

Episode **550**

THE
**SKEPTIC
ZONE**
PODCAST

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5 May 2019

The Skeptic Zone Podcast



Maynard

Episode **550** - 5 May 2019

MSSX
in Liverpool

Astrology in
The White House

How to run
Skeptics in the Pub

Maynard being a Goose

1
00:00:09,120 --> 00:00:06,120

[Music]

2
00:00:11,890 --> 00:00:09,130

welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

3
00:00:22,980 --> 00:00:11,900

from Australia for science and reason

4
00:00:25,480 --> 00:00:22,990

[Music]

5
00:00:31,030 --> 00:00:25,490

yes it's the skeptic zone podcast

6
00:00:35,110 --> 00:00:31,040

episode number 550 good grief for the

7
00:00:36,939 --> 00:00:35,120

fifth of May 2019 Richard Saunders here

8
00:00:38,830 --> 00:00:36,949

with you from Sydney Australia what a

9
00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:38,840

big day we had yesterday folks the

10
00:00:45,759 --> 00:00:42,010

Australian skeptics we had our flu

11
00:00:48,700 --> 00:00:45,769

vaccination day here in Sydney and it

12
00:00:50,890 --> 00:00:48,710

was a it was quite a success I certainly

13
00:00:52,990 --> 00:00:50,900

got my flu vaccination lots of people

14

00:00:55,810 --> 00:00:53,000

rolled up to get their flu vaccination a

15

00:00:58,000 --> 00:00:55,820

report coming up on next week's show

16

00:01:01,840 --> 00:00:58,010

because it just happened and I need time

17

00:01:04,260 --> 00:01:01,850

to edit all that together and then after

18

00:01:07,840 --> 00:01:04,270

all that in the evening I went to

19

00:01:10,450 --> 00:01:07,850

Maenads Love Shack number two in glebe

20

00:01:12,999 --> 00:01:10,460

at the red bar and what a fun night that

21

00:01:14,859 --> 00:01:13,009

was in fact that was such a success

22

00:01:17,620 --> 00:01:14,869

that's going to be a Love Shack number

23

00:01:20,980 --> 00:01:17,630

three and you really haven't lived until

24

00:01:23,320 --> 00:01:20,990

you've seen Maynard in action as a DJ

25

00:01:25,870 --> 00:01:23,330

but what's coming up on this week's show

26
00:01:28,899 --> 00:01:25,880
this week's show we have Jessica singer

27
00:01:32,260 --> 00:01:28,909
from the Australian skeptics talking

28
00:01:36,609 --> 00:01:32,270
about a visit to skeptics in the pub in

29
00:01:38,649 --> 00:01:36,619
London and the the segment does give

30
00:01:41,499 --> 00:01:38,659
general advice and insights about

31
00:01:42,969 --> 00:01:41,509
running as skeptics in the pub I've been

32
00:01:45,960 --> 00:01:42,979
to quite a few skeptics in the pub

33
00:01:48,370 --> 00:01:45,970
around the world skeptics in the pubs

34
00:01:50,499 --> 00:01:48,380
skeptic in the pubs around the world

35
00:01:53,530 --> 00:01:50,509
it's a great opportunity to get together

36
00:01:56,440 --> 00:01:53,540
in a very informal way to chat about

37
00:01:58,270 --> 00:01:56,450
skepticism and science advice tips and

38
00:02:01,719 --> 00:01:58,280

insights about running skeptics in the

39
00:02:08,560 --> 00:02:01,729
pub coming up on this week's show and we

40
00:02:10,389 --> 00:02:08,570
have M SSX what is M SSX the Merseyside

41
00:02:12,850 --> 00:02:10,399
skeptics are having their 10 year

42
00:02:15,850 --> 00:02:12,860
anniversary we speak to Alice howarth

43
00:02:18,850 --> 00:02:15,860
and Laurie Phillips and see what they've

44
00:02:22,060 --> 00:02:18,860
got cooked up lined up in the pipeline

45
00:02:24,550 --> 00:02:22,070
for their 10 year anniversary also this

46
00:02:26,560 --> 00:02:24,560
week we look at astrology an article by

47
00:02:29,320 --> 00:02:26,570
Ron Reagan the son of Ronald and Nancy

48
00:02:31,979 --> 00:02:29,330
Reagan about his mother's belief in

49
00:02:34,180 --> 00:02:31,989
astrology and we play a clip from

50
00:02:37,300 --> 00:02:34,190
Australian TV decades ago

51
00:02:39,970 --> 00:02:37,310
we're astrologers were debating skeptics

52
00:02:42,850 --> 00:02:39,980
and around off the show Maynard heads

53
00:02:45,700 --> 00:02:42,860
for skeptics in the pub and chats to

54
00:02:48,600 --> 00:02:45,710
pubs and ask the big question should

55
00:02:53,050 --> 00:02:48,610
Australian skeptics carry on with our

56
00:02:54,490 --> 00:02:53,060
\$100,000 prize for anybody who can prove

57
00:02:57,250 --> 00:02:54,500
their claim of the paranormal the

58
00:02:59,320 --> 00:02:57,260
supernatural now over recent years the

59
00:03:00,880 --> 00:02:59,330
James Randi Educational Foundation z-- 1

60
00:03:03,190 --> 00:03:00,890
million dollar prize has really been

61
00:03:04,210 --> 00:03:03,200
pushed to the background and it's not so

62
00:03:06,100 --> 00:03:04,220
active anymore

63
00:03:09,160 --> 00:03:06,110

however the Australian skeptics still

64

00:03:12,070 --> 00:03:09,170
have an upfront offer of \$100,000 and we

65

00:03:15,340 --> 00:03:12,080
get the opinion of pub goers is this a

66

00:03:17,500 --> 00:03:15,350
good thing or is it dated more

67

00:03:19,420 --> 00:03:17,510
announcements from me at the end of the

68

00:03:21,850 --> 00:03:19,430
show but now it's time for me to run

69

00:03:26,680 --> 00:03:21,860
downstairs being careful not to wake up

70

00:03:32,050 --> 00:03:26,690
the sleeping cat behind me no hear any I

71

00:03:37,030 --> 00:03:32,060
just woke her up dude no she's sleeping

72

00:03:39,699 --> 00:03:37,040
in a plastic box run downstairs make

73

00:03:41,979 --> 00:03:39,709
myself some mushrooms on toast or I'm

74

00:03:43,140 --> 00:03:41,989
doing that I hope you enjoy the skeptic

75

00:03:59,290 --> 00:03:43,150
zone

76

00:03:59,300 --> 00:04:02,880

[Music]

77

00:04:08,910 --> 00:04:05,850

and joining me now on the line all the

78

00:04:11,970 --> 00:04:08,920

way from Liverpool in the UK it's Alice

79

00:04:12,540 --> 00:04:11,980

howarth and Laurie Phillips hello hi

80

00:04:15,840 --> 00:04:12,550

there

81

00:04:17,699 --> 00:04:15,850

hi great to catch up with you and you

82

00:04:19,590 --> 00:04:17,709

know a certain mutual friend of ours

83

00:04:21,920 --> 00:04:19,600

called Michael Marshall suggested I

84

00:04:24,660 --> 00:04:21,930

tried to contact you because

85

00:04:27,120 --> 00:04:24,670

unbelievably unbelievably the Merseyside

86

00:04:29,310 --> 00:04:27,130

skeptics are celebrating ten years

87

00:04:30,170 --> 00:04:29,320

what's what's what's the celebrations

88

00:04:33,330 --> 00:04:30,180

what's going on

89

00:04:36,420 --> 00:04:33,340

it is our ten-year anniversary this year

90

00:04:38,580 --> 00:04:36,430

so we are I'm planning a little party

91

00:04:40,530 --> 00:04:38,590

there's no QED this year so and we

92

00:04:46,020 --> 00:04:40,540

thought we'd give ourselves almost just

93

00:04:48,360 --> 00:04:46,030

as much work organize a one-day event in

94

00:04:49,470 --> 00:04:48,370

Liverpool we've got a host of speakers

95

00:04:52,200 --> 00:04:49,480

that are going to be speaking throughout

96

00:04:54,270 --> 00:04:52,210

the entire day and evening entertainment

97

00:04:56,670 --> 00:04:54,280

it's going to be a fantastic event

98

00:05:00,600 --> 00:04:56,680

Laurie can tell us about some of the

99

00:05:02,700 --> 00:05:00,610

speakers yes we're gonna be MC by day

100

00:05:05,820 --> 00:05:02,710

Vanek so he's well known to the UK

101
00:05:07,590 --> 00:05:05,830
skeptical and contingent you see he's

102
00:05:09,360 --> 00:05:07,600
spoken about many different escapes in

103
00:05:10,680 --> 00:05:09,370
the Pope's he's a magician so he's gonna

104
00:05:14,159 --> 00:05:10,690
do all sorts of do our evening

105
00:05:16,830 --> 00:05:14,169
entertainment and so we've got our very

106
00:05:19,020 --> 00:05:16,840
first speaker ever MSS was Chris French

107
00:05:22,110 --> 00:05:19,030
so he's going to be speaking for us

108
00:05:24,420 --> 00:05:22,120
again he's a key figure for us and we've

109
00:05:26,190 --> 00:05:24,430
got Marion Jones an investigative

110
00:05:28,320 --> 00:05:26,200
reporter he's got some incredible

111
00:05:30,780 --> 00:05:28,330
stories and we always tell the story

112
00:05:32,550 --> 00:05:30,790
every when when we see is his desk top

113
00:05:34,560 --> 00:05:32,560

of his laptop when he gives a talk it's

114

00:05:35,940 --> 00:05:34,570

incredible all the different folders

115

00:05:37,620 --> 00:05:35,950

you've got these come there yeah he's

116

00:05:39,330 --> 00:05:37,630

done an incredible amount of immersive

117

00:05:40,710 --> 00:05:39,340

journalism so he's always got a great

118

00:05:42,060 --> 00:05:40,720

story no idea what he's gonna talk about

119

00:05:45,570 --> 00:05:42,070

this time but it's gonna be incredible

120

00:05:48,330 --> 00:05:45,580

we've got Emma McClure so she gave one

121

00:05:51,180 --> 00:05:48,340

of the the most well attended talks

122

00:05:53,250 --> 00:05:51,190

we've ever had that she's an a solicitor

123

00:05:54,719 --> 00:05:53,260

especially in specializing in prison and

124

00:06:00,409 --> 00:05:54,729

public law so she's going to be talking

125

00:06:03,210 --> 00:06:00,419

about parole and all things like that I

126
00:06:05,430 --> 00:06:03,220
only got someone called Alec power yeah

127
00:06:07,260 --> 00:06:05,440
I'm gonna do a little bit ever talk I

128
00:06:08,850 --> 00:06:07,270
have not decided what that's going to be

129
00:06:11,490 --> 00:06:08,860
on yet either

130
00:06:14,250 --> 00:06:11,500
potentially HIV and but we'll see we'll

131
00:06:15,630 --> 00:06:14,260
see I'll come to a decision see yeah and

132
00:06:16,840 --> 00:06:15,640
then so the final one we've announced so

133
00:06:19,540 --> 00:06:16,850
far is Simon Singh

134
00:06:21,310 --> 00:06:19,550
so he's going to be talking through some

135
00:06:23,620 --> 00:06:21,320
of its skeptical activities in the past

136
00:06:25,950 --> 00:06:23,630
and good thinking society activities so

137
00:06:28,900 --> 00:06:25,960
how accept good thinking up and then uh

138
00:06:31,240 --> 00:06:28,910

and then we've got one one speaker yet

139

00:06:33,430 --> 00:06:31,250

to announce yes yes so we've still got a

140

00:06:34,930 --> 00:06:33,440

few little things to announce for the

141

00:06:36,520 --> 00:06:34,940

day on this Saturday's it's gonna be a

142

00:06:38,740 --> 00:06:36,530

packed day on the Saturday and I'm gonna

143

00:06:40,690 --> 00:06:38,750

have that even entertainment from Dave

144

00:06:43,630 --> 00:06:40,700

anak which will be fantastic

145

00:06:45,760 --> 00:06:43,640

he's a great magician and and really

146

00:06:48,700 --> 00:06:45,770

great entertainer and so it's gonna be a

147

00:06:50,860 --> 00:06:48,710

great event and then we have the

148

00:06:53,500 --> 00:06:50,870

following day every year at most I

149

00:06:54,670 --> 00:06:53,510

skeptics we run skeptics picnic in the

150

00:06:56,890 --> 00:06:54,680

park we kind of try and have a

151
00:06:59,200 --> 00:06:56,900
family-friendly event and where we can

152
00:07:01,690 --> 00:06:59,210
just sit and chill in the park and enjoy

153
00:07:03,880 --> 00:07:01,700
the sunshine hopefully this event is

154
00:07:08,200 --> 00:07:03,890
going to be July 6 so it's almost

155
00:07:10,300 --> 00:07:08,210
guaranteed sunshine in the pool yeah so

156
00:07:11,830 --> 00:07:10,310
it should be nice so we can have that

157
00:07:14,260 --> 00:07:11,840
picnic in the park on the Sunday as well

158
00:07:15,760 --> 00:07:14,270
for people to join us well since I am

159
00:07:17,830 --> 00:07:15,770
nice event where people come who've not

160
00:07:20,050 --> 00:07:17,840
been before as well it's kind of this is

161
00:07:21,370 --> 00:07:20,060
my first time at Modesto sceptics was

162
00:07:23,350 --> 00:07:21,380
coming to the previous one of these

163
00:07:25,480 --> 00:07:23,360

picnics so it's a great event so if

164

00:07:27,100 --> 00:07:25,490

that's happening the day after so anyone

165

00:07:28,690 --> 00:07:27,110

that comes along to demo so sex is

166

00:07:32,500 --> 00:07:28,700

obviously very welcome to join us again

167

00:07:35,830 --> 00:07:32,510

in the park the next day so it's MSS ex

168

00:07:38,860 --> 00:07:35,840

is in the Roman numeral 410 website MSS

169

00:07:42,670 --> 00:07:38,870

ex adopts code at UK it's July the six

170

00:07:46,150 --> 00:07:42,680

I'm in the liner hotel in Liverpool 29

171

00:07:48,340 --> 00:07:46,160

pound for ticket wow what a lineup folks

172

00:07:50,830 --> 00:07:48,350

on that Saturday July the 6th at the

173

00:07:53,950 --> 00:07:50,840

liner hotel and it's only twenty nine

174

00:07:59,440 --> 00:07:53,960

pounds twenty nine quid and you can find

175

00:08:03,250 --> 00:07:59,450

out more by visiting m/s/s x dot co dot

176

00:08:05,410 --> 00:08:03,260

UK I'm jealous I sounds like a lot of

177

00:08:08,620 --> 00:08:05,420

fun I wish I could be there but it must

178

00:08:10,390 --> 00:08:08,630

be interesting to reflect on ten years

179

00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:10,400

of any organization really and how

180

00:08:14,890 --> 00:08:12,560

things have changed Alice what have you

181

00:08:16,840 --> 00:08:14,900

noticed in your time so I've been

182

00:08:20,530 --> 00:08:16,850

involved with the message gets exciting

183

00:08:23,860 --> 00:08:20,540

for at least half of those ten years and

184

00:08:26,980 --> 00:08:23,870

it's it's a great group in in their

185

00:08:29,120 --> 00:08:26,990

focus on everything to do with the

186

00:08:31,490 --> 00:08:29,130

social aspect of skepticism so it

187

00:08:33,980 --> 00:08:31,500

it's people coming together having a

188

00:08:36,380 --> 00:08:33,990

great time together and the great ideas

189

00:08:38,090 --> 00:08:36,390

that come from that and it means that

190

00:08:40,520 --> 00:08:38,100

you know we're constantly involved in

191

00:08:42,500 --> 00:08:40,530

all sorts of different activism and we

192

00:08:44,240 --> 00:08:42,510

go along to different been involved in

193

00:08:47,450 --> 00:08:44,250

going to psychic events and trying to

194

00:08:49,460 --> 00:08:47,460

understand how that works and all of

195

00:08:50,870 --> 00:08:49,470

these ideas just come from us all kind

196

00:08:53,540 --> 00:08:50,880

of hanging out together and having a

197

00:08:55,460 --> 00:08:53,550

good time at our social events and it's

198

00:08:57,800 --> 00:08:55,470

the primary focus and I think it's why

199

00:09:00,950 --> 00:08:57,810

the most isget societies lasted for ten

200

00:09:02,990 --> 00:09:00,960

years is because that is such a core

201
00:09:05,120 --> 00:09:03,000
element of the group and Laurie I

202
00:09:07,490 --> 00:09:05,130
understand that you're well you must be

203
00:09:09,020 --> 00:09:07,500
of a similar mind to me in that where I

204
00:09:11,120 --> 00:09:09,030
think it's very important to get out

205
00:09:13,130 --> 00:09:11,130
there and do your own investigations and

206
00:09:14,780 --> 00:09:13,140
not just sit back and have all the

207
00:09:16,670 --> 00:09:14,790
information come to you on the internet

208
00:09:20,570 --> 00:09:16,680
and I think you've been involved in in

209
00:09:22,580 --> 00:09:20,580
some investigations yourself yes early

210
00:09:24,470 --> 00:09:22,590
on when I first joined the medicine

211
00:09:27,050 --> 00:09:24,480
skeptic Society we we had an

212
00:09:29,420 --> 00:09:27,060
investigation with good thinking society

213
00:09:32,840 --> 00:09:29,430

they ran it and where we looked at a

214

00:09:36,350 --> 00:09:32,850

bunch of psychics who were operating in

215

00:09:40,640 --> 00:09:36,360

Blackpool so a few of us kind of where

216

00:09:42,980 --> 00:09:40,650

were miked up with little like spy spy

217

00:09:45,590 --> 00:09:42,990

cameras and we went in and basically had

218

00:09:47,180 --> 00:09:45,600

a psychic reading and it turned out

219

00:09:50,480 --> 00:09:47,190

there were all identical word-for-word

220

00:09:52,040 --> 00:09:50,490

matter okay we all made up some

221

00:09:54,050 --> 00:09:52,050

elaborate backstories we all had all

222

00:09:56,450 --> 00:09:54,060

sorts of you know many of different

223

00:09:58,550 --> 00:09:56,460

problems we were expecting cold reading

224

00:09:59,960 --> 00:09:58,560

and all sorts of things going back to

225

00:10:00,890 --> 00:09:59,970

them but no it was it was virtually

226

00:10:02,780 --> 00:10:00,900

word-for-word

227

00:10:04,730 --> 00:10:02,790

it was very scripted yeah it was

228

00:10:07,100 --> 00:10:04,740

incredible and but that's all up in up

229

00:10:08,870 --> 00:10:07,110

on YouTube so if anyone's to look into

230

00:10:10,850 --> 00:10:08,880

the past and have a look at that one

231

00:10:12,680 --> 00:10:10,860

it's still that I don't think all right

232

00:10:15,020 --> 00:10:12,690

well folks our that's a very interesting

233

00:10:17,030 --> 00:10:15,030

investigation and if you want to see

234

00:10:19,430 --> 00:10:17,040

that for yourself I will add a link to

235

00:10:20,780 --> 00:10:19,440

the show notes or Alice if people just

236

00:10:23,570 --> 00:10:20,790

want to generally check out what's

237

00:10:25,580 --> 00:10:23,580

happening with the Merseyside skeptics

238

00:10:29,630 --> 00:10:25,590

where can they go our website is may

239

00:10:31,070 --> 00:10:29,640

decide skeptics dog you can find loads

240

00:10:34,850 --> 00:10:31,080

of stuff that we're up to there so we

241

00:10:36,500 --> 00:10:34,860

have three plug casts and skeptics with

242

00:10:39,950 --> 00:10:36,510

a que which some of your listeners might

243

00:10:42,290 --> 00:10:39,960

already know and then Marsh hosts be

244

00:10:42,920 --> 00:10:42,300

reasonable which is a fantastic monthly

245

00:10:45,920 --> 00:10:42,930

podcast

246

00:10:48,680 --> 00:10:45,930

he interviews somebody with views

247

00:10:51,860 --> 00:10:48,690

outside of the mainstream and then we

248

00:10:56,960 --> 00:10:51,870

have a an occasional podcast incredulous

249

00:10:58,940 --> 00:10:56,970

a panel show that doesn't quite air

250

00:11:01,100 --> 00:10:58,950

quite as often as we'd like but it is a

251

00:11:01,639 --> 00:11:01,110

very fun podcast and all of that's on

252

00:11:04,610 --> 00:11:01,649

our website

253

00:11:06,139 --> 00:11:04,620

Metro skeptics org dot u K well that's

254

00:11:08,389 --> 00:11:06,149

the place to head to folks I can

255

00:11:10,760 --> 00:11:08,399

certainly recommend those podcasts and

256

00:11:12,290 --> 00:11:10,770

get a quite an interesting experience

257

00:11:13,070 --> 00:11:12,300

every month when I listen to be

258

00:11:14,810 --> 00:11:13,080

reasonable

259

00:11:16,670 --> 00:11:14,820

sometimes it just does my head in it

260

00:11:19,850 --> 00:11:16,680

really does it's a great podcast

261

00:11:21,410 --> 00:11:19,860

nevertheless well Alice and Laurie thank

262

00:11:23,389 --> 00:11:21,420

you very much for letting us know about

263

00:11:25,850 --> 00:11:23,399

the one-day event coming up I wish I

264

00:11:28,400 --> 00:11:25,860

could be there I'm sure it will be a

265

00:11:28,960 --> 00:11:28,410

great success but for now thank you very

266

00:11:50,640 --> 00:11:28,970

much

267

00:11:56,220 --> 00:11:54,700

Brisbane skeptics society 2019 skeptic

268

00:11:59,170 --> 00:11:56,230

amp

269

00:12:02,440 --> 00:11:59,180

that's right skeptic OHS it's time once

270

00:12:06,190 --> 00:12:02,450

again for our sort of annual brisbane

271

00:12:07,930 --> 00:12:06,200

skeptic camp on the 9th of june this is

272

00:12:11,200 --> 00:12:07,940

a free event where members of our

273

00:12:13,570 --> 00:12:11,210

community you get to present whatever

274

00:12:16,270 --> 00:12:13,580

topic you are passionate about we are

275

00:12:22,690 --> 00:12:16,280

very excited to be at the slideshow this

276

00:12:25,240 --> 00:12:22,700

year this funky venue is in the West End

277

00:12:28,570 --> 00:12:25,250

but not right in town where parking is

278

00:12:32,920 --> 00:12:28,580

terrible they have their own cafe on

279

00:12:34,720 --> 00:12:32,930

site and beers with vegan treats outside

280

00:12:36,940 --> 00:12:34,730

food is welcome so if you don't like

281

00:12:38,980 --> 00:12:36,950

their options you can get something

282

00:12:41,590 --> 00:12:38,990

delivered sounds too good to be true

283

00:12:44,770 --> 00:12:41,600

there are even comfy couches if you need

284

00:12:47,140 --> 00:12:44,780

time out this year we are very pleased

285

00:12:50,140 --> 00:12:47,150

our friends from the Gold Coast skeptics

286

00:12:51,190 --> 00:12:50,150

are co-hosting we also have musical

287

00:12:58,120 --> 00:12:51,200

entertainment lined up

288

00:13:00,400 --> 00:12:58,130

thanks to conspiracy of one with many

289

00:13:02,920 --> 00:13:00,410

other venues the West End has to offer

290

00:13:06,580 --> 00:13:02,930

I'm sure there will be a few drinks

291

00:13:10,240 --> 00:13:06,590

after we wrap up as well apply to speak

292

00:13:14,290 --> 00:13:10,250

send an email to skip tonight at big

293

00:13:19,960 --> 00:13:14,300

pond calm to secure a spot that's sk EP

294

00:13:22,660 --> 00:13:19,970

t IM ite at big pond calm please include

295

00:13:28,870 --> 00:13:22,670

your name and the title of your talk if

296

00:13:31,780 --> 00:13:28,880

you have a tight already mats brisbane

297

00:13:34,150 --> 00:13:31,790

skeptic camp for 2019 on the 9th of june

298

00:13:37,360 --> 00:13:34,160

for more information head to brisbane

299

00:13:38,380 --> 00:13:37,370

skeptics org or just follow the link in

300

00:14:01,950 --> 00:13:38,390

this week's show notes

301

00:14:05,100 --> 00:14:01,960

[Music]

302

00:14:07,300 --> 00:14:05,110

now as many of you know I love the good

303

00:14:12,070 --> 00:14:07,310

old-fashioned skepticism

304

00:14:14,140 --> 00:14:12,080

I'm known over the term ears people like

305

00:14:16,240 --> 00:14:14,150

me are called Bigfoot skeptics other

306

00:14:18,910 --> 00:14:16,250

than these are people who love the good

307

00:14:21,130 --> 00:14:18,920

old-fashioned stuff the ESP the monsters

308

00:14:26,470 --> 00:14:21,140

the obvious monster for example Bigfoot

309

00:14:28,270 --> 00:14:26,480

now is yetis telekinesis reading minds

310

00:14:29,830 --> 00:14:28,280

talking to the dead that sort of thing

311

00:14:32,230 --> 00:14:29,840

that's where my heart lies in the

312

00:14:34,780 --> 00:14:32,240

skeptical realms we have very important

313

00:14:38,680 --> 00:14:34,790

issues of course like climate change

314

00:14:40,990 --> 00:14:38,690

denial and vaccination anti vaccination

315

00:14:44,020 --> 00:14:41,000

people and I think the record shows I

316

00:14:46,420 --> 00:14:44,030

have a very strong track record of

317

00:14:49,630 --> 00:14:46,430

activism when it comes to particularly

318

00:14:51,100 --> 00:14:49,640

the anti vaccination crowd but yes my

319

00:14:53,890 --> 00:14:51,110

heart lies in the old-fashioned stuff

320

00:14:57,100 --> 00:14:53,900

and one of those topics is astrology

321

00:15:00,250 --> 00:14:57,110

good old astrology which comes and goes

322

00:15:01,990 --> 00:15:00,260

it's not as much in vogue anymore as it

323

00:15:03,730 --> 00:15:02,000

used to be but still millions of people

324

00:15:06,220 --> 00:15:03,740

around the world firmly believe that the

325

00:15:08,860 --> 00:15:06,230

position of the stars and planets will

326

00:15:11,490 --> 00:15:08,870

affect your character and the outcoming

327

00:15:14,380 --> 00:15:11,500

of the events and so on and so forth and

328

00:15:18,280 --> 00:15:14,390

recently I've been reminded of something

329

00:15:21,040 --> 00:15:18,290

that happened way back in the presidency

330

00:15:24,180 --> 00:15:21,050

of Ronald Reagan where there was a

331

00:15:27,640 --> 00:15:24,190

period of time where Nancy Reagan was

332

00:15:31,540 --> 00:15:27,650

influenced by the advice and opinions of

333

00:15:34,750 --> 00:15:31,550

her astrologer by the name of Joan

334

00:15:38,530 --> 00:15:34,760

Quigley now Joan Quigley out in 2014

335

00:15:41,320 --> 00:15:38,540

aged 87 but for a period of time during

336

00:15:45,190 --> 00:15:41,330

the Reagan presidency she was certainly

337

00:15:46,930 --> 00:15:45,200

in the news and an article appeared very

338

00:15:49,060 --> 00:15:46,940

recently in the Washington Post and I

339

00:15:52,870 --> 00:15:49,070

must think listener Gary Goldberg for

340

00:15:57,400 --> 00:15:52,880

helping me with this part of the story

341

00:15:58,510 --> 00:15:57,410

this is an opinion piece written by Ron

342

00:16:05,949 --> 00:15:58,520

Reagan

343

00:16:16,300 --> 00:16:05,959

strong points so I'll just read that

344

00:16:19,900 --> 00:16:16,310

article to you now this comes to us from

345

00:16:23,440 --> 00:16:19,910

the Washington Post on Sunday the 28th

346

00:16:25,180 --> 00:16:23,450

of April 2019 by Ron Reagan Ron Reagan

347

00:16:29,070 --> 00:16:25,190

is a writer and political commentator

348

00:16:33,190 --> 00:16:29,080

living in Seattle and Tuscany astrology

349

00:16:35,620 --> 00:16:33,200

in 1981 having scarcely begun his

350

00:16:37,480 --> 00:16:35,630

presidency my father was shot in the

351
00:16:40,960 --> 00:16:37,490
street by a young man trying to impress

352
00:16:42,820 --> 00:16:40,970
a famous actress my mother inside out

353
00:16:44,280 --> 00:16:42,830
with worry and feeling helpless to

354
00:16:47,650 --> 00:16:44,290
prevent such things from happening again

355
00:16:50,050 --> 00:16:47,660
fell prey to an astrologer who promised

356
00:16:52,269 --> 00:16:50,060
to warn of any particularly inauspicious

357
00:16:55,030 --> 00:16:52,279
days for my father to leave the house

358
00:16:57,430 --> 00:16:55,040
this arrangement had little influence on

359
00:16:59,769 --> 00:16:57,440
his presidential schedule but produced

360
00:17:02,680 --> 00:16:59,779
considerable embarrassment when it was

361
00:17:05,350 --> 00:17:02,690
revealed sometime later my mother was

362
00:17:07,900 --> 00:17:05,360
foolish of course but given the

363
00:17:11,400 --> 00:17:07,910

stressful circumstances I'm inclined to

364

00:17:14,439 --> 00:17:11,410

forgive I'm less charitably inclined

365

00:17:18,340 --> 00:17:14,449

towards the charlatan who took advantage

366

00:17:21,150 --> 00:17:18,350

of her anxious or not it's past time we

367

00:17:24,100 --> 00:17:21,160

abandoned astrology such

368

00:17:27,189 --> 00:17:24,110

pseudo-scientific piffle is it best

369

00:17:29,770 --> 00:17:27,199

harmless folly at worst it belongs to a

370

00:17:33,100 --> 00:17:29,780

family of more pernicious intellectual

371

00:17:35,740 --> 00:17:33,110

lapses with serious consequences climate

372

00:17:37,540 --> 00:17:35,750

change denial creationism the notion

373

00:17:40,090 --> 00:17:37,550

that we can install a reckless

374

00:17:42,310 --> 00:17:40,100

incompetent in the Oval Office without

375

00:17:45,730 --> 00:17:42,320

inviting disaster let's consider

376

00:17:49,390 --> 00:17:45,740

astrology and knock us as it may seem as

377

00:17:51,700 --> 00:17:49,400

a kind of gateway drug it softens the

378

00:17:54,549 --> 00:17:51,710

mental ground for equally unsound but

379

00:17:55,150 --> 00:17:54,559

far more harmful ideas if you believe in

380

00:17:58,450 --> 00:17:55,160

the Stars

381

00:18:00,549 --> 00:17:58,460

you can believe anything astrology which

382

00:18:04,000 --> 00:18:00,559

seems to be enjoying a renaissance among

383

00:18:06,880 --> 00:18:04,010

Millennials and Gen X's is only one sad

384

00:18:09,549 --> 00:18:06,890

example of our flabby minded post truth

385

00:18:12,400 --> 00:18:09,559

era a disturbing number of people are

386

00:18:15,400 --> 00:18:12,410

foregoing vaccinations for their kids

387

00:18:18,240 --> 00:18:15,410

or getting their news from assorted

388

00:18:20,740 --> 00:18:18,250

crackpots and hustlers on social media

389

00:18:23,490 --> 00:18:20,750

reasoning is a hallmark of our species

390

00:18:26,530 --> 00:18:23,500

but we're forgetting how to do it

391

00:18:29,470 --> 00:18:26,540

magical thinking is a bad habit we need

392

00:18:32,110 --> 00:18:29,480

to break we are not owned by our own

393

00:18:34,600 --> 00:18:32,120

reality Nature doesn't care about

394

00:18:37,810 --> 00:18:34,610

politics Jupiter doesn't determine your

395

00:18:40,500 --> 00:18:37,820

character you do if you want to be

396

00:18:44,560 --> 00:18:40,510

influenced by the Stars by a telescope

397

00:18:47,130 --> 00:18:44,570

and that was by Ron Reagan published in

398

00:18:53,620 --> 00:18:47,140

The Washington Post on the 28th of April

399

00:18:56,950 --> 00:18:53,630

2019 but it prompted me to do a little

400

00:19:00,070 --> 00:18:56,960

bit of digging and research and I found

401
00:19:04,360 --> 00:19:00,080
some interesting snippets audio and

402
00:19:10,750 --> 00:19:04,370
video snippets online from John Quigley

403
00:19:13,630 --> 00:19:10,760
talking about her time advising Nancy

404
00:19:16,210 --> 00:19:13,640
and Ronald Reagan and here is some of

405
00:19:18,400 --> 00:19:16,220
what she had to say I timed all the

406
00:19:21,610 --> 00:19:18,410
press conferences i time most of the

407
00:19:23,620 --> 00:19:21,620
speeches I timed when he would take Air

408
00:19:28,050 --> 00:19:23,630
Force front one when he would take off

409
00:19:32,430 --> 00:19:28,060
and when he would land I did a chart for

410
00:19:35,350 --> 00:19:32,440
Anthony Kennedy to to nominate him as a

411
00:19:37,240 --> 00:19:35,360
justice for the Supreme Court it was an

412
00:19:40,000 --> 00:19:37,250
almost impossible day to find a really

413
00:19:42,490 --> 00:19:40,010

good time it had to be so exact to the

414

00:19:44,740 --> 00:19:42,500

second and someone was sitting in the

415

00:19:46,480 --> 00:19:44,750

audience with a stopwatch and gave a

416

00:19:49,870 --> 00:19:46,490

signal for the President to announce

417

00:19:52,960 --> 00:19:49,880

that he was nominating Anthony Kennedy

418

00:19:55,990 --> 00:19:52,970

for the Supreme Court today announcing

419

00:19:58,450 --> 00:19:56,000

my intention they nominate the United

420

00:19:59,980 --> 00:19:58,460

States Circuit Judge Anthony Kennedy to

421

00:20:02,530 --> 00:19:59,990

be an Associate Justice of the Supreme

422

00:20:04,630 --> 00:20:02,540

Court they wanted to announce that

423

00:20:09,160 --> 00:20:04,640

ronnie was running for a second term in

424

00:20:11,800 --> 00:20:09,170

early December of 1983 and I said no

425

00:20:14,020 --> 00:20:11,810

then it wouldn't work well I think it

426

00:20:17,540 --> 00:20:14,030

wrong and I delayed it till the last

427

00:20:20,360 --> 00:20:17,550

Sunday in January of 1984 justice

428

00:20:23,630 --> 00:20:20,370

I found a wonderful chart which was just

429

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:23,640

five minutes before the noon I am

430

00:20:28,940 --> 00:20:26,010

therefore announcing that I am a

431

00:20:30,560 --> 00:20:28,950

candidate and will seek re-election she

432

00:20:32,960 --> 00:20:30,570

was not only interested in the president

433

00:20:34,460 --> 00:20:32,970

safety and having me do for him the

434

00:20:38,120 --> 00:20:34,470

things that I'd done during the ad

435

00:20:41,330 --> 00:20:38,130

campaign but she was also interested in

436

00:20:46,280 --> 00:20:41,340

improving her own image and I was very

437

00:20:49,040 --> 00:20:46,290

occupied with that at first I picked a

438

00:20:52,100 --> 00:20:49,050

time on the day they left that was an

439

00:20:56,300 --> 00:20:52,110

excellent time for what I what we wanted

440

00:20:58,970 --> 00:20:56,310

to accomplish and I also changed their

441

00:21:02,480 --> 00:20:58,980

evil empire altitude by briefing them on

442

00:21:06,680 --> 00:21:02,490

Gorbachev's horoscope by the time we

443

00:21:09,140 --> 00:21:06,690

were working on the Washington summit

444

00:21:13,040 --> 00:21:09,150

she was calling me two and three times a

445

00:21:16,550 --> 00:21:13,050

day so according to her she had quite an

446

00:21:18,800 --> 00:21:16,560

influence determining the time of major

447

00:21:21,380 --> 00:21:18,810

events for the Reagan's when they would

448

00:21:22,970 --> 00:21:21,390

go on overseas trips when this would

449

00:21:24,380 --> 00:21:22,980

happen when that would happen when the

450

00:21:27,680 --> 00:21:24,390

best time to make a political

451
00:21:30,770 --> 00:21:27,690
appointment was and I also came across

452
00:21:38,900 --> 00:21:30,780
this very short clip of Nancy and Ronald

453
00:21:41,540 --> 00:21:38,910
Reagan and I think it shows in that

454
00:21:44,960 --> 00:21:41,550
instance anyway that Nancy Reagan was

455
00:21:47,990 --> 00:21:44,970
prone to superstitions and magical

456
00:21:50,930 --> 00:21:48,000
thinking I also came across in my

457
00:21:52,430 --> 00:21:50,940
archive something I think I've mentioned

458
00:21:55,610 --> 00:21:52,440
or played before on the skeptic zone

459
00:21:59,300 --> 00:21:55,620
over the years and this is from 1992 an

460
00:22:02,060 --> 00:21:59,310
australian chat show audience

461
00:22:04,400 --> 00:22:02,070
participation show called Couchman which

462
00:22:07,040 --> 00:22:04,410
was popular at the time where he would

463
00:22:10,250 --> 00:22:07,050

basically bring in two camps of opposing

464

00:22:11,570 --> 00:22:10,260

views and discuss the issue and the

465

00:22:13,670 --> 00:22:11,580

topic of one of those episodes was

466

00:22:15,500 --> 00:22:13,680

astrology I thought I'd play you're

467

00:22:17,510 --> 00:22:15,510

shocked that the voices you will hear

468

00:22:21,590 --> 00:22:17,520

are in Bryce from the Australian

469

00:22:23,540 --> 00:22:21,600

skeptics astrologer ray Webb and I can't

470

00:22:25,970 --> 00:22:23,550

see anything recently on ray Webb

471

00:22:28,700 --> 00:22:25,980

although this was a very long time ago

472

00:22:31,250 --> 00:22:28,710

and the late great Barry Williams from

473

00:22:32,780 --> 00:22:31,260

the Australian skeptics as well let's

474

00:22:35,240 --> 00:22:32,790

get down to tin tacks here because

475

00:22:36,530 --> 00:22:35,250

there's this one very basic question

476

00:22:38,419 --> 00:22:36,540

that I'd really like to hear your

477

00:22:40,580 --> 00:22:38,429

discuss and that is why should the

478

00:22:43,070 --> 00:22:40,590

position of the planets have any

479

00:22:44,990 --> 00:22:43,080

influence on how we turned out to be on

480

00:22:47,570 --> 00:22:45,000

our personalities on our characters even

481

00:22:49,730 --> 00:22:47,580

the choice of occupation that we might

482

00:22:52,010 --> 00:22:49,740

make what might happen in our lives why

483

00:22:55,039 --> 00:22:52,020

should that be can anyone explain that

484

00:23:01,310 --> 00:22:55,049

for me in 10 can anyone explain that for

485

00:23:03,830 --> 00:23:01,320

me in 10 seconds the answer to that's

486

00:23:05,419 --> 00:23:03,840

very simple Peter the forces that govern

487

00:23:07,880 --> 00:23:05,429

the universe are quite well known and

488

00:23:09,890 --> 00:23:07,890

they have been for about half a century

489

00:23:12,020 --> 00:23:09,900

and they the forces do not account for

490

00:23:14,270 --> 00:23:12,030

any of those interactions the planets do

491

00:23:18,970 --> 00:23:14,280

not affect our personalities and the

492

00:23:23,960 --> 00:23:21,680

well right can you can you explain for

493

00:23:25,370 --> 00:23:23,970

it simply how the position of the

494

00:23:27,500 --> 00:23:25,380

planets at the time of our birth might

495

00:23:30,140 --> 00:23:27,510

in any way affect what sort of people we

496

00:23:31,789 --> 00:23:30,150

are well Peter I think that first of all

497

00:23:33,130 --> 00:23:31,799

the purpose of astrology is not to

498

00:23:39,650 --> 00:23:33,140

foretell the future

499

00:23:41,180 --> 00:23:39,660

no to do what you people keep blaming we

500

00:23:43,580 --> 00:23:41,190

don't we don't just listen to an

501
00:23:45,020 --> 00:23:43,590
astrologer for 30 sec yeah okay just

502
00:23:46,970 --> 00:23:45,030
explain for us why the position of the

503
00:23:49,460 --> 00:23:46,980
planets should in any way influence our

504
00:23:51,530 --> 00:23:49,470
personalities the position of the

505
00:23:54,710 --> 00:23:51,540
planets when they're talking about the

506
00:23:57,799 --> 00:23:54,720
the solar system the most important

507
00:24:01,400 --> 00:23:57,809
thing in the solar system is the Sun you

508
00:24:05,960 --> 00:24:01,410
switch off that Sun you've got a heap of

509
00:24:10,159 --> 00:24:05,970
rocks having said that there are four

510
00:24:12,510 --> 00:24:10,169
major seasons summer autumn winter

511
00:24:19,410 --> 00:24:12,520
spring

512
00:24:24,540 --> 00:24:19,420
will not grow in the summer I won't for

513
00:24:26,310 --> 00:24:24,550

you it goes well well no I think I think

514

00:24:28,380 --> 00:24:26,320

I think it is accepted by certainly

515

00:24:30,960 --> 00:24:28,390

people who were who grow things all you

516

00:24:34,740 --> 00:24:30,970

have landed are influenced by the moon

517

00:24:37,049 --> 00:24:34,750

just a little further we are part of all

518

00:24:42,650 --> 00:24:37,059

we have met Arthur Bowman will tell you

519

00:24:46,230 --> 00:24:42,660

that every time in the universe is

520

00:24:48,510 --> 00:24:46,240

putting its tent impeccably and forever

521

00:24:51,650 --> 00:24:48,520

on every part of that universe that

522

00:24:54,980 --> 00:24:51,660

started at that moment including pizza a

523

00:24:57,990 --> 00:24:54,990

winter child is like a winter flower a

524

00:25:00,750 --> 00:24:58,000

summer child is like a summer flower we

525

00:25:02,760 --> 00:25:00,760

are different I take a step I'm

526

00:25:04,320 --> 00:25:02,770

different to the person who has one step

527

00:25:06,810 --> 00:25:04,330

behind me and different again to the

528

00:25:09,900 --> 00:25:06,820

person on either side of me the faith

529

00:25:13,280 --> 00:25:09,910

that makes astrology work best is free

530

00:25:15,830 --> 00:25:13,290

will free will because you can have

531

00:25:18,750 --> 00:25:15,840

50,000 people born at the same instant

532

00:25:22,430 --> 00:25:18,760

under the same planetary influences and

533

00:25:26,030 --> 00:25:22,440

they exercise engaño

534

00:25:28,650 --> 00:25:26,040

make fifty thousand individual different

535

00:25:31,590 --> 00:25:28,660

decisions and each one of them can be

536

00:25:33,299 --> 00:25:31,600

right for you yes but hold on a minute

537

00:25:36,110 --> 00:25:33,309

does that mean that all those people who

538

00:25:39,030 --> 00:25:36,120

were born at the same minute that I was

539

00:25:41,160 --> 00:25:39,040

also all those things that I am you know

540

00:25:44,340 --> 00:25:41,170

on the bad days malicious pessimistic

541

00:25:46,620 --> 00:25:44,350

and selfish way well it's your call

542

00:25:48,090 --> 00:25:46,630

twins like a person born on the in the

543

00:25:49,860 --> 00:25:48,100

same hospital around about the same time

544

00:25:52,560 --> 00:25:49,870

as you would have a similar experience

545

00:25:54,630 --> 00:25:52,570

or life pattern but did that mean by by

546

00:25:55,700 --> 00:25:54,640

by that definition the greys just given

547

00:25:59,220 --> 00:25:55,710

us we should be almost identical

548

00:26:01,799 --> 00:25:59,230

personalities because we're taking into

549

00:26:04,620 --> 00:26:01,809

account the genetic processes that

550

00:26:07,200 --> 00:26:04,630

arrive from the two family lines that a

551
00:26:08,640 --> 00:26:07,210
conception then meet and that individual

552
00:26:10,680 --> 00:26:08,650
is obviously going to display all of

553
00:26:12,750 --> 00:26:10,690
those genetic processes and is the

554
00:26:14,790 --> 00:26:12,760
environmental influences acting on those

555
00:26:17,880 --> 00:26:14,800
genetic processes which is going to make

556
00:26:19,380 --> 00:26:17,890
that person what they are saying is

557
00:26:22,540 --> 00:26:19,390
cop-out from what they're claiming I

558
00:26:33,200 --> 00:26:24,860
can't the skeptics have a sale aren't we

559
00:26:36,230 --> 00:26:33,210
alone isn't denying the whole basis of

560
00:26:37,580 --> 00:26:36,240
your line of rubbish about okay wait a

561
00:26:43,550 --> 00:26:37,590
minute go down here Barry Maggie was

562
00:26:53,510 --> 00:26:43,560
denying all these influences like that

563
00:26:55,220 --> 00:26:53,520

all right I can fall over Barry what are

564

00:26:57,140 --> 00:26:55,230

you going to say look the point is I

565

00:26:58,850 --> 00:26:57,150

make a statement about this influence

566

00:27:00,260 --> 00:26:58,860

they have and then the for the rest of

567

00:27:02,300 --> 00:27:00,270

the five minutes they've been talking

568

00:27:03,860 --> 00:27:02,310

I've been giving you the apps from it so

569

00:27:05,360 --> 00:27:03,870

that when it doesn't work for you well

570

00:27:06,380 --> 00:27:05,370

it might be a genetic influence or it

571

00:27:08,990 --> 00:27:06,390

might be a free will or it might be

572

00:27:11,120 --> 00:27:09,000

anything else I mean yes I'm in great

573

00:27:13,370 --> 00:27:11,130

agreeing with you about three well why

574

00:27:16,790 --> 00:27:13,380

do you have to then overlay your free

575

00:27:18,200 --> 00:27:16,800

will with this absolute crime hold on

576

00:27:19,520 --> 00:27:18,210

hold on a thing I'll break this off you

577

00:27:22,130 --> 00:27:19,530

know I've got to break this up here hold

578

00:27:25,400 --> 00:27:22,140

on just at the beginning now I think

579

00:27:26,720 --> 00:27:25,410

Barry may have been a little a little

580

00:27:29,300 --> 00:27:26,730

their fourth right there and his

581

00:27:30,980 --> 00:27:29,310

opinions but it was interesting to try

582

00:27:35,360 --> 00:27:30,990

and make sense out of the convoluted

583

00:27:37,100 --> 00:27:35,370

logic of the astrologer now it seems to

584

00:27:38,660 --> 00:27:37,110

me that many people still enjoy reading

585

00:27:40,340 --> 00:27:38,670

their horoscopes in the newspapers every

586

00:27:43,250 --> 00:27:40,350

day or their favorite magazine and

587

00:27:45,770 --> 00:27:43,260

that's all very very much

588

00:27:47,860 --> 00:27:45,780

silly fun and I don't I don't

589

00:27:51,770 --> 00:27:47,870

particularly think that's of any

590

00:27:53,780 --> 00:27:51,780

detriment but there are again many

591

00:27:55,610 --> 00:27:53,790

people who take it very seriously who

592

00:27:58,250 --> 00:27:55,620

spend a lot of money seeing astrologers

593

00:28:00,220 --> 00:27:58,260

and take advice based on the mystical

594

00:28:09,850 --> 00:28:00,230

movements of the stars

595

00:28:13,190 --> 00:28:09,860

[Music]

596

00:28:15,560 --> 00:28:13,200

allora ciao mi chiamo profesora de vo

597

00:28:19,550 --> 00:28:15,570

tuvalu incendiary - teleca's solutions

598

00:28:23,890 --> 00:28:19,560

para la moda physica de chemica Volodya

599

00:28:27,200 --> 00:28:23,900

astronomia Mathematica atonte ultra cosy

600

00:28:29,060 --> 00:28:27,210

guarda missile youtube arrivederci

601
00:28:30,770 --> 00:28:29,070
hey everyone this is Professor Dave I

602
00:28:32,510 --> 00:28:30,780
want to teach you about all kinds of

603
00:28:34,460 --> 00:28:32,520
things regarding science I want to tell

604
00:28:37,850 --> 00:28:34,470
you about physics I want to tell you

605
00:28:40,580 --> 00:28:37,860
about chemistry biology astronomy math

606
00:28:42,260 --> 00:28:40,590
and many many more things come check me

607
00:28:48,220 --> 00:28:42,270
out on youtube the channel is called

608
00:28:48,230 --> 00:28:53,160
[Applause]

609
00:28:53,170 --> 00:29:01,450
[Music]

610
00:29:05,360 --> 00:29:03,380
well it might be skeptics in the pub

611
00:29:07,669 --> 00:29:05,370
here in Sydney first Thursday of the

612
00:29:09,919 --> 00:29:07,679
month of the Occidental hotel but I'm

613
00:29:11,330 --> 00:29:09,929

with Jessica Singh a longtime committee

614

00:29:12,980 --> 00:29:11,340

member of the Australian skeptics here

615

00:29:16,520 --> 00:29:12,990

in New South Wales you've recently come

616

00:29:20,180 --> 00:29:16,530

back from a trip to the UK that's right

617

00:29:23,630 --> 00:29:20,190

I was in London and unfortunately it

618

00:29:26,210 --> 00:29:23,640

meant that I had to miss the last Sydney

619

00:29:28,130 --> 00:29:26,220

skeptics in the pub I did mean that I

620

00:29:30,710 --> 00:29:28,140

could go to the London skeptics in the

621

00:29:33,799 --> 00:29:30,720

pub now this is one of the oldest oi I

622

00:29:36,020 --> 00:29:33,809

think the oldest skeptics in the pub it

623

00:29:37,940 --> 00:29:36,030

was the whole idea was started by an

624

00:29:40,280 --> 00:29:37,950

Australian wasn't it an Australian dr.

625

00:29:42,640 --> 00:29:40,290

Scott Campbell who used to be on the

626

00:29:45,230 --> 00:29:42,650

Australian skeptics Inc committee and

627

00:29:48,260 --> 00:29:45,240

for professional reasons moved to the UK

628

00:29:50,870 --> 00:29:48,270

and started skeptics in the pub over

629

00:29:53,590 --> 00:29:50,880

there I think inspired by the politics

630

00:29:58,039 --> 00:29:53,600

and the pub and science in the pub model

631

00:30:01,370 --> 00:29:58,049

so yeah he's the founder that's great

632

00:30:03,020 --> 00:30:01,380

and I one day will will remember exactly

633

00:30:06,289 --> 00:30:03,030

what year it started here in Sydney I'm

634

00:30:08,750 --> 00:30:06,299

I think it was around 2003 but somebody

635

00:30:10,669 --> 00:30:08,760

somebody somebody he'll know but anyway

636

00:30:12,890 --> 00:30:10,679

so tonight we had a great night so you

637

00:30:14,450 --> 00:30:12,900

come along people we did we had a great

638

00:30:16,460 --> 00:30:14,460

night we had a really good night where

639

00:30:18,200 --> 00:30:16,470

people come along they just order a beer

640

00:30:21,110 --> 00:30:18,210

a drink of their choice have a bit of

641

00:30:23,659 --> 00:30:21,120

dinner chat and then we have a speaker

642

00:30:26,210 --> 00:30:23,669

every month on varying scientists

643

00:30:28,370 --> 00:30:26,220

science topics tonight was all about rip

644

00:30:32,090 --> 00:30:28,380

currents at the beach that's right and

645

00:30:37,100 --> 00:30:32,100

the speaker was dr. Robert Brenda from

646

00:30:39,830 --> 00:30:37,110

UNSW and he researches rip currents it

647

00:30:43,930 --> 00:30:39,840

was his the subject of his PhD and he's

648

00:30:48,289 --> 00:30:43,940

done a lot of work come to overturn the

649

00:30:50,990 --> 00:30:48,299

accepted knowledge on models of rip

650

00:30:53,480 --> 00:30:51,000

currents and apparently they're far more

651
00:30:55,340 --> 00:30:53,490
complex yes and variable than people

652
00:30:57,710 --> 00:30:55,350
believe it was it was enlightening

653
00:31:00,110 --> 00:30:57,720
tonight and it was enjoyable he was a

654
00:31:01,730 --> 00:31:00,120
great speaker so folks it's that's if

655
00:31:05,450 --> 00:31:01,740
you ever have a chance to see him talk

656
00:31:07,010 --> 00:31:05,460
yes and he does community talks

657
00:31:08,700 --> 00:31:07,020
particularly in the summer he goes up

658
00:31:10,860 --> 00:31:08,710
and down the coast and speaks it's a

659
00:31:12,810 --> 00:31:10,870
clubs talking about science of the surf

660
00:31:14,639 --> 00:31:12,820
teaching people about rips and beach

661
00:31:15,960 --> 00:31:14,649
safety and how to spot a rip it's all

662
00:31:18,600 --> 00:31:15,970
about science and gets back to the

663
00:31:20,070 --> 00:31:18,610

science anyway so you're very familiar

664

00:31:22,500 --> 00:31:20,080

skeptic and I'm here in Sydney you've

665

00:31:24,930 --> 00:31:22,510

been many yes and I've been coming for a

666

00:31:28,260 --> 00:31:24,940

while and it's my job to organize the

667

00:31:30,990 --> 00:31:28,270

bigger each month so yeah so it was

668

00:31:33,060 --> 00:31:31,000

actually really refreshing to be able to

669

00:31:35,730 --> 00:31:33,070

go to a skeptics in the pub and not have

670

00:31:38,159 --> 00:31:35,740

to worry about it right do anything just

671

00:31:42,740 --> 00:31:38,169

turn up it was fabulous and where was

672

00:31:46,289 --> 00:31:42,750

the venue it is at the monarch hotel in

673

00:31:48,659 --> 00:31:46,299

or the monarch pub in Camden Town mm-hm

674

00:31:53,700 --> 00:31:48,669

so it's near Camden Market which is

675

00:31:57,240 --> 00:31:53,710

great and it's a rock and roll pub so it

676
00:32:01,110 --> 00:31:57,250
has a sound system so chatting to the

677
00:32:03,720 --> 00:32:01,120
organizer said Rodriguez who's Ben yes

678
00:32:05,310 --> 00:32:03,730
did old friend who's been involved in

679
00:32:08,519 --> 00:32:05,320
skeptics for years and years and years

680
00:32:11,639 --> 00:32:08,529
it was interesting that they have

681
00:32:13,980 --> 00:32:11,649
exactly the same issues that we have in

682
00:32:16,409 --> 00:32:13,990
terms of a venue finding a venue that

683
00:32:19,289 --> 00:32:16,419
will have you that serves good food that

684
00:32:22,260 --> 00:32:19,299
has a sound system so you don't have to

685
00:32:24,060 --> 00:32:22,270
bring your own sound system so when you

686
00:32:27,510 --> 00:32:24,070
Richard started skeptics in the pub in

687
00:32:31,049 --> 00:32:27,520
2003 and then it got bigger and bigger

688
00:32:36,060 --> 00:32:31,059

and bigger so so we had a decided to

689

00:32:37,409 --> 00:32:36,070

have a monthly speaker you we had a pub

690

00:32:39,600 --> 00:32:37,419

which didn't have a sound system so

691

00:32:43,110 --> 00:32:39,610

through we had to bring in our own sound

692

00:32:47,639 --> 00:32:43,120

system and then we've moved venues a

693

00:32:51,090 --> 00:32:47,649

couple of times mainly or not mainly but

694

00:32:52,350 --> 00:32:51,100

a major reason was to find a venue with

695

00:32:54,690 --> 00:32:52,360

the sound system and that's how we've

696

00:32:56,399 --> 00:32:54,700

ended up at the Oriental because not

697

00:33:00,630 --> 00:32:56,409

only do they have a sound system they

698

00:33:03,810 --> 00:33:00,640

have a projector they have a screen so

699

00:33:05,900 --> 00:33:03,820

they're really really well set up for us

700

00:33:07,280 --> 00:33:05,910

to have an event

701
00:33:09,770 --> 00:33:07,290

[Applause]

702
00:33:11,180 --> 00:33:09,780
with a speaker and a presentation there

703
00:33:12,740 --> 00:33:11,190
are a number of things that you must

704
00:33:14,270 --> 00:33:12,750
check off folks if you're considering

705
00:33:16,850 --> 00:33:14,280
doing your skeptics in the pub in your

706
00:33:20,420 --> 00:33:16,860
area there's a check I guess there is a

707
00:33:21,980 --> 00:33:20,430
check list it has to be accessible if

708
00:33:24,670 --> 00:33:21,990
you're in a city near public transports

709
00:33:28,730 --> 00:33:24,680
the idea a room where you can have

710
00:33:30,620 --> 00:33:28,740
privacy Oh exclusive use is really

711
00:33:33,890 --> 00:33:30,630
important that's what we've found over

712
00:33:35,630 --> 00:33:33,900
the years because we've been in venues

713
00:33:38,240 --> 00:33:35,640

where we didn't have exclusive use and

714

00:33:41,390 --> 00:33:38,250

then the sound system broke down and it

715

00:33:43,190 --> 00:33:41,400

was horrendous in fact we had two on one

716

00:33:47,480 --> 00:33:43,200

awful occasion had to tell the speaker

717

00:33:49,340 --> 00:33:47,490

look just stop no you know any Hugh and

718

00:33:53,030 --> 00:33:49,350

another time we did have the sound

719

00:33:56,240 --> 00:33:53,040

system and in Bryce committee member and

720

00:33:59,240 --> 00:33:56,250

our resident rocket scientist who was

721

00:34:01,970 --> 00:33:59,250

giving a very detailed and interesting

722

00:34:03,830 --> 00:34:01,980

presentation was that one about gravity

723

00:34:05,690 --> 00:34:03,840

waves it might have been sounds really

724

00:34:07,400 --> 00:34:05,700

there's something like that anyway down

725

00:34:11,990 --> 00:34:07,410

the other end of the room there was a

726

00:34:14,600 --> 00:34:12,000

very raucous birthday party going on and

727

00:34:17,840 --> 00:34:14,610

I think I think it was that that made us

728

00:34:19,460 --> 00:34:17,850

decide we have to find a new venue where

729

00:34:21,409 --> 00:34:19,470

we have exclusive use and a sound system

730

00:34:23,600 --> 00:34:21,419

that's right it's just common courtesy

731

00:34:25,669 --> 00:34:23,610

to the speaker so they're not fighting

732

00:34:28,040 --> 00:34:25,679

with other noise or distractions in the

733

00:34:29,780 --> 00:34:28,050

room and everybody can give their full

734

00:34:31,820 --> 00:34:29,790

attention so that's what we've we have

735

00:34:34,629 --> 00:34:31,830

at the moment which is fantastic be

736

00:34:39,010 --> 00:34:34,639

getting back to London getting ready

737

00:34:43,780 --> 00:34:39,020

it's so well we just talk about us

738

00:34:46,399 --> 00:34:43,790

we do Lana was really good it was some

739

00:34:48,680 --> 00:34:46,409

different of course but the same and

740

00:34:52,310 --> 00:34:48,690

that was that was nice to be able to

741

00:34:54,889 --> 00:34:52,320

walk into a room full of strangers but

742

00:34:56,899 --> 00:34:54,899

to know that we all had something in

743

00:34:59,780 --> 00:34:56,909

common which was skepticism and science

744

00:35:02,210 --> 00:34:59,790

and science communication and just be

745

00:35:04,370 --> 00:35:02,220

able to bowl up and have a meal and chat

746

00:35:06,770 --> 00:35:04,380

with people so it was you'd have a drink

747

00:35:08,660 --> 00:35:06,780

a meal just like here just like here

748

00:35:10,490 --> 00:35:08,670

interesting yeah and it's so important

749

00:35:13,330 --> 00:35:10,500

it helps the social atmosphere doesn't

750

00:35:18,220 --> 00:35:13,340

it it does it does and I met um me

751

00:35:23,890 --> 00:35:18,230

quite a few people and from America from

752

00:35:26,800 --> 00:35:23,900

from Europe from the UK someone from the

753

00:35:29,110 --> 00:35:26,810

UK who lived in America now but happened

754

00:35:32,770 --> 00:35:29,120

it happens to happen happen to be back

755

00:35:34,990 --> 00:35:32,780

in London yeah we've had people coming

756

00:35:36,700 --> 00:35:35,000

through town from Hong Kong or New

757

00:35:39,520 --> 00:35:36,710

Zealand they find out about it and

758

00:35:44,050 --> 00:35:39,530

they're here for a week and luckily for

759

00:35:45,760 --> 00:35:44,060

them it coincides with with the skeptics

760

00:35:47,590 --> 00:35:45,770

in the pub so they can come along yeah

761

00:35:50,050 --> 00:35:47,600

you look quite a few people have come

762

00:35:52,060 --> 00:35:50,060

along that way you know is it a monthly

763

00:35:54,970 --> 00:35:52,070

event in there in London it's a monthly

764

00:35:58,270 --> 00:35:54,980

event and they like us have a meetup

765

00:36:01,420 --> 00:35:58,280

group so you can sign up to the meetup

766

00:36:05,190 --> 00:36:01,430

group and you get a very nice welcome

767

00:36:08,290 --> 00:36:05,200

message from I think it's carmina

768

00:36:12,490 --> 00:36:08,300

welcoming you to the group and saying I

769

00:36:15,760 --> 00:36:12,500

hope you come along and so just like the

770

00:36:18,790 --> 00:36:15,770

Sydney skeptics meetup group you get a

771

00:36:20,920 --> 00:36:18,800

little email in your mmm inbox when they

772

00:36:24,250 --> 00:36:20,930

announce a function and then you get

773

00:36:26,620 --> 00:36:24,260

reminders yeah there you are folks it's

774

00:36:28,600 --> 00:36:26,630

all a good idea we've had many happy

775

00:36:30,760 --> 00:36:28,610

years of skeptics in the pub in Sydney

776

00:36:33,580 --> 00:36:30,770

many speakers on all sorts of topics

777

00:36:35,380 --> 00:36:33,590

it's it's not it doesn't run itself you

778

00:36:37,000 --> 00:36:35,390

have to organise it you have to put in

779

00:36:39,520 --> 00:36:37,010

some footwork and you certainly do that

780

00:36:43,480 --> 00:36:39,530

yes and I was chatting with Sid about

781

00:36:45,820 --> 00:36:43,490

that and I'm quite envious of the UK

782

00:36:48,120 --> 00:36:45,830

because of course with the larger

783

00:36:51,400 --> 00:36:48,130

population they have a larger pool of

784

00:36:54,790 --> 00:36:51,410

potential speakers to draw upon and they

785

00:36:57,990 --> 00:36:54,800

also have a really good network via

786

00:37:02,680 --> 00:36:58,000

Facebook of skeptics in the pub

787

00:37:05,110 --> 00:37:02,690

organisers to trade ideas and ask for

788

00:37:07,510 --> 00:37:05,120

ideas as to speakers and because the

789

00:37:12,450 --> 00:37:07,520

distances are relatively short compared

790

00:37:15,220 --> 00:37:12,460

with Australia they can they can really

791

00:37:17,650 --> 00:37:15,230

leverage the groups can really leverage

792

00:37:20,140 --> 00:37:17,660

off each other when it comes to finding

793

00:37:23,080 --> 00:37:20,150

speakers and getting getting speakers to

794

00:37:25,330 --> 00:37:23,090

the different groups whereas here I

795

00:37:26,320 --> 00:37:25,340

suppose that's closest group is Canberra

796

00:37:28,660 --> 00:37:26,330

there

797

00:37:30,430 --> 00:37:28,670

not too far away it's not too far away

798

00:37:34,690 --> 00:37:30,440

it's not exactly close not exactly close

799

00:37:36,640 --> 00:37:34,700

but Brisbane and Melbourne are the next

800

00:37:39,160 --> 00:37:36,650

closest I think another tip I would give

801
00:37:40,840 --> 00:37:39,170
anybody considering it is don't don't

802
00:37:43,960 --> 00:37:40,850
think you have to have a talk every

803
00:37:46,540 --> 00:37:43,970
month on skepticism absolutely not

804
00:37:50,110 --> 00:37:46,550
oh no and in fact the the speaker at

805
00:37:55,740 --> 00:37:50,120
London skeptics in the pub was a guy

806
00:37:59,290 --> 00:37:55,750
called Alex Clegg and he's the I think

807
00:38:02,440 --> 00:37:59,300
projects and communications officer from

808
00:38:04,540 --> 00:38:02,450
sense about science oh yeah now sense

809
00:38:07,480 --> 00:38:04,550
about science that's the UK charity

810
00:38:11,590 --> 00:38:07,490
which was founded in 2002 to promote the

811
00:38:14,500 --> 00:38:11,600
public understanding of science and Alex

812
00:38:18,850 --> 00:38:14,510
was talking about their latest public

813
00:38:21,490 --> 00:38:18,860

campaign which is a an online tool to

814

00:38:24,010 --> 00:38:21,500

encourage and assist people to request

815

00:38:26,410 --> 00:38:24,020

evidence for any claims they encounter

816

00:38:28,840 --> 00:38:26,420

so if you read an article or you hear

817

00:38:31,870 --> 00:38:28,850

something on the radio or you meet

818

00:38:35,320 --> 00:38:31,880

someone and they have a claim like this

819

00:38:38,770 --> 00:38:35,330

cures cancer hmm you can then use the

820

00:38:41,620 --> 00:38:38,780

sense about science online tool to send

821

00:38:44,590 --> 00:38:41,630

a query what's the evidence please give

822

00:38:46,060 --> 00:38:44,600

us your evidence so um that was a really

823

00:38:49,030 --> 00:38:46,070

interesting talk and it sounds like a

824

00:38:51,490 --> 00:38:49,040

great tool so there'd be no it's a great

825

00:38:53,110 --> 00:38:51,500

example and if in fact if you had a

826
00:38:54,730 --> 00:38:53,120
sceptical topic every month I think

827
00:38:56,620 --> 00:38:54,740
people and you'd run out of topics I

828
00:38:58,420 --> 00:38:56,630
guess I don't get a bit sick of it but

829
00:39:00,370 --> 00:38:58,430
people love to hear about frogs and rip

830
00:39:03,010 --> 00:39:00,380
currents and all sorts of other science

831
00:39:05,050 --> 00:39:03,020
space space whenever we have a Spacey

832
00:39:07,300 --> 00:39:05,060
topic or an astronomy topic that's

833
00:39:08,800 --> 00:39:07,310
always really popular yeah well thanks

834
00:39:10,660 --> 00:39:08,810
for Jessica for chatting to us about

835
00:39:13,030 --> 00:39:10,670
your experience with skeptics in the pub

836
00:39:15,370 --> 00:39:13,040
in London and I know it there are

837
00:39:17,650 --> 00:39:15,380
skeptics in the pub or there is a pub

838
00:39:19,390 --> 00:39:17,660

all around the world if there's not one

839

00:39:24,110 --> 00:39:19,400

in your local area it might be worth

840

00:39:24,120 --> 00:39:41,080

[Music]

841

00:39:53,390 --> 00:39:49,070

saikhan 2019 people are finally starting

842

00:39:56,660 --> 00:39:53,400

to wake up and eve axes denounced as a

843

00:40:01,060 --> 00:39:56,670

danger to public health climate science

844

00:40:04,190 --> 00:40:01,070

deniers exposed is ideological zealots

845

00:40:04,970 --> 00:40:04,200

celebrity psychics have been caught

846

00:40:10,250 --> 00:40:04,980

red-handed

847

00:40:12,550 --> 00:40:10,260

using trickery flat earthers seriously

848

00:40:16,040 --> 00:40:12,560

[Music]

849

00:40:18,440 --> 00:40:16,050

skeptics must seize this moment as Miss

850

00:40:21,170 --> 00:40:18,450

information is colliding with reality in

851

00:40:23,180 --> 00:40:21,180

plain sight now is the time for the

852

00:40:25,430 --> 00:40:23,190

brightest minds in science and reason to

853

00:40:28,120 --> 00:40:25,440

come together to turn the tide against

854

00:40:31,790 --> 00:40:28,130

pseudoscience conspiracy theories and

855

00:40:34,400 --> 00:40:31,800

alternative facts and naturally we

856

00:40:36,280 --> 00:40:34,410

should do it in Las Vegas it's more fun

857

00:40:40,880 --> 00:40:36,290

that way

858

00:40:43,760 --> 00:40:40,890

now is the time for saikhan 2019 October

859

00:40:49,160 --> 00:40:43,770

the 16th to the 20th at the Flamingo

860

00:40:51,589 --> 00:40:49,170

resort in Las Vegas the incredible

861

00:40:54,339 --> 00:40:51,599

lineup of speakers includes actor John

862

00:40:57,650 --> 00:40:54,349

de Lancie of Star Trek and Breaking Bad

863

00:40:58,280 --> 00:40:57,660

Julia Sweeney of SNL and letting go of

864

00:41:01,540 --> 00:40:58,290

God

865

00:41:03,859 --> 00:41:01,550

string theory Pioneer Brian Greene

866

00:41:07,970 --> 00:41:03,869

evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins

867

00:41:11,450 --> 00:41:07,980

ex naturopath Britt Marie Hermes Gweneth

868

00:41:14,260 --> 00:41:11,460

Paltrow zwarst nightmare dr. Jen Gunter

869

00:41:16,970 --> 00:41:14,270

climate expert Michael Mann

870

00:41:20,180 --> 00:41:16,980

entertainment from illusionist Banacek

871

00:41:23,330 --> 00:41:20,190

comedian Leeanne Lord and we even have a

872

00:41:26,060 --> 00:41:23,340

dragon plus hands-on workshops with the

873

00:41:28,190 --> 00:41:26,070

skeptics toolbox for for book signings a

874

00:41:31,970 --> 00:41:28,200

fresh round of Sunday papers

875

00:41:35,390 --> 00:41:31,980

presentations and even a 1950s themed

876
00:41:36,410 --> 00:41:35,400
party register now October will be here

877
00:41:41,870 --> 00:41:36,420
before you know it

878
00:41:45,079 --> 00:41:41,880
so let's seize this moment that's icon

879
00:41:48,370 --> 00:41:45,089
2019 from October the 16th to the 20th

880
00:41:52,010 --> 00:41:48,380
at the Flamingo resort in Las Vegas

881
00:41:56,680 --> 00:41:52,020
register at SCI conference dot org

882
00:42:00,280 --> 00:41:56,690
that's CSI conference dot org

883
00:42:12,059 --> 00:42:00,290
it's your best bet in Las Vegas

884
00:42:20,340 --> 00:42:16,990
here's may not spooky action at a

885
00:42:25,270 --> 00:42:23,410
I'm just sitting next to a Tim Mendham

886
00:42:28,420 --> 00:42:25,280
which is the he's at the pointy end of

887
00:42:30,460 --> 00:42:28,430
the \$100,000 challenge here and look

888
00:42:32,380 --> 00:42:30,470

Saunders causes a trouble maker has

889

00:42:33,790 --> 00:42:32,390

asked me to ask people do you think they

890

00:42:35,050 --> 00:42:33,800

should just give this whole thing away

891

00:42:36,280 --> 00:42:35,060

do you think the challenge should be

892

00:42:39,460 --> 00:42:36,290

given away because you're the guy who

893

00:42:40,870 --> 00:42:39,470

takes the phone calls no I mean the

894

00:42:42,130 --> 00:42:40,880

money given away or the whole concept of

895

00:42:44,650 --> 00:42:42,140

the challenge yeah the whole concept the

896

00:42:47,230 --> 00:42:44,660

chart I get I get messages at least once

897

00:42:50,200 --> 00:42:47,240

a week from someone somewhere who's

898

00:42:52,450 --> 00:42:50,210

applying for the challenge so people are

899

00:42:54,600 --> 00:42:52,460

very very keen on it actually once they

900

00:42:58,180 --> 00:42:54,610

find out they actually have to do a test

901
00:43:01,870 --> 00:42:58,190
rather just oh yeah I say I can fly oh

902
00:43:04,900 --> 00:43:01,880
here's the money right 90% of them drop

903
00:43:06,520 --> 00:43:04,910
there and that's stage okay what they

904
00:43:09,940 --> 00:43:06,530
think they can just go I can fly and

905
00:43:11,470 --> 00:43:09,950
here's your cash I've had people do

906
00:43:13,780 --> 00:43:11,480
exactly that actually I've also people

907
00:43:15,460 --> 00:43:13,790
get very aggressive when I say no you

908
00:43:17,380 --> 00:43:15,470
can't get the money until you get proven

909
00:43:20,140 --> 00:43:17,390
is if I made the money now I can someone

910
00:43:21,340 --> 00:43:20,150
be really really nasty to me and I think

911
00:43:23,170 --> 00:43:21,350
well there's no chance you're gonna get

912
00:43:24,490 --> 00:43:23,180
the money mate what's the weirdest one

913
00:43:26,940 --> 00:43:24,500

you've had what's the weirdest claim

914

00:43:29,730 --> 00:43:26,950

you've had that's never gone any further

915

00:43:32,710 --> 00:43:29,740

we disclaimer there's a lot of them

916

00:43:36,460 --> 00:43:32,720

there was a fellow who was covered in

917

00:43:36,940 --> 00:43:36,470

UFO dust I'm sorry he's covered in UFO

918

00:43:39,550 --> 00:43:36,950

dust

919

00:43:42,160 --> 00:43:39,560

yeah he was first of all he was first of

920

00:43:44,650 --> 00:43:42,170

all claiming that he could see dark

921

00:43:47,920 --> 00:43:44,660

matter which was basically the shadows

922

00:43:49,840 --> 00:43:47,930

of contrails on clouds and that was

923

00:43:53,080 --> 00:43:49,850

darkness it runs parallel with the plane

924

00:43:54,370 --> 00:43:53,090

I said yeah it's a shadow right and then

925

00:43:58,030 --> 00:43:54,380

he came down with something else he said

926
00:44:00,310 --> 00:43:58,040
I filmed UFOs he sent me videos which I

927
00:44:02,320 --> 00:44:00,320
then had to follow through ever trying

928
00:44:04,420 --> 00:44:02,330
to a frame by frame of a video online

929
00:44:06,160 --> 00:44:04,430
it's a bit difficult right because he

930
00:44:07,870 --> 00:44:06,170
have a third press here pause button all

931
00:44:10,920 --> 00:44:07,880
the time and I finally found what he was

932
00:44:13,630 --> 00:44:10,930
talking about it was a spot on one frame

933
00:44:16,870 --> 00:44:13,640
how good are you at being polite

934
00:44:19,180 --> 00:44:16,880
so go ring-ring ring-ring I'm very

935
00:44:22,240 --> 00:44:19,190
polite okay I've got a claim that's

936
00:44:24,730 --> 00:44:22,250
amazing thank you what is your claim I

937
00:44:28,570 --> 00:44:24,740
believe that I look good in this suit

938
00:44:30,370 --> 00:44:28,580

you're an idiot aren't you is that

939

00:44:31,690 --> 00:44:30,380

require extraordinary evidence or not I

940

00:44:34,120 --> 00:44:31,700

think so if you have photographic

941

00:44:35,740 --> 00:44:34,130

evidence of this yes it's not good but

942

00:44:36,850 --> 00:44:35,750

okay well I'm afraid yeah I've looked at

943

00:44:38,890 --> 00:44:36,860

the photographs they're not very good

944

00:44:40,750 --> 00:44:38,900

quality they are a bit fuzzy and arrive

945

00:44:43,240 --> 00:44:40,760

and looks like something moving is that

946

00:44:46,360 --> 00:44:43,250

you and then you make a noise it sounds

947

00:44:47,740 --> 00:44:46,370

like boo and your hang-up I've been

948

00:44:49,330 --> 00:44:47,750

asking people tonight should this get

949

00:44:50,740 --> 00:44:49,340

big speed bother doing the hundred

950

00:44:52,150 --> 00:44:50,750

thousand dollar thing because it hasn't

951
00:44:54,850 --> 00:44:52,160
really gone off but what do you think

952
00:44:57,610 --> 00:44:54,860
well I like it when we have

953
00:45:01,900 --> 00:44:57,620
conversations with people who think that

954
00:45:04,300 --> 00:45:01,910
you know they can divine for water or or

955
00:45:06,760 --> 00:45:04,310
see ghosts so it's handy to be able to

956
00:45:07,930 --> 00:45:06,770
say well give the skipping it's a call

957
00:45:10,510 --> 00:45:07,940
they'll give you a hundred thousand

958
00:45:12,640 --> 00:45:10,520
bucks and they never do do they III

959
00:45:15,850 --> 00:45:12,650
don't know luckily I'm insulated from

960
00:45:17,200 --> 00:45:15,860
whether or not they do but I mean I

961
00:45:20,530 --> 00:45:17,210
guess I'm not doing any other work

962
00:45:23,710 --> 00:45:20,540
related to it I've been asking about the

963
00:45:26,050 --> 00:45:23,720

whole hundred thousand dollar thing and

964

00:45:27,150 --> 00:45:26,060

should it still keep going or do you

965

00:45:30,460 --> 00:45:27,160

think it's just a bit of a wacky

966

00:45:35,790 --> 00:45:30,470

hangover from back in the days so my

967

00:45:38,530 --> 00:45:35,800

opinions on this I think very strong I

968

00:45:41,340 --> 00:45:38,540

do have opinions and I like to share

969

00:45:43,650 --> 00:45:41,350

them often on this podcast

970

00:45:46,770 --> 00:45:43,660

so my opinion of the \$100,000 challenge

971

00:45:48,530 --> 00:45:46,780

is I think it's good a good marketing

972

00:45:51,330 --> 00:45:48,540

tool I think it's a good way of

973

00:45:54,090 --> 00:45:51,340

introducing ourselves to people that

974

00:45:55,350 --> 00:45:54,100

wouldn't otherwise be aware it's a good

975

00:45:56,850 --> 00:45:55,360

little marketing tool around the pub

976
00:45:58,740 --> 00:45:56,860
because obviously you know Richard

977
00:46:00,270 --> 00:45:58,750
distributes the little checks around the

978
00:46:02,820 --> 00:46:00,280
pub which is a good talking point with a

979
00:46:05,370 --> 00:46:02,830
lot of people my main issue with

980
00:46:06,990 --> 00:46:05,380
\$100,000 times is that I've noticed that

981
00:46:09,720 --> 00:46:07,000
in recent years especially a lot of the

982
00:46:10,940 --> 00:46:09,730
applicants you know - their challenge

983
00:46:13,350 --> 00:46:10,950
[Music]

984
00:46:15,000 --> 00:46:13,360
well shall we say they're not of the

985
00:46:17,820 --> 00:46:15,010
type of people that we'd really want to

986
00:46:19,500 --> 00:46:17,830
be making a funnel and that is

987
00:46:21,780 --> 00:46:19,510
essentially what we're doing in the

988
00:46:23,760 --> 00:46:21,790

challenge itself is it's a bit of which

989

00:46:25,590 --> 00:46:23,770

is kind of why we have to amend them on

990

00:46:29,160 --> 00:46:25,600

the phone and not you who should be

991

00:46:31,320 --> 00:46:29,170

going off shake up please I'm sorry go

992

00:46:32,610 --> 00:46:31,330

away yeah well I wouldn't say it to them

993

00:46:36,180 --> 00:46:32,620

no I'd like to think I'm a bit more

994

00:46:37,920 --> 00:46:36,190

tactful than that but but I do think

995

00:46:40,500 --> 00:46:37,930

that a lot of the times people that

996

00:46:43,260 --> 00:46:40,510

contact us claiming these powers are

997

00:46:45,570 --> 00:46:43,270

maybe themselves in need of some help

998

00:46:46,920 --> 00:46:45,580

and some attention I don't think that

999

00:46:49,800 --> 00:46:46,930

this is the kind of attention or help

1000

00:46:51,780 --> 00:46:49,810

that they actually do require fair

1001
00:46:54,150 --> 00:46:51,790
enough well I have a claim I claim that

1002
00:46:57,660 --> 00:46:54,160
in this suit and this shirt and this tie

1003
00:46:59,640 --> 00:46:57,670
I look as good as some mid-range 90s

1004
00:47:01,080 --> 00:46:59,650
band that was moderately successful in

1005
00:47:06,210 --> 00:47:01,090
the UK you could definitely be in

1006
00:47:10,040 --> 00:47:06,220
Kraftwerk look what do you think about

1007
00:47:13,620 --> 00:47:10,050
the \$100,000 challenge I think it's

1008
00:47:15,660 --> 00:47:13,630
great I hope someone wins at CERN Wow

1009
00:47:17,400 --> 00:47:15,670
it's been too long well I'm pretty close

1010
00:47:19,410 --> 00:47:17,410
with the suit I'm making a claim about

1011
00:47:22,420 --> 00:47:19,420
this suit it is it is quite

1012
00:47:25,450 --> 00:47:22,430
supernaturally appealing

1013
00:47:26,470 --> 00:47:25,460

okay but look we're talking about if

1014

00:47:29,500 --> 00:47:26,480

these skeptics have their hammer

1015

00:47:31,029 --> 00:47:29,510

\$100,000 thing that goes off should they

1016

00:47:32,289 --> 00:47:31,039

keep doing that or should they just give

1017

00:47:34,240 --> 00:47:32,299

it up as a bit of a joke and give it a

1018

00:47:39,730 --> 00:47:34,250

rest no they should keep doing that

1019

00:47:43,150 --> 00:47:39,740

because I feel like once it's kind of

1020

00:47:44,650 --> 00:47:43,160

quit then people have got they can they

1021

00:47:48,160 --> 00:47:44,660

can sit back and just make all sorts of

1022

00:47:50,529 --> 00:47:48,170

excuses as to why nobody got it without

1023

00:47:52,599 --> 00:47:50,539

like we need to be able to trust that in

1024

00:47:54,099 --> 00:47:52,609

their face and say well if you can do

1025

00:47:55,660 --> 00:47:54,109

what you say you do then why don't you

1026

00:47:58,900 --> 00:47:55,670

do this whereas if we don't have it

1027

00:48:00,160 --> 00:47:58,910

there then become what's wrong you think

1028

00:48:03,370 --> 00:48:00,170

that's the most ridiculous that people

1029

00:48:05,260 --> 00:48:03,380

bring out the people have tried oh gosh

1030

00:48:06,519 --> 00:48:05,270

I really don't know may not I'm not

1031

00:48:08,620 --> 00:48:06,529

entirely sure I know there's been a lot

1032

00:48:11,140 --> 00:48:08,630

of them dowsers and I always feel like

1033

00:48:13,180 --> 00:48:11,150

I'm calling with the dowsing rods

1034

00:48:14,500 --> 00:48:13,190

there's another name look I'm making a

1035

00:48:17,019 --> 00:48:14,510

claim here in this suit

1036

00:48:19,420 --> 00:48:17,029

that I look like some mid-level UK band

1037

00:48:21,190 --> 00:48:19,430

from the mid 90s I think it has to be a

1038

00:48:23,470 --> 00:48:21,200

pseudo-scientific claim to make

1039

00:48:28,029 --> 00:48:23,480

paranormal so are you saying fashion

1040

00:48:28,480 --> 00:48:28,039

isn't science no I'm saying you're

1041

00:48:31,559 --> 00:48:28,490

saying

1042

00:48:33,940 --> 00:48:31,569

fashion isn't science yeah I'm confused

1043

00:48:36,039 --> 00:48:33,950

I'm saying that the claim has to be

1044

00:48:37,900 --> 00:48:36,049

pseudo scientific oh we're having to

1045

00:48:40,359 --> 00:48:37,910

prove so what is your pseudo scientific

1046

00:48:45,059 --> 00:48:40,369

claim about fashion that I look a bit

1047

00:48:51,789 --> 00:48:49,569

okay so \$100,000 you just got at work

1048

00:48:54,549 --> 00:48:51,799

speak to Richard and you can plan a

1049

00:48:56,260 --> 00:48:54,559

trial together and work out how you're

1050

00:48:59,000 --> 00:48:56,270

gonna prove it

1051

00:49:00,349 --> 00:48:59,010

look rich it does look like a band from

1052

00:49:02,770 --> 00:49:00,359

the 70s I just don't know which one

1053

00:49:07,010 --> 00:49:02,780

Earth Wind and Fire

1054

00:49:08,180 --> 00:49:07,020

if only retreat is a bit and don't take

1055

00:49:15,400 --> 00:49:08,190

this the wrong way Richard but you're a

1056

00:49:18,349 --> 00:49:15,410

bit like the no David Essex's manager no

1057

00:49:20,930 --> 00:49:18,359

that Len is cool well think about four

1058

00:49:24,440 --> 00:49:20,940

opinion and obviously what I've worn has

1059

00:49:27,829 --> 00:49:24,450

had no effect on it was ever even the

1060

00:49:29,720 --> 00:49:27,839

question may not it was my claim I was

1061

00:49:32,210 --> 00:49:29,730

making that claim you look very smooth

1062

00:49:35,000 --> 00:49:32,220

tonight thank you oh and by the way

1063

00:49:37,640 --> 00:49:35,010

Trish said if if you had a nice night

1064

00:49:39,200 --> 00:49:37,650

with someone and you want to indicate to

1065

00:49:41,240 --> 00:49:39,210

them that it was a nice night but you

1066

00:49:44,059 --> 00:49:41,250

might not want to see them again what's

1067

00:49:44,510 --> 00:49:44,069

the language would you use Trish will

1068

00:49:51,770 --> 00:49:44,520

you explain

1069

00:49:53,120 --> 00:49:51,780

oh that was an experience a little bit

1070

00:49:55,549 --> 00:49:53,130

vague that they could interpret

1071

00:50:10,870 --> 00:49:55,559

different way so people if you hear that

1072

00:50:10,880 --> 00:50:20,489

[Music]

1073

00:50:24,699 --> 00:50:22,930

thanks for listening to the skeptic zone

1074

00:50:27,459 --> 00:50:24,709

now here's an announcement from our

1075

00:50:29,109 --> 00:50:27,469

friends in Victoria the Australian

1076
00:50:31,449 --> 00:50:29,119
skeptics National Convention will be in

1077
00:50:33,640 --> 00:50:31,459
December in Melbourne this year and

1078
00:50:36,339 --> 00:50:33,650
they've just announced that Susan garvik

1079
00:50:38,380 --> 00:50:36,349
from guerrilla skepticism on Wikipedia

1080
00:50:40,089 --> 00:50:38,390
and a frequent guest on the skeptics own

1081
00:50:43,329 --> 00:50:40,099
will be attending this year's convention

1082
00:50:48,249 --> 00:50:43,339
in Melbourne for more information head

1083
00:50:50,049 --> 00:50:48,259
to skeptic on org dot au and it will be

1084
00:50:52,299 --> 00:50:50,059
great to see Susan go back back in

1085
00:50:54,279 --> 00:50:52,309
Australia coming up on next week's show

1086
00:50:57,219 --> 00:50:54,289
the report from the flu vaccination day

1087
00:50:59,499 --> 00:50:57,229
we had yesterday on Star Wars day here

1088
00:51:02,380 --> 00:50:59,509

in Sydney and the force was certainly

1089

00:51:06,789 --> 00:51:02,390

with us we look at a new web series

1090

00:51:09,430 --> 00:51:06,799

called fact underscore me underscore Oz

1091

00:51:11,170 --> 00:51:09,440

and hopefully we have a new report

1092

00:51:14,170 --> 00:51:11,180

coming up from Michelle Franklin up in

1093

00:51:15,699 --> 00:51:14,180

the Northern Territory but for this week

1094

00:51:19,329 --> 00:51:15,709

in thanking everybody for helping us

1095

00:51:21,249 --> 00:51:19,339

reach show number 550 this is Richard

1096

00:51:27,400 --> 00:51:21,259

Saunders signing off from Sydney

1097

00:51:30,069 --> 00:51:27,410

Australia you've been listening to the

1098

00:51:37,029 --> 00:51:30,079

skeptic zone podcast please visit our

1099

00:51:39,579 --> 00:51:37,039

website at wwlp.com tax and to access

1100

00:51:43,180 --> 00:51:39,589

the bat catalogue of episodes going back

1101
00:51:46,809 --> 00:51:43,190
to 2008 you can follow the skeptic zone

1102
00:51:49,209 --> 00:51:46,819
podcast on twitter at skeptic zone visit

1103
00:51:52,569 --> 00:51:49,219
our facebook page or leave a review on

1104
00:51:55,959 --> 00:51:52,579
itunes you can also support the skeptic

1105
00:51:58,299 --> 00:51:55,969
zone via patreon or PayPal the skeptic

1106
00:52:00,489 --> 00:51:58,309
zone podcast is an independent

1107
00:52:02,469 --> 00:52:00,499
production the views and opinions

1108
00:52:04,599 --> 00:52:02,479
expressed on the skeptic zone are not

1109
00:52:07,530 --> 00:52:04,609
necessarily those of Australian skeptics

1110
00:52:21,290 --> 00:52:07,540
or any other sceptical organisation

1111
00:52:27,960 --> 00:52:23,910
show new goals are Dyson's they give me

1112
00:52:30,270 --> 00:52:27,970
the hellos people who stay after the

1113
00:52:32,040 --> 00:52:30,280

closing music yes once again it's the

1114

00:52:33,540 --> 00:52:32,050

losers they've got they've got nothing

1115

00:52:35,550 --> 00:52:33,550

going on their life except to listen to

1116

00:52:36,540 --> 00:52:35,560

the end of the skeptic zone the whole

1117

00:52:38,580 --> 00:52:36,550

bunch of stuff for you but listening to

1118

00:52:41,040 --> 00:52:38,590

but know you're listening to the end of

1119

00:52:47,730 --> 00:52:41,050

the show and there's not even any cats

1120

00:52:49,590 --> 00:52:47,740

and dogs not necessarily now as long

1121

00:52:51,690 --> 00:52:49,600

term listeners know we play the dice

1122

00:52:53,430 --> 00:52:51,700

game and new listeners every now and

1123

00:52:56,490 --> 00:52:53,440

then we roll a 10 sided die three times

1124

00:52:58,050 --> 00:52:56,500

and you have to use your home are you in

1125

00:53:00,210 --> 00:52:58,060

the car you commuting have to use your

1126
00:53:01,710 --> 00:53:00,220
psychic power to predict what numbers

1127
00:53:03,840 --> 00:53:01,720
gonna come up and we've got a special

1128
00:53:06,210 --> 00:53:03,850
guest tonight you are my name is Larry

1129
00:53:08,040 --> 00:53:06,220
and you're going to play along you see

1130
00:53:10,590 --> 00:53:08,050
so in a moment Jessica's gonna roll out

1131
00:53:14,210 --> 00:53:10,600
to inside a dive and you have to use

1132
00:53:17,070 --> 00:53:14,220
your magical predicting power right

1133
00:53:19,410 --> 00:53:17,080
predicting look into the future what

1134
00:53:21,810 --> 00:53:19,420
number do you predict it'll be zero to

1135
00:53:24,690 --> 00:53:21,820
denial which is really one to ten but

1136
00:53:27,750 --> 00:53:24,700
anyway okay so the answer is not 42 no

1137
00:53:30,060 --> 00:53:27,760
okay do I have to say you know just

1138
00:53:34,350 --> 00:53:30,070

think it well you can think it but it's

1139

00:53:36,570 --> 00:53:34,360

more fun if you suck in five and here we

1140

00:53:40,740 --> 00:53:36,580

come left the wave form here it comes

1141

00:53:45,560 --> 00:53:40,750

Jessica's rolling now and it was five

1142

00:53:50,010 --> 00:53:48,600

I'm scrupulously honest okay that was

1143

00:53:52,280 --> 00:53:50,020

the first girl gonna do it two more

1144

00:53:57,150 --> 00:53:52,290

times oh so think again what do you get

1145

00:54:00,120 --> 00:53:57,160

500 just for change oh no six

1146

00:54:02,280 --> 00:54:00,130

oh so close I know a little bit psychic

1147

00:54:07,620 --> 00:54:02,290

all right I'm the last time just get

1148

00:54:10,290 --> 00:54:07,630

ready oh six weeks ago I went off that's