

Episode 542

THE
**SKEPTIC
ZONE**
PODCAST

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The Skeptic Zone Podcast



Craig Shearer

Episode **542** - 10 March 2019

New Zealand Dowser Dollars
Down the Drain.
Craig Shearer from NZ Skeptics

Mike Willesee
Skeptics Winner and Loser

Folk Remedies
at Skeptics in the Pub

1
00:00:09,110 --> 00:00:06,170

[Music]

2
00:00:11,890 --> 00:00:09,120

welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

3
00:00:22,910 --> 00:00:11,900

from Australia for science and reason

4
00:00:25,440 --> 00:00:22,920

[Music]

5
00:00:29,450 --> 00:00:25,450

yes it's the skeptic zone podcast

6
00:00:32,549 --> 00:00:29,460

episode number 542 for the 10th of March

7
00:00:35,479 --> 00:00:32,559

2019 Richardson is here with you from

8
00:00:40,049 --> 00:00:35,489

Sydney Australia where it's been getting

9
00:00:43,619 --> 00:00:40,059

just that little bit cooler and a big

10
00:00:46,290 --> 00:00:43,629

THANK YOU to Maynard who stepped in at

11
00:00:49,740 --> 00:00:46,300

the last minute and hosted the show last

12
00:00:51,840 --> 00:00:49,750

week at the time the time I needed to do

13
00:00:55,469 --> 00:00:51,850

the voice work for the introductions and

14

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:55,479

so on I really couldn't talk and as

15

00:01:00,539 --> 00:00:58,000

you'll hear in this week's show recorded

16

00:01:01,799 --> 00:01:00,549

during the week I still sound a little

17

00:01:05,250 --> 00:01:01,809

bit under the weather but I'm nearly

18

00:01:07,500 --> 00:01:05,260

better it's so frustrating and for those

19

00:01:09,690 --> 00:01:07,510

people who've recently had the flu or

20

00:01:11,359 --> 00:01:09,700

the cold or something like that I guess

21

00:01:14,280 --> 00:01:11,369

one of the things that really really

22

00:01:18,719 --> 00:01:14,290

hits home is how frustrating it is not

23

00:01:20,820 --> 00:01:18,729

to be as active or active at all and not

24

00:01:22,800 --> 00:01:20,830

to be productive because apart from

25

00:01:26,490 --> 00:01:22,810

anything else it's simply hard to think

26

00:01:29,789 --> 00:01:26,500

when you're very sick and you're

27

00:01:32,340 --> 00:01:29,799

miserable it's hard to read books it's

28

00:01:34,910 --> 00:01:32,350

hard to do any sort of work at all so

29

00:01:37,139 --> 00:01:34,920

thank you again a very much Maynard

30

00:01:40,550 --> 00:01:37,149

coming up later on in the show you'll

31

00:01:44,399 --> 00:01:40,560

hear about Maenads upcoming gig in

32

00:01:46,859 --> 00:01:44,409

Sydney our just under a week away and if

33

00:01:48,270 --> 00:01:46,869

you're a fan of the skeptic zone and

34

00:01:51,749 --> 00:01:48,280

Maynard's work or you're a fan of

35

00:01:53,730 --> 00:01:51,759

Maynard Maynard calm today you this is a

36

00:01:57,239 --> 00:01:53,740

great opportunity for you to go along

37

00:01:59,370 --> 00:01:57,249

and support maenad in person but coming

38

00:02:03,090 --> 00:01:59,380

up on this week's show we have New

39

00:02:04,620 --> 00:02:03,100

Zealand dowser dollars down the drain we

40

00:02:07,020 --> 00:02:04,630

interview the chair of New Zealand

41

00:02:10,830 --> 00:02:07,030

skeptics Craig Shearer about how

42

00:02:15,260 --> 00:02:10,840

Wellington ratepayers are funding water

43

00:02:18,150 --> 00:02:15,270

divining in the form of a contractor

44

00:02:21,059 --> 00:02:18,160

using divining rods as part of their job

45

00:02:22,710 --> 00:02:21,069

to find underground pipes just when we

46

00:02:25,170 --> 00:02:22,720

thought we'd never see water to finding

47

00:02:27,780 --> 00:02:25,180

a water dowsing again well you know what

48

00:02:30,200 --> 00:02:27,790

I'm not too surprised I guess I mean

49

00:02:33,270 --> 00:02:30,210

it's something that's going to be around

50

00:02:35,670 --> 00:02:33,280

well I guess it's going to be around as

51
00:02:37,980 --> 00:02:35,680
long as people are around water divining

52
00:02:39,780 --> 00:02:37,990
and water dowsing following that it's a

53
00:02:42,390 --> 00:02:39,790
story from the Australian skeptics about

54
00:02:44,520 --> 00:02:42,400
the late Mike Willis see the TV

55
00:02:48,030 --> 00:02:44,530
journalists the pioneering TV

56
00:02:52,140 --> 00:02:48,040
journalists who died a very short time

57
00:02:54,570 --> 00:02:52,150
ago at the age of 76 he was a very

58
00:02:57,630 --> 00:02:54,580
well-known face and name here in

59
00:02:59,610 --> 00:02:57,640
Australia for his TV journalism over

60
00:03:00,930 --> 00:02:59,620
many many years and for much of that

61
00:03:02,670 --> 00:03:00,940
time he had a very positive relationship

62
00:03:05,490 --> 00:03:02,680
with the Australian skeptics and

63
00:03:09,240 --> 00:03:05,500

skepticism in general and then sort of

64

00:03:13,170 --> 00:03:09,250

went south a little bit when he well

65

00:03:15,510 --> 00:03:13,180

found God and suddenly his reports and

66

00:03:19,010 --> 00:03:15,520

so on were somewhat less than skeptical

67

00:03:22,290 --> 00:03:19,020

you'll find out why later on in the show

68

00:03:24,930 --> 00:03:22,300

then to round things up I head to Sydney

69

00:03:27,930 --> 00:03:24,940

skeptics in the pub where in fact I gave

70

00:03:30,600 --> 00:03:27,940

a talk in the last week but we speak to

71

00:03:31,890 --> 00:03:30,610

pub goers about old folk remedies what

72

00:03:34,440 --> 00:03:31,900

do they remember from when they were

73

00:03:37,200 --> 00:03:34,450

kids this cue is that or if you've got a

74

00:03:39,180 --> 00:03:37,210

sore shoulder put this on it or if you

75

00:03:41,520 --> 00:03:39,190

do this this will happen those sort of

76

00:03:45,420 --> 00:03:41,530

interesting old folk remedies do pubs

77

00:03:47,070 --> 00:03:45,430

have any from their past stay tuned at

78

00:03:49,530 --> 00:03:47,080

the end of the show for more

79

00:03:53,270 --> 00:03:49,540

announcements from me but now it's time

80

00:03:57,720 --> 00:03:53,280

for me to run downstairs a bit more

81

00:03:59,970 --> 00:03:57,730

ginger and lemon tea a bit more ginger

82

00:04:01,890 --> 00:03:59,980

and lemon tea - just soothe the throat a

83

00:04:05,030 --> 00:04:01,900

little bit while I do that I hope you

84

00:04:12,310 --> 00:04:05,040

enjoy the skeptic zone

85

00:04:21,290 --> 00:04:12,320

[Music]

86

00:04:26,610 --> 00:04:24,600

and joining me now on the line all the

87

00:04:28,590 --> 00:04:26,620

way from Auckland in New Zealand it's

88

00:04:30,330 --> 00:04:28,600

the chair of the New Zealand skeptics

89

00:04:32,820 --> 00:04:30,340

Craig Shearer hello Craig

90

00:04:34,620 --> 00:04:32,830

how I Richard how you doing well just

91

00:04:35,880 --> 00:04:34,630

getting over the dreaded cold but not

92

00:04:38,310 --> 00:04:35,890

doing too bad

93

00:04:41,100 --> 00:04:38,320

look there's a story just hit the

94

00:04:42,630 --> 00:04:41,110

interwebs about something which we

95

00:04:45,930 --> 00:04:42,640

thought we'd never see again

96

00:04:47,820 --> 00:04:45,940

you know really about water divining and

97

00:04:49,770 --> 00:04:47,830

water dowsing coming out of New Zealand

98

00:04:51,780 --> 00:04:49,780

before we get into that can you give our

99

00:04:53,700 --> 00:04:51,790

audience a bit of a background for our

100

00:04:57,480 --> 00:04:53,710

new listeners about the New Zealand

101
00:04:59,190 --> 00:04:57,490
skeptics yeah I guess we're very much

102
00:05:03,570 --> 00:04:59,200
like the Australian skeptics except

103
00:05:06,090 --> 00:05:03,580
smaller and and of course good things

104
00:05:09,510 --> 00:05:06,100
come in small packages so we've been

105
00:05:11,040 --> 00:05:09,520
around since the late 80s which I guess

106
00:05:13,470 --> 00:05:11,050
is not quite as long as the Australian

107
00:05:17,010 --> 00:05:13,480
skeptics but but we do have quite a

108
00:05:19,380 --> 00:05:17,020
heritage and yeah over the years we've

109
00:05:23,060 --> 00:05:19,390
we've done some interesting and

110
00:05:25,770 --> 00:05:23,070
investigations as there's the kind of a

111
00:05:28,110 --> 00:05:25,780
sort of few unique things here in New

112
00:05:31,160 --> 00:05:28,120
Zealand like there's you you probably

113
00:05:34,710 --> 00:05:31,170

know about our our mower bird that was

114

00:05:36,450 --> 00:05:34,720

killed off by the first inhabitants of

115

00:05:38,640 --> 00:05:36,460

New Zealand back about six hundred years

116

00:05:40,740 --> 00:05:38,650

ago but there are people who claim that

117

00:05:42,600 --> 00:05:40,750

mothers still exist well that's

118

00:05:44,340 --> 00:05:42,610

interesting it's sort of like in

119

00:05:46,740 --> 00:05:44,350

Australia we have the thylacine or the

120

00:05:50,370 --> 00:05:46,750

Tasmanian tiger which was hunted to

121

00:05:51,750 --> 00:05:50,380

extinction by the 1930s but every now

122

00:05:55,710 --> 00:05:51,760

and then somebody will come along and

123

00:05:57,900 --> 00:05:55,720

say I saw one I swear I saw one yeah

124

00:06:00,180 --> 00:05:57,910

indeed indeed one Australia's a big

125

00:06:02,670 --> 00:06:00,190

place surely one of the biggest land

126

00:06:04,740 --> 00:06:02,680

birds that's ever been known which was

127

00:06:06,180 --> 00:06:04,750

as you said became extinct but there are

128

00:06:09,330 --> 00:06:06,190

still people in New Zealand claiming

129

00:06:13,020 --> 00:06:09,340

that they've seen one huh yeah yeah what

130

00:06:14,550 --> 00:06:13,030

we've been drinking though and of course

131

00:06:16,980 --> 00:06:14,560

New Zealand skeptics like the Australian

132

00:06:19,890 --> 00:06:16,990

skeptics have regular meetings and

133

00:06:23,119 --> 00:06:19,900

conventions conferences yesterday yes we

134

00:06:27,080 --> 00:06:23,129

had a one last year in

135

00:06:28,670 --> 00:06:27,090

and we had Ian Brice from your neck of

136

00:06:32,179 --> 00:06:28,680

the woods no everyone talked us he was

137

00:06:35,629 --> 00:06:32,189

very interesting and this year it will

138

00:06:38,029 --> 00:06:35,639

be somewhere in the South Ireland so you

139

00:06:40,879 --> 00:06:38,039

know that'll be fun

140

00:06:43,550 --> 00:06:40,889

well that's very enticing because three

141

00:06:47,089 --> 00:06:43,560

years ago I think it was in that general

142

00:06:49,580 --> 00:06:47,099

vicinity of time I was very very

143

00:06:51,679 --> 00:06:49,590

grateful to be invited to speak at the

144

00:06:53,839 --> 00:06:51,689

New Zealand skeptics convention

145

00:06:55,820 --> 00:06:53,849

conference which was in Queenstown as

146

00:06:57,559 --> 00:06:55,830

far as I remember beautiful scenery and

147

00:07:01,070 --> 00:06:57,569

I was there with susan gerbic from

148

00:07:02,809 --> 00:07:01,080

guerrilla skepticism I know and Susan's

149

00:07:05,559 --> 00:07:02,819

had a lot of success over the past week

150

00:07:08,899 --> 00:07:05,569

hasn't she she said yeah she certainly

151

00:07:10,519 --> 00:07:08,909

psychic care with with Mark Edward oh my

152

00:07:13,100 --> 00:07:10,529

goodness me and that then that is an

153

00:07:16,519 --> 00:07:13,110

ongoing story and I'm sure we'll be

154

00:07:18,379 --> 00:07:16,529

hearing about more more goings-on with

155

00:07:20,420 --> 00:07:18,389

that and other adventures in the

156

00:07:22,279 --> 00:07:20,430

not-too-distant future anyway let's have

157

00:07:24,260 --> 00:07:22,289

a look at this interesting story coming

158

00:07:26,809 --> 00:07:24,270

out of New Zealand now water divining

159

00:07:30,019 --> 00:07:26,819

has long been a fascinating topic for me

160

00:07:31,399 --> 00:07:30,029

personally and it's very dear to the

161

00:07:33,439 --> 00:07:31,409

heart of Australian skeptics because

162

00:07:35,659 --> 00:07:33,449

it's one of the reasons the skeptical

163

00:07:37,159 --> 00:07:35,669

movement started in Australia look what

164

00:07:39,860 --> 00:07:37,169

I think I'll do Craig I think I will

165

00:07:42,079 --> 00:07:39,870

read now the story the report has

166

00:07:43,610 --> 00:07:42,089

published on the newsroom website New

167

00:07:50,790 --> 00:07:43,620

Zealand and then I'll come back to you

168

00:07:58,649 --> 00:07:53,879

this is from the newsroom website

169

00:08:02,909 --> 00:07:58,659

newsroom Co God NZ published on the 6th

170

00:08:08,149 --> 00:08:02,919

of March by farah hancock wellington

171

00:08:12,749 --> 00:08:10,290

wellington ratepayers are funding a

172

00:08:15,510 --> 00:08:12,759

pseudo scientific method to find buried

173

00:08:18,629 --> 00:08:15,520

water pipes the contractor downer and

174

00:08:20,189 --> 00:08:18,639

the Wellington City Council are not

175

00:08:21,899 --> 00:08:20,199

concerned at the public's perception

176

00:08:24,300 --> 00:08:21,909

that their money has been spent on

177

00:08:25,980 --> 00:08:24,310

disproved science rather than use

178

00:08:28,439 --> 00:08:25,990

electronic equipment are down a

179

00:08:32,069 --> 00:08:28,449

contractor working on a Wellington City

180

00:08:34,980 --> 00:08:32,079

Council project used two copper rods to

181

00:08:37,589 --> 00:08:34,990

tell him where pipes lay the method

182

00:08:40,110 --> 00:08:37,599

known as dowsing has been scientifically

183

00:08:42,509 --> 00:08:40,120

proven to give results no better than

184

00:08:45,090 --> 00:08:42,519

random chance sometimes called water

185

00:08:48,449 --> 00:08:45,100

divining or water witching it involves

186

00:08:51,960 --> 00:08:48,459

rods or a forked stick when water is

187

00:08:54,660 --> 00:08:51,970

present the rods will stick is said to

188

00:08:57,060 --> 00:08:54,670

move in the dowsers hands some

189

00:08:59,940 --> 00:08:57,070

practitioners believe this is because of

190

00:09:02,699 --> 00:08:59,950

a power of the rods others think water

191

00:09:06,960 --> 00:09:02,709

can send energy through the ground which

192

00:09:09,900 --> 00:09:06,970

the dowser senses gold who goes by that

193

00:09:11,639 --> 00:09:09,910

name was returning from lunch in January

194

00:09:13,949 --> 00:09:11,649

and walking down Willow Street in

195

00:09:16,769 --> 00:09:13,959

central Wellington when he witnessed the

196

00:09:19,470 --> 00:09:16,779

dowsing there was this guy in a high-vis

197

00:09:21,630 --> 00:09:19,480

vest using dowsing rods he was stepping

198

00:09:24,329 --> 00:09:21,640

out onto the road until they crossed

199

00:09:27,269 --> 00:09:24,339

over each other and then bent over and

200

00:09:29,160 --> 00:09:27,279

painted an X on the ground I was shocked

201
00:09:31,980 --> 00:09:29,170
to see dowsing rods being used I

202
00:09:34,680 --> 00:09:31,990
actually asked him who was contracting

203
00:09:36,530 --> 00:09:34,690
this work and what they were doing he

204
00:09:39,240 --> 00:09:36,540
said it was the Wellington City Council

205
00:09:41,550 --> 00:09:39,250
Gould said three or four other down of

206
00:09:43,949 --> 00:09:41,560
staff were present any of them would

207
00:09:46,620 --> 00:09:43,959
have seen him doing this and nobody was

208
00:09:47,220 --> 00:09:46,630
looking at him sideways going what are

209
00:09:49,380 --> 00:09:47,230
they doing

210
00:09:51,930 --> 00:09:49,390
don't be so embarrassing or anything

211
00:09:55,319 --> 00:09:51,940
like that dowsing rods represent another

212
00:09:58,530 --> 00:09:55,329
tool in the tool bag according to down a

213
00:10:00,960 --> 00:09:58,540

management New Zealand skeptics chair

214

00:10:02,579 --> 00:10:00,970

Craig Shira contacted the company when

215

00:10:04,680 --> 00:10:02,589

he was made aware of the dowsing

216

00:10:06,990 --> 00:10:04,690

he said initially the company

217

00:10:09,920 --> 00:10:07,000

and aware staff were using it but said

218

00:10:13,950 --> 00:10:09,930

checking confirmed it was used daily

219

00:10:16,650 --> 00:10:13,960

down at ol Shira the method is safe and

220

00:10:19,800 --> 00:10:16,660

it has no plan to ban staff from using

221

00:10:22,380 --> 00:10:19,810

it the choice to use it was up to the

222

00:10:24,140 --> 00:10:22,390

individual employees we sort of made the

223

00:10:27,210 --> 00:10:24,150

point to them that this is a

224

00:10:28,410 --> 00:10:27,220

pseudoscience and in the modern age we

225

00:10:30,720 --> 00:10:28,420

didn't think companies should be

226

00:10:33,990 --> 00:10:30,730

promoting this particularly when public

227

00:10:36,480 --> 00:10:34,000

money is being spent said Shira he asked

228

00:10:39,450 --> 00:10:36,490

Donna if records of accuracy were kept

229

00:10:41,730 --> 00:10:39,460

and was told they weren't I think

230

00:10:44,460 --> 00:10:41,740

probably what's going on is that the

231

00:10:46,620 --> 00:10:44,470

employee is using intuition and past

232

00:10:49,080 --> 00:10:46,630

experience to come up with an idea about

233

00:10:50,730 --> 00:10:49,090

where things might be located down as

234

00:10:53,520 --> 00:10:50,740

general management of business and

235

00:10:55,890 --> 00:10:53,530

excellence and reputation Brook Dahlberg

236

00:10:58,530 --> 00:10:55,900

confirmed to newsroom downer doesn't

237

00:11:00,660 --> 00:10:58,540

keep records of accuracy we do not

238

00:11:03,330 --> 00:11:00,670

actively promote this practice dowsing

239

00:11:06,510 --> 00:11:03,340

however from time to time our teams may

240

00:11:08,550 --> 00:11:06,520

use this practice if it is safe there is

241

00:11:11,040 --> 00:11:08,560

no additional cost to the customer and

242

00:11:12,600 --> 00:11:11,050

when used in conjunction with technology

243

00:11:15,330 --> 00:11:12,610

and service plans

244

00:11:16,980 --> 00:11:15,340

when asked if Donna was concerned about

245

00:11:19,950 --> 00:11:16,990

the public perception of rate payer

246

00:11:21,480 --> 00:11:19,960

money being used on a technique

247

00:11:24,570 --> 00:11:21,490

considered pseudoscience

248

00:11:27,600 --> 00:11:24,580

she said no Wellington City Council

249

00:11:29,790 --> 00:11:27,610

which is responsible for the use of its

250

00:11:31,830 --> 00:11:29,800

rate payers money was contacted by

251
00:11:34,140 --> 00:11:31,840
newsroom and asked whether it had

252
00:11:36,150 --> 00:11:34,150
discussed the issue with Donna's how it

253
00:11:39,300 --> 00:11:36,160
felt about rate payer money being used

254
00:11:41,070 --> 00:11:39,310
for pseudoscience and if any mechanism

255
00:11:43,410 --> 00:11:41,080
was going to be put in place to stop it

256
00:11:46,200 --> 00:11:43,420
happening in the future its response was

257
00:11:47,940 --> 00:11:46,210
we have spoken with Donna and we are

258
00:11:50,400 --> 00:11:47,950
happy with the response they have given

259
00:11:52,620 --> 00:11:50,410
you when pressed for its response rather

260
00:11:55,020 --> 00:11:52,630
than Downers it said it hadn't no

261
00:11:57,329 --> 00:11:55,030
further comment to make other councils

262
00:11:59,790 --> 00:11:57,339
do not use dowsing when Auckland's water

263
00:12:01,800 --> 00:11:59,800

care was asked several questions in 2017

264

00:12:05,040 --> 00:12:01,810

through an official informations Act

265

00:12:06,900 --> 00:12:05,050

request a curt twelve word response was

266

00:12:09,870 --> 00:12:06,910

given water Care does not use this

267

00:12:11,250 --> 00:12:09,880

technique the company uses sophisticated

268

00:12:13,829 --> 00:12:11,260

electronic devices

269

00:12:16,260 --> 00:12:13,839

yesterday Water K confirmed to newsroom

270

00:12:18,390 --> 00:12:16,270

this was still the case several other

271

00:12:20,760 --> 00:12:18,400

Official Information Act

272

00:12:23,430 --> 00:12:20,770

were made in 2017 about the use of

273

00:12:27,720 --> 00:12:23,440

dowsing to various councils through the

274

00:12:30,510 --> 00:12:27,730

fYI website responses ranged from no to

275

00:12:32,670 --> 00:12:30,520

not being aware if it had been used few

276

00:12:34,890 --> 00:12:32,680

councils said in the past it may have

277

00:12:37,590 --> 00:12:34,900

been used scientists think the movement

278

00:12:39,510 --> 00:12:37,600

of the dowsing rods or sticks is due to

279

00:12:41,910 --> 00:12:39,520

what's called the ideomotor response

280

00:12:44,370 --> 00:12:41,920

where people's subconscious minds

281

00:12:46,500 --> 00:12:44,380

influence their bodies to move without

282

00:12:48,300 --> 00:12:46,510

them consciously realizing it's

283

00:12:50,670 --> 00:12:48,310

happening this is similar to how

284

00:12:53,250 --> 00:12:50,680

scientists explain how we G boards

285

00:12:54,690 --> 00:12:53,260

appear to work several studies have been

286

00:12:59,490 --> 00:12:54,700

completed to test where the dowsing

287

00:13:03,330 --> 00:12:59,500

works amongst them a 1948 New Zealand

288

00:13:06,300 --> 00:13:03,340

study tested 75 douses none had results

289

00:13:09,450 --> 00:13:06,310

more reliable than chance in 1991 a

290

00:13:12,600 --> 00:13:09,460

German study offered a u.s. \$10,000

291

00:13:14,400 --> 00:13:12,610

prize 30 dowers were tested for their

292

00:13:17,370 --> 00:13:14,410

ability to find pipes with running water

293

00:13:18,870 --> 00:13:17,380

buried under a field their results were

294

00:13:23,130 --> 00:13:18,880

no better than chance and the prize was

295

00:13:25,260 --> 00:13:23,140

never given out in 1990 a study of \$500

296

00:13:27,600 --> 00:13:25,270

found six of the test subjects had a

297

00:13:30,060 --> 00:13:27,610

high rate of success finding water pipes

298

00:13:33,120 --> 00:13:30,070

however these statistical methods of the

299

00:13:35,610 --> 00:13:33,130

study have since generated criticism and

300

00:13:38,610 --> 00:13:35,620

as an aside of course I'll mention that

301
00:13:40,740 --> 00:13:38,620
in 1980 there was a major test of water

302
00:13:43,440 --> 00:13:40,750
diviners here in Australia headed up by

303
00:13:45,390 --> 00:13:43,450
James Randi and since then there have

304
00:13:48,120 --> 00:13:45,400
been other water divining tests here in

305
00:13:51,870 --> 00:13:48,130
Australia with many many water diviners

306
00:13:54,480 --> 00:13:51,880
the results coming to chance alone we

307
00:13:57,270 --> 00:13:54,490
read on professional dowsers do operate

308
00:14:02,190 --> 00:13:57,280
in New Zealand grand virtual says he has

309
00:14:05,700 --> 00:14:02,200
a 99.9 percent success rate and can find

310
00:14:07,830 --> 00:14:05,710
hot or cold water he offers his services

311
00:14:10,590 --> 00:14:07,840
in New Zealand and abroad and says he

312
00:14:14,100 --> 00:14:10,600
can even doubt from a helicopter he

313
00:14:17,520 --> 00:14:14,110

describes his ability as a gift which

314

00:14:19,770 --> 00:14:17,530

came to him late in life I am connected

315

00:14:22,050 --> 00:14:19,780

with the magnetic field the North and

316

00:14:24,120 --> 00:14:22,060

the South Pole I can go onto a property

317

00:14:26,550 --> 00:14:24,130

that doesn't matter what size it is I

318

00:14:29,130 --> 00:14:26,560

will find every bit of water on that

319

00:14:32,160 --> 00:14:29,140

property I can decipher if it's hot or

320

00:14:34,590 --> 00:14:32,170

cold and how deep it is to get to it

321

00:14:37,740 --> 00:14:34,600

he said he had no problems finding water

322

00:14:41,550 --> 00:14:37,750

in pipes gold who witnessed the Downers

323

00:14:43,350 --> 00:14:41,560

dowser in action said he's since in the

324

00:14:45,420 --> 00:14:43,360

footpath and part of the road was

325

00:14:48,540 --> 00:14:45,430

excavated close to where the downer

326

00:14:51,120 --> 00:14:48,550

contractor marked the spot he doesn't

327

00:14:53,250 --> 00:14:51,130

know if a water pipe was found if that

328

00:14:56,280 --> 00:14:53,260

pipe wasn't there the extra effort

329

00:14:58,170 --> 00:14:56,290

needed to dig up and discover it wasn't

330

00:15:01,710 --> 00:14:58,180

there that's a cost of using dowsing

331

00:15:04,440 --> 00:15:01,720

rods New Zealand skeptics chair Shira

332

00:15:06,930 --> 00:15:04,450

says he's speaking with the media now

333

00:15:08,820 --> 00:15:06,940

after giving down a time to respond to

334

00:15:10,710 --> 00:15:08,830

emails regarding the January incident

335

00:15:13,260 --> 00:15:10,720

and talking internally without the New

336

00:15:15,120 --> 00:15:13,270

Zealand skeptic members he said he

337

00:15:18,030 --> 00:15:15,130

received lengthy responses back from

338

00:15:20,040 --> 00:15:18,040

downer which stressed safety and oddly

339

00:15:22,590 --> 00:15:20,050

included two paragraphs about Dallas

340

00:15:24,090 --> 00:15:22,600

health and safety strategy we are

341

00:15:26,460 --> 00:15:24,100

pleased they got back to us with a

342

00:15:28,500 --> 00:15:26,470

serious response I think it would be

343

00:15:30,630 --> 00:15:28,510

good if they took our concerns more

344

00:15:33,390 --> 00:15:30,640

seriously and looked into the practice

345

00:15:41,090 --> 00:15:33,400

and realized that it actually provided

346

00:15:46,230 --> 00:15:43,800

so there's the story Craig there's a

347

00:15:48,030 --> 00:15:46,240

story as reported and it's good that

348

00:15:50,520 --> 00:15:48,040

gold and yourself get to make some

349

00:15:52,610 --> 00:15:50,530

comments this must have taken you a bit

350

00:15:55,230 --> 00:15:52,620

by surprise to have all this happening

351
00:15:57,750 --> 00:15:55,240
yeah well yeah well gold was the guy who

352
00:16:01,740 --> 00:15:57,760
actually spotted it and in for reference

353
00:16:04,920 --> 00:16:01,750
gold is actually passed chairpersons

354
00:16:06,660 --> 00:16:04,930
Iran skeptics so but he lives down in

355
00:16:10,470 --> 00:16:06,670
Wellington and he happened to be walking

356
00:16:12,960 --> 00:16:10,480
to work one day and spotted an employee

357
00:16:14,400 --> 00:16:12,970
or a company called downer and I believe

358
00:16:16,590 --> 00:16:14,410
they're actually an Australian company

359
00:16:20,700 --> 00:16:16,600
but they were a New Zealand as well

360
00:16:24,150 --> 00:16:20,710
right and they are basically sort of

361
00:16:26,880 --> 00:16:24,160
contractors to City Council's and other

362
00:16:29,700 --> 00:16:26,890
stuff here so and I believe they were

363
00:16:33,000 --> 00:16:29,710

contracted to do some digging up of

364

00:16:35,670 --> 00:16:33,010

footpath as in order to replace water

365

00:16:37,770 --> 00:16:35,680

pipes underneath and so gold happened to

366

00:16:40,320 --> 00:16:37,780

be walking to work and he spotted this

367

00:16:43,230 --> 00:16:40,330

guy using a pair of divining rods and

368

00:16:44,650 --> 00:16:43,240

you know as you imagine they were the

369

00:16:47,080 --> 00:16:44,660

crossing and then yes

370

00:16:50,380 --> 00:16:47,090

we got somebody to spray spray the

371

00:16:53,350 --> 00:16:50,390

footpath where they crossed and so gold

372

00:16:56,200 --> 00:16:53,360

was a little ingredient that's like oh

373

00:17:00,100 --> 00:16:56,210

my goodness we've got a water divider

374

00:17:03,850 --> 00:17:00,110

here so yes he tweeted that out and and

375

00:17:06,490 --> 00:17:03,860

one of our committee members popped up

376

00:17:08,050 --> 00:17:06,500

the air and and she actually made

377

00:17:11,079 --> 00:17:08,060

contact with the Wellington City Council

378

00:17:13,660 --> 00:17:11,089

and said hey what's going on and and

379

00:17:14,710 --> 00:17:13,670

they were kind of the city oh well you

380

00:17:16,630 --> 00:17:14,720

know you should go and talk to downer

381

00:17:20,800 --> 00:17:16,640

because they are actually our

382

00:17:22,840 --> 00:17:20,810

contractors and so yeah so she rang them

383

00:17:25,030 --> 00:17:22,850

and yes that was indeed what happened

384

00:17:26,949 --> 00:17:25,040

and and so but they didn't wanted me to

385

00:17:28,840 --> 00:17:26,959

make any further comments so we decided

386

00:17:31,600 --> 00:17:28,850

that we would actually contact downer

387

00:17:34,900 --> 00:17:31,610

and ask them a few questions about this

388

00:17:36,610 --> 00:17:34,910

and in with her what we actually saw

389

00:17:38,200 --> 00:17:36,620

happen actually did happen and and

390

00:17:41,140 --> 00:17:38,210

weather was a common practice and all

391

00:17:43,450 --> 00:17:41,150

that sort of thing and and and it really

392

00:17:47,440 --> 00:17:43,460

just the the response kind of astounded

393

00:17:49,450 --> 00:17:47,450

me in that it was it was really all

394

00:17:51,760 --> 00:17:49,460

about saying well this is a safe

395

00:17:53,920 --> 00:17:51,770

practice well yes yes that's that's

396

00:17:56,160 --> 00:17:53,930

interesting because as we just heard in

397

00:17:58,720 --> 00:17:56,170

in the the reading of the other story

398

00:18:01,450 --> 00:17:58,730

they seem to be obsessed with health and

399

00:18:03,580 --> 00:18:01,460

safety which is good is admirable and

400

00:18:06,780 --> 00:18:03,590

they certainly please they are but I

401
00:18:09,700 --> 00:18:06,790
think they're missing the point somewhat

402
00:18:13,240 --> 00:18:09,710
and we and and it's really interesting

403
00:18:15,970 --> 00:18:13,250
to to read the the conversation we have

404
00:18:19,060 --> 00:18:15,980
with them which is not all was not all

405
00:18:20,590 --> 00:18:19,070
published but we really did sort of bend

406
00:18:23,670 --> 00:18:20,600
over backwards to say hey look this is

407
00:18:25,900 --> 00:18:23,680
pseudoscience we really don't want to

408
00:18:31,210 --> 00:18:25,910
take this to the media and make you a

409
00:18:32,740 --> 00:18:31,220
laughing story have to and then they

410
00:18:34,060 --> 00:18:32,750
basically came back and said look no

411
00:18:37,540 --> 00:18:34,070
we're not going to tell her employees

412
00:18:40,720 --> 00:18:37,550
they can't do this so and yeah we had a

413
00:18:42,610 --> 00:18:40,730

media spokesperson who was a mediator

414

00:18:45,580 --> 00:18:42,620

journalist who was quite interested in

415

00:18:47,170 --> 00:18:45,590

the story so she she wrote it up and

416

00:18:50,050 --> 00:18:47,180

yeah does seem to have a bit of traction

417

00:18:51,790 --> 00:18:50,060

and I go contacted this morning by

418

00:18:54,520 --> 00:18:51,800

another media outlet who are interested

419

00:18:56,380 --> 00:18:54,530

taking it up as well so it could be that

420

00:18:58,120 --> 00:18:56,390

this is going to get a quite a bit of

421

00:19:01,900 --> 00:18:58,130

traction and

422

00:19:05,440 --> 00:19:01,910

that really will sort of force the City

423

00:19:07,290 --> 00:19:05,450

Council I think and down there to to at

424

00:19:09,070 --> 00:19:07,300

least make some sort of a comment and

425

00:19:10,990 --> 00:19:09,080

figure out what they're going to do

426

00:19:14,680 --> 00:19:11,000

about it and one would hope that they're

427

00:19:16,240 --> 00:19:14,690

going to actually stop using this

428

00:19:19,390 --> 00:19:16,250

practice and one of the things I told

429

00:19:21,370 --> 00:19:19,400

the the journalist was that well look

430

00:19:24,760 --> 00:19:21,380

this is really this has been tested and

431

00:19:26,860 --> 00:19:24,770

and I actually told them all about the

432

00:19:29,740 --> 00:19:26,870

experience that the Australian epics

433

00:19:32,530 --> 00:19:29,750

back in 1980 with eddakath James Randi

434

00:19:33,640 --> 00:19:32,540

when you guys you would have been you

435

00:19:38,680 --> 00:19:33,650

would have been in short pants then

436

00:19:41,440 --> 00:19:38,690

Richard Lee was yeah we made actually

437

00:19:43,090 --> 00:19:41,450

did the challenge with all those people

438

00:19:46,090 --> 00:19:43,100

who thought that they actually could do

439

00:19:47,680 --> 00:19:46,100

dowsing and be successful and it turned

440

00:19:50,890 --> 00:19:47,690

out that their results were just no

441

00:19:53,260 --> 00:19:50,900

better than chance and yes it's been

442

00:19:54,970 --> 00:19:53,270

it's been shown to be pseudoscience it's

443

00:19:57,360 --> 00:19:54,980

been shown that it doesn't work we know

444

00:20:00,250 --> 00:19:57,370

how it works is the ideomotor effect and

445

00:20:02,470 --> 00:20:00,260

yeah to have it have it happening in the

446

00:20:05,350 --> 00:20:02,480

21st century geena's rather astounding

447

00:20:08,020 --> 00:20:05,360

well I think what's good about it is

448

00:20:09,970 --> 00:20:08,030

that if from the point of view of gold

449

00:20:11,320 --> 00:20:09,980

is not only did he happen to see it that

450

00:20:13,660 --> 00:20:11,330

he's actually done something about it

451

00:20:15,820 --> 00:20:13,670

he's reported it he's made a fuss and

452

00:20:18,820 --> 00:20:15,830

I'm behooves us all to keep our eyes and

453

00:20:22,810 --> 00:20:18,830

our ears open and who knows it might

454

00:20:24,550 --> 00:20:22,820

even result in a a media event where you

455

00:20:27,160 --> 00:20:24,560

can actually publicly test some water

456

00:20:28,660 --> 00:20:27,170

diviners I mean yeah it has worked in

457

00:20:30,220 --> 00:20:28,670

this country before we've got some

458

00:20:33,370 --> 00:20:30,230

traction out of doing it and it's an

459

00:20:35,680 --> 00:20:33,380

interesting day yeah it is in the one

460

00:20:37,720 --> 00:20:35,690

good thing about this is there's I can't

461

00:20:40,240 --> 00:20:37,730

see there's anything anything political

462

00:20:45,390 --> 00:20:40,250

or controversial about this yes it's not

463

00:20:47,530 --> 00:20:45,400

like nothing like like global warming or

464

00:20:49,900 --> 00:20:47,540

intelligent design of creationism or

465

00:20:51,640 --> 00:20:49,910

evolution that's it's just just does

466

00:20:53,710 --> 00:20:51,650

water divining work or not

467

00:20:55,720 --> 00:20:53,720

yeah yeah it's it's it's what we call

468

00:21:00,760 --> 00:20:55,730

one of the good old-fashioned good old

469

00:21:04,180 --> 00:21:00,770

faithful topic skeptic topics you know

470

00:21:06,700 --> 00:21:04,190

it make warms the heart we think about

471

00:21:08,200 --> 00:21:06,710

these great topics or Craig or power to

472

00:21:10,460 --> 00:21:08,210

you if there are going to be any further

473

00:21:12,230 --> 00:21:10,470

developments please keep me in the loop

474

00:21:14,480 --> 00:21:12,240

in the loop and especially if it looks

475

00:21:16,070 --> 00:21:14,490

like there's going to be a test a water

476
00:21:19,760 --> 00:21:16,080
divining test in the offing I'm more

477
00:21:21,830 --> 00:21:19,770
than happy to um you know aid you with

478
00:21:23,210 --> 00:21:21,840
my experience in any way I can now how

479
00:21:25,310 --> 00:21:23,220
can people around the world and

480
00:21:26,510 --> 00:21:25,320
especially in New Zealand catch up with

481
00:21:29,539 --> 00:21:26,520
what's going on with the New Zealand

482
00:21:32,270 --> 00:21:29,549
skeptics well we have a bunch of outlets

483
00:21:35,110 --> 00:21:32,280
sexually the probably the most active of

484
00:21:37,970 --> 00:21:35,120
us ours is just on Facebook we've got a

485
00:21:40,070 --> 00:21:37,980
page or a New Zealand skeptics page on

486
00:21:42,980 --> 00:21:40,080
Facebook and we're also on on Twitter

487
00:21:45,740 --> 00:21:42,990
where we're very active we also got a

488
00:21:48,980 --> 00:21:45,750

website which we struggle to keep up to

489

00:21:51,110 --> 00:21:48,990

date as many organizations do but if you

490

00:21:55,070 --> 00:21:51,120

want to check us out we're at skeptics

491

00:21:56,779 --> 00:21:55,080

indeed alright so there's the word folks

492

00:22:00,080 --> 00:21:56,789

that got linked it all that in the show

493

00:22:02,990 --> 00:22:00,090

notes and please keep me up to date as

494

00:22:06,740 --> 00:22:03,000

to the Canora convention your conference

495

00:22:09,140 --> 00:22:06,750

later on yeah yeah we would we just love

496

00:22:11,299 --> 00:22:09,150

having Australians come over and attend

497

00:22:13,610 --> 00:22:11,309

the conference because it's just eisah

498

00:22:15,500 --> 00:22:13,620

it's usually a nice little intimate

499

00:22:18,260 --> 00:22:15,510

conference there's not too many people

500

00:22:19,970 --> 00:22:18,270

and it's really great to be able to talk

501
00:22:21,799 --> 00:22:19,980
was like-minded people from across the

502
00:22:23,539 --> 00:22:21,809
Tasman it certainly is well maybe if we

503
00:22:26,930 --> 00:22:23,549
talk it up we can get it to be a bigger

504
00:22:29,779 --> 00:22:26,940
conference excellent any excuse to go to

505
00:22:45,690 --> 00:22:29,789
New Zealand but for now for now Craig

506
00:22:51,190 --> 00:22:49,030
hey fellow skeptics in Medford here with

507
00:22:53,140 --> 00:22:51,200
Celeste reward your friendly host of

508
00:22:55,090 --> 00:22:53,150
squaring the strange a podcast that

509
00:22:57,460 --> 00:22:55,100
looks at topics ranging from Legends

510
00:22:59,680 --> 00:22:57,470
panics and cryptids beauty myths

511
00:23:01,750 --> 00:22:59,690
psychology and folklore breaking things

512
00:23:03,850 --> 00:23:01,760
down and picking things apart as we

513
00:23:06,190 --> 00:23:03,860

skeptics do we bring a few different

514

00:23:08,620 --> 00:23:06,200

perspectives on things cluster for

515

00:23:09,730 --> 00:23:08,630

example is a witty cartoonist and Ben is

516

00:23:11,980 --> 00:23:09,740

a brilliant writer and longtime

517

00:23:14,410 --> 00:23:11,990

skeptical investigator we don't always

518

00:23:16,450 --> 00:23:14,420

agree but we have fun trying and we

519

00:23:19,300 --> 00:23:16,460

learn new things join us for new topics

520

00:23:21,580 --> 00:23:19,310

every week or two or browse our backlog

521

00:23:24,190 --> 00:23:21,590

of evergreen episodes available on

522

00:23:26,650 --> 00:23:24,200

iTunes and all your podcast feeding

523

00:23:31,950 --> 00:23:26,660

troughs swearing the strange take care

524

00:23:45,580 --> 00:23:42,660

[Music]

525

00:23:48,840 --> 00:23:45,590

now in the last week we learned of the

526
00:23:54,040 --> 00:23:48,850
death of famous Australian TV journalist

527
00:23:56,830 --> 00:23:54,050
Michael Willis II my Quilici now he was

528
00:23:58,960 --> 00:23:56,840
a real giant in the Australian media

529
00:24:01,930 --> 00:23:58,970
scene especially with a television

530
00:24:05,080 --> 00:24:01,940
journalism now he is very well

531
00:24:07,630 --> 00:24:05,090
remembered for a 1993 interview he

532
00:24:10,470 --> 00:24:07,640
conducted with the then leader of the

533
00:24:12,790 --> 00:24:10,480
Federal Opposition dr. John Hewson and

534
00:24:14,710 --> 00:24:12,800
his party the Liberal Party were

535
00:24:17,860 --> 00:24:14,720
considering bringing in a goods and

536
00:24:20,110 --> 00:24:17,870
services tax and during a TV interview

537
00:24:22,600 --> 00:24:20,120
Willis he asked Hewson a very simple

538
00:24:25,420 --> 00:24:22,610

question if I buy a birthday cake from a

539

00:24:27,930 --> 00:24:25,430

cake shop and GST is in place do I pay

540

00:24:31,780 --> 00:24:27,940

more or less for that birthday cake and

541

00:24:34,120 --> 00:24:31,790

dr. Hewson tied himself in knots trying

542

00:24:36,760 --> 00:24:34,130

to answer this simple question

543

00:24:40,420 --> 00:24:36,770

it was replayed and replayed and

544

00:24:42,310 --> 00:24:40,430

replayed and it's considered by some to

545

00:24:44,740 --> 00:24:42,320

be a turning point in that year's

546

00:24:47,170 --> 00:24:44,750

federal election that party went on to

547

00:24:50,890 --> 00:24:47,180

lose the election now the reason I'm

548

00:24:54,520 --> 00:24:50,900

bringing up my Quilici is that he was

549

00:24:56,950 --> 00:24:54,530

the recipient of a skeptics award for

550

00:24:58,960 --> 00:24:56,960

his journalism and some years later he

551
00:25:01,990 --> 00:24:58,970
was the recipient of another skeptics

552
00:25:03,490 --> 00:25:02,000
award that being the bent spoon award so

553
00:25:06,040 --> 00:25:03,500
we go to the website of Australian

554
00:25:07,630 --> 00:25:06,050
skeptics skeptics Comte you a story

555
00:25:10,800 --> 00:25:07,640
written by Tim Mendham published on the

556
00:25:13,420 --> 00:25:10,810
1st of March 2019 my Quilici

557
00:25:15,270 --> 00:25:13,430
trailblazing journalist skeptics winner

558
00:25:18,479 --> 00:25:15,280
and loser

559
00:25:22,449 --> 00:25:20,889
Australian journalist Mike Willacy has

560
00:25:26,469 --> 00:25:22,459
died after a long battle with throat

561
00:25:28,539 --> 00:25:26,479
cancer as the ABC relates Willis he

562
00:25:31,149 --> 00:25:28,549
became a household name after fronting

563
00:25:34,089 --> 00:25:31,159

the ABCs four corners program for two

564

00:25:36,789 --> 00:25:34,099

years from 1969 and was described as a

565

00:25:38,949 --> 00:25:36,799

trailblazer of Australian journalism he

566

00:25:42,339 --> 00:25:38,959

then left the ABC joining channel nine

567

00:25:43,209 --> 00:25:42,349

in 1971 for his own nightly programme a

568

00:25:46,479 --> 00:25:43,219

Current Affair

569

00:25:49,329 --> 00:25:46,489

but he is also noted as the only person

570

00:25:51,669 --> 00:25:49,339

to win both positive and negative Awards

571

00:25:54,099 --> 00:25:51,679

from Australian skeptics he had a long

572

00:25:56,619 --> 00:25:54,109

largely positive relationship with the

573

00:25:59,709 --> 00:25:56,629

sceptics during the 1980s but less

574

00:26:01,329 --> 00:25:59,719

positive during the 1990s through the

575

00:26:04,179 --> 00:26:01,339

two channel nine current affairs

576
00:26:05,139 --> 00:26:04,189
programs he produced and/or hosted a

577
00:26:07,599 --> 00:26:05,149
Current Affair

578
00:26:09,849 --> 00:26:07,609
and later Willacy he was in on the

579
00:26:13,419 --> 00:26:09,859
ground floor of the skeptical movement

580
00:26:15,699 --> 00:26:13,429
in Australia in 1980 the Willacy program

581
00:26:17,949 --> 00:26:15,709
ran a short piece on the water divining

582
00:26:20,919 --> 00:26:17,959
tests featuring James Randi and dick

583
00:26:22,659 --> 00:26:20,929
Smith it was this programme and the way

584
00:26:24,819 --> 00:26:22,669
the tests were carried out and then

585
00:26:26,889 --> 00:26:24,829
exposed to the public that was the

586
00:26:29,819 --> 00:26:26,899
inspiration for the launch of Australian

587
00:26:32,889 --> 00:26:29,829
skeptics in Melbourne and Sydney in 1981

588
00:26:36,999 --> 00:26:32,899

later programs which involved sceptics

589

00:26:38,859 --> 00:26:37,009

included 1984 the skeptics exposed the

590

00:26:41,729 --> 00:26:38,869

Melbourne and metropolitan Board of

591

00:26:45,579 --> 00:26:41,739

Works which used an American psychic

592

00:26:47,859 --> 00:26:45,589

archaeologist and diviner Karen hunt to

593

00:26:51,539 --> 00:26:47,869

conduct a survey along demolished

594

00:26:54,459 --> 00:26:51,549

buildings that left and quote

595

00:26:57,879 --> 00:26:54,469

electromagnetic photo field in quote

596

00:27:00,369 --> 00:26:57,889

which she could detect with divining

597

00:27:02,619 --> 00:27:00,379

rods hunt used her rods to draw an

598

00:27:05,859 --> 00:27:02,629

alleged reconstruction of the former

599

00:27:08,499 --> 00:27:05,869

farm at the works Historic Park at Point

600

00:27:11,109 --> 00:27:08,509

Cook a reconstruction resembled an

601
00:27:14,349 --> 00:27:11,119
American Midwestern farm of last century

602
00:27:16,449 --> 00:27:14,359
the general manager of the works said

603
00:27:18,189 --> 00:27:16,459
that she was delighted with her findings

604
00:27:20,409 --> 00:27:18,199
Willacy arrange for a satellite

605
00:27:22,509 --> 00:27:20,419
television interview between James siran

606
00:27:24,909 --> 00:27:22,519
the then Secretary of Australian

607
00:27:28,059 --> 00:27:24,919
skeptics and Miss hunt the works was

608
00:27:30,340 --> 00:27:28,069
awarded the bent spoon in 1985 the

609
00:27:34,419 --> 00:27:30,350
Zoological world was stunned by the

610
00:27:37,029 --> 00:27:34,429
discovery of a flat a flying rabbit in

611
00:27:39,460 --> 00:27:37,039
the outer suburbs of Sydney the fine

612
00:27:41,650 --> 00:27:39,470
removed murder and mayhem from the front

613
00:27:43,570 --> 00:27:41,660

pages of Sydney papers and it was also

614

00:27:46,090 --> 00:27:43,580

the lead story on the current affairs

615

00:27:47,919 --> 00:27:46,100

programs hosted by Willacy who went on

616

00:27:50,080 --> 00:27:47,929

to call it one of his stories of the

617

00:27:52,200 --> 00:27:50,090

year it should be added that his

618

00:27:56,049 --> 00:27:52,210

coverage was totally tongue-in-cheek

619

00:27:58,390 --> 00:27:56,059

also in 1985 five Queensland academics

620

00:28:00,669 --> 00:27:58,400

took the lid off creation science at a

621

00:28:03,490 --> 00:28:00,679

seminar held at the University of

622

00:28:05,289 --> 00:28:03,500

Queensland the seminar was organised by

623

00:28:07,210 --> 00:28:05,299

the Queensland branch of the Australian

624

00:28:10,390 --> 00:28:07,220

skeptics and covered by the Willacy

625

00:28:12,580 --> 00:28:10,400

programme amongst others in 1986

626

00:28:13,810 --> 00:28:12,590

Australia was honoured with a visit by

627

00:28:16,779 --> 00:28:13,820

the Reverend brother

628

00:28:20,140 --> 00:28:16,789

Willard fuller a psychic dentist from

629

00:28:21,789 --> 00:28:20,150

America according to Fuller's wife the

630

00:28:24,430 --> 00:28:21,799

visit brought lots of media attention

631

00:28:27,340 --> 00:28:24,440

the commentary about our healing work

632

00:28:29,020 --> 00:28:27,350

was done by a news program comparable to

633

00:28:29,440 --> 00:28:29,030

the 60 minutes program here in the

634

00:28:32,320 --> 00:28:29,450

States

635

00:28:34,000 --> 00:28:32,330

meaning Willa seemed close viewing of

636

00:28:36,460 --> 00:28:34,010

the Willacy broadcasts revealed that the

637

00:28:39,220 --> 00:28:36,470

reverence teeth were not exactly in

638

00:28:41,860 --> 00:28:39,230

pristine condition the Findhorn festival

639

00:28:45,430 --> 00:28:41,870

group one knee bent spoon for sponsoring

640

00:28:47,950 --> 00:28:45,440

Fuller's visit in 1987 the Willacy

641

00:28:51,070 --> 00:28:47,960

program conducted tests on racing car

642

00:28:53,200 --> 00:28:51,080

driver Peter Brock's polarizer which was

643

00:28:55,360 --> 00:28:53,210

a small box that attached to the fuel

644

00:28:57,970 --> 00:28:55,370

pipe of a car to make it run more

645

00:29:00,730 --> 00:28:57,980

efficiently they used a car that had

646

00:29:02,950 --> 00:29:00,740

travelled 40,000 kilometers after a

647

00:29:06,100 --> 00:29:02,960

polarizer had been personally fitted to

648

00:29:08,409 --> 00:29:06,110

it by Brock neither the car owner nor

649

00:29:11,230 --> 00:29:08,419

the motoring journalist Paul vital and

650

00:29:13,360 --> 00:29:11,240

David Morley could detect any difference

651
00:29:16,180 --> 00:29:13,370
in the performance between the car when

652
00:29:18,340 --> 00:29:16,190
fitted with the polarizer or a day later

653
00:29:21,870 --> 00:29:18,350
after the polarizer had been removed

654
00:29:24,370 --> 00:29:21,880
Roque went on to win the bent spoon in

655
00:29:27,520 --> 00:29:24,380
1987 Willis's company trans media

656
00:29:30,880 --> 00:29:27,530
productions won The Skeptical Journalism

657
00:29:33,760 --> 00:29:30,890
Award for a program on arugula the show

658
00:29:34,240 --> 00:29:33,770
consisted of a confrontation between uri

659
00:29:37,090 --> 00:29:34,250
geller

660
00:29:40,060 --> 00:29:37,100
and Ben Harris a magician and member of

661
00:29:43,980 --> 00:29:40,070
Australian skeptics Ben Harris report on

662
00:29:47,490 --> 00:29:43,990
the event appeared in the skeptic vol 7

663
00:29:49,470 --> 00:29:47,500

number one in 1988 the experience of the

664

00:29:52,740 --> 00:29:49,480

Knowles family in which they were

665

00:29:55,440 --> 00:29:52,750

driving across the Nullarbor and as an

666

00:29:57,780 --> 00:29:55,450

aside that is a vast area of desert in

667

00:30:00,600 --> 00:29:57,790

Australia driving across the nullabor

668

00:30:03,480 --> 00:30:00,610

when a UFO supposedly attacked their

669

00:30:05,760 --> 00:30:03,490

vehicle and lifted it off the ground was

670

00:30:08,190 --> 00:30:05,770

initially only discussed with the police

671

00:30:09,810 --> 00:30:08,200

but the story leaked to the media the

672

00:30:13,080 --> 00:30:09,820

family were intercepted on their way to

673

00:30:16,080 --> 00:30:13,090

Adelaide by channel 7 Adelaide producer

674

00:30:18,510 --> 00:30:16,090

Frank pang gelo for the Hinch current

675

00:30:20,790 --> 00:30:18,520

affairs programme pang gelo reportedly

676

00:30:22,680 --> 00:30:20,800

offered the family five thousand dollars

677

00:30:24,540 --> 00:30:22,690

for an interview on condition they do

678

00:30:26,400 --> 00:30:24,550

not discuss the story with any other

679

00:30:28,710 --> 00:30:26,410

media group for three months

680

00:30:31,110 --> 00:30:28,720

pang gelo was later reported to have

681

00:30:33,120 --> 00:30:31,120

claimed that the my Quilici program was

682

00:30:35,700 --> 00:30:33,130

not far behind him and the nulls might

683

00:30:38,790 --> 00:30:35,710

have collected \$20,000 had they been

684

00:30:41,910 --> 00:30:38,800

more patient 1988 this was the year of

685

00:30:44,280 --> 00:30:41,920

the Carlos hoax in which James Randi in

686

00:30:46,919 --> 00:30:44,290

the 60 minutes program set up the media

687

00:30:50,310 --> 00:30:46,929

in Australia with a phony psychic an

688

00:30:52,500 --> 00:30:50,320

oxymoron named Carlos but actually

689

00:30:55,860 --> 00:30:52,510

played by Randy's partner who went by

690

00:30:57,330 --> 00:30:55,870

the name of Jose Alvarez the most

691

00:30:59,910 --> 00:30:57,340

dramatic turn of events however

692

00:31:01,799 --> 00:30:59,920

concerned my Quilici and the channel 9

693

00:31:04,169 --> 00:31:01,809

the head of current affairs Peter Macon

694

00:31:06,630 --> 00:31:04,179

who was also employed by Willis E's

695

00:31:09,660 --> 00:31:06,640

transmedia production company apparently

696

00:31:12,210 --> 00:31:09,670

Macon was in on the scam but did not

697

00:31:15,480 --> 00:31:12,220

inform Willacy who was thus led to make

698

00:31:18,810 --> 00:31:15,490

statements later found to be untrue such

699

00:31:20,820 --> 00:31:18,820

as saying that Carlos was big in the

700

00:31:22,680 --> 00:31:20,830

United States Willis who was in the u.s.

701
00:31:25,500 --> 00:31:22,690
at the same time the program went to air

702
00:31:29,040 --> 00:31:25,510
and was hosting only because normal

703
00:31:31,020 --> 00:31:29,050
hosts Yan event was ill therefore he was

704
00:31:32,850 --> 00:31:31,030
being fed his information from Sydney

705
00:31:35,820 --> 00:31:32,860
which was then transmitted back to

706
00:31:38,310 --> 00:31:35,830
Australia as the skeptics were involved

707
00:31:40,350 --> 00:31:38,320
only on the periphery of the scam it was

708
00:31:43,410 --> 00:31:40,360
felt that the relationship with Willacy

709
00:31:47,190 --> 00:31:43,420
might have been soured due to his being

710
00:31:49,799 --> 00:31:47,200
caught out also in 1988 the Willacy

711
00:31:52,710 --> 00:31:49,809
program was runner-up in the skeptics

712
00:31:53,250 --> 00:31:52,720
journalism award for an expose on a New

713
00:31:57,130 --> 00:31:53,260

Zealand

714

00:31:59,620 --> 00:31:57,140

Colour therapist the Ben spoon

715

00:32:02,500 --> 00:31:59,630

despite the ups and downs of the

716

00:32:04,360 --> 00:32:02,510

relationship it was generally felt that

717

00:32:06,880 --> 00:32:04,370

Willacy had helped the skeptics spread

718

00:32:10,650 --> 00:32:06,890

the word about the failings and outright

719

00:32:14,020 --> 00:32:10,660

cons of the paranormal world it was

720

00:32:16,270 --> 00:32:14,030

disappointing then to see Willacy later

721

00:32:19,210 --> 00:32:16,280

abandoning his own skepticism and

722

00:32:21,940 --> 00:32:19,220

endorsing miraculous apparitions and

723

00:32:26,620 --> 00:32:21,950

manifestations such as the Shroud of

724

00:32:28,630 --> 00:32:26,630

Turin and stigmata in 1999 Willacy was

725

00:32:32,020 --> 00:32:28,640

given the bent spoon award for the

726

00:32:34,299 --> 00:32:32,030

documentary signs from God the program

727

00:32:36,669 --> 00:32:34,309

rehashed a plethora of bleeding and

728

00:32:39,940 --> 00:32:36,679

weeping statues stigmata and other

729

00:32:43,210 --> 00:32:39,950

pseudo religious claptrap as the award

730

00:32:46,060 --> 00:32:43,220

citation read it sought to give this

731

00:32:48,370 --> 00:32:46,070

nonsense a patina of respectability by

732

00:32:50,289 --> 00:32:48,380

consulting various scientists and

733

00:32:52,720 --> 00:32:50,299

theologians only to ignore the

734

00:32:55,000 --> 00:32:52,730

contributions in favor of sensationalism

735

00:32:57,580 --> 00:32:55,010

despite its claims of skeptical

736

00:32:59,409 --> 00:32:57,590

investigation this show differed in no

737

00:33:03,159 --> 00:32:59,419

significant way to the rash of other

738

00:33:05,200 --> 00:33:03,169

nasty millennial doom crying tripe being

739

00:33:08,950 --> 00:33:05,210

pushed down our throats by TV channels

740

00:33:11,110 --> 00:33:08,960

as the calendar rolls along - mm playing

741

00:33:13,419 --> 00:33:11,120

on people's fears might be good for

742

00:33:15,430 --> 00:33:13,429

ratings but it ignores the real harm

743

00:33:17,980 --> 00:33:15,440

that it can do to vulnerable people

744

00:33:20,530 --> 00:33:17,990

whose grasp on reality is in some way

745

00:33:22,810 --> 00:33:20,540

under attack as too often happens after

746

00:33:25,180 --> 00:33:22,820

one of these irresponsible pieces has

747

00:33:27,610 --> 00:33:25,190

been to err Australian skeptics was

748

00:33:29,860 --> 00:33:27,620

contacted by a seriously distressed

749

00:33:31,630 --> 00:33:29,870

woman who had been so disturbed by what

750

00:33:34,270 --> 00:33:31,640

she had seen that she feared for her

751

00:33:37,750 --> 00:33:34,280

sanity we could only tell her that such

752

00:33:41,409 --> 00:33:37,760

programs were junk TV and were designed

753

00:33:44,220 --> 00:33:41,419

to rate and not to inform it was a sad

754

00:33:48,669 --> 00:33:44,230

end to a once productive relationship

755

00:33:51,280 --> 00:33:48,679

now in the mid-2000s around 2006 my

756

00:33:53,770 --> 00:33:51,290

Quilici appeared on a Australian chat

757

00:33:55,750 --> 00:33:53,780

show with Andrew Denton the show was

758

00:33:58,960 --> 00:33:55,760

called enough rope and many Australian

759

00:34:00,760 --> 00:33:58,970

listeners will well remember that series

760

00:34:04,060 --> 00:34:00,770

of interviews for its high standard and

761

00:34:08,889 --> 00:34:04,070

the probing questions asked by Andrew

762

00:34:10,579 --> 00:34:08,899

Denton and this short excerpt from the

763

00:34:13,839 --> 00:34:10,589

program I think illest

764

00:34:17,389 --> 00:34:13,849

Red's part of mic Willis's character

765

00:34:19,940 --> 00:34:17,399

after his religious conversion happened

766

00:34:23,479 --> 00:34:19,950

with a praying to God to save him from

767

00:34:25,039 --> 00:34:23,489

an impending plane crash and then he

768

00:34:27,139 --> 00:34:25,049

went on to do these documentaries about

769

00:34:28,519 --> 00:34:27,149

stigmata and weeping statues and the

770

00:34:31,729 --> 00:34:28,529

shout of train and so on

771

00:34:33,129 --> 00:34:31,739

so here's this short excerpt I think

772

00:34:35,049 --> 00:34:33,139

it's admirable

773

00:34:36,979 --> 00:34:35,059

absolutely what you're trying to

774

00:34:39,950 --> 00:34:36,989

discover for yourself and for other

775

00:34:41,930 --> 00:34:39,960

people I wondered though which is why is

776

00:34:43,729 --> 00:34:41,940

asking about you'll favor bind your

777

00:34:45,889 --> 00:34:43,739

desire to believe why in these

778

00:34:47,569 --> 00:34:45,899

circumstances with the stigmata for

779

00:34:49,190 --> 00:34:47,579

instance with Cartier which you

780

00:34:51,259 --> 00:34:49,200

absolutely believed to be real and and

781

00:34:55,430 --> 00:34:51,269

you've overseen the verification of it

782

00:34:57,969 --> 00:34:55,440

why not hand that over entirely to

783

00:35:00,079 --> 00:34:57,979

people that are carrying any of the

784

00:35:02,120 --> 00:35:00,089

religious or psychological baggage

785

00:35:03,529 --> 00:35:02,130

you're carrying why not hand it over

786

00:35:05,509 --> 00:35:03,539

entirely I know that the American

787

00:35:08,029 --> 00:35:05,519

skeptic James Randi has a standing

788

00:35:10,910 --> 00:35:08,039

million dollar offer to anyone that can

789

00:35:12,920 --> 00:35:10,920

prove stigmata why not hand it over to I

790

00:35:15,440 --> 00:35:12,930

don't know a Swiss research and a German

791

00:35:19,700 --> 00:35:15,450

and a American research GRU there's

792

00:35:21,529 --> 00:35:19,710

Randi is a phony I mean he forgets that

793

00:35:24,140 --> 00:35:21,539

he once named me investigative

794

00:35:26,779 --> 00:35:24,150

journalist of the year and sent me a

795

00:35:29,059 --> 00:35:26,789

trophy yeah fortunately I threw it away

796

00:35:31,190 --> 00:35:29,069

I didn't take it seriously but okay put

797

00:35:32,529 --> 00:35:31,200

aside James Randi why not give it to

798

00:35:36,049 --> 00:35:32,539

somebody that's not carrying any

799

00:35:37,910 --> 00:35:36,059

religious strong religious belief -

800

00:35:40,219 --> 00:35:37,920

absolutely no what I was ready to do

801
00:35:43,549 --> 00:35:40,229
that but all the people who criticized

802
00:35:45,529 --> 00:35:43,559
us not one person asked to see the

803
00:35:47,150 --> 00:35:45,539
footage including all the footage they

804
00:35:49,400 --> 00:35:47,160
didn't get away and of course it was the

805
00:35:50,989 --> 00:35:49,410
the skeptics who awarded will see not

806
00:35:53,450 --> 00:35:50,999
James Randi but I think it gives you an

807
00:35:56,180 --> 00:35:53,460
idea of his change of mind now the

808
00:35:59,150 --> 00:35:56,190
program he produced and hosted about

809
00:36:01,160 --> 00:35:59,160
signs from God is available on YouTube I

810
00:36:03,229 --> 00:36:01,170
will link to that in the show notes but

811
00:36:05,359 --> 00:36:03,239
farewell my Quilici you will be

812
00:36:07,850 --> 00:36:05,369
remembered in the history of Australian

813
00:36:28,269 --> 00:36:07,860

journalism

814

00:36:35,959 --> 00:36:34,370

- okay colas masala Paola the Dallaire

815

00:36:38,959 --> 00:36:35,969

Moses with other Buenos Aires in

816

00:36:40,819 --> 00:36:38,969

Argentina when the Kucha most podcasts

817

00:36:44,029 --> 00:36:40,829

cochamo mimic a Kucha todo el mundo

818

00:36:46,670 --> 00:36:44,039

cover the skeptic zone ojala pueden

819

00:36:48,469 --> 00:36:46,680

madeira VC Thomas algun dia hace para mo

820

00:36:56,599 --> 00:36:48,479

con nuestra Ricky Sima comida locally

821

00:36:58,489 --> 00:36:56,609

yes Monsieur on tango mientras tanto sig

822

00:37:00,130 --> 00:36:58,499

and if Rotondo de su dosa same analogy

823

00:37:08,170 --> 00:37:00,140

NCI Pentimento resonance

824

00:37:08,180 --> 00:37:22,160

[Music]

825

00:37:26,580 --> 00:37:24,450

skeptics in the pub no main art tonight

826

00:37:30,480 --> 00:37:26,590

unfortunately and no Trisha either and

827

00:37:32,220 --> 00:37:30,490

we're just here setting up before I got

828

00:37:33,450 --> 00:37:32,230

Tim minimally editor of the skeptic

829

00:37:35,520 --> 00:37:33,460

magazine Tim tonight's question

830

00:37:38,310 --> 00:37:35,530

tonight's question is about folk

831

00:37:41,460 --> 00:37:38,320

remedies the old things he used to hear

832

00:37:43,859 --> 00:37:41,470

because of my the hopefully fast

833

00:37:45,780 --> 00:37:43,869

disappearing cold have you heard any

834

00:37:49,500 --> 00:37:45,790

good old-fashioned folk remedies in this

835

00:37:51,990 --> 00:37:49,510

vein well of course yeah being of a

836

00:37:53,370 --> 00:37:52,000

certain age and having a mother you

837

00:37:54,810 --> 00:37:53,380

always heard about folk remedies my

838

00:37:56,940 --> 00:37:54,820

favorite is of course she never used it

839

00:37:58,230 --> 00:37:56,950

but yeah rubbing a toad on your warts

840

00:38:01,260 --> 00:37:58,240

it's always a good thing if she get rid

841

00:38:03,690 --> 00:38:01,270

of warts rub rubbing a toad on your on

842

00:38:04,859 --> 00:38:03,700

your wart yes yeah yes

843

00:38:06,060 --> 00:38:04,869

oh it's guaranteed to work you should

844

00:38:09,060 --> 00:38:06,070

try it in fact I have it down here

845

00:38:10,980 --> 00:38:09,070

actually part on that I'm just trying to

846

00:38:12,840 --> 00:38:10,990

think ashy yeah I guess the classic is

847

00:38:14,370 --> 00:38:12,850

what take vitamin C before getting a

848

00:38:16,230 --> 00:38:14,380

cold and you won't get to call the so if

849

00:38:19,680 --> 00:38:16,240

you've got a cold take vitamin C a

850

00:38:21,480 --> 00:38:19,690

minute and that still generally believed

851
00:38:22,530 --> 00:38:21,490
by many people I think absolutely I

852
00:38:24,270 --> 00:38:22,540
think a lot of people still believe it

853
00:38:25,770 --> 00:38:24,280
though Linus Pauling was not who was a

854
00:38:27,870 --> 00:38:25,780
guy who was pronoun promoting matter a

855
00:38:29,670 --> 00:38:27,880
long time ago did some good work on

856
00:38:32,640 --> 00:38:29,680
population issues then did some bad work

857
00:38:35,250 --> 00:38:32,650
on promoting vitamin C good yeah what

858
00:38:39,060 --> 00:38:35,260
else to say sucking an orange before you

859
00:38:40,500 --> 00:38:39,070
drink milk of magnesia what what you

860
00:38:42,450 --> 00:38:40,510
Toby fight remedies mate you got to go

861
00:38:44,340 --> 00:38:42,460
back to the folk right never had milk of

862
00:38:46,590 --> 00:38:44,350
magnesia milk of magnesia was this thing

863
00:38:48,599 --> 00:38:46,600

you used to drink and it would show up

864

00:38:50,580 --> 00:38:48,609

your stomach in the next ray it was

865

00:38:52,020 --> 00:38:50,590

absolutely appalling things would make

866

00:38:53,099 --> 00:38:52,030

you throw up all the time so sucking

867

00:38:55,020 --> 00:38:53,109

gontar into would try and ameliorate

868

00:38:57,780 --> 00:38:55,030

stop you throwing up all over the x-ray

869

00:38:59,370 --> 00:38:57,790

machine I see so we've combined that

870

00:39:02,699 --> 00:38:59,380

with a toad and we're on a winner it was

871

00:39:07,449 --> 00:39:06,039

all right we'll just let me go through

872

00:39:10,359 --> 00:39:07,459

the crowded pub there's only two other

873

00:39:13,630 --> 00:39:10,369

people here folk remedies things from

874

00:39:16,299 --> 00:39:13,640

days of yore that people once we're at

875

00:39:18,069 --> 00:39:16,309

or on what do you think well my dad

876

00:39:22,539 --> 00:39:18,079

always told me when I had a cold to suck

877

00:39:24,640 --> 00:39:22,549

on a lemon yeah zero yeah vitamin C and

878

00:39:25,870 --> 00:39:24,650

I had a teacher once that told me if I

879

00:39:27,729 --> 00:39:25,880

had warts that I didn't want I could

880

00:39:31,959 --> 00:39:27,739

sell them to someone and that would work

881

00:39:35,919 --> 00:39:31,969

I haven't thought of that one definite

882

00:39:38,499 --> 00:39:35,929

thank you very much for your insights so

883

00:39:40,719 --> 00:39:38,509

yes we are here early it skeptics in the

884

00:39:43,329 --> 00:39:40,729

pub's first Thursday of the month here

885

00:39:47,289 --> 00:39:43,339

at the Occidental hotel in Sydney and

886

00:39:51,819 --> 00:39:47,299

well soon I'm sure the crowds will will

887

00:39:55,479 --> 00:39:51,829

pile in it's a bit later on in the

888

00:39:57,309 --> 00:39:55,489

evening lots of people turning up so far

889

00:39:59,289 --> 00:39:57,319

Tim you're complaining you want to

890

00:40:01,029 --> 00:39:59,299

change your answer yeah I do actually I

891

00:40:03,759 --> 00:40:01,039

think I think I had consulted with my

892

00:40:06,309 --> 00:40:03,769

scientific people right and they have

893

00:40:07,900 --> 00:40:06,319

told me that I'm an idiot well and

894

00:40:09,999 --> 00:40:07,910

what's what's here

895

00:40:12,370 --> 00:40:10,009

yeah so I'd like to withdraw my earlier

896

00:40:14,799 --> 00:40:12,380

recommendation apparently you can't rub

897

00:40:16,660 --> 00:40:14,809

a toad on a wart to get rid of it you

898

00:40:17,199 --> 00:40:16,670

rubber toad on your finger to give you a

899

00:40:19,150 --> 00:40:17,209

wart

900

00:40:20,140 --> 00:40:19,160

well I thought that was the case but I

901
00:40:22,689 --> 00:40:20,150
thought you could were coming up with

902
00:40:30,880 --> 00:40:22,699
this amazing bit of folk wisdom I didn't

903
00:40:32,799 --> 00:40:30,890
know believe in alternative folk well

904
00:40:35,599 --> 00:40:32,809
I'll leave it at there thank you very

905
00:40:38,479 --> 00:40:35,609
much - no go back into my cage

906
00:40:40,819 --> 00:40:38,489
and this week's question is what old

907
00:40:42,650 --> 00:40:40,829
folk remedies do you remember from when

908
00:40:44,569 --> 00:40:42,660
you were younger that maybe your

909
00:40:47,089 --> 00:40:44,579
grandparents too told you would work

910
00:40:49,579 --> 00:40:47,099
mom you supposed to get ear aches a lot

911
00:40:52,640 --> 00:40:49,589
and mom used to heat the olive oil and

912
00:40:54,709 --> 00:40:52,650
tip it into my ear hot olive oil in the

913
00:40:57,380 --> 00:40:54,719

year just to heat it heat it on a

914

00:40:59,749 --> 00:40:57,390

teaspoon and tip it into my ear and then

915

00:41:02,029 --> 00:40:59,759

plug it up and then I'd go to sleep and

916

00:41:05,420 --> 00:41:02,039

hopefully whatever it was in there would

917

00:41:06,529 --> 00:41:05,430

come out oh that's that's an odd one I

918

00:41:07,549 --> 00:41:06,539

haven't heard that one before do you

919

00:41:08,839 --> 00:41:07,559

remember if it worked

920

00:41:12,440 --> 00:41:08,849

I don't know but I'm pretty sure I

921

00:41:15,739 --> 00:41:12,450

probably needed grommets you know but we

922

00:41:17,779 --> 00:41:15,749

never went to the doctor back then it

923

00:41:20,539 --> 00:41:17,789

wasn't affordable it exists pre-medicare

924

00:41:22,359 --> 00:41:20,549

oh so we just didn't go the doctor and

925

00:41:24,499 --> 00:41:22,369

there were that's what we did instead

926
00:41:28,219 --> 00:41:24,509
that's a new one on me thank you very

927
00:41:28,959 --> 00:41:28,229
much yeah this is a bit less funny all

928
00:41:33,380 --> 00:41:28,969
right

929
00:41:35,089 --> 00:41:33,390
apparently in Indonesia some people

930
00:41:38,150 --> 00:41:35,099
believe that the electric shocks that

931
00:41:40,640 --> 00:41:38,160
you can get from a railroad track can

932
00:41:42,439 --> 00:41:40,650
have curative properties so it says

933
00:41:44,479 --> 00:41:42,449
Indonesians with ailments ranging from a

934
00:41:46,980 --> 00:41:44,489
cold or flu to cancer can be seen laying

935
00:41:49,950 --> 00:41:46,990
on railroad tracks to get the shots

936
00:41:54,460 --> 00:41:49,960
yeah I know I told you it was less funny

937
00:41:55,960 --> 00:41:54,470
well that's a new one on me here's what

938
00:41:58,000 --> 00:41:55,970

we haven't heard before Lara what have

939

00:42:01,480 --> 00:41:58,010

you discovered there so apparently if

940

00:42:03,130 --> 00:42:01,490

you have a stomach ulcer what you should

941

00:42:05,230 --> 00:42:03,140

do before you put your socks and your

942

00:42:06,730 --> 00:42:05,240

shoes on in the morning you swab the

943

00:42:11,740 --> 00:42:06,740

soles of your feet with apple cider

944

00:42:13,900 --> 00:42:11,750

vinegar let it dry then you put your

945

00:42:17,530 --> 00:42:13,910

Ware on and then you repeat the process

946

00:42:18,610 --> 00:42:17,540

before dinner and your feet smell

947

00:42:23,350 --> 00:42:18,620

wonderful

948

00:42:25,180 --> 00:42:23,360

maybe vinegar now this is the best one

949

00:42:27,400 --> 00:42:25,190

I've heard all night what was that oh my

950

00:42:29,560 --> 00:42:27,410

dad also said in addition to or separate

951
00:42:31,540 --> 00:42:29,570
from sucking on a lemon but when you

952
00:42:33,550 --> 00:42:31,550
have a bad cold or flu you would goggle

953
00:42:35,590 --> 00:42:33,560
some scotch and I would just kill the

954
00:42:45,190 --> 00:42:35,600
cold in your I'm gonna try this tonight

955
00:42:50,870 --> 00:42:47,780
good evening good evening now tonight's

956
00:42:52,910 --> 00:42:50,880
question is what folk remedies do you

957
00:42:54,799 --> 00:42:52,920
remember from when you were young this

958
00:42:58,609 --> 00:42:54,809
is a cure for this take this

959
00:43:00,730 --> 00:42:58,619
this can help for this try to cast my

960
00:43:05,599 --> 00:43:00,740
mind back I'm sure my mother had the odd

961
00:43:08,990 --> 00:43:05,609
the odd remedy I remember when I had the

962
00:43:11,480 --> 00:43:09,000
measles yeah it wasn't exactly a folk

963
00:43:14,660 --> 00:43:11,490

remedy it was a symptomatic remedy my

964

00:43:17,109 --> 00:43:14,670

mother set with me for hours on end as I

965

00:43:20,059 --> 00:43:17,119

was in that darkened room rubbing

966

00:43:23,270 --> 00:43:20,069

calamine lotion or something of that

967

00:43:26,299 --> 00:43:23,280

sort on me and it simply made the

968

00:43:28,280 --> 00:43:26,309

painless although I suspect that my in

969

00:43:30,079 --> 00:43:28,290

the presence of my mother with me had a

970

00:43:31,789 --> 00:43:30,089

lot to do with it yeah and I think

971

00:43:36,049 --> 00:43:31,799

that's that's been used for years

972

00:43:41,329 --> 00:43:36,059

calamine lotion I think yeah it's a nice

973

00:43:44,329 --> 00:43:41,339

memory thank you so apparently if you

974

00:43:47,599 --> 00:43:44,339

put a urine on acne it gets rid of the

975

00:43:50,240 --> 00:43:47,609

acne or any infection people are putting

976
00:43:52,970 --> 00:43:50,250
in their eye and they they seem to think

977
00:43:54,260 --> 00:43:52,980
that the more aged it is the better and

978
00:43:55,430 --> 00:43:54,270
then other people on Facebook are

979
00:43:56,720 --> 00:43:55,440
telling them no that's probably

980
00:43:59,630 --> 00:43:56,730
something you need to get checked out by

981
00:44:02,829 --> 00:43:59,640
the doctor it's like making it worse the

982
00:44:05,270 --> 00:44:02,839
skeptical zone podcast is not recommended

983
00:44:07,940 --> 00:44:05,280
no don't put urine on anything

984
00:44:10,690 --> 00:44:07,950
no what about jellyfish sting the zero

985
00:44:13,870 --> 00:44:10,700
and work for jellyfish stings

986
00:44:15,220 --> 00:44:13,880
I heard vinegar but that and now I've

987
00:44:22,540 --> 00:44:15,230
heard that you don't put vinegar on

988
00:44:24,160 --> 00:44:22,550

jellies and fish stinks I need to go

989

00:44:29,860 --> 00:44:24,170

swimming with vinegar you probably the

990

00:44:31,210 --> 00:44:29,870

same yourself no actually no the

991

00:44:32,950 --> 00:44:31,220

challenge coordinator from the state's

992

00:44:37,170 --> 00:44:32,960

get busy and Bryce not do you remember

993

00:44:39,490 --> 00:44:37,180

from long time ago folk remedies in such

994

00:44:42,460 --> 00:44:39,500

okay well in our family I don't think we

995

00:44:44,680 --> 00:44:42,470

had too many folk remedies at least if

996

00:44:48,160 --> 00:44:44,690

we were suspected of having a bowel

997

00:44:50,320 --> 00:44:48,170

problem we were given castor oil is that

998

00:44:54,250 --> 00:44:50,330

a fact remedy is that legitimate it

999

00:44:56,650 --> 00:44:54,260

certainly worked anyways well maybe it's

1000

00:44:58,450 --> 00:44:56,660

a bit of both I've heard of castor oil

1001
00:45:01,510 --> 00:44:58,460
and I've never had it and from what I

1002
00:45:04,840 --> 00:45:01,520
understand it's vile yes it is very

1003
00:45:07,120 --> 00:45:04,850
unpleasant to swallow yes so I'm not

1004
00:45:09,940 --> 00:45:07,130
sure that I can qualify with the folk

1005
00:45:11,320 --> 00:45:09,950
remedy there maybe it is and maybe it

1006
00:45:12,660 --> 00:45:11,330
isn't that's interesting Thank You Ian

1007
00:45:22,070 --> 00:45:12,670
thanks

1008
00:45:24,960 --> 00:45:22,080
[Music]

1009
00:45:26,460 --> 00:45:24,970
are you tired of going out and not being

1010
00:45:30,360 --> 00:45:26,470
able to find the kind of music that you

1011
00:45:32,130 --> 00:45:30,370
like to dance to like that well you need

1012
00:45:34,200 --> 00:45:32,140
to comes with Maynard's Love Shack

1013
00:45:37,290 --> 00:45:34,210

next Saturday night at the red bar

1014

00:45:39,420 --> 00:45:37,300

upstairs at 36 lead Point Road in bleep

1015

00:45:41,400 --> 00:45:39,430

in Sydney we'll be going crazy there

1016

00:45:43,290 --> 00:45:41,410

I'll be supported by the legendary Lance

1017

00:45:54,900 --> 00:45:43,300

Leppard as I play the kind of music you

1018

00:45:58,650 --> 00:45:56,460

but if you want to you can always dance

1019

00:46:00,269 --> 00:45:58,660

the card stuff you like actually might

1020

00:46:01,980 --> 00:46:00,279

play that to Nick said that it's not too

1021

00:46:04,170 --> 00:46:01,990

bad then innit

1022

00:46:06,450 --> 00:46:04,180

that's main arms Love Shack more details

1023

00:46:09,420 --> 00:46:06,460

on the very very front page of main and

1024

00:46:11,789 --> 00:46:09,430

calm dodo you see their next that day

1025

00:46:13,440 --> 00:46:11,799

can skip the extents another can drink

1026

00:46:15,029 --> 00:46:13,450

well can skeptics dance

1027

00:46:17,640 --> 00:46:15,039

I don't know I'm full of incertitude

1028

00:46:20,490 --> 00:46:17,650

what's that mean its orders right that

1029

00:46:22,410 --> 00:46:20,500

in certitude except slightly rude man

1030

00:46:25,499 --> 00:46:22,420

that's Love Shack next said there 9h

1031

00:46:27,690 --> 00:46:25,509

midnight 36 upstairs at the red bar

1032

00:46:33,900 --> 00:46:27,700

bleep on trading grave see you there and

1033

00:46:33,910 --> 00:46:41,319

[Music]

1034

00:46:47,180 --> 00:46:43,789

thank you for listening to the skeptic

1035

00:46:50,920 --> 00:46:47,190

zone now if you are in Berkeley in

1036

00:46:53,989 --> 00:46:50,930

California next week on the fourteenth

1037

00:46:56,630 --> 00:46:53,999

Thursday the 14th maybe you can come

1038

00:46:58,519 --> 00:46:56,640

along and see my talk which is the talk

1039

00:47:01,999 --> 00:46:58,529

I gave here in Sydney at skeptics in the

1040

00:47:04,309 --> 00:47:02,009

pub Australia's psychic detectives just

1041

00:47:06,680 --> 00:47:04,319

how many crimes have so-called psychic

1042

00:47:09,200 --> 00:47:06,690

detectives solved in Australia how do

1043

00:47:11,359 --> 00:47:09,210

their claims stack up to results do

1044

00:47:13,489 --> 00:47:11,369

police really call upon the paranormal

1045

00:47:16,370 --> 00:47:13,499

to find missing people join Australian

1046

00:47:18,859 --> 00:47:16,380

sceptic Richard Saunders as he examines

1047

00:47:21,650 --> 00:47:18,869

some famous crimes and the alleged

1048

00:47:23,239 --> 00:47:21,660

supernatural connection also Richard

1049

00:47:25,880 --> 00:47:23,249

will give an overview of the world's

1050

00:47:28,160 --> 00:47:25,890

most comprehensive study into psychic

1051

00:47:33,140 --> 00:47:28,170

predictions for more information just

1052

00:47:35,359 --> 00:47:33,150

head to be a skeptics dot org and that

1053

00:47:37,609 --> 00:47:35,369

means that next week's show and shows

1054

00:47:40,789 --> 00:47:37,619

coming out for a few weeks after that

1055

00:47:43,969 --> 00:47:40,799

will be from California always good to

1056

00:47:46,190 --> 00:47:43,979

catch up with people like dr. eugenie

1057

00:47:48,769 --> 00:47:46,200

Scott and my friend Marielle who works

1058

00:47:50,690 --> 00:47:48,779

at Wikimedia thank you to all those

1059

00:47:53,359 --> 00:47:50,700

people who continue to support the show

1060

00:47:57,079 --> 00:47:53,369

financially at skeptic zone TV via

1061

00:47:59,839 --> 00:47:57,089

patreon or PayPal and once again don't

1062

00:48:02,719 --> 00:47:59,849

forget if you're in Sydney next Saturday

1063

00:48:05,059 --> 00:48:02,729

to go along to see Maynard's gig and

1064

00:48:06,529 --> 00:48:05,069

glebe and I'm very sorry I won't be

1065

00:48:08,509 --> 00:48:06,539

there simply because I'll be on the

1066

00:48:10,549 --> 00:48:08,519

other side of the planet but for this

1067

00:48:17,150 --> 00:48:10,559

week this is Richard Saunders signing

1068

00:48:19,219 --> 00:48:17,160

off from Sydney Australia you've been

1069

00:48:23,120 --> 00:48:19,229

listening to the sceptic Zone podcast

1070

00:48:27,049 --> 00:48:23,130

please visit our website at WWF Tech's

1071

00:48:29,029 --> 00:48:27,059

on TV for show notes contacts and to

1072

00:48:33,079 --> 00:48:29,039

access the back catalogue of episodes

1073

00:48:35,019 --> 00:48:33,089

going back to 2008 you can follow the

1074

00:48:38,599 --> 00:48:35,029

skeptic zone podcast on twitter at

1075

00:48:40,980 --> 00:48:38,609

skeptic zone visit our facebook page or

1076

00:48:43,260 --> 00:48:40,990

leave a review on itunes

1077

00:48:45,690 --> 00:48:43,270

you can also support the sceptic zone

1078

00:48:47,880 --> 00:48:45,700

via patreon or PayPal

1079

00:48:50,520 --> 00:48:47,890

the sceptic zone podcast is an

1080

00:48:52,349 --> 00:48:50,530

independent production reviews and

1081

00:48:54,599 --> 00:48:52,359

opinions expressed on the sceptic zone

1082

00:48:57,150 --> 00:48:54,609

are not necessarily those of Australian

1083

00:48:58,010 --> 00:48:57,160

skeptics or any other skeptical

1084

00:49:08,660 --> 00:48:58,020

organization

1085

00:49:12,630 --> 00:49:10,980

hello our people who listen after the

1086

00:49:15,120 --> 00:49:12,640

music haven't done this for a week or

1087

00:49:18,359 --> 00:49:15,130

two I think don't think mi anyway you

1088

00:49:20,250 --> 00:49:18,369

react inside a die we're going to roll

1089

00:49:20,930 --> 00:49:20,260

it three times for those people new to

1090

00:49:24,839 --> 00:49:20,940

this

1091

00:49:26,280 --> 00:49:24,849

it's a psychic test it's a bit of fun

1092

00:49:27,900 --> 00:49:26,290

that's what it is but you know you can

1093

00:49:30,329 --> 00:49:27,910

pretend it's a test of your psychic

1094

00:49:33,180 --> 00:49:30,339

ability I wonder if there's anybody out

1095

00:49:34,950 --> 00:49:33,190

there over though I guess almost a year

1096

00:49:36,390 --> 00:49:34,960

I've been doing this on and off then I

1097

00:49:39,660 --> 00:49:36,400

forgot all three numbers

1098

00:49:42,359 --> 00:49:39,670

I guess that's possible unlikely but

1099

00:49:42,870 --> 00:49:42,369

possible let's go I'm gonna roll this

1100

00:49:45,180 --> 00:49:42,880

dive

1101

00:49:50,339 --> 00:49:45,190

use your psychic powers it's a number

1102

00:49:56,990 --> 00:49:50,349

from one to ten here we go first number

1103

00:50:02,370 --> 00:49:57,000

is one first number is one

1104

00:50:10,770 --> 00:50:02,380

write that down one second number here

1105

00:50:16,910 --> 00:50:10,780

we go seven one and seven one seven and

1106

00:50:21,450 --> 00:50:16,920

the last number what's that number six