120 --> 00:04:16,190
Williams just a few days ago we heard

84
00:04:22,090 --> 00:04:19,130
stories from his days in the Royal

85
00:04:24,730 --> 00:04:22,100
Australian Air Force and other family

86
00:04:29,050 --> 00:04:24,740
stories and our very own Tim Mendham

87
00:04:31,930 --> 00:04:29,060
gave a very touching review of Barry's

88
00:04:36,790 --> 00:04:31,940

life now when it came to his skeptical

89

00:04:39,550 --> 00:04:36,800

work and prompted by the sad passing of

90

00:04:41,529 --> 00:04:39,560

Barry Williams I raided the archives

91

00:04:43,779 --> 00:04:41,539

down at the State Library here in Sydney

92

00:04:46,330 --> 00:04:43,789

went through lots of microfilm and I

93

00:04:49,150 --> 00:04:46,340

found various newspaper clippings that

94

00:04:50,529 --> 00:04:49,160

feature Barry and discovered he was once

95

00:04:53,200 --> 00:04:50,539

on the front page of The Sydney Morning

96

00:04:56,020 --> 00:04:53,210

Herald but I will read out a bit later

97

00:04:59,500 --> 00:04:56,030

on in the show an article dating way

98

00:05:03,100 --> 00:04:59,510

back to 1987 entitled it's fun to shoot

99

00:05:05,529 --> 00:05:03,110

down UFOs and con men in profile Barry

100

00:05:07,360 --> 00:05:05,539

Williams I think you'll enjoy that but

101
00:05:08,710 --> 00:05:07,370
before we really get under way with this

102
00:05:12,010 --> 00:05:08,720
week's show I thought I'd bring you up

103
00:05:13,960 --> 00:05:12,020
to date with the story that we recently

104
00:05:17,230 --> 00:05:13,970
ran about the skeptical community

105
00:05:20,529 --> 00:05:17,240
gathering or mustering its forces to

106
00:05:24,909 --> 00:05:20,539
support Brit hermès who you will

107
00:05:26,860 --> 00:05:24,919
remember is being sued by a naturopath

108
00:05:28,150 --> 00:05:26,870
in the United States or the naturopath

109
00:05:29,440 --> 00:05:28,160
seen in the United States Brits an

110
00:05:32,409 --> 00:05:29,450
American which he's now living in

111
00:05:34,659 --> 00:05:32,419
Germany in the beautiful city of Kiel

112
00:05:36,690 --> 00:05:34,669
City I know it's lovely up there right

113
00:05:38,860 --> 00:05:36,700

up in the north bit of Germany and

114

00:05:40,330 --> 00:05:38,870

recently under the leadership of Iran's

115

00:05:46,270 --> 00:05:40,340

to give the president of Australian

116

00:05:47,030 --> 00:05:46,280

skeptics an international there's been

117

00:05:49,220 --> 00:05:47,040

an international

118

00:05:52,780 --> 00:05:49,230

response I guess you'd say their call to

119

00:05:55,930 --> 00:05:52,790

arms to help brick fight this case via

120

00:05:59,720 --> 00:05:55,940

donations to illegal fighting fund and

121

00:06:02,030 --> 00:05:59,730

as reported at skeptics comdata you with

122

00:06:03,470 --> 00:06:02,040

an update on the 22nd of January we are

123

00:06:05,450 --> 00:06:03,480

very excited to announce that our

124

00:06:08,090 --> 00:06:05,460

campaign to support skeptical campaigner

125

00:06:12,410 --> 00:06:08,100

Brett Hermes has achieved its initial

126
00:06:15,440 --> 00:06:12,420
goal as of 11:30 p.m. Australian Eastern

127
00:06:17,150 --> 00:06:15,450
Daylight Time or 12:30 p.m. Greenwich

128
00:06:19,850 --> 00:06:17,160
Mean Time the fundraising campaign

129
00:06:23,300 --> 00:06:19,860
organized by Australian skeptics Inc ASI

130
00:06:27,170 --> 00:06:23,310
has raised more than 80,000 dollars

131
00:06:29,570 --> 00:06:27,180
Australian or about 50,000 euros in more

132
00:06:31,900 --> 00:06:29,580
than 2000 donations from around the

133
00:06:35,750 --> 00:06:31,910
world in less than nine days the

134
00:06:38,090 --> 00:06:35,760
campaign goal of at least \$80,000 is the

135
00:06:41,300 --> 00:06:38,100
amount brits lawyer has advised would

136
00:06:43,090 --> 00:06:41,310
likely be required but the fundraising

137
00:06:45,800 --> 00:06:43,100
doesn't stop considering the

138
00:06:48,680 --> 00:06:45,810

unpredictable nature of legal costs the

139

00:06:51,260 --> 00:06:48,690

final amount required may vary we need

140

00:06:53,510 --> 00:06:51,270

to raise enough to ensure that Brit is

141

00:06:57,050 --> 00:06:53,520

not out of pocket and definitely not

142

00:06:58,670 --> 00:06:57,060

silenced by the defamation action so

143

00:07:01,700 --> 00:06:58,680

there you are folks more information at

144

00:07:04,010 --> 00:07:01,710

skeptics comdata you but all those

145

00:07:07,160 --> 00:07:04,020

people listening who supported this

146

00:07:10,910 --> 00:07:07,170

campaign by donations Wow a big thank

147

00:07:14,110 --> 00:07:10,920

you and it really does show dramatically

148

00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:14,120

that the worldwide skeptical movement

149

00:07:20,210 --> 00:07:17,010

can make a difference and come and can

150

00:07:24,410 --> 00:07:20,220

come to support of skeptics who really

151
00:07:26,630 --> 00:07:24,420
need it well done great news and again

152
00:07:28,730 --> 00:07:26,640
we'll keep you updated but now it's time

153
00:07:33,230 --> 00:07:28,740
for me to run downstairs and have a cup

154
00:07:35,780 --> 00:07:33,240
of lemon tea with ginger because I think

155
00:07:39,080 --> 00:07:35,790
I'm just starting to get the very very

156
00:07:41,600 --> 00:07:39,090
beginning of a skeptical cold or

157
00:07:43,730 --> 00:07:41,610
something I'm not sure I hope not

158
00:07:48,410 --> 00:07:43,740
there's nothing worse than having a cold

159
00:07:50,420 --> 00:07:48,420
and steamy hot muggy weather hmm hmm I

160
00:07:53,330 --> 00:07:50,430
better run downstairs and do that well I

161
00:07:53,900 --> 00:07:53,340
do that I hope you enjoy the skeptic

162
00:08:11,749 --> 00:07:53,910
zone

163
00:08:16,409 --> 00:08:13,740

here's the story brought to my attention

164

00:08:19,760 --> 00:08:16,419

by Heidi Robinson the raw skeptic and

165

00:08:22,469 --> 00:08:19,770

this is reported in the Daily Telegraph

166

00:08:28,320 --> 00:08:22,479

newspaper and also I noticed in The

167

00:08:31,399 --> 00:08:28,330

Courier Mail the story by Vander Carson

168

00:08:37,110 --> 00:08:31,409

18 nurses face a disciplinary action

169

00:08:39,899 --> 00:08:37,120

after aunt Eve accents on Facebook 18

170

00:08:42,120 --> 00:08:39,909

nurses are facing possible disciplinary

171

00:08:44,250 --> 00:08:42,130

action for allegedly posting

172

00:08:46,920 --> 00:08:44,260

anti-vaccination comments on Facebook

173

00:08:49,370 --> 00:08:46,930

after a probe vaccination campaigner

174

00:08:52,170 --> 00:08:49,380

reported them to the health watchdog

175

00:08:54,930 --> 00:08:52,180

details of the investigation into the

176

00:08:57,300 --> 00:08:54,940

nurses actions were revealed in the

177

00:09:00,540 --> 00:08:57,310

Supreme Court in Brisbane as part of a

178

00:09:03,150 --> 00:09:00,550

legal bid by a Sunshine Coast nurse and

179

00:09:05,370 --> 00:09:03,160

Midwife to block disciplinary action

180

00:09:07,920 --> 00:09:05,380

over accusations she acted

181

00:09:10,170 --> 00:09:07,930

unprofessionally by posting anti

182

00:09:12,360 --> 00:09:10,180

vaccination comments on facebook the

183

00:09:13,949 --> 00:09:12,370

group of nurses who were reported to the

184

00:09:16,920 --> 00:09:13,959

Australian health practitioners

185

00:09:20,639 --> 00:09:16,930

regulatory agency AHPRA

186

00:09:22,860 --> 00:09:20,649

in May 2016 faced restrictions on their

187

00:09:25,980 --> 00:09:22,870

nursing registration if they are found

188

00:09:29,130 --> 00:09:25,990

to have engaged in quote unsatisfactory

189

00:09:31,110 --> 00:09:29,140

in quote professional conduct the nurses

190

00:09:33,510 --> 00:09:31,120

have been told by the healthcare

191

00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:33,520

watchdog that they can be investigated

192

00:09:38,639 --> 00:09:36,010

for their actions beyond the care of

193

00:09:41,040 --> 00:09:38,649

patients sunshine Beach nurse aide

194

00:09:43,889 --> 00:09:41,050

Elizabeth Jane Craig has been told by

195

00:09:46,380 --> 00:09:43,899

the AHPRA that she is facing a possible

196

00:09:48,840 --> 00:09:46,390

caution and could be forced to study

197

00:09:51,720 --> 00:09:48,850

quote evidence-based practice end quote

198

00:09:54,530 --> 00:09:51,730

after she posted quote numerous anti

199

00:09:57,449 --> 00:09:54,540

vaccination statements and quote online

200

00:10:00,870 --> 00:09:57,459

quote including a post in which you

201
00:10:04,980 --> 00:10:00,880
state that the vaccines are Satan's

202
00:10:06,360 --> 00:10:04,990
latest plan to Tate and change human DNA

203
00:10:08,310 --> 00:10:06,370
end quote

204
00:10:11,790 --> 00:10:08,320
you know letter to miss Craig on

205
00:10:13,689 --> 00:10:11,800
December the fifth last year AHPRA told

206
00:10:15,639 --> 00:10:13,699
her that the nursing in mid with

207
00:10:17,949 --> 00:10:15,649
three bored of Australia believed her

208
00:10:20,769 --> 00:10:17,959
quote conduct is or may be

209
00:10:23,079 --> 00:10:20,779
unsatisfactory unquote quote you promote

210
00:10:25,449 --> 00:10:23,089
the use of religious belief to gain an

211
00:10:27,909 --> 00:10:25,459
exemption from vaccination by way of a

212
00:10:31,359 --> 00:10:27,919
comment on the post and quote AHPRA

213
00:10:34,359 --> 00:10:31,369

states in its letter quote your facebook

214

00:10:36,609 --> 00:10:34,369

profile as at 21st of May 2016

215

00:10:39,009 --> 00:10:36,619

identifies that you have completed

216

00:10:41,889 --> 00:10:39,019

Nursing and Midwifery qualifications and

217

00:10:45,039 --> 00:10:41,899

in a comment on a post on the 24th of

218

00:10:47,439 --> 00:10:45,049

March 2014 you advise you work for

219

00:10:49,449 --> 00:10:47,449

Queensland Health it is considered

220

00:10:52,329 --> 00:10:49,459

likely that you would have been required

221

00:10:54,789 --> 00:10:52,339

to provide advice and/or administer

222

00:10:57,539 --> 00:10:54,799

vaccines as part of your role as a nurse

223

00:11:01,829 --> 00:10:57,549

or Midwife in quote the letter states

224

00:11:04,989 --> 00:11:01,839

AHPRA said her actions showed an quote

225

00:11:06,699 --> 00:11:04,999

apparent lack of insight end quote and a

226

00:11:10,629 --> 00:11:06,709

possible breach of the code of conduct

227

00:11:14,289 --> 00:11:10,639

and the social media policy miss Craig

228

00:11:16,929 --> 00:11:14,299

was told she had until January 8 to

229

00:11:18,879 --> 00:11:16,939

respond to the complaint but instead has

230

00:11:22,269 --> 00:11:18,889

gone to the Supreme Court in Brisbane

231

00:11:23,710 --> 00:11:22,279

seeking judicial review her case is due

232

00:11:27,789 --> 00:11:23,720

in court tomorrow

233

00:11:29,559 --> 00:11:27,799

that being the 29th of January she told

234

00:11:31,599 --> 00:11:29,569

the court that quote there is no

235

00:11:34,629 --> 00:11:31,609

evidence to support that a reasonable

236

00:11:37,210 --> 00:11:34,639

person would identify me as providing a

237

00:11:40,720 --> 00:11:37,220

health service or giving clinical advice

238

00:11:42,759 --> 00:11:40,730

I deny I have ever promoted an anti

239

00:11:45,069 --> 00:11:42,769

vaccination stance and quote she told

240

00:11:49,019 --> 00:11:45,079

the court she claims that the

241

00:11:51,549 --> 00:11:49,029

whistleblower who reported her has quote

242

00:11:53,439 --> 00:11:51,559

misrepresented and quote her Facebook

243

00:11:57,189 --> 00:11:53,449

posts as quote professional conduct

244

00:11:59,409 --> 00:11:57,199

unquote when they were quote under my

245

00:12:02,019 --> 00:11:59,419

personal name end quote

246

00:12:04,329 --> 00:12:02,029

ms Craig claims that if a condition were

247

00:12:07,749 --> 00:12:04,339

placed on her registration it would have

248

00:12:09,909 --> 00:12:07,759

quote long-term professional personal

249

00:12:12,519 --> 00:12:09,919

and employment consequences end quote

250

00:12:16,359 --> 00:12:12,529

the anonymous complaint filed in court

251
00:12:19,119 --> 00:12:16,369
state said ms Craig quote is a long-term

252
00:12:22,389 --> 00:12:19,129
a member of the rabidly anti-vaccination

253
00:12:25,269 --> 00:12:22,399
secret Facebook group vaccine choice

254
00:12:27,620 --> 00:12:25,279
Australia unquote and advised the

255
00:12:30,319 --> 00:12:27,630
anti-vaxxer mother of a 1we

256
00:12:32,990 --> 00:12:30,329
old baby in February 2016 that her

257
00:12:35,180 --> 00:12:33,000
breast milk quote provides immunity and

258
00:12:38,120 --> 00:12:35,190
quote the complaint it also states that

259
00:12:40,579 --> 00:12:38,130
Craig shed anti vaccination posts and

260
00:12:43,189 --> 00:12:40,589
quote promoted end quote a quote

261
00:12:46,189 --> 00:12:43,199
discredited anti vaccination activist in

262
00:12:49,100 --> 00:12:46,199
quote and asked another Facebook user

263
00:12:51,470 --> 00:12:49,110

not to post the name of an anti

264

00:12:54,769 --> 00:12:51,480

vaccination midwife working at Royal

265

00:12:56,509 --> 00:12:54,779

Brisbane and Women's Hospital it is not

266

00:13:00,110 --> 00:12:56,519

the first time this Craig has been

267

00:13:03,199 --> 00:13:00,120

reported to nursing regulators in August

268

00:13:05,569 --> 00:13:03,209

2014 she was cautioned after her

269

00:13:08,090 --> 00:13:05,579

comments on Facebook giving advice to

270

00:13:11,059 --> 00:13:08,100

other anti-vaxxers to avoid mandatory

271

00:13:13,280 --> 00:13:11,069

workplace jabs for hepatitis B by

272

00:13:15,699 --> 00:13:13,290

claiming quote religious and quote

273

00:13:19,009 --> 00:13:15,709

objection were found to be quote

274

00:13:21,319 --> 00:13:19,019

unsatisfactory in quote quote documents

275

00:13:23,720 --> 00:13:21,329

state that in October 2016 the Nursing

276

00:13:26,210 --> 00:13:23,730

and Midwifery Board of Australia told

277

00:13:28,730 --> 00:13:26,220

its members it had become aware that a

278

00:13:31,280 --> 00:13:28,740

quote small number and quote of nurses

279

00:13:33,170 --> 00:13:31,290

and midwives were quote promoting anti

280

00:13:35,749 --> 00:13:33,180

vaccination statements to patients and

281

00:13:37,970 --> 00:13:35,759

the public via social media which

282

00:13:39,530 --> 00:13:37,980

contradict the best available scientific

283

00:13:42,379 --> 00:13:39,540

evidence end quote

284

00:13:44,540 --> 00:13:42,389

the board told members that the AHPRA

285

00:13:47,030 --> 00:13:44,550

has the power to quote prosecutor and

286

00:13:53,530 --> 00:13:47,040

quota nurses the distribute false or

287

00:13:55,999 --> 00:13:53,540

misleading anti vaccination material and

288

00:13:59,300 --> 00:13:56,009

that story has been published in various

289

00:14:03,290 --> 00:13:59,310

newspapers including the Courier Mail

290

00:14:04,750 --> 00:14:03,300

and we will keep you up-to-date as this

291

00:14:20,489 --> 00:14:04,760

story develops

292

00:14:23,889 --> 00:14:20,499

[Music]

293

00:14:26,739 --> 00:14:23,899

hi this is dr. Pamela gay from astronomy

294

00:14:28,629 --> 00:14:26,749

cast each week Fraser Cain and I take

295

00:14:30,850 --> 00:14:28,639

our listeners on a fact-based journey

296

00:14:33,579 --> 00:14:30,860

through the cosmos with our weekly

297

00:14:36,400 --> 00:14:33,589

podcast we explain not just what we know

298

00:14:39,249 --> 00:14:36,410

but how we know what we know about this

299

00:14:41,710 --> 00:14:39,259

universe that we share check us out at

300

00:14:44,109 --> 00:14:41,720

astronomy cast calm and look for us in

301
00:15:20,979 --> 00:14:44,119
itunes google play and where ever you

302
00:15:22,659 --> 00:15:20,989
download podcasts see online and joining

303
00:15:24,970 --> 00:15:22,669
me now all the way from beautiful

304
00:15:29,049 --> 00:15:24,980
Atlanta Georgia an old friend of mine

305
00:15:30,970 --> 00:15:29,059
dr. Angie McGee hello dr. Angie hey good

306
00:15:33,400 --> 00:15:30,980
morning Richard or afternoon or whatever

307
00:15:36,249 --> 00:15:33,410
it is there it's gonna talk to you it's

308
00:15:37,900 --> 00:15:36,259
strangely enough it's morning it's and I

309
00:15:41,199 --> 00:15:37,910
think it's afternoon where you are

310
00:15:43,720 --> 00:15:41,209
it is submit' afternoon here that's

311
00:15:46,809 --> 00:15:43,730
wonderful I thought I'd give you a call

312
00:15:49,869 --> 00:15:46,819
contact you because I saw just recently

313
00:15:53,829 --> 00:15:49,879

and you are putting this about that you

314

00:15:56,470 --> 00:15:53,839

are now quite involved in the wonderful

315

00:15:57,970 --> 00:15:56,480

Dragon Con in Atlanta Georgia which is

316

00:16:01,030 --> 00:15:57,980

on the Labor Day long weekend in the

317

00:16:03,609 --> 00:16:01,040

United States involved with Derek Colin

318

00:16:07,059 --> 00:16:03,619

dunno to run the Skip track and what can

319

00:16:08,829 --> 00:16:07,069

you tell us about that well Derek has

320

00:16:11,109 --> 00:16:08,839

done such a great job at this kept track

321

00:16:15,789 --> 00:16:11,119

and has brought so many new people into

322

00:16:20,079 --> 00:16:15,799

the skepticism including me actually but

323

00:16:21,910 --> 00:16:20,089

it's it's a big job and he needed some

324

00:16:25,030 --> 00:16:21,920

help and so

325

00:16:28,600 --> 00:16:25,040

I am now the assistant director for the

326

00:16:30,069 --> 00:16:28,610

track and we are very excited about this

327

00:16:32,620 --> 00:16:30,079

year I can't wait we're trying to get

328

00:16:35,920 --> 00:16:32,630

you to come Jamie and Swiss has already

329

00:16:39,269 --> 00:16:35,930

confirmed and we're we're still working

330

00:16:41,800 --> 00:16:39,279

on getting folks into the into the

331

00:16:44,680 --> 00:16:41,810

roster so that we can have the best

332

00:16:46,389 --> 00:16:44,690

Dragon Con skip track ever now for those

333

00:16:54,000 --> 00:16:46,399

of you who haven't been to Dragon Con

334

00:16:57,970 --> 00:16:54,010

and I have not been myself since Oh 2010

335

00:17:00,430 --> 00:16:57,980

and of course Dragon Con in 2008 was the

336

00:17:02,829 --> 00:17:00,440

very first time the skeptic zone was

337

00:17:05,079 --> 00:17:02,839

recorded well what can you tell people

338

00:17:12,069 --> 00:17:05,089

what's it like Dragon Con in general and

339

00:17:15,309 --> 00:17:12,079

the skeptic track in particular Dragon

340

00:17:17,919 --> 00:17:15,319

Con itself is probably the biggest

341

00:17:21,159 --> 00:17:17,929

spectacle that I've ever seen and

342

00:17:23,919 --> 00:17:21,169

believe me I've seen some but and and it

343

00:17:26,740 --> 00:17:23,929

seems sort of like that with the skip

344

00:17:28,750 --> 00:17:26,750

track the science track and those seem

345

00:17:32,740 --> 00:17:28,760

to sort of be the calm in the middle of

346

00:17:35,470 --> 00:17:32,750

a storm but there is so there are so

347

00:17:39,100 --> 00:17:35,480

many opportunities to indulge your your

348

00:17:41,620 --> 00:17:39,110

love for any particular fandom BBC

349

00:17:44,289 --> 00:17:41,630

fandom you've got the Doctor Who the

350

00:17:49,570 --> 00:17:44,299

Star Trek Star Wars Battlestar Galactica

351
00:17:51,220 --> 00:17:49,580
gamers pasta rumours video game I mean

352
00:17:55,480 --> 00:17:51,230
like just everything you can think of

353
00:17:58,810 --> 00:17:55,490
this is the world's repository of pop

354
00:18:00,549 --> 00:17:58,820
culture science fiction fantasy and a

355
00:18:04,450 --> 00:18:00,559
good bit of rock and roll thrown in

356
00:18:07,390 --> 00:18:04,460
there for good measure that's not a bad

357
00:18:09,520 --> 00:18:07,400
description what caught my attention the

358
00:18:17,169 --> 00:18:09,530
times I went all those years ago was the

359
00:18:19,930 --> 00:18:17,179
sheer volume of geeks dressed up it

360
00:18:22,330 --> 00:18:19,940
really is and it's one of the things I

361
00:18:24,580 --> 00:18:22,340
really love about Dragon Con I think

362
00:18:28,930 --> 00:18:24,590
that there is a lack of passion anymore

363
00:18:32,890 --> 00:18:28,940

people who have passion for things for

364

00:18:35,710 --> 00:18:32,900

these whole universes of fandom they

365

00:18:36,970 --> 00:18:35,720

don't really have a whole lot of

366

00:18:39,909 --> 00:18:36,980

places that they can share their

367

00:18:42,010 --> 00:18:39,919

passions with others and DragonCon is

368

00:18:46,060 --> 00:18:42,020

one of the few that that you can really

369

00:18:50,080 --> 00:18:46,070

indulge your passion and I I kind of

370

00:18:54,250 --> 00:18:50,090

don't cost them because I they are so

371

00:18:57,520 --> 00:18:54,260

far out of my league so I just go and

372

00:18:59,470 --> 00:18:57,530

when I go I really enjoy seeing the the

373

00:19:01,720 --> 00:18:59,480

passion that people have applied to

374

00:19:03,460 --> 00:19:01,730

their costumes and and they bring more

375

00:19:05,560 --> 00:19:03,470

than one that's the other thing I find

376

00:19:07,330 --> 00:19:05,570

just amazing people will have two

377

00:19:10,180 --> 00:19:07,340

costumes a day they'll have two word

378

00:19:13,049 --> 00:19:10,190

room changes a day and they have devoted

379

00:19:16,890 --> 00:19:13,059

so much time and energy into producing

380

00:19:20,470 --> 00:19:16,900

either a very creative mashup or or a

381

00:19:22,870 --> 00:19:20,480

very high fidelity version of a

382

00:19:25,960 --> 00:19:22,880

particular costume it's really amazing

383

00:19:28,840 --> 00:19:25,970

it really is and what I loved about it

384

00:19:30,820 --> 00:19:28,850

of course the times I went what was

385

00:19:34,950 --> 00:19:30,830

taking part in the skip track was Derek

386

00:19:38,110 --> 00:19:34,960

and and lots of all friends and it was a

387

00:19:39,700 --> 00:19:38,120

fantastic opportunity because we would

388

00:19:41,350 --> 00:19:39,710

set up our sessions and I would give a

389

00:19:43,539 --> 00:19:41,360

talk or there'd be a panel or something

390

00:19:45,700 --> 00:19:43,549

like that and a lot of the audience

391

00:19:48,580 --> 00:19:45,710

would be people just drifting in or

392

00:19:50,980 --> 00:19:48,590

soared on the itinerary and came in out

393

00:19:52,960 --> 00:19:50,990

of curiosity so we got a lot of people

394

00:19:54,399 --> 00:19:52,970

who are introduced to skepticism and I

395

00:19:57,480 --> 00:19:54,409

think that's probably the case ever

396

00:20:00,279 --> 00:19:57,490

since skeptic began all those years ago

397

00:20:02,110 --> 00:20:00,289

and I thought that was a really really

398

00:20:03,279 --> 00:20:02,120

worthwhile thing I mean they were of

399

00:20:05,590 --> 00:20:03,289

course there were skeptics in the

400

00:20:07,840 --> 00:20:05,600

audience a lot some people go there too

401
00:20:09,399 --> 00:20:07,850
because they know what to expect but all

402
00:20:11,110 --> 00:20:09,409
those other strange people in their

403
00:20:13,720 --> 00:20:11,120
costumes wandering in and sitting down

404
00:20:15,159 --> 00:20:13,730
being introduced to skepticism and I

405
00:20:18,310 --> 00:20:15,169
think that's probably the first time I

406
00:20:20,380 --> 00:20:18,320
met you is probably there it was as a

407
00:20:22,539 --> 00:20:20,390
matter of fact I don't know if you were

408
00:20:23,919 --> 00:20:22,549
there I'm I don't remember seeing her

409
00:20:26,140 --> 00:20:23,929
last year but the Flying Spaghetti

410
00:20:30,010 --> 00:20:26,150
Monster often will stop by to see a

411
00:20:32,200 --> 00:20:30,020
track and take photos but and of course

412
00:20:35,649 --> 00:20:32,210
Margaret Downey arranges our section of

413
00:20:39,340 --> 00:20:35,659

the parade now we have often will have

414

00:20:41,500 --> 00:20:39,350

cars that we can drive a particularly

415

00:20:45,010 --> 00:20:41,510

Maneri I've driven James Randi twice now

416

00:20:49,480 --> 00:20:45,020

in the parade and that gets out the

417

00:20:52,510 --> 00:20:49,490

message of questioning beliefs

418

00:20:54,820 --> 00:20:52,520

out to the larger audience especially

419

00:21:01,180 --> 00:20:54,830

since now there televising the parades

420

00:21:04,270 --> 00:21:01,190

and so we're able to give kudos to

421

00:21:08,590 --> 00:21:04,280

people who have been skeptics throughout

422

00:21:12,549 --> 00:21:08,600

history and just other regular messages

423

00:21:14,260 --> 00:21:12,559

of question things so so there are so

424

00:21:17,710 --> 00:21:14,270

many opportunities for outreach there

425

00:21:19,120 --> 00:21:17,720

it's just staggering the the really nice

426

00:21:20,950 --> 00:21:19,130

thing about thus kept track and I think

427

00:21:23,080 --> 00:21:20,960

one of the things you alluded to is that

428

00:21:25,919 --> 00:21:23,090

it's really sort of in the middle of

429

00:21:28,960 --> 00:21:25,929

everything as people are walking through

430

00:21:33,190 --> 00:21:28,970

from one hotel to another it's really

431

00:21:35,350 --> 00:21:33,200

well situated and and pretty easy to get

432

00:21:38,910 --> 00:21:35,360

to from other parts of the convention

433

00:21:42,820 --> 00:21:38,920

and so I think that that is one of the

434

00:21:44,470 --> 00:21:42,830

reasons for its initial success was

435

00:21:46,360 --> 00:21:44,480

because people could just kind of wander

436

00:21:49,360 --> 00:21:46,370

in there when they saw something

437

00:21:50,799 --> 00:21:49,370

interesting on the schedule it's not

438

00:21:52,930 --> 00:21:50,809

something you had to hunt for like on

439

00:21:55,330 --> 00:21:52,940

the bowels of the Hyatt who you know was

440

00:21:58,210 --> 00:21:55,340

pretty much for the most committed of

441

00:22:00,880 --> 00:21:58,220

fans yeah it's it's it's an interesting

442

00:22:03,460 --> 00:22:00,890

thing of course because I'm saying these

443

00:22:04,960 --> 00:22:03,470

strange people sort of drift in and I

444

00:22:08,320 --> 00:22:04,970

don't mean strange in a bad way they

445

00:22:09,880 --> 00:22:08,330

just dressed bizarrely as characters

446

00:22:13,000 --> 00:22:09,890

from everything you can possibly imagine

447

00:22:15,340 --> 00:22:13,010

from Doctor Who to Star Wars to comic

448

00:22:18,130 --> 00:22:15,350

books that I'm unfamiliar with elaborate

449

00:22:19,930 --> 00:22:18,140

costumes huge costumes sometimes you

450

00:22:21,660 --> 00:22:19,940

can't even get into the elevator because

451
00:22:23,730 --> 00:22:21,670
they're full of wookies and angels and

452
00:22:26,200 --> 00:22:23,740
[Laughter]

453
00:22:28,060 --> 00:22:26,210
yes you have to be careful of the pointy

454
00:22:31,840 --> 00:22:28,070
things you do have to be careful axes

455
00:22:34,570 --> 00:22:31,850
and swords and and saying before the

456
00:22:37,810 --> 00:22:34,580
sheer volume of people over many many

457
00:22:41,740 --> 00:22:37,820
mega giant hotels it's quite a spectacle

458
00:22:45,390 --> 00:22:41,750
the the the convention has taken over

459
00:22:48,220 --> 00:22:45,400
five major hotels in downtown Atlanta

460
00:22:49,900 --> 00:22:48,230
Dragon Con has become a fixture in

461
00:22:53,500 --> 00:22:49,910
Atlanta society the mayor has given

462
00:22:57,640 --> 00:22:53,510
Dragon Con Award there are special

463
00:23:00,010 --> 00:22:57,650

banners we get our own wall in the

464

00:23:02,950 --> 00:23:00,020

Atlanta Airport as you're coming up from

465

00:23:03,370 --> 00:23:02,960

baggage to go into the baggage claim as

466

00:23:06,430 --> 00:23:03,380

you're coming

467

00:23:11,530 --> 00:23:06,440

the large escalators everyone goes past

468

00:23:14,410 --> 00:23:11,540

this whole billboard which is in the

469

00:23:16,540 --> 00:23:14,420

world's biggest busiest airport and it's

470

00:23:19,860 --> 00:23:16,550

all about Dragon Con it welcomes Dragon

471

00:23:23,140 --> 00:23:19,870

Con to Atlanta I'm not I'm not surprised

472

00:23:26,230 --> 00:23:23,150

the income for the the city of Atlanta

473

00:23:28,510 --> 00:23:26,240

must be extraordinary now I I hope I can

474

00:23:31,690 --> 00:23:28,520

make it no promises at this early stage

475

00:23:33,340 --> 00:23:31,700

I miss it every year it comes around and

476

00:23:35,620 --> 00:23:33,350

I just wish I could be there folks if

477

00:23:37,750 --> 00:23:35,630

you want to have a flavor of what it's

478

00:23:39,640 --> 00:23:37,760

like and if you haven't been there I

479

00:23:41,710 --> 00:23:39,650

think YouTube's the best just go to

480

00:23:45,510 --> 00:23:41,720

youtube and look up Dragon Con and

481

00:23:53,140 --> 00:23:45,520

you'll get a taste of the nonstop

482

00:23:56,310 --> 00:23:53,150

bizarreness of this one it doesn't even

483

00:23:58,720 --> 00:23:56,320

hold a candle to actually being there

484

00:24:00,520 --> 00:23:58,730

seeing things in person you can examine

485

00:24:02,950 --> 00:24:00,530

the details on the costumes just to

486

00:24:06,760 --> 00:24:02,960

stand at the time for the Marriott and

487

00:24:08,410 --> 00:24:06,770

look down at this sea of people I'll

488

00:24:09,880 --> 00:24:08,420

never forget this one time we were

489

00:24:12,940 --> 00:24:09,890

standing up at the top and looking down

490

00:24:17,320 --> 00:24:12,950

and there were these two huge walking

491

00:24:19,450 --> 00:24:17,330

dinosaur bones skeletons it was sort of

492

00:24:23,590 --> 00:24:19,460

a it was an articulated dinosaur

493

00:24:26,170 --> 00:24:23,600

skeleton and it was easily 20 feet long

494

00:24:28,090 --> 00:24:26,180

it was enormous yes that's absolutely

495

00:24:31,150 --> 00:24:28,100

typical of the sort of things you'll see

496

00:24:33,400 --> 00:24:31,160

a dragon cutting and again it's it's

497

00:24:35,500 --> 00:24:33,410

full of very passionate people who love

498

00:24:37,270 --> 00:24:35,510

science fiction and fantasy and that

499

00:24:40,150 --> 00:24:37,280

sort of ties in so well because there's

500

00:24:42,370 --> 00:24:40,160

also other tracks there like the science

501
00:24:44,860 --> 00:24:42,380
track for example where it's just

502
00:24:46,630 --> 00:24:44,870
dedicated to scientific research and all

503
00:24:48,550 --> 00:24:46,640
that sort of stuff and the other track

504
00:24:50,620 --> 00:24:48,560
which is close to my heart which I took

505
00:24:53,230 --> 00:24:50,630
part in when I was there was the Silk

506
00:24:55,630 --> 00:24:53,240
Road which is sort of I think Asian

507
00:24:58,510 --> 00:24:55,640
culture which I was able to demonstrate

508
00:25:00,610 --> 00:24:58,520
origami there and give lessons and take

509
00:25:03,580 --> 00:25:00,620
part in that so yes a lot of reasons for

510
00:25:05,230 --> 00:25:03,590
me to try and get back ng I think agreed

511
00:25:07,810 --> 00:25:05,240
please please please try to come back

512
00:25:09,760 --> 00:25:07,820
Richard we miss you thank you now

513
00:25:11,890 --> 00:25:09,770

something else I'll ask you about

514

00:25:13,390 --> 00:25:11,900

because a couple of weeks on the skeptic

515

00:25:15,790 --> 00:25:13,400

zone listeners will remember we spoke to

516

00:25:17,110 --> 00:25:15,800

trish han who works at the Royal Prince

517

00:25:18,940 --> 00:25:17,120

Alfred hospital here in

518

00:25:21,970 --> 00:25:18,950

and she was talking about some of the

519

00:25:24,190 --> 00:25:21,980

odd superstitions and practices she's

520

00:25:26,380 --> 00:25:24,200

seen in the emergency department when

521

00:25:28,510 --> 00:25:26,390

people come in they may refuse to take

522

00:25:31,200 --> 00:25:28,520

off a crucifix for an x-ray for example

523

00:25:33,490 --> 00:25:31,210

because they have superstitious beliefs

524

00:25:35,920 --> 00:25:33,500

compel them to hang on to it and you can

525

00:25:37,450 --> 00:25:35,930

sort of understand that in a way you

526
00:25:39,910 --> 00:25:37,460
must have come across some interesting

527
00:25:43,570 --> 00:25:39,920
cases in your line which is very similar

528
00:25:46,090 --> 00:25:43,580
but I I wonder have you seen that sort

529
00:25:47,710 --> 00:25:46,100
of thing or is it more than you come

530
00:25:49,210 --> 00:25:47,720
across people who maybe indulge in

531
00:25:52,090 --> 00:25:49,220
alternative medicine which could be a

532
00:25:55,480 --> 00:25:52,100
problem well I do see the alternative

533
00:25:58,270 --> 00:25:55,490
medicine thing affair about and I do

534
00:26:01,930 --> 00:25:58,280
have to choose my word carefully because

535
00:26:04,630 --> 00:26:01,940
I do not wish to offend my patients I

536
00:26:06,430 --> 00:26:04,640
also don't wish them to be taken

537
00:26:09,520 --> 00:26:06,440
advantage of by charlatans who were

538
00:26:13,540 --> 00:26:09,530

trying to sell them nonsense so I try

539

00:26:16,810 --> 00:26:13,550

very hard to be judicious in that the

540

00:26:18,310 --> 00:26:16,820

things that I address now I have to give

541

00:26:20,440 --> 00:26:18,320

you credit and I think I've told this

542

00:26:22,900 --> 00:26:20,450

story before I had a patient who was

543

00:26:24,040 --> 00:26:22,910

wearing a power band bracelet and I

544

00:26:26,590 --> 00:26:24,050

believe he was having an allergic

545

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

reaction to the bracelet Wow and he

546

00:26:31,919 --> 00:26:28,610

explained about the demon that the

547

00:26:37,380 --> 00:26:31,929

demonstration he had seen and I showed

548

00:26:40,720 --> 00:26:37,390

him using my stethoscope as the talisman

549

00:26:42,280 --> 00:26:40,730

about how he had been deceived and he

550

00:26:44,919 --> 00:26:42,290

toured the bracelet off and threw it

551
00:26:46,540 --> 00:26:44,929
away and so I have to thank you for that

552
00:26:51,490 --> 00:26:46,550
because I think you may have helped

553
00:26:56,950 --> 00:26:51,500
clear up his skin condition but so I

554
00:26:58,720 --> 00:26:56,960
that I has been one direct way I could

555
00:27:03,850 --> 00:26:58,730
demonstrate that this is actually not a

556
00:27:06,580 --> 00:27:03,860
helpful thing the superstitions that I

557
00:27:09,810 --> 00:27:06,590
bump into I hear from from staff a lot

558
00:27:14,410 --> 00:27:09,820
about the full-moon being a soup being a

559
00:27:16,000 --> 00:27:14,420
poor harbinger of bad night even though

560
00:27:18,760 --> 00:27:16,010
I've tried to explain it doesn't really

561
00:27:20,860 --> 00:27:18,770
seem to when you when you when you do a

562
00:27:22,810 --> 00:27:20,870
double-blind study and then I go try to

563
00:27:24,669 --> 00:27:22,820

explain about cognitive bias and they

564

00:27:29,050 --> 00:27:24,679

just aren't interested because that's

565

00:27:30,450 --> 00:27:29,060

what they always learned yeah so so I

566

00:27:32,970 --> 00:27:30,460

hear that one a lot

567

00:27:34,830 --> 00:27:32,980

and I've heard about people being called

568

00:27:39,060 --> 00:27:34,840

black clouds that whenever they're on

569

00:27:41,129 --> 00:27:39,070

shift bad things seem to happen and you

570

00:27:45,210 --> 00:27:41,139

know I can't say that there aren't

571

00:27:47,070 --> 00:27:45,220

people who don't create drama but I

572

00:27:48,899 --> 00:27:47,080

can't say that it's that there's a

573

00:27:53,159 --> 00:27:48,909

superstitious element to it in those

574

00:27:55,080 --> 00:27:53,169

cases but but I don't really bump up

575

00:27:57,359 --> 00:27:55,090

against a whole lot of the superstition

576

00:27:59,609 --> 00:27:57,369

partly because as an emergency physician

577

00:28:01,350 --> 00:27:59,619

my time with him is often limited and we

578

00:28:05,879 --> 00:28:01,360

don't get to delve that deeply into

579

00:28:07,710 --> 00:28:05,889

those things but I'm not at all

580

00:28:10,950 --> 00:28:07,720

surprised if that radiologist was

581

00:28:12,960 --> 00:28:10,960

finding those patients resistant to

582

00:28:15,299 --> 00:28:12,970

taking off particular pieces of jewelry

583

00:28:17,489 --> 00:28:15,309

I have had actually now that you mention

584

00:28:19,769 --> 00:28:17,499

it I do have I did have a couple of

585

00:28:21,509 --> 00:28:19,779

patients with rings that they did not

586

00:28:23,190 --> 00:28:21,519

want removed when it was painfully

587

00:28:26,519 --> 00:28:23,200

obvious they would lose their fingers if

588

00:28:28,259 --> 00:28:26,529

we did not remove the Rings and so there

589

00:28:31,409 --> 00:28:28,269

was a little bit of resistance there but

590

00:28:33,989 --> 00:28:31,419

I was able to persuade them that it was

591

00:28:35,249 --> 00:28:33,999

the way to save their fingers so I think

592

00:28:35,940 --> 00:28:35,259

that only happened twice in my career

593

00:28:38,759 --> 00:28:35,950

though

594

00:28:40,379 --> 00:28:38,769

well I'll imagine yes there would be

595

00:28:42,749 --> 00:28:40,389

certain similarities I don't think in

596

00:28:44,279 --> 00:28:42,759

any Hospital tell me something now that

597

00:28:46,259 --> 00:28:44,289

I think of it and I'm thinking of what

598

00:28:49,950 --> 00:28:46,269

Trish hand was discussing with me a few

599

00:28:54,210 --> 00:28:49,960

weeks ago does the number 13 come up as

600

00:28:57,539 --> 00:28:54,220

in there are no words 13 or beds 13 in

601
00:28:59,970 --> 00:28:57,549
your hospitals hospitals where I've

602
00:29:06,029 --> 00:28:59,980
worked there pretty much always been a

603
00:29:09,180 --> 00:29:06,039
bed 13 I can't think of any where 13 has

604
00:29:10,889 --> 00:29:09,190
been a number that's been a problem well

605
00:29:12,450 --> 00:29:10,899
that's that's something good to know

606
00:29:17,960 --> 00:29:12,460
because occasionally in hospitals that

607
00:29:22,680 --> 00:29:20,820
specialty Society meetings and hotels

608
00:29:24,180 --> 00:29:22,690
and I have been in hotels where there

609
00:29:30,330 --> 00:29:24,190
was no 4:30

610
00:29:34,230 --> 00:29:30,340
oh that's Las Vegas for you yeah when we

611
00:29:36,029 --> 00:29:34,240
go to meetings si con last year and the

612
00:29:37,889 --> 00:29:36,039
amazing meeting for many years of many

613
00:29:43,919 --> 00:29:37,899

of those hotels simply don't have a

614

00:29:44,340 --> 00:29:43,929

level 13 right right well I I hope that

615

00:29:45,870 --> 00:29:44,350

the ho

616

00:29:48,000 --> 00:29:45,880

tells in Atlanta Georgia at least have a

617

00:29:50,940 --> 00:29:48,010

13th level and I hope I get to stay on

618

00:29:53,100 --> 00:29:50,950

one of those 13 level later in the year

619

00:29:55,350 --> 00:29:53,110

Angie how can people find out more about

620

00:29:57,090 --> 00:29:55,360

this kept track and DragonCon dragonhide

621

00:30:00,000 --> 00:29:57,100

comm would probably be arrests best

622

00:30:01,980 --> 00:30:00,010

resource okay folks there's the word and

623

00:30:05,460 --> 00:30:01,990

i'll link to that in the show notes plus

624

00:30:09,270 --> 00:30:05,470

the link for the thus kept track again

625

00:30:10,680 --> 00:30:09,280

thanks to the ongoing efforts of Derek :

626

00:30:12,620 --> 00:30:10,690

do you know who's been tirelessly

627

00:30:15,270 --> 00:30:12,630

working for that for many years and now

628

00:30:16,590 --> 00:30:15,280

I'm so pleased that you're on board too

629

00:30:22,649 --> 00:30:16,600

Angie because I know you'll add a

630

00:30:24,480 --> 00:30:22,659

certain now shall I say style to the it

631

00:30:28,710 --> 00:30:24,490

really is a group effort though this is

632

00:30:32,970 --> 00:30:28,720

this is a labor of love for us it the

633

00:30:35,460 --> 00:30:32,980

con is run by volunteers overwhelmingly

634

00:30:37,049 --> 00:30:35,470

and they do a wonderful job people

635

00:30:41,270 --> 00:30:37,059

donate their personal time money

636

00:30:43,350 --> 00:30:41,280

resources to produce the best convention

637

00:30:45,600 --> 00:30:43,360

possible for everyone involved

638

00:30:48,990 --> 00:30:45,610

absolutely what a lot of fun it is to

639

00:30:51,120 --> 00:30:49,000

again well who knows maybe maybe I can

640

00:30:58,350 --> 00:30:51,130

come along and be skeptical there at

641

00:31:00,390 --> 00:30:58,360

DragonCon once again Angie dr. Angie

642

00:31:02,200 --> 00:31:00,400

McGee thank you very much

643

00:31:09,560 --> 00:31:02,210

thank you Richard

644

00:31:25,430 --> 00:31:22,279

oh hi Maynard

645

00:31:28,279 --> 00:31:25,440

oh hi Heidi great day in this park

646

00:31:32,239 --> 00:31:28,289

yeah if you like that sort of thing look

647

00:31:36,729 --> 00:31:32,249

over there oh yeah we there are no such

648

00:31:40,340 --> 00:31:36,739

things as URIs silly hmm might be just

649

00:31:43,609 --> 00:31:40,350

dog a big dog I think it's a King

650

00:31:47,299 --> 00:31:43,619

Charles Spaniel thing mmm no no no no

651
00:31:50,659 --> 00:31:47,309
it's a Yowie Maynard if it's a choice

652
00:31:54,080 --> 00:31:50,669
between it being a dog or a Yowie no no

653
00:31:57,109 --> 00:31:54,090
no see how ii yo ii yo ii yo ii yo ii

654
00:32:00,440 --> 00:31:57,119
argument from Authority it's Joey

655
00:32:03,080 --> 00:32:00,450
hey you two what are you arguing about

656
00:32:06,489 --> 00:32:03,090
may not thinks that dog lookin thing

657
00:32:10,820 --> 00:32:06,499
over there is a Yowie oh yeah II

658
00:32:14,119 --> 00:32:10,830
well maybe Chu Becker the wookie over

659
00:32:16,759 --> 00:32:14,129
her I see okay we better look this up in

660
00:32:19,519 --> 00:32:16,769
the skeptics dictionary online though

661
00:32:22,039 --> 00:32:19,529
Wow the skeptics dictionary online

662
00:32:24,619 --> 00:32:22,049
features definitions arguments and

663
00:32:27,080 --> 00:32:24,629

essays on hundreds of strange beliefs

664

00:32:28,159 --> 00:32:27,090

amusing descriptions and dangerous

665

00:32:30,769 --> 00:32:28,169

delusions

666

00:32:33,589 --> 00:32:30,779

it also features dozens of entries on

667

00:32:37,029 --> 00:32:33,599

logical fallacies cognitive biases

668

00:32:48,310 --> 00:32:37,039

perception science and philosophy

669

00:32:52,609 --> 00:32:48,320

it's w WS k EP di c common right ha d

670

00:32:55,789 --> 00:32:52,619

prepared to be amazed okay

671

00:33:00,259 --> 00:32:55,799

yaoh here it is send a Bigfoot it

672

00:33:02,089 --> 00:33:00,269

says most scientists discount the

673

00:33:04,759 --> 00:33:02,099

evidence of Bigfoot because the evidence

674

00:33:08,149 --> 00:33:04,769

supporting belief in the survival of a

675

00:33:11,810 --> 00:33:08,159

prehistoric biped ape-like creature of

676

00:33:15,200 --> 00:33:11,820

such dimensions is scant you know maybe

677

00:33:23,330 --> 00:33:15,210

that is just a hand oh okay that it's

678

00:33:23,340 --> 00:33:36,240

thank you skeptics dictionary online

679

00:33:47,930 --> 00:33:45,139

[Music]

680

00:33:53,820 --> 00:33:47,940

from The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper

681

00:33:55,529 --> 00:33:53,830

published August the 13th 1987 Ian

682

00:34:01,289 --> 00:33:55,539

cockerel meets the self-appointed

683

00:34:04,469 --> 00:34:01,299

watchdog for the blindly trusting it's

684

00:34:07,080 --> 00:34:04,479

fun to shoot down UFOs and con men in

685

00:34:10,180 --> 00:34:07,090

profile Barry Williams

686

00:34:13,059 --> 00:34:10,190

[Music]

687

00:34:15,220 --> 00:34:13,069

believe it or not mr. Barry Williams is

688

00:34:17,349 --> 00:34:15,230

mainly in it for the fun it may be

689

00:34:20,230 --> 00:34:17,359

little comfort for the unscrupulous

690

00:34:22,809 --> 00:34:20,240

magicians or the gurus of the pseudo

691

00:34:24,789 --> 00:34:22,819

religions but it is amusing for those

692

00:34:27,520 --> 00:34:24,799

who have seen the national president of

693

00:34:30,789 --> 00:34:27,530

the Australian skeptics in action mr.

694

00:34:34,779 --> 00:34:30,799

Williams enjoys exposing charlatans not

695

00:34:37,210 --> 00:34:34,789

in a malicious way but methodically the

696

00:34:39,250 --> 00:34:37,220

48 year old Roseville man places his

697

00:34:43,450 --> 00:34:39,260

faith in things that are supported by

698

00:34:45,069 --> 00:34:43,460

scientific evidence and scrutiny his 600

699

00:34:47,740 --> 00:34:45,079

strong organization is the

700

00:34:50,319 --> 00:34:47,750

self-appointed watchdog for the blindly

701
00:34:53,079 --> 00:34:50,329
trusting it tackles people who would

702
00:34:55,659 --> 00:34:53,089
seek to profit from the ingenuous among

703
00:34:57,640 --> 00:34:55,669
us but it is also a voluntary

704
00:35:00,670 --> 00:34:57,650
organization whose members share a

705
00:35:04,539 --> 00:35:00,680
fascination for the infinite gullibility

706
00:35:07,539 --> 00:35:04,549
of mankind and the subjects which snare

707
00:35:09,579 --> 00:35:07,549
people's interests and money one-fifth

708
00:35:12,670 --> 00:35:09,589
of the members live on Sydney's North

709
00:35:14,710 --> 00:35:12,680
Shore quote I find it intellectually

710
00:35:17,260 --> 00:35:14,720
stimulating and a lot of fun and quote

711
00:35:19,839 --> 00:35:17,270
said mr. Williams a trade exhibition

712
00:35:21,640 --> 00:35:19,849
promoter quote now I've built up an

713
00:35:24,400 --> 00:35:21,650

immense library since joining the

714

00:35:27,609 --> 00:35:24,410

skeptics and if I didn't have scruples

715

00:35:30,250 --> 00:35:27,619

myself with the things I've seen I could

716

00:35:32,230 --> 00:35:30,260

become enormously wealthy in fact we

717

00:35:34,990 --> 00:35:32,240

joke at the branch meetings about

718

00:35:37,180 --> 00:35:35,000

setting up a religious or psychic body

719

00:35:39,220 --> 00:35:37,190

to make our fortunes end quote

720

00:35:43,359 --> 00:35:39,230

the Australian skeptics were formed in

721

00:35:45,670 --> 00:35:43,369

1981 prompted by a UFO sighting in New

722

00:35:47,950 --> 00:35:45,680

Zealand Dick Smith Philip Adams and Mark

723

00:35:50,799 --> 00:35:47,960

Plummer decided to organize a body to

724

00:35:53,859 --> 00:35:50,809

investigate such claims Smith and Adams

725

00:35:57,430 --> 00:35:53,869

with the former head of the CSIRO Dr.

726
00:36:00,309 --> 00:35:57,440
Paul Wilde remained the patrons quote I

727
00:36:02,349 --> 00:36:00,319
had the first inkling I was a skeptic

728
00:36:04,720 --> 00:36:02,359
when I read Chariots of the Gods in

729
00:36:06,789 --> 00:36:04,730
quote mr. Williams said quote I thought

730
00:36:09,069 --> 00:36:06,799
it was fascinating until I got to the

731
00:36:12,789 --> 00:36:09,079
bit about the pyramids now then remember

732
00:36:14,710 --> 00:36:12,799
thinking this is tripe later I was

733
00:36:17,470 --> 00:36:14,720
watching dick Smith being interviewed

734
00:36:18,970 --> 00:36:17,480
about UFOs and I began to think was I

735
00:36:20,270 --> 00:36:18,980
the only person who didn't believe in

736
00:36:23,180 --> 00:36:20,280
them then

737
00:36:25,850 --> 00:36:23,190
said it was time somebody challenged the

738
00:36:27,320 --> 00:36:25,860

existence of things like new fos I wrote

739

00:36:29,420 --> 00:36:27,330

to him saying that if he ever got

740

00:36:31,520 --> 00:36:29,430

something off the ground I was

741

00:36:34,910 --> 00:36:31,530

interested I have a natural antipathy

742

00:36:37,790 --> 00:36:34,920

for being ripped off by charlatans the

743

00:36:40,010 --> 00:36:37,800

skeptics targets range from psychics to

744

00:36:42,950 --> 00:36:40,020

astrologers and fringe religious

745

00:36:44,950 --> 00:36:42,960

organizations quote we mainly concern

746

00:36:47,060 --> 00:36:44,960

ourselves with paranormal events in

747

00:36:50,000 --> 00:36:47,070

pseudoscience and quote mr. Williams

748

00:36:52,670 --> 00:36:50,010

said quote currently there is a fed on

749

00:36:56,090 --> 00:36:52,680

channeling which is really a hi-tech

750

00:36:57,920 --> 00:36:56,100

name for spiritualism astrology seems to

751
00:37:00,200 --> 00:36:57,930
be on the wane although there are still

752
00:37:02,030 --> 00:37:00,210
those who firmly believe in it at our

753
00:37:03,920 --> 00:37:02,040
National Convention in Melbourne last

754
00:37:06,560 --> 00:37:03,930
year we had our members collect all the

755
00:37:09,050 --> 00:37:06,570
astrological charts for one week and of

756
00:37:11,540 --> 00:37:09,060
course they were all different we tend

757
00:37:13,490 --> 00:37:11,550
to steer clear of religions except for

758
00:37:16,670 --> 00:37:13,500
the creation science people and the

759
00:37:19,100 --> 00:37:16,680
Scientologists but in taking on those we

760
00:37:22,640 --> 00:37:19,110
have the support of the major churches

761
00:37:24,530 --> 00:37:22,650
we are not vindictive about it a lot of

762
00:37:27,140 --> 00:37:24,540
psychics sincerely believe they have

763
00:37:29,330 --> 00:37:27,150

some sort of power but there are the

764

00:37:32,020 --> 00:37:29,340

ones who get away from reading tea

765

00:37:35,540 --> 00:37:32,030

leaves and are well aware what they do

766

00:37:37,640 --> 00:37:35,550

taking people's money quote it can be

767

00:37:40,520 --> 00:37:37,650

dangerous just look at the tragic case

768

00:37:43,040 --> 00:37:40,530

in Newport recently when a guy cut his

769

00:37:46,460 --> 00:37:43,050

hand off in the belief it would release

770

00:37:48,320 --> 00:37:46,470

him for astral traveling it's tough

771

00:37:51,430 --> 00:37:48,330

enough in this world as it is without

772

00:37:53,750 --> 00:37:51,440

being conned all the time end quote to

773

00:37:56,660 --> 00:37:53,760

make it tougher on the tricksters the

774

00:37:59,810 --> 00:37:56,670

Australian skeptics have put up \$20,000

775

00:38:02,810 --> 00:37:59,820

for anybody you can perform a paranormal

776

00:38:04,520 --> 00:38:02,820

act under scientific scrutiny with its

777

00:38:05,960 --> 00:38:04,530

American parent organization the

778

00:38:09,410 --> 00:38:05,970

committee for scientific investigation

779

00:38:11,300 --> 00:38:09,420

of claims of the paranormal and branches

780

00:38:13,970 --> 00:38:11,310

in other countries the group has more

781

00:38:17,060 --> 00:38:13,980

than 250 thousand dollars on offer

782

00:38:19,760 --> 00:38:17,070

worldwide to anybody willing to accept

783

00:38:22,130 --> 00:38:19,770

the challenge quote not surprisingly

784

00:38:23,810 --> 00:38:22,140

nobody has been able to prove they have

785

00:38:26,660 --> 00:38:23,820

these powers end quote mister Williams

786

00:38:28,340 --> 00:38:26,670

said quote fortunately we have no really

787

00:38:30,830 --> 00:38:28,350

bad practitioners in this country

788

00:38:33,350 --> 00:38:30,840

Australians tend to be more skeptical by

789

00:38:34,099 --> 00:38:33,360

and large than other races it's a

790

00:38:37,339 --> 00:38:34,109

healthy state of

791

00:38:39,079 --> 00:38:37,349

mind but I think our education system is

792

00:38:41,630 --> 00:38:39,089

to blame for not teaching kids to

793

00:38:44,059 --> 00:38:41,640

examine critically things presented to

794

00:38:47,089 --> 00:38:44,069

them and the media is partly to blame

795

00:38:49,190 --> 00:38:47,099

for reporting sensational stories just

796

00:38:52,460 --> 00:38:49,200

look at that woman who claims she knew

797

00:38:55,190 --> 00:38:52,470

where the Colossus of Rhodes was we've

798

00:38:57,440 --> 00:38:55,200

locked horns with her before it turned

799

00:39:00,950 --> 00:38:57,450

out to be something some Greek travel

800

00:39:03,079 --> 00:39:00,960

agent had dreamed up and quote to

801
00:39:05,059 --> 00:39:03,089
demonstrate how readily people accept

802
00:39:06,049 --> 00:39:05,069
the credentials of those claiming

803
00:39:08,450 --> 00:39:06,059
psychic powers

804
00:39:10,279 --> 00:39:08,460
the skeptics perpetuated a hoax a few

805
00:39:12,799 --> 00:39:10,289
years ago when they brought over a

806
00:39:14,989 --> 00:39:12,809
magician member from America he was

807
00:39:16,759 --> 00:39:14,999
touted as a psychic and appeared twice

808
00:39:19,460 --> 00:39:16,769
on the Bert Newton television show

809
00:39:22,249 --> 00:39:19,470
before revealing the fraud and his third

810
00:39:23,989 --> 00:39:22,259
appearance quote the switchboard was

811
00:39:26,150 --> 00:39:23,999
jammed with complaints from people

812
00:39:29,390 --> 00:39:26,160
annoyed at being conned in quote mr.

813
00:39:32,210 --> 00:39:29,400

Williams said quote they didn't thank

814

00:39:35,059 --> 00:39:32,220

him for helping to show them how easy it

815

00:39:38,390 --> 00:39:35,069

was to be taken in by a good con man

816

00:39:38,800 --> 00:39:38,400

couching things an exotic jargon in

817

00:39:43,000 --> 00:39:38,810

quote

818

00:39:48,020 --> 00:39:45,500

and that story was published in The

819

00:39:52,300 --> 00:39:48,030

Sydney Morning Herald way back on the

820

00:39:55,400 --> 00:39:52,310

13th of August 1987 by Ian cockerel and

821

00:40:00,340 --> 00:39:55,410

it certainly sums up the Barry Williams

822

00:40:00,350 --> 00:40:24,930

[Music]

823

00:40:30,609 --> 00:40:27,489

thank you for listening to the skeptic

824

00:40:32,019 --> 00:40:30,619

zone and thank you to the the people who

825

00:40:33,029 --> 00:40:32,029

did actually gather the other day to

826

00:40:36,699 --> 00:40:33,039

farewell

827

00:40:41,229 --> 00:40:36,709

barry williams and he's a man who won't

828

00:40:43,120 --> 00:40:41,239

easily be forgotten if ever coming up on

829

00:40:45,309 --> 00:40:43,130

next week's show we hope to have Maynard

830

00:40:48,789 --> 00:40:45,319

once again reporting from skeptics in

831

00:40:51,789 --> 00:40:48,799

the pub here in Sydney and he'll be

832

00:40:53,799 --> 00:40:51,799

asking the big question hmm

833

00:40:55,120 --> 00:40:53,809

answers on a postcard I'm not sure we

834

00:40:57,549 --> 00:40:55,130

always make up the big question for

835

00:40:59,529 --> 00:40:57,559

Maynard just before skeptics in the pub

836

00:41:01,150 --> 00:40:59,539

anyway but if you're in Sydney first

837

00:41:03,819 --> 00:41:01,160

Thursday of the month at the Occidental

838

00:41:07,209 --> 00:41:03,829

hotel down at Wynyard kicking off around

839

00:41:10,299 --> 00:41:07,219

5:00 6:00 p.m. we'd love to see you and

840

00:41:13,059 --> 00:41:10,309

now by a request and now the dice game

841

00:41:15,069 --> 00:41:13,069

this is where I toss the dice and you

842

00:41:18,370 --> 00:41:15,079

use your psychic prediction powers to

843

00:41:22,089 --> 00:41:18,380

predict what the number will be this

844

00:41:25,359 --> 00:41:22,099

time my recent trip to the United States

845

00:41:29,650 --> 00:41:25,369

I went to a games store in Berkeley in

846

00:41:33,359 --> 00:41:29,660

California and I bought myself a 60

847

00:41:36,489 --> 00:41:33,369

sided dice yes there is such a thing I

848

00:41:37,269 --> 00:41:36,499

have it right here on the table it's

849

00:41:42,219 --> 00:41:37,279

ridiculous

850

00:41:46,209 --> 00:41:42,229

so predict away predict away a number

851
00:41:48,209 --> 00:41:46,219
from 1 to 60 hmm are you predicting are

852
00:41:51,299 --> 00:41:48,219
you predicting have you got that number

853
00:41:55,140 --> 00:41:51,309
all right here we go

854
00:42:00,819 --> 00:41:55,150
fell off the table mmm here we go again

855
00:42:03,670 --> 00:42:00,829
it's coming to a rest on number ah 27

856
00:42:05,640 --> 00:42:03,680
for all you people who got 27 well done

857
00:42:13,029 --> 00:42:05,650
let's do it one more time

858
00:42:18,039 --> 00:42:13,039
here we go number 30 now why not one

859
00:42:23,769 --> 00:42:18,049
more time one more time and it's coming

860
00:42:25,420 --> 00:42:23,779
to rest on number 39 so the odds are

861
00:42:28,859 --> 00:42:25,430
getting all three numbers are 60 times

862
00:42:31,180 --> 00:42:28,869
60 times 60 while you figure that out

863
00:42:37,070 --> 00:42:31,190

I'll say this is Richard Saunders

864

00:42:42,500 --> 00:42:39,570

you've been listening to the skeptic

865

00:42:49,170 --> 00:42:42,510

zone podcast please visit our website at

866

00:42:52,670 --> 00:42:49,180

wwlp.com tax and to access the bat

867

00:42:55,350 --> 00:42:52,680

catalog of episodes going back to 2008

868

00:42:58,650 --> 00:42:55,360

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869

00:43:00,930 --> 00:42:58,660

on twitter at skeptic zone visit our

870

00:43:01,790 --> 00:43:00,940

facebook page or leave a review on

871

00:43:04,500 --> 00:43:01,800

itunes

872

00:43:08,400 --> 00:43:04,510

you can also support the skeptic zone

873

00:43:10,980 --> 00:43:08,410

via patreon or paypal you can be part of

874

00:43:15,360 --> 00:43:10,990

the show by downloading the voice bite

875

00:43:18,750 --> 00:43:15,370

app at Voice bite comm and using the

876

00:43:21,470 --> 00:43:18,760

hashtag skeptic zone the skeptic zone

877

00:43:23,850 --> 00:43:21,480

podcast is an independent production

878

00:43:25,980 --> 00:43:23,860

reviews and opinions expressed on the

879

00:43:28,320 --> 00:43:25,990

skeptic zone are not necessarily those

880

00:43:30,120 --> 00:43:28,330

of Australian skeptics or any other

881

00:43:38,050 --> 00:43:30,130

sceptical organisation

882

00:43:42,350 --> 00:43:40,700

okay the x-files new season has just

883

00:43:44,210 --> 00:43:42,360

started with the premise that the

884

00:43:46,790 --> 00:43:44,220

government may wipe out humanity with a

885

00:43:48,950 --> 00:43:46,800

pathogen to recolonize another planet so

886

00:43:50,690 --> 00:43:48,960

holy Dooley heavy stuff earth is dying

887

00:43:53,300 --> 00:43:50,700

and they need to cull the human race to

888

00:43:55,340 --> 00:43:53,310

make sure we don't take too many to the

889

00:43:57,230 --> 00:43:55,350

new planet but is this complete a

890

00:43:59,450 --> 00:43:57,240

Hollywood fantasy or would the

891

00:44:01,310 --> 00:43:59,460

government keep secrets like this from

892

00:44:03,680 --> 00:44:01,320

the general public Richard Saunders he

893

00:44:06,320 --> 00:44:03,690

joins us every week welcome Richard

894

00:44:14,210 --> 00:44:06,330

hello Richard welcome imagine if the

895

00:44:18,470 --> 00:44:14,220

government was that competent with the

896

00:44:22,850 --> 00:44:18,480

first line fantastic stuff Richard hey

897

00:44:26,060 --> 00:44:22,860

you know how thank you there's no need