

Show 506

THE
**SKEPTIC
ZONE**
PODCAST

www.skepticzone.tv

1 July 2018



Author Mick West and his book
**Escaping the Rabbit Hole: How to
Debunk Conspiracy Theories
Using Facts, Logic, and Respect**

Dt Angie Mattke
Sydney talk and
Dragon[®]Con



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
00:00:13,890 --> 00:00:11,840

from Australia for science and reason

4
00:00:16,840 --> 00:00:13,900

[Music]

5
00:00:22,519 --> 00:00:16,850

[Applause]

6
00:00:25,169 --> 00:00:22,529

[Music]

7
00:00:28,400 --> 00:00:25,179

yes it's the skeptic zone podcast

8
00:00:31,950 --> 00:00:28,410

episode number 506 for the 1st of July

9
00:00:33,840 --> 00:00:31,960

2018 richardsaunders here with you still

10
00:00:36,810 --> 00:00:33,850

as it happens I'm still in the San

11
00:00:39,420 --> 00:00:36,820

Francisco Bay Area enjoying a very balmy

12
00:00:42,210 --> 00:00:39,430

summer at the moment maybe I'll get to

13
00:00:44,040 --> 00:00:42,220

go home one day soon who knows coming up

14

00:00:47,280 --> 00:00:44,050

on this week's show I chat to author

15

00:00:49,170 --> 00:00:47,290

Mick West about his new book escaping

16

00:00:51,960 --> 00:00:49,180

the rabbit hole a guide to helping

17

00:00:54,479 --> 00:00:51,970

friends family and loved ones how to

18

00:00:57,569 --> 00:00:54,489

debunk conspiracy theories using facts

19

00:00:59,700 --> 00:00:57,579

logic and respect I'm lucky enough to

20

00:01:01,529 --> 00:00:59,710

have a pre-release copy of the book

21

00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:01,539

which I'm working my way through at the

22

00:01:08,370 --> 00:01:04,479

moment and it's fascinating stuff had

23

00:01:11,639 --> 00:01:08,380

the the history of conspiracy theories

24

00:01:13,649 --> 00:01:11,649

the the reasoning people have to believe

25

00:01:16,139 --> 00:01:13,659

in conspiracy theories plus some famous

26

00:01:17,669 --> 00:01:16,149

conspiracy theories are all covered in

27

00:01:19,649 --> 00:01:17,679

the book anyway coming up at the top of

28

00:01:22,649 --> 00:01:19,659

the show I chat to Mick West all about

29

00:01:25,560 --> 00:01:22,659

his latest publication after that we

30

00:01:27,210 --> 00:01:25,570

have some news about some map program

31

00:01:29,340 --> 00:01:27,220

changes at the Australian skeptics

32

00:01:31,859 --> 00:01:29,350

National Convention with the good news

33

00:01:33,719 --> 00:01:31,869

being that event dull tremont who we

34

00:01:35,789 --> 00:01:33,729

interviewed only a couple of weeks ago

35

00:01:38,969 --> 00:01:35,799

on the sceptic zone is coming to

36

00:01:41,670 --> 00:01:38,979

Australia and then i chat to dr. angela

37

00:01:45,270 --> 00:01:41,680

matki who is an emergency physician and

38

00:01:47,280 --> 00:01:45,280

a good skeptic coming to sydney to give

39

00:01:50,069 --> 00:01:47,290

a talk at sydney skeptics in the pub now

40

00:01:50,910 --> 00:01:50,079

she's also involved with a skeptic at

41

00:01:52,740 --> 00:01:50,920

DragonCon

42

00:01:55,889 --> 00:01:52,750

so we'll find out a little bit about

43

00:01:58,830 --> 00:01:55,899

that as well a bit of an abbreviated

44

00:02:01,440 --> 00:01:58,840

show this week matters here in the

45

00:02:03,810 --> 00:02:01,450

United States of keeping me quite busy

46

00:02:05,700 --> 00:02:03,820

at the moment so putting together the

47

00:02:08,009 --> 00:02:05,710

skeptic zone is a little trickier than

48

00:02:09,749 --> 00:02:08,019

normal but I'm sure you'll enjoy these

49

00:02:11,460 --> 00:02:09,759

interviews coming up well now it's time

50

00:02:14,970 --> 00:02:11,470

for me to run upstairs have a slice of

51
00:02:16,890 --> 00:02:14,980
American pizza with American cheese not

52
00:02:28,500 --> 00:02:16,900
do that well I do that I hope you enjoy

53
00:02:39,880 --> 00:02:37,020
[Music]

54
00:02:42,160 --> 00:02:39,890
and joining me now on the line all the

55
00:02:47,229 --> 00:02:42,170
way from Sacramento in California it's

56
00:02:49,360 --> 00:02:47,239
the author Nick West hello Nick I'm not

57
00:02:51,940 --> 00:02:49,370
too bad it's good to chat with you know

58
00:02:54,370 --> 00:02:51,950
we met each other a couple of weeks ago

59
00:02:57,340 --> 00:02:54,380
it's kept decal in Berkeley California

60
00:02:59,470 --> 00:02:57,350
and that was a very entertaining day for

61
00:03:02,410 --> 00:02:59,480
everybody I'm sure and I was very lucky

62
00:03:04,750 --> 00:03:02,420
you gave me a copy of your upcoming book

63
00:03:07,420 --> 00:03:04,760

and it's cold folks escaping the rabbit

64

00:03:10,180 --> 00:03:07,430

hole how to debunk conspiracy theories

65

00:03:12,729 --> 00:03:10,190

using facts logic and respect let's get

66

00:03:15,820 --> 00:03:12,739

to that soon but many people might know

67

00:03:17,229 --> 00:03:15,830

you from the website meta bunk and for

68

00:03:19,960 --> 00:03:17,239

those people who don't what can you tell

69

00:03:22,690 --> 00:03:19,970

us about that well meta bug is actually

70

00:03:24,580 --> 00:03:22,700

my second big website that I did I

71

00:03:28,150 --> 00:03:24,590

started out doing a website called

72

00:03:30,699 --> 00:03:28,160

contrails science because a long time

73

00:03:32,309 --> 00:03:30,709

ago about 10 years ago now I got really

74

00:03:34,720 --> 00:03:32,319

interested in the chemtrail conspiracy

75

00:03:36,400 --> 00:03:34,730

theory this was back when I was learning

76

00:03:39,460 --> 00:03:36,410

to fly and learning about things like

77

00:03:41,920 --> 00:03:39,470

aviation and aviation weather and I

78

00:03:44,920 --> 00:03:41,930

started this website cantrell science

79

00:03:47,680 --> 00:03:44,930

just the idea was to try to debunk the

80

00:03:49,360 --> 00:03:47,690

chemtrail conspiracy theory but 10 years

81

00:03:53,979 --> 00:03:49,370

later I still haven't convinced

82

00:03:57,099 --> 00:03:53,989

everybody but out of that grew meta bunk

83

00:03:58,630 --> 00:03:57,109

I was people started bringing up other

84

00:03:59,830 --> 00:03:58,640

things on contrails science because you

85

00:04:01,479 --> 00:03:59,840

know if you start talking about one

86

00:04:03,250 --> 00:04:01,489

conspiracy theory you often start

87

00:04:05,860 --> 00:04:03,260

talking about another one so people will

88

00:04:09,420 --> 00:04:05,870

talk about chemtrails and then they

89

00:04:11,949 --> 00:04:09,430

would bring up 9/11 and so I needed a

90

00:04:13,750 --> 00:04:11,959

bigger forum that I could use to chat

91

00:04:17,229 --> 00:04:13,760

about things and so meta bunk was born

92

00:04:19,060 --> 00:04:17,239

and what what sort of things are

93

00:04:21,279 --> 00:04:19,070

regularly covered on meta bunk it's not

94

00:04:23,650 --> 00:04:21,289

just chemtrails of course no it's not

95

00:04:26,080 --> 00:04:23,660

it's it's a variety of things that I

96

00:04:28,779 --> 00:04:26,090

think you would characterize as

97

00:04:31,080 --> 00:04:28,789

alternative beliefs and that would be

98

00:04:35,800 --> 00:04:31,090

things like conspiracy theories and

99

00:04:37,510 --> 00:04:35,810

pseudoscience and occasionally the

100

00:04:39,540 --> 00:04:37,520

paranormal things like that things that

101
00:04:41,740 --> 00:04:39,550
you obviously are very familiar with

102
00:04:43,360 --> 00:04:41,750
with there's a big focus there on

103
00:04:45,969 --> 00:04:43,370
conspiracy theories because of my

104
00:04:48,339 --> 00:04:45,979
background with the chemtrails and then

105
00:04:48,800 --> 00:04:48,349
he moved on to the 911 but I also do a

106
00:04:51,080 --> 00:04:48,810
lot of

107
00:04:54,080 --> 00:04:51,090
UFO spotting it's one of the more fun

108
00:04:55,850 --> 00:04:54,090
things to do because because the

109
00:04:57,860 --> 00:04:55,860
chemtrail thing a lot of that was based

110
00:05:00,080 --> 00:04:57,870
on the misidentification of aircraft

111
00:05:03,980 --> 00:05:00,090
that naturally carried over into

112
00:05:05,659 --> 00:05:03,990
identifying things like strange orbs and

113
00:05:07,940 --> 00:05:05,669

blobs and things flying around in the

114

00:05:11,090 --> 00:05:07,950

sky so that's a lot of fun to do deep by

115

00:05:12,110 --> 00:05:11,100

investigating UFOs it's so nice to know

116

00:05:15,650 --> 00:05:12,120

somebody out there is still

117

00:05:17,570 --> 00:05:15,660

investigating these UFOs and I'm just

118

00:05:20,650 --> 00:05:17,580

there perusing your website I noticed

119

00:05:23,150 --> 00:05:20,660

that you do things like we'll take

120

00:05:25,280 --> 00:05:23,160

photographs and analyze the photographs

121

00:05:27,710 --> 00:05:25,290

to try to reveal the truth behind that

122

00:05:29,750 --> 00:05:27,720

there must be very entertaining it is

123

00:05:32,719 --> 00:05:29,760

yes and my background is actually I'm a

124

00:05:35,629 --> 00:05:32,729

video game programmer hmm I worked on

125

00:05:38,210 --> 00:05:35,639

the Tony Hawk video games back like a

126
00:05:40,510 --> 00:05:38,220
long time ago like 20 years ago now we

127
00:05:43,760 --> 00:05:40,520
started doing that so I know a lot of

128
00:05:46,190 --> 00:05:43,770
pixels basically and how how digital

129
00:05:48,070 --> 00:05:46,200
images work so it's gonna be useful

130
00:05:51,140 --> 00:05:48,080
background to have when you're analyzing

131
00:05:53,510 --> 00:05:51,150
photographs of things like you know UFOs

132
00:05:55,100 --> 00:05:53,520
or supposed ghosts you can take them

133
00:05:57,380 --> 00:05:55,110
into Photoshop and you can you can

134
00:06:00,409 --> 00:05:57,390
analyze them adjust the levels and

135
00:06:03,590 --> 00:06:00,419
contrast and whatnot and and you know

136
00:06:05,630 --> 00:06:03,600
it's cover a fun little side thing it's

137
00:06:07,969 --> 00:06:05,640
not really like the the serious stuff

138
00:06:10,400 --> 00:06:07,979

like conspiracy theories but it's an

139

00:06:11,900 --> 00:06:10,410

interesting thing to do do I do find

140

00:06:14,840 --> 00:06:11,910

there's a lot of interaction on that

141

00:06:16,880 --> 00:06:14,850

website the people send you things yes

142

00:06:17,300 --> 00:06:16,890

they do we actually have a sub forum

143

00:06:21,740 --> 00:06:17,310

called

144

00:06:23,540 --> 00:06:21,750

sky denta Phi which is basically

145

00:06:25,250 --> 00:06:23,550

identifying things that are in the sky

146

00:06:27,800 --> 00:06:25,260

and then of course grew out of the

147

00:06:30,290 --> 00:06:27,810

identifying supposed chemtrail planes

148

00:06:33,020 --> 00:06:30,300

the people quite often will send me a

149

00:06:36,409 --> 00:06:33,030

photograph of something or a video of

150

00:06:37,969 --> 00:06:36,419

something and a special look at it for

151
00:06:41,360 --> 00:06:37,979
example a while ago someone sent me a

152
00:06:44,870 --> 00:06:41,370
video that the Chilean Navy had shot of

153
00:06:46,730 --> 00:06:44,880
a supposed to UFO that the Chilean

154
00:06:49,850 --> 00:06:46,740
government had not managed to figure out

155
00:06:53,750 --> 00:06:49,860
what it was and so me and the boys on

156
00:06:55,279 --> 00:06:53,760
the identified team we we looked at that

157
00:06:57,710 --> 00:06:55,289
in some detail and figured out exactly

158
00:07:02,300 --> 00:06:57,720
what it was it was just a plane flying

159
00:07:04,850 --> 00:07:02,310
away I guess it must be

160
00:07:06,560 --> 00:07:04,860
I must be quite fulfilling to do

161
00:07:08,180 --> 00:07:06,570
something like that oh I'll do you get

162
00:07:10,670 --> 00:07:08,190
the occasional one-way you just have to

163
00:07:14,120 --> 00:07:10,680

say we just can't unravel this it's too

164

00:07:15,140 --> 00:07:14,130

vague yeah yeah it's fun when you can't

165

00:07:16,880 --> 00:07:15,150

figure out exactly what it were

166

00:07:18,470 --> 00:07:16,890

sometimes you can get the exact plane

167

00:07:20,480 --> 00:07:18,480

because you can track down the radar

168

00:07:22,850 --> 00:07:20,490

tracks but a lot of the time these

169

00:07:24,170 --> 00:07:22,860

things you end up saying well it could

170

00:07:26,510 --> 00:07:24,180

be this it could be that or it could be

171

00:07:29,420 --> 00:07:26,520

a third thing or it could be aliens yeah

172

00:07:31,130 --> 00:07:29,430

so people people take from that the last

173

00:07:33,500 --> 00:07:31,140

thing they say oh it could be something

174

00:07:35,120 --> 00:07:33,510

or it could be aliens so they they kind

175

00:07:36,500 --> 00:07:35,130

of jump on it as a 50/50 thing when

176

00:07:38,930 --> 00:07:36,510

really what I'm saying is like this

177

00:07:40,520 --> 00:07:38,940

there's like 50% chance there's a plane

178

00:07:42,800 --> 00:07:40,530

there's a forty nine point nine nine

179

00:07:44,570 --> 00:07:42,810

nine percent chance that it's a bird and

180

00:07:46,340 --> 00:07:44,580

there's a point zero zero zero zero one

181

00:07:49,190 --> 00:07:46,350

percent chance that it's some kind of

182

00:07:51,700 --> 00:07:49,200

alien or advanced technology of some

183

00:07:54,530 --> 00:07:51,710

sort and how often is that website

184

00:07:56,810 --> 00:07:54,540

updated or new information put up

185

00:07:58,850 --> 00:07:56,820

they're not as often as I would like but

186

00:08:00,170 --> 00:07:58,860

you know try to get new stuff up every

187

00:08:03,380 --> 00:08:00,180

week but I've been very busy recently

188

00:08:05,570 --> 00:08:03,390

finishing off the book so I'm planning

189

00:08:07,640 --> 00:08:05,580

to get more stuff up there as soon as

190

00:08:09,200 --> 00:08:07,650

possible but the the forums themselves

191

00:08:10,730 --> 00:08:09,210

are so pretty active people post on

192

00:08:12,470 --> 00:08:10,740

there every day that's great and where

193

00:08:13,220 --> 00:08:12,480

can people go to visit medibang what's

194

00:08:16,220 --> 00:08:13,230

the website

195

00:08:17,840 --> 00:08:16,230

it's a meta bunk org that's easy enough

196

00:08:20,990 --> 00:08:17,850

to remember now let's turn to the book

197

00:08:22,700 --> 00:08:21,000

and I have right here in my hot little

198

00:08:24,500 --> 00:08:22,710

hands a copy of your bull or an advance

199

00:08:27,020 --> 00:08:24,510

copy I should say which you gave me at

200

00:08:29,960 --> 00:08:27,030

skeptic al I've been having a wonderful

201
00:08:31,940 --> 00:08:29,970
time reading I not all the way through

202
00:08:37,780 --> 00:08:31,950
just yet but the early chapters is quite

203
00:08:40,430 --> 00:08:37,790
interesting and it's it's not not

204
00:08:43,640 --> 00:08:40,440
bite-sized pieces of information exactly

205
00:08:44,960 --> 00:08:43,650
it's more extensive than that and let me

206
00:08:47,180 --> 00:08:44,970
ask you a few questions about it because

207
00:08:48,620 --> 00:08:47,190
I noticed that you say in the early part

208
00:08:51,410 --> 00:08:48,630
of the book that the book is sort of

209
00:08:55,700 --> 00:08:51,420
more or less aimed at your friend now

210
00:08:58,640 --> 00:08:55,710
tell me about your friend well your

211
00:09:00,620 --> 00:08:58,650
friend is a general term that I use for

212
00:09:03,380 --> 00:09:00,630
a person that you were trying to

213
00:09:04,850 --> 00:09:03,390

convince you know essentially trying to

214

00:09:06,830 --> 00:09:04,860

convince them that they're wrong if they

215

00:09:09,680 --> 00:09:06,840

are in fact actually wrong so it would

216

00:09:11,720 --> 00:09:09,690

be somebody who believes in say the

217

00:09:13,850 --> 00:09:11,730

chemtrail conspiracy theory or the 9/11

218

00:09:16,160 --> 00:09:13,860

conspiracy theory and often this is

219

00:09:18,379 --> 00:09:16,170

somebody that you know it could be

220

00:09:19,910 --> 00:09:18,389

one in your family or someone you know

221

00:09:22,699 --> 00:09:19,920

at your place of work or someone who was

222

00:09:25,400 --> 00:09:22,709

a friend and I struggle for a while with

223

00:09:28,280 --> 00:09:25,410

a name to get these people like I would

224

00:09:32,300 --> 00:09:28,290

say yeah your opponent or the believer

225

00:09:34,610 --> 00:09:32,310

or the conspiracy theorist and I just

226

00:09:36,439 --> 00:09:34,620

figured it would be much simpler to say

227

00:09:37,759 --> 00:09:36,449

what it most commonly is which is just

228

00:09:39,769 --> 00:09:37,769

someone who's a friend I mean maybe

229

00:09:41,120 --> 00:09:39,779

they're just an acquaintance but I think

230

00:09:42,590 --> 00:09:41,130

it's best to think of you know the

231

00:09:44,720 --> 00:09:42,600

person you're talking to you as a friend

232

00:09:47,780 --> 00:09:44,730

that you are trying to help so through

233

00:09:49,970 --> 00:09:47,790

the book I just refer to the person that

234

00:09:51,319 --> 00:09:49,980

you are having the debate with or the

235

00:09:51,889 --> 00:09:51,329

person you're trying to help as your

236

00:09:54,439 --> 00:09:51,899

friend

237

00:09:57,889 --> 00:09:54,449

yeah and indeed you also make the point

238

00:09:59,360 --> 00:09:57,899

that your friend might even be yourself

239

00:10:02,420 --> 00:09:59,370

if that's the person reading the book

240

00:10:04,819 --> 00:10:02,430

indeed yes yes that's something like

241

00:10:06,350 --> 00:10:04,829

people who believe in conspiracy

242

00:10:08,960 --> 00:10:06,360

theories you know they don't believe in

243

00:10:11,269 --> 00:10:08,970

all the conspiracy theories so they

244

00:10:12,740 --> 00:10:11,279

could read the book regarding like

245

00:10:15,410 --> 00:10:12,750

conspiracy theories that they think are

246

00:10:17,240 --> 00:10:15,420

too extreme like 9/11 truthers might

247

00:10:19,579 --> 00:10:17,250

we'll probably do not believe that the

248

00:10:21,650 --> 00:10:19,589

earth is flat and that's one of the

249

00:10:25,310 --> 00:10:21,660

reasons I included it extreme conspiracy

250

00:10:27,470 --> 00:10:25,320

theories like the Flat Earth even though

251

00:10:29,600 --> 00:10:27,480

it's you know not hugely popular but it

252

00:10:31,280 --> 00:10:29,610

gives people perspective even if they

253

00:10:33,199 --> 00:10:31,290

believe in chemtrails they don't believe

254

00:10:36,620 --> 00:10:33,209

in the Flat Earth and here is how you

255

00:10:38,210 --> 00:10:36,630

would do bunk the Flat Earth and maybe

256

00:10:41,269 --> 00:10:38,220

some of that could have applied to you

257

00:10:41,870 --> 00:10:41,279

so maybe you want to check your own

258

00:10:44,210 --> 00:10:41,880

beliefs

259

00:10:46,340 --> 00:10:44,220

you know validate your where you were

260

00:10:49,550 --> 00:10:46,350

drawing the line you know what is what

261

00:10:51,650 --> 00:10:49,560

is what is the actual facts of the

262

00:10:53,329 --> 00:10:51,660

matter and you know I think the book

263

00:10:55,519 --> 00:10:53,339

will help individuals as well as help

264

00:10:57,199 --> 00:10:55,529

people help other people I think that's

265

00:10:59,269 --> 00:10:57,209

a very good point you make because I

266

00:11:01,519 --> 00:10:59,279

certainly have people I would call my

267

00:11:03,980 --> 00:11:01,529

friend my friends and some of those

268

00:11:06,829 --> 00:11:03,990

people are into various conspiracy

269

00:11:09,139 --> 00:11:06,839

theories but it is a fascinating thing

270

00:11:09,920 --> 00:11:09,149

to think that as you say the

271

00:11:14,780 --> 00:11:09,930

flat-earthers

272

00:11:16,340 --> 00:11:14,790

chemtrails and think oh of course that's

273

00:11:17,059 --> 00:11:16,350

a conspiracy theory of course they're

274

00:11:19,790 --> 00:11:17,069

just natural

275

00:11:21,230 --> 00:11:19,800

although 9/11 truthers might then look

276

00:11:23,329 --> 00:11:21,240

at the flat earthers and say to the Flat

277

00:11:25,430 --> 00:11:23,339

Earth as you're you're crazy it's it's

278

00:11:27,660 --> 00:11:25,440

it's fascinating and I think it really

279

00:11:30,180 --> 00:11:27,670

also

280

00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:30,190

ties in quite well with the title of the

281

00:11:34,860 --> 00:11:33,010

book escaping the rabbit hole and I

282

00:11:36,630 --> 00:11:34,870

guess you make the point it comes from

283

00:11:37,980 --> 00:11:36,640

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland I think

284

00:11:40,620 --> 00:11:37,990

once you're down the rabbit hole it can

285

00:11:43,020 --> 00:11:40,630

be very difficult to get out of yeah you

286

00:11:45,180 --> 00:11:43,030

can and either won't use the usage of

287

00:11:48,300 --> 00:11:45,190

the rabbit hole actually comes from the

288

00:11:50,760 --> 00:11:48,310

movie The Matrix uh-huh and a lot of

289

00:11:53,040 --> 00:11:50,770

people kind of look at the matrix than

290

00:11:54,960 --> 00:11:53,050

the movie as a kind of you know

291

00:11:58,080 --> 00:11:54,970

descriptor of the way the world is that

292

00:12:01,170 --> 00:11:58,090

yeah things are not as as they seem that

293

00:12:03,960 --> 00:12:01,180

there is a hidden reality behind the

294

00:12:07,680 --> 00:12:03,970

reality that it's presented to us in the

295

00:12:09,540 --> 00:12:07,690

media and you know the rabbit hole is

296

00:12:13,140 --> 00:12:09,550

what you discover when you kind of strip

297

00:12:15,270 --> 00:12:13,150

away this this this facade of the

298

00:12:18,180 --> 00:12:15,280

supposed to sort that's been put up by

299

00:12:20,790 --> 00:12:18,190

the you know the mainstream media but

300

00:12:24,060 --> 00:12:20,800

you know the rabbit hole is is a very

301
00:12:26,310 --> 00:12:24,070
convoluted place I talk a lot in the

302
00:12:29,960 --> 00:12:26,320
book about how people get sucked into

303
00:12:32,730 --> 00:12:29,970
the rabbit hole by watching videos and

304
00:12:34,890 --> 00:12:32,740
what generally happens is that they will

305
00:12:37,740 --> 00:12:34,900
start watching one video on particular

306
00:12:39,420 --> 00:12:37,750
topics a chemtrails or 9/11 and then

307
00:12:40,920 --> 00:12:39,430
YouTube will kind of feed them another

308
00:12:43,470 --> 00:12:40,930
one and then another and another and

309
00:12:45,390 --> 00:12:43,480
another and they kind of get drawn in by

310
00:12:48,600 --> 00:12:45,400
this it's almost like a drug it's almost

311
00:12:50,910 --> 00:12:48,610
like once they start getting hooked on

312
00:12:53,130 --> 00:12:50,920
this information they get deeper and

313
00:12:55,380 --> 00:12:53,140

deeper in and the more they watch the

314

00:12:58,290 --> 00:12:55,390

harder it is to get them out again yeah

315

00:13:01,350 --> 00:12:58,300

it's it's I think the title is quite apt

316

00:13:03,270 --> 00:13:01,360

now folks when you get your hands on the

317

00:13:06,950 --> 00:13:03,280

copy of this book you can have a look at

318

00:13:09,720 --> 00:13:06,960

the classics I guess you'd say like 9/11

319

00:13:13,440 --> 00:13:09,730

we have also the Flat Earth is mentioned

320

00:13:15,960 --> 00:13:13,450

in their chemtrails of course and that

321

00:13:17,550 --> 00:13:15,970

that's really a classic of all

322

00:13:20,100 --> 00:13:17,560

conspiracy theories and it's still going

323

00:13:22,860 --> 00:13:20,110

on today but what what do you think the

324

00:13:24,210 --> 00:13:22,870

psychology is behind some of these well

325

00:13:26,400 --> 00:13:24,220

I once had the conspiracy theories

326

00:13:27,990 --> 00:13:26,410

themselves but the people who buy into

327

00:13:30,540 --> 00:13:28,000

them do you think they feel then that

328

00:13:32,870 --> 00:13:30,550

they are empowered because they've

329

00:13:35,880 --> 00:13:32,880

discovered some sort of hidden truth

330

00:13:39,150 --> 00:13:35,890

they I do think I do think so when you

331

00:13:41,670 --> 00:13:39,160

talk to people they talk about feeling

332

00:13:43,560 --> 00:13:41,680

special one of the interviews

333

00:13:47,070 --> 00:13:43,570

in the book is with a guy called Steve

334

00:13:49,769 --> 00:13:47,080

and he basically said that the

335

00:13:53,040 --> 00:13:49,779

conspiracy theory became his his life

336

00:13:55,740 --> 00:13:53,050

and it became his social life he had a

337

00:13:58,320 --> 00:13:55,750

really good time at these 9/11 meetings

338

00:14:01,890 --> 00:13:58,330

whereas he said there were lots of hot

339

00:14:03,900 --> 00:14:01,900

chicks there who also believed in 9/11

340

00:14:08,579 --> 00:14:03,910

and so it was a great way of meeting

341

00:14:11,160 --> 00:14:08,589

people so it became you know he could

342

00:14:12,540 --> 00:14:11,170

basically rejected the life that he had

343

00:14:14,430 --> 00:14:12,550

before and he took on this new life

344

00:14:17,730 --> 00:14:14,440

which was just the people who believed

345

00:14:20,579 --> 00:14:17,740

in 9/11 it's not really a cult because

346

00:14:22,769 --> 00:14:20,589

the cult is usually centered around you

347

00:14:26,600 --> 00:14:22,779

know one charismatic person it's kind of

348

00:14:29,940 --> 00:14:26,610

as a shared belief system but it becomes

349

00:14:33,420 --> 00:14:29,950

for them very much part of their

350

00:14:35,370 --> 00:14:33,430

identity yeah and and do you make a good

351

00:14:37,079 --> 00:14:35,380

point about the social aspect of it too

352

00:14:38,579 --> 00:14:37,089

I mean I guess that's why a lot of

353

00:14:40,320 --> 00:14:38,589

people come to something like skeptics

354

00:14:42,540 --> 00:14:40,330

in the pub around the world because it's

355

00:14:45,300 --> 00:14:42,550

a great chance to interact with people

356

00:14:47,070 --> 00:14:45,310

of a similar mind yeah it's actually a

357

00:14:49,680 --> 00:14:47,080

very similar type of thing when you look

358

00:14:51,480 --> 00:14:49,690

at it from their perspective they think

359

00:14:53,280 --> 00:14:51,490

they're being very skeptical they think

360

00:14:55,920 --> 00:14:53,290

they've discovered some some truth about

361

00:14:59,100 --> 00:14:55,930

the universe and it makes them feel

362

00:15:00,920 --> 00:14:59,110

special and it's quite possible a lot of

363

00:15:03,900 --> 00:15:00,930

skeptics actually have a similar

364

00:15:07,680 --> 00:15:03,910

psychological thing going on yeah people

365

00:15:10,170 --> 00:15:07,690

who debunk actually enjoy some of them

366

00:15:12,210 --> 00:15:10,180

enjoy pointing out mistakes and I think

367

00:15:15,300 --> 00:15:12,220

you know even if they're not conscious

368

00:15:16,769 --> 00:15:15,310

of it skeptics and debunkers themselves

369

00:15:19,740 --> 00:15:16,779

might be doing the same thing they're

370

00:15:21,660 --> 00:15:19,750

there feeling special and I think that

371

00:15:24,690 --> 00:15:21,670

that points to like a broader point that

372

00:15:27,090 --> 00:15:24,700

these psychological reasons why people

373

00:15:30,510 --> 00:15:27,100

do things aren't really aberrations

374

00:15:32,160 --> 00:15:30,520

they're not psychological problems in

375

00:15:35,160 --> 00:15:32,170

the sense that they're mentally ill

376

00:15:37,560 --> 00:15:35,170

they're just ordinary people and they've

377

00:15:39,449 --> 00:15:37,570

just found a different way of fulfilling

378

00:15:41,100 --> 00:15:39,459

these needs that we have like we all

379

00:15:42,449 --> 00:15:41,110

want to feel special I like feeling

380

00:15:46,110 --> 00:15:42,459

special I'm sure you like spilling

381

00:15:48,480 --> 00:15:46,120

special - and the conspiracy theorists

382

00:15:50,579 --> 00:15:48,490

have just been sucked into this rabbit

383

00:15:52,440 --> 00:15:50,589

hole that allows them to feel special in

384

00:15:54,329 --> 00:15:52,450

a certain way and because they enjoy

385

00:15:55,350 --> 00:15:54,339

doing it they keep doing it what it's

386

00:15:57,660 --> 00:15:55,360

nice to think that you

387

00:15:59,850 --> 00:15:57,670

on the inside of the informational

388

00:16:01,319 --> 00:15:59,860

you've got the special information or

389

00:16:05,280 --> 00:16:01,329

you know something other people don't

390

00:16:07,319 --> 00:16:05,290

know and do you think that's why and it

391

00:16:08,940 --> 00:16:07,329

doesn't just stop a conspiracy people

392

00:16:11,699 --> 00:16:08,950

who are into conspiracy theories but

393

00:16:15,690 --> 00:16:11,709

people who don't think they've found

394

00:16:17,639 --> 00:16:15,700

something often want other people to to

395

00:16:20,430 --> 00:16:17,649

be involved to like spreading the word

396

00:16:22,019 --> 00:16:20,440

you know letting other people know and I

397

00:16:24,900 --> 00:16:22,029

think that's common through many many

398

00:16:27,389 --> 00:16:24,910

aspects of life yeah very much so

399

00:16:31,350 --> 00:16:27,399

ok you know people who are very

400

00:16:33,960 --> 00:16:31,360

evangelical about things like what type

401
00:16:36,230 --> 00:16:33,970
of computer they they like like like

402
00:16:38,400 --> 00:16:36,240
like Apple a lot

403
00:16:40,590 --> 00:16:38,410
evangelical or promoters of a certain

404
00:16:41,819 --> 00:16:40,600
thing like they'd like people enjoy

405
00:16:43,769 --> 00:16:41,829
sharing their knowledge with other

406
00:16:46,860 --> 00:16:43,779
people and again these are like

407
00:16:49,920 --> 00:16:46,870
psychological things that you know are

408
00:16:52,290 --> 00:16:49,930
comments of everyone yeah and one of the

409
00:16:56,069 --> 00:16:52,300
things I looked at was studies of

410
00:16:57,630 --> 00:16:56,079
conspiracy theories theorists and you

411
00:17:00,540 --> 00:16:57,640
know are there actually psychological

412
00:17:03,180 --> 00:17:00,550
reasons and it seemed like you know that

413
00:17:04,650 --> 00:17:03,190

are there are things where if you have a

414

00:17:07,230 --> 00:17:04,660

certain tendency you're a bit more

415

00:17:09,720 --> 00:17:07,240

likely to become a conspiracy theorist

416

00:17:11,460 --> 00:17:09,730

but it's not really that significant

417

00:17:17,059 --> 00:17:11,470

you know the again these are things that

418

00:17:19,770 --> 00:17:17,069

are shared by everybody the just like

419

00:17:22,350 --> 00:17:19,780

function the biases like mental biases

420

00:17:24,870 --> 00:17:22,360

that people have psychological biases

421

00:17:27,210 --> 00:17:24,880

like the confirmation bias when you look

422

00:17:28,680 --> 00:17:27,220

for evidence for a belief you only look

423

00:17:30,960 --> 00:17:28,690

for evidence that confirms it and you

424

00:17:33,419 --> 00:17:30,970

don't look for evidence there refutes

425

00:17:35,400 --> 00:17:33,429

that you know unless you're a trained

426

00:17:37,440 --> 00:17:35,410

scientist or trained skeptic then most

427

00:17:41,370 --> 00:17:37,450

people will fall for these these

428

00:17:43,049 --> 00:17:41,380

psychological biases and the people who

429

00:17:45,000 --> 00:17:43,059

fall into conspiracy theorists may be

430

00:17:46,890 --> 00:17:45,010

slightly more prone to this type of

431

00:17:50,490 --> 00:17:46,900

thing but they might not I think a lot

432

00:17:52,470 --> 00:17:50,500

of it is down to their environment and

433

00:17:54,810 --> 00:17:52,480

just what they were exposed to it's kind

434

00:17:57,570 --> 00:17:54,820

of a nature not nurture type thing or

435

00:17:59,549 --> 00:17:57,580

nurture not nature yeah well it looks

436

00:18:02,700 --> 00:17:59,559

like to me you could write a whole a

437

00:18:05,040 --> 00:18:02,710

whole extra chapter on this book about

438

00:18:08,190 --> 00:18:05,050

all those issues - well haul extra book

439

00:18:09,299 --> 00:18:08,200

I mean because there's so much folks

440

00:18:10,590 --> 00:18:09,309

there was so much

441

00:18:12,600 --> 00:18:10,600

when you think about conspiracy theories

442

00:18:15,299 --> 00:18:12,610

now this book as I said before it's not

443

00:18:17,100 --> 00:18:15,309

just a little bite-sized look at a

444

00:18:19,379 --> 00:18:17,110

certain conspiracy theory and then

445

00:18:21,600 --> 00:18:19,389

unraveling it it's quite in-depth really

446

00:18:23,639 --> 00:18:21,610

going into psychology in the history in

447

00:18:26,399 --> 00:18:23,649

fact I found interesting the history of

448

00:18:29,180 --> 00:18:26,409

the term conspiracy theory itself how

449

00:18:31,289 --> 00:18:29,190

the CIA became involved things like

450

00:18:33,450 --> 00:18:31,299

popular culture like the men in black

451
00:18:35,610 --> 00:18:33,460
movies the book is called escaping the

452
00:18:38,220 --> 00:18:35,620
rabbit hole how to debunk conspiracy

453
00:18:40,580 --> 00:18:38,230
theories using facts logic and respect

454
00:18:43,430 --> 00:18:40,590
now that's going to be brought to us by

455
00:18:45,840 --> 00:18:43,440
skyhorse publishing when when can people

456
00:18:48,419 --> 00:18:45,850
order that or when when can people get

457
00:18:52,049 --> 00:18:48,429
that well you can pre-order it now on

458
00:18:55,279 --> 00:18:52,059
Amazon and various other places and it

459
00:18:57,600 --> 00:18:55,289
will be released on September the 18th

460
00:18:59,970 --> 00:18:57,610
alright folks I can recommend the book

461
00:19:02,700 --> 00:18:59,980
I'm enjoying it very much so far I'll

462
00:19:05,070 --> 00:19:02,710
put a link to the pre-order in this

463
00:19:06,779 --> 00:19:05,080

week's show notes well Mick thank you

464

00:19:08,999 --> 00:19:06,789

very much for sparing some time to talk

465

00:19:12,629 --> 00:19:09,009

about meta bunk and conspiracy theories

466

00:19:14,009 --> 00:19:12,639

what's the next project well I'm gonna

467

00:19:16,409 --> 00:19:14,019

get back on to meadow Bronk and start

468

00:19:17,669 --> 00:19:16,419

writing some more more content but I've

469

00:19:21,960 --> 00:19:17,679

also got to write a sequel to the book

470

00:19:23,820 --> 00:19:21,970

I'm thinking perhaps writing tales from

471

00:19:25,980 --> 00:19:23,830

the rabbit hole which is gonna focus

472

00:19:28,440 --> 00:19:25,990

more on the individuals and their

473

00:19:30,239 --> 00:19:28,450

stories people who are still down the

474

00:19:32,669 --> 00:19:30,249

rabbit hole and people who have escaped

475

00:19:35,790 --> 00:19:32,679

excellent well Nick West thank you very

476

00:19:58,470 --> 00:19:35,800

much thank you rich

477

00:20:02,980 --> 00:20:00,940

from the Australian skeptics we hear

478

00:20:07,660 --> 00:20:02,990

that there are speaker changes happy

479

00:20:09,730 --> 00:20:07,670

2018 skeptic on Convention as reported

480

00:20:12,760 --> 00:20:09,740

on the Australian skeptics website

481

00:20:15,040 --> 00:20:12,770

skeptics comdataís you there have been a

482

00:20:18,370 --> 00:20:15,050

couple of changes for the speaker

483

00:20:21,040 --> 00:20:18,380

line-up at the Australian skeptics xxxiv

484

00:20:23,980 --> 00:20:21,050

National Convention in Sydney October

485

00:20:26,530 --> 00:20:23,990

the 13th to the 14th we are excited to

486

00:20:28,990 --> 00:20:26,540

announce that Evette tsai babe

487

00:20:31,720 --> 00:20:29,000

dawn 3 mom is coming to australia to

488

00:20:34,050 --> 00:20:31,730

share her experiences in fighting the

489

00:20:36,460 --> 00:20:34,060

forces of ignorance and pseudoscience

490

00:20:39,370 --> 00:20:36,470

especially in the field of food

491

00:20:41,920 --> 00:20:39,380

nutrition and quote wellness banquet

492

00:20:46,900 --> 00:20:41,930

with a background in forensics and

493

00:20:49,690 --> 00:20:46,910

toxicology a sharp BS detector and a big

494

00:20:52,600 --> 00:20:49,700

dose of humor the often controversial

495

00:20:55,480 --> 00:20:52,610

campaigner and blogger has also taken on

496

00:20:58,000 --> 00:20:55,490

falsehoods in alternative medicine the

497

00:21:01,090 --> 00:20:58,010

anti-vaccination movement and the anti

498

00:21:03,760 --> 00:21:01,100

GMO movement we know that she will be a

499

00:21:07,750 --> 00:21:03,770

highly attractive and entertaining

500

00:21:10,660 --> 00:21:07,760

addition to the lineup the sad news is

501
00:21:13,480 --> 00:21:10,670
that Sydney and Justin McElroy the

502
00:21:15,640 --> 00:21:13,490
Sawbones podcast have had to cancel

503
00:21:18,550 --> 00:21:15,650
their appearance at the 2018 convention

504
00:21:20,740 --> 00:21:18,560
due to unexpected family medical issues

505
00:21:23,050 --> 00:21:20,750
the McElroy's say that the issues are

506
00:21:25,240 --> 00:21:23,060
not life-threatening and do not directly

507
00:21:27,160 --> 00:21:25,250
involve either of them but the situation

508
00:21:29,800 --> 00:21:27,170
does prevent them from making the

509
00:21:31,300 --> 00:21:29,810
journey may send that deep apologies and

510
00:21:34,850 --> 00:21:31,310
say that they are really disappointed

511
00:21:37,070 --> 00:21:34,860
not to be part of the 2018 convention

512
00:21:40,150 --> 00:21:37,080
but they do hope to come to Australia in

513
00:21:42,799 --> 00:21:40,160

the not-too-distant future

514

00:21:45,380 --> 00:21:42,809

while we are likewise disappointed that

515

00:21:48,770 --> 00:21:45,390

the popular Sawbones couple will not be

516

00:21:52,039 --> 00:21:48,780

able to make it and we hope to have them

517

00:21:54,410 --> 00:21:52,049

back at a future event for more details

518

00:22:24,260 --> 00:21:54,420

about the upcoming convention head to

519

00:22:26,090 --> 00:22:24,270

skeptics comm au and joining me now just

520

00:22:28,940 --> 00:22:26,100

to say hello and a bit of information

521

00:22:33,140 --> 00:22:28,950

about her upcoming talk it's dr. Angela

522

00:22:34,850 --> 00:22:33,150

Mackay hello it's great to see you and

523

00:22:37,130 --> 00:22:34,860

yes thanks to the miracle of the

524

00:22:39,590 --> 00:22:37,140

internet we are seeing each other you're

525

00:22:48,440 --> 00:22:39,600

in Atlanta Georgia you don't get home

526

00:22:51,799 --> 00:22:48,450

too often I don't think it does indeed

527

00:22:53,360 --> 00:22:51,809

and Sydney listeners especially Judy is

528

00:22:56,090 --> 00:22:53,370

bringing you all the way to Sydney and

529

00:23:00,400 --> 00:22:56,100

you'll be talking at skeptics in the pub

530

00:23:03,080 --> 00:23:00,410

in July in Sydney how exciting is that I

531

00:23:06,980 --> 00:23:03,090

can't wait I'm looking so forward to

532

00:23:08,419 --> 00:23:06,990

this this is actually sort of a special

533

00:23:11,600 --> 00:23:08,429

one for the Sydney skeptics in the pub

534

00:23:13,789 --> 00:23:11,610

they've been kind enough to alter their

535

00:23:17,180 --> 00:23:13,799

usual meeting dates so that I get to

536

00:23:20,659 --> 00:23:17,190

talk to them on July 12th yeah which is

537

00:23:24,230 --> 00:23:20,669

unusual for them so I'm coming in town

538

00:23:26,630 --> 00:23:24,240

and I really can't wait to see everyone

539

00:23:29,360 --> 00:23:26,640

yeah we're looking forward to it now as

540

00:23:31,610 --> 00:23:29,370

Sydney folks is a special thing coming

541

00:23:34,370 --> 00:23:31,620

up indeed dr. Angela Matt key not only

542

00:23:35,950 --> 00:23:34,380

are you do you have a wealth of medical

543

00:23:38,210 --> 00:23:35,960

experience but you have a wealth of

544

00:23:40,460 --> 00:23:38,220

skeptical experience by now cuz you've

545

00:23:46,830 --> 00:23:40,470

been in the skepticism game for some

546

00:23:52,290 --> 00:23:49,820

- I have also now recently been

547

00:23:55,380 --> 00:23:52,300

appointed the assistant director of skip

548

00:23:59,190 --> 00:23:55,390

track at DragonCon in Atlanta and I've

549

00:24:03,000 --> 00:23:59,200

given speech talks to the blue skeptics

550

00:24:06,660 --> 00:24:03,010

in Melbourne and at the skeptic camp in

551
00:24:07,980 --> 00:24:06,670
Brisbane yes of course I think it was a

552
00:24:10,200 --> 00:24:07,990
couple of years ago I remember seeing

553
00:24:12,030 --> 00:24:10,210
you in Brisbane I've seen you I've seen

554
00:24:14,520 --> 00:24:12,040
you since then when you made a brief

555
00:24:17,430 --> 00:24:14,530
visit to Sydney I'm thinking about a

556
00:24:19,530 --> 00:24:17,440
year ago but it's it's it's good to know

557
00:24:22,140 --> 00:24:19,540
that you're coming back to to give a

558
00:24:30,350 --> 00:24:22,150
talk what can what can skeptics in the

559
00:24:39,140 --> 00:24:35,210
it's about when the dogma of religion

560
00:24:42,030 --> 00:24:39,150
which had been the guiding force behind

561
00:24:46,200 --> 00:24:42,040
medical treatments meets up with the gut

562
00:24:49,650 --> 00:24:46,210
the dogma of medicine because for many

563
00:24:54,860 --> 00:24:49,660

years doctors did not use the scientific

564

00:24:57,840 --> 00:24:54,870

method and once that began to be used we

565

00:25:01,500 --> 00:24:57,850

developed modern medicine however it

566

00:25:05,190 --> 00:25:01,510

took an amazingly long time for that to

567

00:25:10,230 --> 00:25:05,200

apply really yes the title of the talk

568

00:25:11,820 --> 00:25:10,240

is dogma it's a dog-eat-dog world that

569

00:25:15,000 --> 00:25:11,830

sounds good now tell me a little bit

570

00:25:16,530 --> 00:25:15,010

more about your work for DragonCon

571

00:25:18,390 --> 00:25:16,540

because sadly I don't think I'll be able

572

00:25:20,520 --> 00:25:18,400

to make DragonCon this year in Atlanta I

573

00:25:22,560 --> 00:25:20,530

haven't been for many years in fact but

574

00:25:25,110 --> 00:25:22,570

I'm glad after all these years it's

575

00:25:29,970 --> 00:25:25,120

still going strong well Richard you're

576

00:25:31,980 --> 00:25:29,980

long overdue yes yes it's going strong

577

00:25:35,160 --> 00:25:31,990

and in fact Margaret Downey has been

578

00:25:37,800 --> 00:25:35,170

amazing at getting our skeptic community

579

00:25:40,080 --> 00:25:37,810

more visible in the Atlanta community as

580

00:25:43,200 --> 00:25:40,090

part of the skeptic for a part of the

581

00:25:44,760 --> 00:25:43,210

parade DragonCon has a parade that

582

00:25:47,550 --> 00:25:44,770

marches through the streets of downtown

583

00:25:50,400 --> 00:25:47,560

Atlanta every Labor Day weekend and if

584

00:25:53,070 --> 00:25:50,410

you haven't seen stormtroopers marching

585

00:25:54,510 --> 00:25:53,080

down the street in Atlanta you have not

586

00:25:56,940 --> 00:25:54,520

left I'm just saying

587

00:25:59,100 --> 00:25:56,950

and I think one year you even dressed up

588

00:26:00,120 --> 00:25:59,110

as a crash-test dummy to drive James

589

00:26:03,360 --> 00:26:00,130

Randi down the street

590

00:26:07,560 --> 00:26:03,370

I was indeed too dressed as a crash-test

591

00:26:11,130 --> 00:26:07,570

dummy there are the costumes are so

592

00:26:16,140 --> 00:26:11,140

amazing I can't even begin to tell you

593

00:26:18,990 --> 00:26:16,150

how amazing they are it is the biggest

594

00:26:21,660 --> 00:26:19,000

event I think I've ever been to from a

595

00:26:23,700 --> 00:26:21,670

cosplay perspective and in fact I hardly

596

00:26:25,650 --> 00:26:23,710

cosplay at all because I'm so

597

00:26:29,600 --> 00:26:25,660

intimidated at the talent of the bull

598

00:26:32,370 --> 00:26:29,610

there one of my favorite costumes was a

599

00:26:35,630 --> 00:26:32,380

costume that was from How to Train Your

600

00:26:38,280 --> 00:26:35,640

Dragon a thirteen year old girl had

601
00:26:41,250 --> 00:26:38,290
decided that was something she loved and

602
00:26:43,770 --> 00:26:41,260
she really wanted to do this costume so

603
00:26:45,660 --> 00:26:43,780
she told her father who took her to

604
00:26:48,900 --> 00:26:45,670
Michael's which is a local craft store

605
00:26:52,170 --> 00:26:48,910
chain in America and was able to

606
00:26:55,140 --> 00:26:52,180
purchase all of the equipment to

607
00:26:58,260 --> 00:26:55,150
manufacture the costume she did not want

608
00:26:58,710 --> 00:26:58,270
any help she did the entire thing all on

609
00:27:01,500 --> 00:26:58,720
her own

610
00:27:03,960 --> 00:27:01,510
I had a detailed discussion with her

611
00:27:06,570 --> 00:27:03,970
aunt who told me all about it and I

612
00:27:10,260 --> 00:27:06,580
think even though the costume was not a

613
00:27:12,600 --> 00:27:10,270

professional quality it was so good for

614

00:27:14,880 --> 00:27:12,610

her level I cannot wait to see what this

615

00:27:16,770 --> 00:27:14,890

young lady produces it's amazing Dragon

616

00:27:20,400 --> 00:27:16,780

Con is like that I I mean I remember the

617

00:27:21,630 --> 00:27:20,410

three times I went the dedication from

618

00:27:23,970 --> 00:27:21,640

the fans is stunning

619

00:27:25,770 --> 00:27:23,980

and I was very lucky to go for three

620

00:27:28,080 --> 00:27:25,780

years in a row but I must say The

621

00:27:30,480 --> 00:27:28,090

Skeptical crack the skip track at Dragon

622

00:27:32,670 --> 00:27:30,490

Con was well attended every year I was

623

00:27:34,170 --> 00:27:32,680

there it was a lot of fun and it was

624

00:27:36,450 --> 00:27:34,180

also a great way to reach new people

625

00:27:39,180 --> 00:27:36,460

because people would simply come out to

626

00:27:46,380 --> 00:27:39,190

or come in to the to the room out of

627

00:27:47,970 --> 00:27:46,390

curiosity well Derek : dunno had this

628

00:27:53,610 --> 00:27:47,980

scheduled track that he had just created

629

00:27:57,120 --> 00:27:53,620

and I happened to be there and saw the

630

00:28:01,350 --> 00:27:57,130

listing on the program and I did not

631

00:28:02,970 --> 00:28:01,360

even realize I was a skeptic you know

632

00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:02,980

what I think that that's the first time

633

00:28:07,980 --> 00:28:06,010

we met because in my going back through

634

00:28:10,230 --> 00:28:07,990

my photographs of the time I was looking

635

00:28:11,180 --> 00:28:10,240

back and there is you sitting in the

636

00:28:15,410 --> 00:28:11,190

audience

637

00:28:21,890 --> 00:28:15,420

oh that's sweet well don't show those to

638

00:28:24,350 --> 00:28:21,900

anyone please Derek : dunno was so good

639

00:28:25,220 --> 00:28:24,360

about getting the audience engaged that

640

00:28:28,310 --> 00:28:25,230

he

641

00:28:32,030 --> 00:28:28,320

oh and trying to get younger people

642

00:28:34,850 --> 00:28:32,040

engaged that he actually had who have

643

00:28:38,270 --> 00:28:34,860

the person with the microphone go and

644

00:28:40,340 --> 00:28:38,280

ask questions of my son who is in the

645

00:28:45,830 --> 00:28:40,350

audience and with about 11 or 12 at the

646

00:28:48,910 --> 00:28:45,840

time and talk about how to keep young

647

00:28:52,730 --> 00:28:48,920

people engaged in science and skepticism

648

00:28:56,060 --> 00:28:52,740

and that was a big moment for me because

649

00:28:58,460 --> 00:28:56,070

I I loved having someone interested in

650

00:28:58,970 --> 00:28:58,470

what my son thought well that's a great

651
00:29:01,450 --> 00:28:58,980
story

652
00:29:04,430 --> 00:29:01,460
now folks here's the word the 12th of

653
00:29:06,980 --> 00:29:04,440
July for Sydney skeptics in the pub link

654
00:29:08,150 --> 00:29:06,990
in this week's show notes and we're all

655
00:29:10,010 --> 00:29:08,160
looking forward to seeing you there

656
00:29:12,440 --> 00:29:10,020
folks if you're coming along you can ask

657
00:29:15,020 --> 00:29:12,450
dr. Angela Mackay all about her

658
00:29:17,420 --> 00:29:15,030
adventures in promoting science and

659
00:29:20,060 --> 00:29:17,430
reasons especially at DragonCon world

660
00:29:24,940 --> 00:29:20,070
dr. Angie I look forward to seeing you

661
00:29:27,320 --> 00:29:24,950
very soon in a very few weeks in Sydney

662
00:29:30,350 --> 00:29:27,330
you and everyone else from the Sydney

663
00:29:31,720 --> 00:29:30,360

skeptics the skeptics in the buff July

664

00:29:54,539 --> 00:29:31,730

12

665

00:29:59,740 --> 00:29:57,100

now here's a message from our friends in

666

00:30:00,220 --> 00:29:59,750

Victoria the Maury Alec skeptics in the

667

00:30:03,400 --> 00:30:00,230

pub

668

00:30:08,890 --> 00:30:03,410

the next meetup is Thursday the 3rd of

669

00:30:12,310 --> 00:30:08,900

July when human beings are like drunk

670

00:30:15,430 --> 00:30:12,320

robots driverless vehicles ethics and

671

00:30:20,650 --> 00:30:15,440

the future of Transport a talk by dr.

672

00:30:23,650 --> 00:30:20,660

mark Howard of Monash University mark

673

00:30:26,350 --> 00:30:23,660

works in the ethics of new technologies

674

00:30:29,080 --> 00:30:26,360

AI and robotics and applies his

675

00:30:34,900 --> 00:30:29,090

expertise to intelligent transport

676
00:30:37,480 --> 00:30:34,910
systems i TS recent research reveals the

677
00:30:40,260 --> 00:30:37,490
radical implications of a driverless

678
00:30:44,530 --> 00:30:40,270
future on public safety the environment

679
00:30:46,480 --> 00:30:44,540
urban planning and transport policy now

680
00:30:49,150 --> 00:30:46,490
this presentation will start at 7:30

681
00:30:51,640 --> 00:30:49,160
p.m. for more details see the Morty

682
00:30:55,750 --> 00:30:51,650
meet-up website links in this week's

683
00:30:57,549 --> 00:30:55,760
show notes and the note says why not

684
00:31:00,240 --> 00:30:57,559
join mark in the rest of the group for

685
00:31:02,830 --> 00:31:00,250
dinner beforehand in Jack's restaurant

686
00:31:05,220 --> 00:31:02,840
located downstairs at the Maury sporting

687
00:31:20,919 --> 00:31:05,230
club dinner at 6:15 p.m.

688
00:31:24,950 --> 00:31:23,120

thank you for listening to the skeptic

689

00:31:26,749 --> 00:31:24,960

zone podcast and I look forward to

690

00:31:29,299 --> 00:31:26,759

seeing Sydneysiders at sydney's skeptics

691

00:31:32,419 --> 00:31:29,309

in the pub with dr. Angie coming up on

692

00:31:33,860 --> 00:31:32,429

the twelfth and if you can't make Sydney

693

00:31:35,779 --> 00:31:33,870

skeptics in the pub on the tour then you

694

00:31:37,820 --> 00:31:35,789

happen to be in New York on the 12th

695

00:31:40,669 --> 00:31:37,830

don't forget the Northeast Conference of

696

00:31:43,700 --> 00:31:40,679

science and skepticism on at from the

697

00:31:46,549 --> 00:31:43,710

12th to the 15th in New York and I was

698

00:31:50,210 --> 00:31:46,559

very lucky enough to be a speaker at the

699

00:31:52,639 --> 00:31:50,220

last year's Ness what a wonderful time

700

00:31:55,279 --> 00:31:52,649

it was and if you're in New York you can

701
00:31:58,070 --> 00:31:55,289
see such wonderful people as James the

702
00:31:59,720 --> 00:31:58,080
amazing Randi will be there the skeptics

703
00:32:02,570 --> 00:31:59,730
guide to the universe crew of course

704
00:32:07,159 --> 00:32:02,580
they'll be there dr. Harriet Hall George

705
00:32:09,499 --> 00:32:07,169
Horeb and I hear tell even Bill Nye Oh

706
00:32:11,570 --> 00:32:09,509
Michael Marshall as well what a lineup

707
00:32:14,570 --> 00:32:11,580
it is folks what a lineup of great

708
00:32:19,249 --> 00:32:14,580
speakers for more information head to n

709
00:32:22,279 --> 00:32:19,259
e CSS dot org and i wish that every

710
00:32:24,139 --> 00:32:22,289
success but for this week

711
00:32:25,940 --> 00:32:24,149
this is Richard Saunders signing off

712
00:32:32,269 --> 00:32:25,950
once again from the Bay Area San

713
00:32:34,970 --> 00:32:32,279

Francisco you've been listening to the

714

00:32:40,549 --> 00:32:34,980

skeptic zone podcast please visit our

715

00:32:43,009 --> 00:32:40,559

website at WWE TV for shownotes contacts

716

00:32:47,029 --> 00:32:43,019

and to access the back catalog of

717

00:32:48,769 --> 00:32:47,039

episodes going back to 2008 you can

718

00:32:51,830 --> 00:32:48,779

follow the skeptic zone podcast on

719

00:32:54,110 --> 00:32:51,840

twitter at skeptic zone visit our

720

00:32:54,980 --> 00:32:54,120

facebook page or leave a review on

721

00:32:57,680 --> 00:32:54,990

itunes

722

00:33:01,039 --> 00:32:57,690

you can also support the skeptic zone

723

00:33:04,460 --> 00:33:01,049

via patreon or PayPal the skeptic zone

724

00:33:06,169 --> 00:33:04,470

podcast is an independent production the

725

00:33:08,299 --> 00:33:06,179

views and opinions expressed on the

726

00:33:10,639 --> 00:33:08,309

sceptic zone and not necessarily those

727

00:33:12,430 --> 00:33:10,649

of Australian skeptics or any other