

Episode **689**

THE
**SKEPTIC
ZONE**
PODCAST

19 December 2021

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The Skeptic Zone
Episode 689 - 12 December



The Great Australian
Psychic Prediction Project
- Read by
Adrienne Hill and
Richard Saunders



1
00:00:13,940 --> 00:00:09,190
welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

2
00:00:16,840 --> 00:00:13,950
from australia for science and reason

3
00:00:24,230 --> 00:00:16,850
[Applause]

4
00:00:28,630 --> 00:00:26,310
yes it's the skeptic's own podcast

5
00:00:32,150 --> 00:00:28,640
episode number 689

6
00:00:33,590 --> 00:00:32,160
for the 19th of december 2021

7
00:00:36,389 --> 00:00:33,600
richard saunders coming to you from

8
00:00:39,190 --> 00:00:36,399
sydney australia where the

9
00:00:41,110 --> 00:00:39,200
not the uh skeptical fairy godmother

10
00:00:42,310 --> 00:00:41,120
angel from the internet has visited it

11
00:00:46,790 --> 00:00:42,320
is the

12
00:00:48,790 --> 00:00:46,800
muggy here in sydney

13
00:00:49,990 --> 00:00:48,800

i was i happened to be downtown

14

00:00:51,510 --> 00:00:50,000

yesterday

15

00:00:54,549 --> 00:00:51,520

and during this

16

00:00:55,510 --> 00:00:54,559

ridiculously hot muggy

17

00:00:57,189 --> 00:00:55,520

weather

18

00:00:59,270 --> 00:00:57,199

and uh

19

00:01:00,510 --> 00:00:59,280

i happened across

20

00:01:16,310 --> 00:01:00,520

a

21

00:01:17,830 --> 00:01:16,320

but coming up on this week's show the

22

00:01:20,070 --> 00:01:17,840

whole show is devoted to the great

23

00:01:22,950 --> 00:01:20,080

australian psychic prediction project

24

00:01:25,030 --> 00:01:22,960

together with adrian hill i shall read

25

00:01:27,670 --> 00:01:25,040

out the official

26

00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:27,680

report it's nice that it's finished it's

27

00:01:31,990 --> 00:01:30,240

nice that it's come to a conclusion well

28

00:01:34,149 --> 00:01:32,000

it's come to a tentative conclusion

29

00:01:35,590 --> 00:01:34,159

because like science it should be a work

30

00:01:37,749 --> 00:01:35,600

in progress

31

00:01:40,149 --> 00:01:37,759

but i'm tempted i'm tempted to keep

32

00:01:43,749 --> 00:01:40,159

gathering predictions every year and

33

00:01:45,590 --> 00:01:43,759

adding them to the database we shall see

34

00:01:46,870 --> 00:01:45,600

we shall see i can hear my prediction

35

00:01:49,030 --> 00:01:46,880

crew

36

00:01:50,789 --> 00:01:49,040

around the world going oh

37

00:01:52,230 --> 00:01:50,799

really

38

00:01:53,990 --> 00:01:52,240

in that case

39

00:01:57,590 --> 00:01:54,000

it's already time for me to run

40

00:02:00,950 --> 00:01:57,600

downstairs and have a nice big glass of

41

00:02:02,870 --> 00:02:00,960

ice cold ginger beer with ice

42

00:02:18,150 --> 00:02:02,880

will i do that i hope you enjoy the

43

00:02:18,160 --> 00:02:23,990

[Music]

44

00:02:28,160 --> 00:02:26,949

the great australian psychic prediction

45

00:02:34,790 --> 00:02:28,170

project

46

00:02:39,110 --> 00:02:36,949

richard saunders concludes a 12-year

47

00:02:41,750 --> 00:02:39,120

investigation by australian and

48

00:02:45,030 --> 00:02:41,760

international researchers covering over

49

00:02:47,509 --> 00:02:45,040

3 800 predictions from more than 200

50

00:02:49,430 --> 00:02:47,519

self-professed psychics and the results

51

00:02:50,460 --> 00:02:49,440

are not encouraging

52

00:02:58,070 --> 00:02:50,470

for psychics

53

00:03:00,309 --> 00:02:58,080

[Music]

54

00:03:03,750 --> 00:03:00,319

the great australian psychic prediction

55

00:03:06,149 --> 00:03:03,760

project is an analysis of over

56

00:03:09,509 --> 00:03:06,159

800 psychic or otherwise paranormal

57

00:03:12,149 --> 00:03:09,519

predictions made by 207 people in

58

00:03:14,550 --> 00:03:12,159

australia claiming to have knowledge of

59

00:03:16,070 --> 00:03:14,560

future events all were published in the

60

00:03:19,030 --> 00:03:16,080

australian media

61

00:03:21,830 --> 00:03:19,040

magazines newspapers radio tv or via

62

00:03:24,949 --> 00:03:21,840

websites youtube and other sources

63

00:03:28,789 --> 00:03:24,959

covering a 21 year period

64

00:03:31,589 --> 00:03:28,799

2000 to 2020. for the purposes of this

65

00:03:33,110 --> 00:03:31,599

report those who made the predictions

66

00:03:35,430 --> 00:03:33,120

will be known as

67

00:03:36,949 --> 00:03:35,440

psychics although some lay claim to

68

00:03:39,110 --> 00:03:36,959

using other kinds of

69

00:03:40,949 --> 00:03:39,120

force or abilities such as reading the

70

00:03:42,390 --> 00:03:40,959

future in the stars

71

00:03:44,789 --> 00:03:42,400

and planets

72

00:03:47,270 --> 00:03:44,799

the purpose of the project was to gather

73

00:03:49,830 --> 00:03:47,280

and review enough data to be able to

74

00:03:51,589 --> 00:03:49,840

draw a valid conclusion

75

00:03:53,830 --> 00:03:51,599

to the question of whether certain

76

00:03:56,390 --> 00:03:53,840

individuals in our society

77

00:04:00,390 --> 00:03:56,400

really do possess the ability or power

78

00:04:03,750 --> 00:04:00,400

by psychic or otherwise paranormal means

79

00:04:06,149 --> 00:04:03,760

to be able to reliably predict or

80

00:04:08,630 --> 00:04:06,159

foresee events in the future

81

00:04:11,509 --> 00:04:08,640

it is not nor has it ever been an

82

00:04:13,910 --> 00:04:11,519

exercise in so-called debunking of

83

00:04:16,229 --> 00:04:13,920

paranormal claims the project was

84

00:04:18,789 --> 00:04:16,239

undertaken with an open mind with the

85

00:04:21,590 --> 00:04:18,799

goal of seeking to get at the truth of

86

00:04:23,430 --> 00:04:21,600

the issue the mechanism employed by any

87

00:04:26,150 --> 00:04:23,440

individual psychic is of passing

88

00:04:27,990 --> 00:04:26,160

interest the project is really only

89

00:04:30,629 --> 00:04:28,000

interested in the final results of any

90

00:04:32,230 --> 00:04:30,639

prediction it is a case of invoking

91

00:04:33,510 --> 00:04:32,240

ironman's maxim

92

00:04:36,230 --> 00:04:33,520

which states

93

00:04:40,390 --> 00:04:36,240

do not try to explain how something

94

00:04:41,830 --> 00:04:40,400

works until you find out that it works

95

00:04:43,909 --> 00:04:41,840

and the result of that scientific

96

00:04:45,909 --> 00:04:43,919

analysis indicates that psychics are

97

00:04:50,150 --> 00:04:45,919

appallingly bad

98

00:04:53,030 --> 00:04:50,160

at predicting future events in summary

99

00:04:54,390 --> 00:04:53,040

only 11 of predictions are

100

00:04:55,990 --> 00:04:54,400

correct

101

00:04:57,990 --> 00:04:56,000

the professions journal the

102

00:05:02,230 --> 00:04:58,000

international psychics directory has

103

00:05:05,350 --> 00:05:02,240

only 8.5 correct most predictions were

104

00:05:07,670 --> 00:05:05,360

too vague expected or simply wrong

105

00:05:10,629 --> 00:05:07,680

most of what happens is not predicted

106

00:05:11,590 --> 00:05:10,639

and most of what is predicted does not

107

00:05:13,830 --> 00:05:11,600

happen

108

00:05:16,230 --> 00:05:13,840

it is anticipated that this report will

109

00:05:20,150 --> 00:05:16,240

be used by other groups and the media as

110

00:05:20,160 --> 00:05:25,990

history of prophecies

111

00:05:31,430 --> 00:05:29,510

the claimed phenomenon of being able to

112

00:05:34,070 --> 00:05:31,440

foretell events by paranormal

113

00:05:37,189 --> 00:05:34,080

supernatural divine or spiritual means

114

00:05:39,510 --> 00:05:37,199

is probably as old as human society

115

00:05:42,230 --> 00:05:39,520

there are many examples from various

116

00:05:44,310 --> 00:05:42,240

religions such as can be found in the

117

00:05:46,950 --> 00:05:44,320

book of revelation from the new

118

00:05:49,110 --> 00:05:46,960

testament dealing with the so-called end

119

00:05:51,510 --> 00:05:49,120

times over millennia there are

120

00:05:53,990 --> 00:05:51,520

individuals sometimes associated with

121

00:05:56,870 --> 00:05:54,000

religion sometimes not who claim to

122

00:05:59,990 --> 00:05:56,880

possess the power of divination or who

123

00:06:01,350 --> 00:06:00,000

are looked upon by society as having

124

00:06:03,430 --> 00:06:01,360

such powers

125

00:06:05,749 --> 00:06:03,440

many superstitions and rituals develop

126
00:06:09,670 --> 00:06:05,759
around the uncertainty of existence for

127
00:06:12,790 --> 00:06:09,680
individuals and societies such as next

128
00:06:15,270 --> 00:06:12,800
season's crops or other activities

129
00:06:17,510 --> 00:06:15,280
what might happen in the future was

130
00:06:19,590 --> 00:06:17,520
vital knowledge and any possible

131
00:06:22,629 --> 00:06:19,600
insights were of great importance

132
00:06:24,469 --> 00:06:22,639
possibly the best known seer or

133
00:06:26,150 --> 00:06:24,479
predictor of future events in popular

134
00:06:29,189 --> 00:06:26,160
culture is

135
00:06:32,870 --> 00:06:29,199
michel de nostradam usually referred to

136
00:06:35,909 --> 00:06:32,880
as nostradamus who in 1555

137
00:06:40,469 --> 00:06:35,919
published the book lay prophecies

138
00:06:43,909 --> 00:06:40,479

a collection of 942 poetic quad trains

139

00:06:46,469 --> 00:06:43,919

most are intentionally vague and open to

140

00:06:49,670 --> 00:06:46,479

interpretation with some reused or

141

00:06:52,070 --> 00:06:49,680

recycled over the centuries to

142

00:06:55,990 --> 00:06:52,080

shoehorn you see later in this report

143

00:06:58,390 --> 00:06:56,000

about this practice in order to fit more

144

00:07:01,110 --> 00:06:58,400

recent events or people

145

00:07:03,189 --> 00:07:01,120

an example of this reuse comes from the

146

00:07:05,909 --> 00:07:03,199

works of john hogue

147

00:07:08,150 --> 00:07:05,919

who in his first edition of his book

148

00:07:11,510 --> 00:07:08,160

nostradamus and the millennium

149

00:07:13,189 --> 00:07:11,520

determined that ayatollah khomeini

150

00:07:16,629 --> 00:07:13,199

was the antichrist referred to by

151

00:07:17,909 --> 00:07:16,639

nostradamus when harmony died the next

152

00:07:20,710 --> 00:07:17,919

edition of the book replaced the

153

00:07:23,350 --> 00:07:20,720

ayatollah with saddam hussein it may

154

00:07:25,430 --> 00:07:23,360

well be the case that every generation

155

00:07:27,909 --> 00:07:25,440

will find some sort of antichrist they

156

00:07:30,390 --> 00:07:27,919

can credit to nostradamus

157

00:07:31,670 --> 00:07:30,400

which renders the original prediction as

158

00:07:34,390 --> 00:07:31,680

worthless

159

00:07:37,589 --> 00:07:34,400

the extent of this fascination with

160

00:07:39,909 --> 00:07:37,599

nostradamus especially in the later part

161

00:07:42,790 --> 00:07:39,919

of the 20th century can be seen in an

162

00:07:45,670 --> 00:07:42,800

issue of new idea magazine from

163

00:07:48,469 --> 00:07:45,680

australia published shortly after the 9

164

00:07:52,869 --> 00:07:48,479

11 attacks of 2001

165

00:07:55,110 --> 00:07:52,879

it carried these words on the back cover

166

00:07:57,830 --> 00:07:55,120

in the city of god there will be a great

167

00:08:00,150 --> 00:07:57,840

thunder two brothers torn apart by chaos

168

00:08:02,230 --> 00:08:00,160

while the fortress endures the great

169

00:08:04,469 --> 00:08:02,240

leader will succumb

170

00:08:09,510 --> 00:08:04,479

the third big war will begin when the

171

00:08:11,589 --> 00:08:09,520

big city is burning nostradamus 1654

172

00:08:14,469 --> 00:08:11,599

the quatrain was actually written by

173

00:08:17,270 --> 00:08:14,479

neil marshall a student from canada in a

174

00:08:18,710 --> 00:08:17,280

paper entitled a critical analysis of

175

00:08:21,110 --> 00:08:18,720

nostronomus

176

00:08:23,670 --> 00:08:21,120

marshall invented the quatrain to

177

00:08:25,670 --> 00:08:23,680

illustrate how a vague prediction can be

178

00:08:28,550 --> 00:08:25,680

cited to fit events

179

00:08:31,589 --> 00:08:28,560

but it was far more important for new

180

00:08:34,550 --> 00:08:31,599

idea to include something mystical to

181

00:08:37,190 --> 00:08:34,560

appeal to its readers than it was for

182

00:08:39,990 --> 00:08:37,200

the editors to verify the authenticity

183

00:08:43,269 --> 00:08:40,000

of the quote this practice is widespread

184

00:08:45,750 --> 00:08:43,279

and will be covered later in this report

185

00:08:47,750 --> 00:08:45,760

a short search of the internet would

186

00:08:50,070 --> 00:08:47,760

have revealed that nostradamus died in

187

00:08:53,110 --> 00:08:50,080

1566

188

00:08:56,389 --> 00:08:53,120

88 years before the date of the quatrain

189

00:08:59,030 --> 00:08:56,399

the fad for referring to nostradamus has

190

00:09:01,430 --> 00:08:59,040

noticeably declined over the past 20

191

00:09:03,750 --> 00:09:01,440

years possibly due to the increasing

192

00:09:05,910 --> 00:09:03,760

number of failed predictions such as

193

00:09:08,150 --> 00:09:05,920

this one concerning the year

194

00:09:11,190 --> 00:09:08,160

1999.

195

00:09:13,750 --> 00:09:11,200

the year one thousand nine ninety nine

196

00:09:16,550 --> 00:09:13,760

seven a month from the sky shall come a

197

00:09:19,590 --> 00:09:16,560

great king of terror shall be revived

198

00:09:22,630 --> 00:09:19,600

the great king of angel moa before and

199

00:09:23,910 --> 00:09:22,640

after mars shall reign as chance will

200

00:09:26,310 --> 00:09:23,920

have it

201
00:09:28,070 --> 00:09:26,320
as history records

202
00:09:30,710 --> 00:09:28,080
nothing resembling the prediction

203
00:09:32,870 --> 00:09:30,720
happened in july 1999

204
00:09:35,269 --> 00:09:32,880
it should be noted that this quatrain is

205
00:09:36,470 --> 00:09:35,279
rare for nostradamus as it gives an

206
00:09:38,230 --> 00:09:36,480
actual date

207
00:09:40,470 --> 00:09:38,240
james randy remarked that every time

208
00:09:43,190 --> 00:09:40,480
nostradamus mentioned a date

209
00:09:45,509 --> 00:09:43,200
the prediction has failed to come true

210
00:09:48,470 --> 00:09:45,519
a more recent example of religious

211
00:09:50,470 --> 00:09:48,480
prophecy comes from 2011

212
00:09:52,630 --> 00:09:50,480
when billboard sponsored by harold

213
00:09:54,550 --> 00:09:52,640

camping of family radio based in the

214

00:09:56,710 --> 00:09:54,560

united states appeared in many cities

215

00:10:00,550 --> 00:09:56,720

around the world including sydney

216

00:10:02,829 --> 00:10:00,560

australia proclaiming that the rapture

217

00:10:04,710 --> 00:10:02,839

would take place on may 21

218

00:10:07,430 --> 00:10:04,720

2011.

219

00:10:09,350 --> 00:10:07,440

needless to say this prediction failed

220

00:10:12,790 --> 00:10:09,360

to materialize

221

00:10:15,430 --> 00:10:12,800

james randy writing in his 1995 book an

222

00:10:18,870 --> 00:10:15,440

encyclopedia of claims frauds and hoaxes

223

00:10:20,870 --> 00:10:18,880

of the occult and supernatural lists 44

224

00:10:23,110 --> 00:10:20,880

failed end of the world predictions

225

00:10:24,630 --> 00:10:23,120

dating from biblical to modern times

226
00:10:26,949 --> 00:10:24,640
although the full number of such

227
00:10:29,430 --> 00:10:26,959
predictions is much higher

228
00:10:32,630 --> 00:10:29,440
skeptical groups note that

229
00:10:35,500 --> 00:10:32,640
such predictions occur every year with

230
00:10:39,110 --> 00:10:35,510
2021 being no exception

231
00:10:44,310 --> 00:10:41,660
the project

232
00:10:46,150 --> 00:10:44,320
[Music]

233
00:10:48,790 --> 00:10:46,160
the genesis of the great australian

234
00:10:51,030 --> 00:10:48,800
psychic prediction project came from a

235
00:10:55,190 --> 00:10:51,040
talk given by the author in the year

236
00:10:58,710 --> 00:10:55,200
2010 at the amazing meeting australia in

237
00:11:01,829 --> 00:10:58,720
sydney a joint james randi educational

238
00:11:03,350 --> 00:11:01,839

foundation and australian skeptics event

239

00:11:05,030 --> 00:11:03,360

where he reviewed the predictions for

240

00:11:08,870 --> 00:11:05,040

that year made in the pages of the

241

00:11:11,430 --> 00:11:08,880

australian psychics directory magazine

242

00:11:13,430 --> 00:11:11,440

many tv and radio shows will feature

243

00:11:15,269 --> 00:11:13,440

people who claim to have paranormal

244

00:11:18,069 --> 00:11:15,279

powers giving their predictions in

245

00:11:21,110 --> 00:11:18,079

december and january for the year ahead

246

00:11:22,790 --> 00:11:21,120

but rarely if ever will the same shows

247

00:11:24,470 --> 00:11:22,800

make an analysis of the predictions at

248

00:11:26,310 --> 00:11:24,480

the end of the year

249

00:11:28,790 --> 00:11:26,320

if they do it will be to mention the

250

00:11:31,190 --> 00:11:28,800

predictions that came true picking those

251
00:11:33,670 --> 00:11:31,200
that were uncontentious or those that in

252
00:11:36,550 --> 00:11:33,680
the opinion of the psychic came true

253
00:11:38,069 --> 00:11:36,560
incorrect predictions are generally

254
00:11:41,750 --> 00:11:38,079
ignored

255
00:11:43,829 --> 00:11:41,760
this situation is expected as the tv and

256
00:11:46,389 --> 00:11:43,839
radio shows are not in the business of

257
00:11:48,150 --> 00:11:46,399
downplaying or denigrating claimed

258
00:11:50,470 --> 00:11:48,160
psychic abilities

259
00:11:52,629 --> 00:11:50,480
the segments are usually short enjoyed

260
00:11:55,030 --> 00:11:52,639
by the viewers on the day

261
00:11:56,949 --> 00:11:55,040
and soon forgotten

262
00:11:58,790 --> 00:11:56,959
the same can be said for magazines that

263
00:12:01,030 --> 00:11:58,800

print predictions their readers will

264

00:12:04,470 --> 00:12:01,040

enjoy the column based largely on

265

00:12:05,990 --> 00:12:04,480

celebrity gossip and soon forget it it

266

00:12:08,310 --> 00:12:06,000

would be counterproductive for the

267

00:12:10,069 --> 00:12:08,320

producers or editors to cast doubt on

268

00:12:12,230 --> 00:12:10,079

these people who are paid or receive

269

00:12:14,870 --> 00:12:12,240

exposure and are helping to generate

270

00:12:15,910 --> 00:12:14,880

income for the media outlet involved

271

00:12:18,310 --> 00:12:15,920

it is

272

00:12:20,069 --> 00:12:18,320

after all a business

273

00:12:22,150 --> 00:12:20,079

the word of the psychic that they are

274

00:12:24,550 --> 00:12:22,160

amazingly accurate complete with a few

275

00:12:27,350 --> 00:12:24,560

examples is often enough to meet the

276

00:12:29,190 --> 00:12:27,360

editors or producers requirements it is

277

00:12:31,269 --> 00:12:29,200

more important for the psychic to

278

00:12:32,310 --> 00:12:31,279

produce column inches or present well on

279

00:12:34,069 --> 00:12:32,320

tv

280

00:12:36,150 --> 00:12:34,079

whether the predictions made on the day

281

00:12:38,470 --> 00:12:36,160

later turn out to be wrong

282

00:12:40,949 --> 00:12:38,480

is of no particular importance

283

00:12:45,110 --> 00:12:40,959

predictions concerning celebrities the

284

00:12:47,509 --> 00:12:45,120

lives loves and careers of famous people

285

00:12:49,910 --> 00:12:47,519

make up about 35

286

00:12:50,949 --> 00:12:49,920

of entries in our database of those

287

00:12:52,870 --> 00:12:50,959

around

288

00:12:53,829 --> 00:12:52,880

seven percent concerned actress nicole

289

00:12:55,590 --> 00:12:53,839

kidman

290

00:12:58,389 --> 00:12:55,600

as the subject of predictions she

291

00:12:59,990 --> 00:12:58,399

appears more than any other individual

292

00:13:01,990 --> 00:13:00,000

in the database

293

00:13:04,150 --> 00:13:02,000

the prevalence of predictions concerning

294

00:13:07,190 --> 00:13:04,160

celebrities may well reflect the human

295

00:13:08,949 --> 00:13:07,200

fascination with gossip and rumors

296

00:13:11,990 --> 00:13:08,959

predictions concerning celebrities can

297

00:13:14,230 --> 00:13:12,000

be seen as satisfying a need of

298

00:13:16,710 --> 00:13:14,240

gaining some sort of inside information

299

00:13:19,110 --> 00:13:16,720

about prominent people it is also a

300

00:13:21,590 --> 00:13:19,120

relatively easy task for the one making

301
00:13:23,750 --> 00:13:21,600
the prediction as ultimately the

302
00:13:26,710 --> 00:13:23,760
predictions don't need to be based on

303
00:13:28,550 --> 00:13:26,720
truth as they are usually soon forgotten

304
00:13:31,620 --> 00:13:28,560
and can be categorized as just an

305
00:13:34,870 --> 00:13:31,630
opinion of what might happen

306
00:13:35,680 --> 00:13:34,880
[Music]

307
00:13:39,990 --> 00:13:35,690
methodology

308
00:13:45,509 --> 00:13:42,069
collecting and archiving predictions

309
00:13:48,150 --> 00:13:45,519
from original sources was no small

310
00:13:50,389 --> 00:13:48,160
undertaking and meant many hundreds of

311
00:13:53,110 --> 00:13:50,399
hours of research and investigation over

312
00:13:56,310 --> 00:13:53,120
a 12-year period this included looking

313
00:13:58,230 --> 00:13:56,320

at every page of magazines such as new

314

00:14:00,790 --> 00:13:58,240

idea and woman's day

315

00:14:02,629 --> 00:14:00,800

while not all issues were available most

316

00:14:05,350 --> 00:14:02,639

were accessible at the state libraries

317

00:14:07,030 --> 00:14:05,360

of new south wales and victoria

318

00:14:09,509 --> 00:14:07,040

other predictions were collected by

319

00:14:12,069 --> 00:14:09,519

searches of online newspaper archives

320

00:14:14,710 --> 00:14:12,079

and from archived video segments from

321

00:14:17,189 --> 00:14:14,720

popular tv chat and morning shows

322

00:14:19,829 --> 00:14:17,199

radio interviews etc

323

00:14:22,150 --> 00:14:19,839

yet more predictions were collected from

324

00:14:24,470 --> 00:14:22,160

the web pages and youtube videos of

325

00:14:26,790 --> 00:14:24,480

psychics some of these predictions

326

00:14:29,670 --> 00:14:26,800

especially from somewhat long and

327

00:14:32,470 --> 00:14:29,680

rambling videos have been distilled and

328

00:14:34,150 --> 00:14:32,480

paraphrased for the sake of brevity

329

00:14:38,389 --> 00:14:34,160

the structure of the database in the

330

00:14:40,790 --> 00:14:38,399

form of a spreadsheet as follows

331

00:14:43,269 --> 00:14:40,800

column one the year for which the

332

00:14:45,509 --> 00:14:43,279

prediction was made

333

00:14:47,189 --> 00:14:45,519

2 the name of the person who made the

334

00:14:48,550 --> 00:14:47,199

prediction

335

00:14:50,949 --> 00:14:48,560

column 3

336

00:14:52,150 --> 00:14:50,959

where and when the prediction was

337

00:14:54,870 --> 00:14:52,160

published

338

00:14:56,150 --> 00:14:54,880

column 4 the general topic of the

339

00:14:58,629 --> 00:14:56,160

prediction

340

00:14:59,829 --> 00:14:58,639

column 5 the main subject of the

341

00:15:04,389 --> 00:14:59,839

prediction

342

00:15:08,629 --> 00:15:04,399

column 7

343

00:15:09,990 --> 00:15:08,639

verdict correct wrong too vague expected

344

00:15:13,189 --> 00:15:10,000

or unknown

345

00:15:16,629 --> 00:15:13,199

column 8 explanatory notes if needed

346

00:15:19,189 --> 00:15:16,639

the list of the 207 psychics recorded in

347

00:15:21,269 --> 00:15:19,199

the database is extensive with many

348

00:15:22,470 --> 00:15:21,279

well-known names and many that are

349

00:15:24,790 --> 00:15:22,480

obscure

350

00:15:26,110 --> 00:15:24,800

georgina walker heads the list with the

351
00:15:29,269 --> 00:15:26,120
most entries

352
00:15:32,230 --> 00:15:29,279
277 or about seven percent of the entire

353
00:15:34,949 --> 00:15:32,240
database of her predictions about 88

354
00:15:38,069 --> 00:15:34,959
percent concerned celebrities

355
00:15:40,150 --> 00:15:38,079
while it may never be known whether

356
00:15:42,310 --> 00:15:40,160
individual psychics in the database

357
00:15:44,710 --> 00:15:42,320
truly believe they have a paranormal

358
00:15:49,509 --> 00:15:44,720
ability to see future events

359
00:15:51,749 --> 00:15:49,519
they at least claim to do so as such any

360
00:15:53,990 --> 00:15:51,759
prediction published over the 21-year

361
00:15:56,470 --> 00:15:54,000
period covered by the project from a

362
00:15:59,509 --> 00:15:56,480
psychic via whatever means including

363
00:16:02,870 --> 00:15:59,519

messages from spirits dreams feelings

364

00:16:05,990 --> 00:16:02,880

tarot cards astrology and so on is

365

00:16:08,949 --> 00:16:06,000

deemed to be a psychic or otherwise

366

00:16:10,790 --> 00:16:08,959

paranormal prediction and thus qualified

367

00:16:13,110 --> 00:16:10,800

for inclusion

368

00:16:15,030 --> 00:16:13,120

it has to be acknowledged that gathering

369

00:16:17,189 --> 00:16:15,040

all psychic or otherwise paranormal

370

00:16:18,870 --> 00:16:17,199

predictions published in australia over

371

00:16:21,670 --> 00:16:18,880

the period of the project

372

00:16:23,670 --> 00:16:21,680

was not possible not every prediction is

373

00:16:25,829 --> 00:16:23,680

kept in an archive some that are

374

00:16:28,550 --> 00:16:25,839

archived and not accessible

375

00:16:30,790 --> 00:16:28,560

and some are simply lost we expect that

376

00:16:33,030 --> 00:16:30,800

some criticism will arise that the

377

00:16:35,590 --> 00:16:33,040

database is incomplete this and other

378

00:16:37,590 --> 00:16:35,600

expected criticisms are addressed

379

00:16:40,310 --> 00:16:37,600

elsewhere in this report

380

00:16:44,230 --> 00:16:40,320

however it is felt by the author that

381

00:16:47,590 --> 00:16:44,240

with over 3 800 catalog predictions the

382

00:16:50,389 --> 00:16:47,600

conclusions drawn a reasonable and valid

383

00:16:53,189 --> 00:16:50,399

and a fair representation of predictions

384

00:16:56,470 --> 00:16:53,199

in general it is reasonably expected

385

00:16:58,790 --> 00:16:56,480

that even if every prediction could be

386

00:17:02,870 --> 00:16:58,800

collected the results in general would

387

00:17:04,390 --> 00:17:02,880

not vary to any significant degree

388

00:17:06,390 --> 00:17:04,400

the wording of each prediction in the

389

00:17:09,189 --> 00:17:06,400

database is copied from the original

390

00:17:10,870 --> 00:17:09,199

source with a digital copy of the source

391

00:17:14,069 --> 00:17:10,880

kept for reference

392

00:17:16,949 --> 00:17:14,079

these files consist mainly of scans or

393

00:17:19,350 --> 00:17:16,959

photographs from magazine pages pdf

394

00:17:22,870 --> 00:17:19,360

copies from online newspaper archives

395

00:17:25,029 --> 00:17:22,880

video files of tv shows and audio files

396

00:17:27,029 --> 00:17:25,039

from radio also included in the

397

00:17:29,750 --> 00:17:27,039

reference files are copies of various

398

00:17:31,510 --> 00:17:29,760

web pages with timestamps to show that

399

00:17:32,470 --> 00:17:31,520

predictions were made

400

00:17:34,390 --> 00:17:32,480

before

401

00:17:36,789 --> 00:17:34,400

the events being predicted

402

00:17:38,549 --> 00:17:36,799

the purpose of retaining these files is

403

00:17:42,310 --> 00:17:38,559

to validate the information in the

404

00:17:44,870 --> 00:17:42,320

database as true and accurate websites

405

00:17:47,110 --> 00:17:44,880

that boasted the success of predictions

406

00:17:49,990 --> 00:17:47,120

but were published after the events

407

00:17:53,010 --> 00:17:50,000

mentioned were not included unless the

408

00:17:55,110 --> 00:17:53,020

original predictions could be verified

409

00:17:59,160 --> 00:17:55,120

[Music]

410

00:18:01,830 --> 00:17:59,170

the flow of time and information

411

00:18:04,150 --> 00:18:01,840

[Music]

412

00:18:07,430 --> 00:18:04,160

modern physics knows of no way for

413

00:18:09,750 --> 00:18:07,440

information to go backwards in time

414

00:18:12,310 --> 00:18:09,760

there might be some bizarre loophole

415

00:18:13,590 --> 00:18:12,320

that allows it but there is no evidence

416

00:18:15,430 --> 00:18:13,600

for it

417

00:18:17,190 --> 00:18:15,440

in order for an individual to have

418

00:18:20,070 --> 00:18:17,200

knowledge of events that are yet to

419

00:18:21,990 --> 00:18:20,080

happen the information about that event

420

00:18:24,230 --> 00:18:22,000

would by necessity have to travel

421

00:18:26,470 --> 00:18:24,240

backwards in time to reach them and

422

00:18:29,029 --> 00:18:26,480

could only start its journey after the

423

00:18:31,430 --> 00:18:29,039

future event had taken place

424

00:18:33,270 --> 00:18:31,440

if this were the case the effect the

425

00:18:36,470 --> 00:18:33,280

knowledge of the event yet to happen

426

00:18:40,470 --> 00:18:36,480

would precede the cause the event itself

427

00:18:42,310 --> 00:18:40,480

contrary to the known laws of physics

428

00:18:44,710 --> 00:18:42,320

if information from the future is

429

00:18:46,950 --> 00:18:44,720

traveling backwards in time then why

430

00:18:49,350 --> 00:18:46,960

does it stop at any given point in time

431

00:18:51,590 --> 00:18:49,360

that is the time when the psychic is

432

00:18:53,830 --> 00:18:51,600

able to access it

433

00:18:56,710 --> 00:18:53,840

does it keep going on forever

434

00:18:59,270 --> 00:18:56,720

if so then are all events in the future

435

00:19:00,549 --> 00:18:59,280

broadcasting backwards in time until the

436

00:19:02,710 --> 00:19:00,559

big bang

437

00:19:05,110 --> 00:19:02,720

if information of a future negative

438

00:19:07,190 --> 00:19:05,120

event say a house fire did travel

439

00:19:09,350 --> 00:19:07,200

backwards in time causing a prediction

440

00:19:11,510 --> 00:19:09,360

in the form of a warning and that

441

00:19:14,230 --> 00:19:11,520

warning is acted upon with the result

442

00:19:16,070 --> 00:19:14,240

being the fire is averted then there was

443

00:19:17,590 --> 00:19:16,080

no event from which the information

444

00:19:19,909 --> 00:19:17,600

could be generated

445

00:19:21,590 --> 00:19:19,919

what exactly would the psychic be

446

00:19:23,510 --> 00:19:21,600

sensing

447

00:19:25,669 --> 00:19:23,520

although such arguments can be

448

00:19:27,590 --> 00:19:25,679

considered as to why future events

449

00:19:29,750 --> 00:19:27,600

cannot be seen

450

00:19:31,909 --> 00:19:29,760

it must be remembered that for many if

451
00:19:34,710 --> 00:19:31,919
not all psychics these points are

452
00:19:37,909 --> 00:19:34,720
irrelevant as they at least in their own

453
00:19:40,230 --> 00:19:37,919
mind or worldview rely on paranormal or

454
00:19:43,110 --> 00:19:40,240
supernatural methods which define normal

455
00:19:44,310 --> 00:19:43,120
common sense and logic and remain

456
00:19:47,240 --> 00:19:44,320
unproven

457
00:19:50,230 --> 00:19:47,250
c hyman's maxim

458
00:19:53,390 --> 00:19:50,240
[Music]

459
00:19:55,590 --> 00:19:53,400
assessing the predictions

460
00:19:57,909 --> 00:19:55,600
[Music]

461
00:20:00,390 --> 00:19:57,919
much of the early work on the project

462
00:20:03,750 --> 00:20:00,400
was conducted by the author but it soon

463
00:20:06,630 --> 00:20:03,760

became apparent as the project continued

464

00:20:09,270 --> 00:20:06,640

for year after year that more help was

465

00:20:11,750 --> 00:20:09,280

needed in not only collecting but also

466

00:20:14,149 --> 00:20:11,760

in assessing predictions for several

467

00:20:17,029 --> 00:20:14,159

weeks in 2016 a small team from

468

00:20:18,950 --> 00:20:17,039

australian skeptics inc met to pour over

469

00:20:22,390 --> 00:20:18,960

the predictions and research them to

470

00:20:24,230 --> 00:20:22,400

draw conclusions this was invaluable to

471

00:20:26,789 --> 00:20:24,240

the project and those involved are

472

00:20:29,669 --> 00:20:26,799

thanked in the credits at other periods

473

00:20:32,470 --> 00:20:29,679

over the years predictions were sent via

474

00:20:33,830 --> 00:20:32,480

email or text messages to people who

475

00:20:36,149 --> 00:20:33,840

would spend time researching the

476

00:20:37,990 --> 00:20:36,159

outcomes these results would be reviewed

477

00:20:39,029 --> 00:20:38,000

by the author for inclusion into the

478

00:20:45,669 --> 00:20:39,039

database

479

00:20:48,630 --> 00:20:45,679

to thousands of entries a new group was

480

00:20:51,750 --> 00:20:48,640

formed via zoom video meetings

481

00:20:53,909 --> 00:20:51,760

the group met each week for over a year

482

00:20:56,789 --> 00:20:53,919

and varied in size from five to ten

483

00:20:57,990 --> 00:20:56,799

people mostly from australia canada and

484

00:20:59,830 --> 00:20:58,000

the usa

485

00:21:02,149 --> 00:20:59,840

each meeting lasted two hours but

486

00:21:04,149 --> 00:21:02,159

sometimes longer these meetings

487

00:21:06,549 --> 00:21:04,159

consisted of the author supplying a

488

00:21:08,870 --> 00:21:06,559

prediction from the database and then

489

00:21:10,070 --> 00:21:08,880

the group researching the outcome of the

490

00:21:16,230 --> 00:21:10,080

prediction

491

00:21:18,149 --> 00:21:16,240

discussed and online searches used to

492

00:21:20,230 --> 00:21:18,159

discover the result

493

00:21:22,710 --> 00:21:20,240

at times this was a quick task with the

494

00:21:24,549 --> 00:21:22,720

answer found easily as either my

495

00:21:25,909 --> 00:21:24,559

predicted event happened

496

00:21:28,549 --> 00:21:25,919

or it did not

497

00:21:30,630 --> 00:21:28,559

and other times it took a great effort

498

00:21:31,590 --> 00:21:30,640

and much searching to discover the

499

00:21:34,230 --> 00:21:31,600

answer

500

00:21:36,710 --> 00:21:34,240

stock market charts interest rates over

501
00:21:38,630 --> 00:21:36,720
the years housing markets exchange rates

502
00:21:41,430 --> 00:21:38,640
and so on all took

503
00:21:42,950 --> 00:21:41,440
a great deal of time to research

504
00:21:45,750 --> 00:21:42,960
even the plight of any particular

505
00:21:48,630 --> 00:21:45,760
sporting team took time and effort to

506
00:21:50,870 --> 00:21:48,640
research if the conclusion was debated

507
00:21:53,029 --> 00:21:50,880
the author made the final call

508
00:21:56,630 --> 00:21:53,039
many of these uncertain predictions

509
00:21:58,549 --> 00:21:56,640
ended up being catalogued as too vague

510
00:22:00,710 --> 00:21:58,559
having many eyes looking over the same

511
00:22:03,110 --> 00:22:00,720
prediction proved to be a great asset to

512
00:22:05,430 --> 00:22:03,120
the project cloaking a prediction in

513
00:22:08,070 --> 00:22:05,440

vague terms will be discussed later in

514

00:22:09,270 --> 00:22:08,080

this report however it is worth noting

515

00:22:10,630 --> 00:22:09,280

that around

516

00:22:12,470 --> 00:22:10,640

19

517

00:22:15,830 --> 00:22:12,480

of all the predictions cataloged in the

518

00:22:18,310 --> 00:22:15,840

database are of a vague nature and thus

519

00:22:19,750 --> 00:22:18,320

open to interpretation especially in

520

00:22:21,750 --> 00:22:19,760

hindsight

521

00:22:25,510 --> 00:22:21,760

not all predictions are clear with a

522

00:22:27,270 --> 00:22:25,520

definitive correct or wrong result each

523

00:22:30,390 --> 00:22:27,280

prediction was listed under two

524

00:22:32,789 --> 00:22:30,400

categories those being topic and main

525

00:22:36,230 --> 00:22:32,799

subject for example this prediction from

526

00:22:38,870 --> 00:22:36,240

milton black in 2004 melbourne cup

527

00:22:40,390 --> 00:22:38,880

winning horse is dark brown

528

00:22:44,310 --> 00:22:40,400

is designated

529

00:22:47,110 --> 00:22:44,320

sport as the topic and melbourne cup as

530

00:22:49,830 --> 00:22:47,120

the main subject other topics include

531

00:22:51,909 --> 00:22:49,840

members of the uk royal family natural

532

00:22:54,310 --> 00:22:51,919

disasters science celebrities and

533

00:22:56,390 --> 00:22:54,320

terrorism it was not always possible to

534

00:22:59,110 --> 00:22:56,400

find obvious categories and some

535

00:23:00,950 --> 00:22:59,120

predictions are placed under what could

536

00:23:01,770 --> 00:23:00,960

more or less be called the topic and

537

00:23:04,710 --> 00:23:01,780

main subject

538

00:23:09,830 --> 00:23:04,720

[Music]

539

00:23:14,630 --> 00:23:11,909

assessing the predictions proved to be

540

00:23:16,630 --> 00:23:14,640

much more involved and time consuming

541

00:23:19,110 --> 00:23:16,640

than was anticipated many of the

542

00:23:22,070 --> 00:23:19,120

predictions could be assessed relatively

543

00:23:24,549 --> 00:23:22,080

easily as being correct in other words

544

00:23:26,789 --> 00:23:24,559

it was judged that any reasonable person

545

00:23:29,029 --> 00:23:26,799

would agree the events predicted did

546

00:23:31,669 --> 00:23:29,039

indeed come to pass

547

00:23:33,750 --> 00:23:31,679

or wrong with the same reasoning

548

00:23:36,230 --> 00:23:33,760

a great deal of these events are simply

549

00:23:38,789 --> 00:23:36,240

part of the historical record for

550

00:23:41,110 --> 00:23:38,799

example either someone had two children

551
00:23:43,350 --> 00:23:41,120
or they did not the political party won

552
00:23:45,669 --> 00:23:43,360
the election or it did not

553
00:23:47,029 --> 00:23:45,679
however other predictions were not so

554
00:23:50,149 --> 00:23:47,039
clear-cut

555
00:23:52,070 --> 00:23:50,159
marking a prediction as correct did at

556
00:23:54,710 --> 00:23:52,080
times present one of the many

557
00:23:57,350 --> 00:23:54,720
interesting aspects of this project does

558
00:24:00,070 --> 00:23:57,360
a mundane prediction coming true carry

559
00:24:02,390 --> 00:24:00,080
the same weight as a long shot or

560
00:24:06,310 --> 00:24:02,400
unlikely prediction coming true

561
00:24:08,950 --> 00:24:06,320
for example in 2013 kerry sees

562
00:24:10,870 --> 00:24:08,960
writing in the advertiser adelaide on

563
00:24:13,190 --> 00:24:10,880

the 5th of october predicted that

564

00:24:15,590 --> 00:24:13,200

australia would win the upcoming ash's

565

00:24:17,669 --> 00:24:15,600

test cricket series against england

566

00:24:19,510 --> 00:24:17,679

australia won and so the prediction is

567

00:24:22,630 --> 00:24:19,520

marked as correct

568

00:24:25,190 --> 00:24:22,640

however there was more or less a 50 50

569

00:24:26,710 --> 00:24:25,200

chance of this occurring as with many

570

00:24:29,029 --> 00:24:26,720

other predictions that look at the

571

00:24:30,070 --> 00:24:29,039

outcomes of sporting matches between two

572

00:24:33,110 --> 00:24:30,080

teams

573

00:24:36,549 --> 00:24:33,120

although this at times can vary if one

574

00:24:38,149 --> 00:24:36,559

team is favored owing to recent strong

575

00:24:41,590 --> 00:24:38,159

performances

576

00:24:45,029 --> 00:24:41,600

then we have this prediction from maria

577

00:24:49,029 --> 00:24:45,039

campbell who was quoted in the area news

578

00:24:51,430 --> 00:24:49,039

griffith on the 9th of january 2015.

579

00:24:53,909 --> 00:24:51,440

she said she was deeply concerned about

580

00:24:55,510 --> 00:24:53,919

future terrorist attacks quote the

581

00:24:57,830 --> 00:24:55,520

canberra shopping center will be a

582

00:25:00,310 --> 00:24:57,840

target i wouldn't be surprised if it's a

583

00:25:02,710 --> 00:25:00,320

suicide bomber and there will be one in

584

00:25:03,909 --> 00:25:02,720

parramatta too end quote

585

00:25:05,830 --> 00:25:03,919

although the first part of this

586

00:25:08,789 --> 00:25:05,840

prediction is wrong

587

00:25:12,470 --> 00:25:08,799

parramatta did suffer a terrorist

588

00:25:15,669 --> 00:25:12,480

related attack in october 2015 when a 15

589

00:25:19,029 --> 00:25:15,679

year old boy shot and killed curtis

590

00:25:19,990 --> 00:25:19,039

chang an unarmed police civilian finance

591

00:25:21,190 --> 00:25:20,000

worker

592

00:25:23,909 --> 00:25:21,200

it would be

593

00:25:25,190 --> 00:25:23,919

reasonable to consider this event as a

594

00:25:27,269 --> 00:25:25,200

long shot

595

00:25:28,870 --> 00:25:27,279

even though it was not a suicide bomber

596

00:25:29,990 --> 00:25:28,880

as predicted

597

00:25:32,149 --> 00:25:30,000

overall

598

00:25:34,070 --> 00:25:32,159

what might be called long shot or

599

00:25:35,590 --> 00:25:34,080

amazing predictions

600

00:25:37,909 --> 00:25:35,600

which predictions fall under this

601
00:25:39,430 --> 00:25:37,919
category is sometimes open to debate

602
00:25:41,669 --> 00:25:39,440
coming true are

603
00:25:43,909 --> 00:25:41,679
extremely rare in the database with the

604
00:25:47,350 --> 00:25:43,919
vast majority being of a more mundane

605
00:25:49,590 --> 00:25:47,360
nature thus these are not singled out in

606
00:25:52,549 --> 00:25:49,600
the database but cataloged as simply

607
00:25:55,669 --> 00:25:52,559
being correct a case worth examining in

608
00:25:57,990 --> 00:25:55,679
more detail is this prediction from 2001

609
00:26:00,230 --> 00:25:58,000
by kerry culkins

610
00:26:01,750 --> 00:26:00,240
major american cities targeted for

611
00:26:04,950 --> 00:26:01,760
terrorist attacks

612
00:26:07,750 --> 00:26:04,960
a lot of carnage is indicated

613
00:26:10,630 --> 00:26:07,760

while this undeniably happened new york

614

00:26:13,110 --> 00:26:10,640

and washington dc 911 and the prediction

615

00:26:15,510 --> 00:26:13,120

is marked correct we should also take

616

00:26:17,909 --> 00:26:15,520

into consideration the overall hit to

617

00:26:18,789 --> 00:26:17,919

miss ratio of miss culkins it turns out

618

00:26:19,870 --> 00:26:18,799

to be

619

00:26:23,190 --> 00:26:19,880

only

620

00:26:25,909 --> 00:26:23,200

4.69 correct with the remainder being

621

00:26:27,190 --> 00:26:25,919

listed as wrong too vague or expected

622

00:26:29,669 --> 00:26:27,200

collectively

623

00:26:32,549 --> 00:26:29,679

this led to the conclusion that

624

00:26:34,870 --> 00:26:32,559

this particular prediction was more of a

625

00:26:37,830 --> 00:26:34,880

random chance success rather than a

626
00:26:41,430 --> 00:26:37,840
mystical insight if someone makes many

627
00:26:43,990 --> 00:26:41,440
predictions in the case of culkins 213

628
00:26:47,110 --> 00:26:44,000
listed in total then we would expect

629
00:26:49,110 --> 00:26:47,120
some of them would come true regardless

630
00:26:51,110 --> 00:26:49,120
with this in mind the general trend in

631
00:26:53,269 --> 00:26:51,120
the database was that the more

632
00:26:55,350 --> 00:26:53,279
predictions recorded for an individual

633
00:26:57,669 --> 00:26:55,360
or for a certain topic from many

634
00:27:00,630 --> 00:26:57,679
individuals the more the percentage of

635
00:27:02,549 --> 00:27:00,640
correct predictions settled close to the

636
00:27:04,549 --> 00:27:02,559
11 mark

637
00:27:05,909 --> 00:27:04,559
it is much harder to draw conclusions

638
00:27:08,630 --> 00:27:05,919

from those in the database with

639

00:27:11,029 --> 00:27:08,640

relatively few entries such as the case

640

00:27:13,669 --> 00:27:11,039

of patsy bennett or charmaine wilson

641

00:27:16,310 --> 00:27:13,679

both of whom have only six predictions

642

00:27:18,950 --> 00:27:16,320

listed with none being correct it would

643

00:27:20,789 --> 00:27:18,960

be expected that if there were more

644

00:27:23,269 --> 00:27:20,799

entries from these people

645

00:27:26,149 --> 00:27:23,279

some at least would be correct

646

00:27:27,909 --> 00:27:26,159

alternatively we have a 50 success rate

647

00:27:29,669 --> 00:27:27,919

for connie gold

648

00:27:32,710 --> 00:27:29,679

however with only four catalog

649

00:27:34,549 --> 00:27:32,720

predictions meaning only two are correct

650

00:27:36,870 --> 00:27:34,559

while we cannot draw satisfactory

651
00:27:39,350 --> 00:27:36,880
conclusions for these individuals their

652
00:27:40,520 --> 00:27:39,360
collective results do add to the overall

653
00:27:43,029 --> 00:27:40,530
results

654
00:27:43,990 --> 00:27:43,039
[Music]

655
00:27:48,950 --> 00:27:44,000
too

656
00:27:53,750 --> 00:27:51,029
vague predictions often dealt with

657
00:27:56,630 --> 00:27:53,760
matters of the heart or were rambling

658
00:27:59,350 --> 00:27:56,640
and confusing or contradictory these can

659
00:28:02,070 --> 00:27:59,360
be open to interpretation or even be

660
00:28:04,470 --> 00:28:02,080
impossible to falsify an example comes

661
00:28:06,470 --> 00:28:04,480
from this prediction made in 2009

662
00:28:10,950 --> 00:28:06,480
published in the sunday mail at late

663
00:28:12,789 --> 00:28:10,960

27th of december by sarina damon

664

00:28:14,950 --> 00:28:12,799

a major hollywood couple with

665

00:28:16,630 --> 00:28:14,960

connections to europe will go their

666

00:28:17,830 --> 00:28:16,640

separate ways

667

00:28:21,430 --> 00:28:17,840

what does

668

00:28:24,149 --> 00:28:21,440

connections to europe mean exactly who

669

00:28:25,029 --> 00:28:24,159

determines who is a major hollywood

670

00:28:29,190 --> 00:28:25,039

couple

671

00:28:32,070 --> 00:28:29,200

that matter this prediction could well

672

00:28:33,669 --> 00:28:32,080

be placed in the expected category

673

00:28:36,230 --> 00:28:33,679

more vagueness is found in the

674

00:28:38,070 --> 00:28:36,240

predictions like this one from simon

675

00:28:40,710 --> 00:28:38,080

turnbull writing in the sun herald

676

00:28:42,830 --> 00:28:40,720

sydney in 2009

677

00:28:45,750 --> 00:28:42,840

I macpherson

678

00:28:47,909 --> 00:28:45,760

love a recent agreement with a man close

679

00:28:49,190 --> 00:28:47,919

to her will attract a breakthrough

680

00:28:50,870 --> 00:28:49,200

love-wise

681

00:28:54,070 --> 00:28:50,880

but she is unsure whether the

682

00:28:56,870 --> 00:28:54,080

compatibility issue will wash

683

00:28:58,470 --> 00:28:56,880

vagueness can also take the form in what

684

00:29:01,430 --> 00:28:58,480

we may call

685

00:29:04,230 --> 00:29:01,440

new age or spiritual predictions such as

686

00:29:06,389 --> 00:29:04,240

this one from rose armitage published in

687

00:29:08,070 --> 00:29:06,399

the international psychics directory for

688

00:29:11,350 --> 00:29:08,080

2005.

689

00:29:13,510 --> 00:29:11,360

2005 is a seven year so there will be a

690

00:29:15,190 --> 00:29:13,520

need for people to get more in touch

691

00:29:17,029 --> 00:29:15,200

with their inner being

692

00:29:19,430 --> 00:29:17,039

the term used by those working on the

693

00:29:22,870 --> 00:29:19,440

project or such predictions was

694

00:29:25,110 --> 00:29:22,880

waffle some criticism is expected at the

695

00:29:27,110 --> 00:29:25,120

way such predictions are interpreted and

696

00:29:28,149 --> 00:29:27,120

this point is addressed later in this

697

00:29:30,549 --> 00:29:28,159

report

698

00:29:33,430 --> 00:29:30,559

psychics and others claiming paranormal

699

00:29:35,350 --> 00:29:33,440

abilities have in the past justified the

700

00:29:38,549 --> 00:29:35,360

vagueness of their predictions or

701
00:29:40,630 --> 00:29:38,559
readings by shifting the blame onto the

702
00:29:43,430 --> 00:29:40,640
indistinct messages

703
00:29:46,070 --> 00:29:43,440
via visions signs voices dreams or

704
00:29:47,350 --> 00:29:46,080
feelings they receive from disembodied

705
00:29:49,909 --> 00:29:47,360
spirits

706
00:29:52,230 --> 00:29:49,919
much as a faith healer may try to

707
00:29:55,190 --> 00:29:52,240
abdicate the claims of healing the sick

708
00:29:57,510 --> 00:29:55,200
that are implied by stating it is not

709
00:30:00,549 --> 00:29:57,520
they who heal it is the power of god

710
00:30:03,190 --> 00:30:00,559
working through them thus in both cases

711
00:30:05,029 --> 00:30:03,200
if a prediction is vague or wrong or a

712
00:30:07,350 --> 00:30:05,039
healing does not take place the

713
00:30:09,269 --> 00:30:07,360

responsibility can be shifted off the

714

00:30:11,590 --> 00:30:09,279

one making the claim

715

00:30:13,510 --> 00:30:11,600

for the purposes of this project

716

00:30:16,149 --> 00:30:13,520

those arguments are irrelevant and the

717

00:30:18,149 --> 00:30:16,159

person making the prediction is credited

718

00:30:19,269 --> 00:30:18,159

with and is responsible for that

719

00:30:24,070 --> 00:30:19,279

prediction

720

00:30:26,789 --> 00:30:24,080

open to interpretation may result in

721

00:30:28,550 --> 00:30:26,799

what is known as shoehorning

722

00:30:31,830 --> 00:30:28,560

discussed later in this report

723

00:30:36,470 --> 00:30:32,840

expected

724

00:30:38,630 --> 00:30:36,480

[Music]

725

00:30:41,750 --> 00:30:38,640

there are predictions which could

726

00:30:44,310 --> 00:30:41,760

technically be categorized as correct

727

00:30:47,110 --> 00:30:44,320

as they did come to pass

728

00:30:48,149 --> 00:30:47,120

but which are so obvious that they need

729

00:30:52,149 --> 00:30:48,159

to be

730

00:30:53,510 --> 00:30:52,159

differentiated and have thus been listed

731

00:30:56,470 --> 00:30:53,520

as expected

732

00:30:59,029 --> 00:30:56,480

such predictions show no indication of

733

00:31:01,830 --> 00:30:59,039

any psychic ability and may include such

734

00:31:04,870 --> 00:31:01,840

topics as health concerns for elderly

735

00:31:06,950 --> 00:31:04,880

people such as prince philip the usa

736

00:31:09,350 --> 00:31:06,960

being involved in a foreign conflict

737

00:31:11,590 --> 00:31:09,360

advancements in medical science and even

738

00:31:13,909 --> 00:31:11,600

more vague examples such as

739

00:31:15,029 --> 00:31:13,919

a well-known american comedian will pass

740

00:31:16,870 --> 00:31:15,039

away

741

00:31:19,430 --> 00:31:16,880

an actual prediction

742

00:31:22,549 --> 00:31:19,440

it is also common for predictions about

743

00:31:25,750 --> 00:31:22,559

natural disasters where we have examples

744

00:31:27,669 --> 00:31:25,760

such as this one from harry t

745

00:31:30,230 --> 00:31:27,679

writing in the international psychics

746

00:31:32,389 --> 00:31:30,240

directory in 2015

747

00:31:34,789 --> 00:31:32,399

i see large earthquakes happening in

748

00:31:39,750 --> 00:31:34,799

several parts of the world in particular

749

00:31:42,149 --> 00:31:39,760

california usa mexico china and japan

750

00:31:45,029 --> 00:31:42,159

other examples of expected include

751
00:31:48,389 --> 00:31:45,039
predicting that a long shot event

752
00:31:51,110 --> 00:31:48,399
won't happen for example a sporting team

753
00:31:53,990 --> 00:31:51,120
one among many in a league

754
00:31:57,750 --> 00:31:54,000
will not win a competition in january of

755
00:31:59,509 --> 00:31:57,760
2011 donna abraham is quoted in the

756
00:32:01,990 --> 00:31:59,519
leader windham

757
00:32:04,230 --> 00:32:02,000
and in bad news for western bulldogs

758
00:32:06,389 --> 00:32:04,240
fans she was negative about their

759
00:32:07,509 --> 00:32:06,399
chances of winning a premiership this

760
00:32:10,070 --> 00:32:07,519
year

761
00:32:12,950 --> 00:32:10,080
with 17 teams in the competition that

762
00:32:15,110 --> 00:32:12,960
year this prediction is far more likely

763
00:32:16,870 --> 00:32:15,120

to come true when considering these

764

00:32:19,430 --> 00:32:16,880

predictions researchers looked at the

765

00:32:21,269 --> 00:32:19,440

historical trends for example weather

766

00:32:23,110 --> 00:32:21,279

patterns economic trends history of

767

00:32:25,269 --> 00:32:23,120

certain natural disasters occurring in

768

00:32:28,230 --> 00:32:25,279

certain regions such as earthquakes and

769

00:32:30,149 --> 00:32:28,240

so on if a prediction matched the normal

770

00:32:32,620 --> 00:32:30,159

or expected trend

771

00:32:35,430 --> 00:32:32,630

it was catalogued under expected

772

00:32:37,000 --> 00:32:35,440

[Music]

773

00:32:40,630 --> 00:32:37,010

unknown

774

00:32:42,870 --> 00:32:40,640

[Music]

775

00:32:45,590 --> 00:32:42,880

it was discovered that some of the

776

00:32:48,149 --> 00:32:45,600

predictions were very difficult to

777

00:32:50,470 --> 00:32:48,159

analyze as they related to specific

778

00:32:53,110 --> 00:32:50,480

events that may not be in the public

779

00:32:56,230 --> 00:32:53,120

record an example of this comes once

780

00:32:58,549 --> 00:32:56,240

more from ann anne who wrote in the

781

00:33:01,830 --> 00:32:58,559

woman's day magazine on the 6th of

782

00:33:04,549 --> 00:33:01,840

january 2003 about nicole kidman

783

00:33:07,430 --> 00:33:04,559

she'll also have some minor surgery

784

00:33:09,830 --> 00:33:07,440

while no reports were found it is

785

00:33:11,110 --> 00:33:09,840

entirely possible that the prediction

786

00:33:15,029 --> 00:33:11,120

came true

787

00:33:17,590 --> 00:33:15,039

however unless we were to ask ms kidman

788

00:33:20,710 --> 00:33:17,600

we may never know predictions of a very

789

00:33:23,350 --> 00:33:20,720

personal nature are easy to make but

790

00:33:25,590 --> 00:33:23,360

very hard to verify these predictions

791

00:33:28,710 --> 00:33:25,600

were listed as unknown in the database

792

00:33:31,190 --> 00:33:28,720

and may be reassessed once better

793

00:33:33,509 --> 00:33:31,200

information comes to hand it is possible

794

00:33:35,909 --> 00:33:33,519

however that we may never know the true

795

00:33:38,070 --> 00:33:35,919

outcome of some of these predictions a

796

00:33:41,190 --> 00:33:38,080

very few predictions listed talk about

797

00:33:43,269 --> 00:33:41,200

events post 2020 and thus are out of the

798

00:33:46,149 --> 00:33:43,279

range of the project unless

799

00:33:48,990 --> 00:33:46,159

those could be examined in the light of

800

00:33:51,190 --> 00:33:49,000

events in 2021

801
00:33:55,990 --> 00:33:51,200

[Music]

802
00:34:01,830 --> 00:33:58,470
some predictions encountered were

803
00:34:04,789 --> 00:34:01,840
long and wordy with what turned out to

804
00:34:07,830 --> 00:34:04,799
be many facets or extra predictions

805
00:34:10,069 --> 00:34:07,840
woven into the overall outlook

806
00:34:12,069 --> 00:34:10,079
with these it was necessary to separate

807
00:34:14,550 --> 00:34:12,079
and analyze the predictions within the

808
00:34:17,430 --> 00:34:14,560
prediction as much as possible an

809
00:34:20,389 --> 00:34:17,440
example of this was from 2001 with

810
00:34:23,270 --> 00:34:20,399
georgina walker writing in new idea

811
00:34:25,270 --> 00:34:23,280
about the actress kate blanchett

812
00:34:27,270 --> 00:34:25,280
the next five years for kate will be

813
00:34:29,270 --> 00:34:27,280

fantastic and will see her reach the

814

00:34:31,270 --> 00:34:29,280

pinnacle of her success

815

00:34:33,589 --> 00:34:31,280

i keep thinking of an old movie called

816

00:34:35,190 --> 00:34:33,599

the three faces of eve and feel that she

817

00:34:38,069 --> 00:34:35,200

will take on a role with multiple

818

00:34:40,470 --> 00:34:38,079

personalities this movie will be to her

819

00:34:42,550 --> 00:34:40,480

what gladiator was to russell crowe i

820

00:34:44,869 --> 00:34:42,560

sense tension on the home front and kate

821

00:34:48,389 --> 00:34:44,879

may take time off to concentrate on her

822

00:34:50,629 --> 00:34:48,399

marriage to scriptwriter andrew upton

823

00:34:52,629 --> 00:34:50,639

this was finally broken down into four

824

00:34:55,689 --> 00:34:52,639

separate predictions that varied from

825

00:34:57,510 --> 00:34:55,699

correct to wrong to unknown

826
00:34:59,030 --> 00:34:57,520
[Music]

827
00:35:03,109 --> 00:34:59,040
easy to predict

828
00:35:04,870 --> 00:35:03,119
but difficult to analyze

829
00:35:06,870 --> 00:35:04,880
surprisingly many of the short

830
00:35:09,750 --> 00:35:06,880
predictions in the database proved to be

831
00:35:11,670 --> 00:35:09,760
difficult and time consuming to analyze

832
00:35:14,470 --> 00:35:11,680
these are often related to events in

833
00:35:18,390 --> 00:35:14,480
local councils that may or may not have

834
00:35:21,829 --> 00:35:18,400
been archived or be of a vague nature

835
00:35:23,190 --> 00:35:21,839
this example comes from angelica denton

836
00:35:25,990 --> 00:35:23,200
and was published in the australian

837
00:35:28,390 --> 00:35:26,000
psychics directory for 2006.

838
00:35:31,349 --> 00:35:28,400

a famous aussie actor may decide to make

839

00:35:32,870 --> 00:35:31,359

a movie with a spiritual slant

840

00:35:35,750 --> 00:35:32,880

analyzing this prediction meant

841

00:35:37,510 --> 00:35:35,760

researching movies made at the time

842

00:35:38,950 --> 00:35:37,520

anywhere in the world

843

00:35:40,710 --> 00:35:38,960

whether it could be said they had a

844

00:35:42,870 --> 00:35:40,720

spiritual slant

845

00:35:45,750 --> 00:35:42,880

what that means and if an australian

846

00:35:48,870 --> 00:35:45,760

actor was involved in in what capacity

847

00:35:51,190 --> 00:35:48,880

this aspect of investigation even has

848

00:35:53,190 --> 00:35:51,200

its own term that is

849

00:35:56,390 --> 00:35:53,200

brando linney's law

850

00:35:58,790 --> 00:35:56,400

which is defined on wikipedia as

851
00:36:01,349 --> 00:35:58,800
brendolini's law also known as the

852
00:36:03,910 --> 00:36:01,359
asymmetry principle

853
00:36:06,550 --> 00:36:03,920
is an internet adage that emphasizes the

854
00:36:08,950 --> 00:36:06,560
difficulty of debunking false fatuous or

855
00:36:11,190 --> 00:36:08,960
otherwise misleading information

856
00:36:14,150 --> 00:36:11,200
the amount of energy needed to refute

857
00:36:16,550 --> 00:36:14,160
is an order of magnitude larger

858
00:36:17,990 --> 00:36:16,560
than is needed to produce it

859
00:36:20,710 --> 00:36:18,000
it should be noted that while

860
00:36:23,510 --> 00:36:20,720
brandolini's law assumes the claim is

861
00:36:28,200 --> 00:36:23,520
bogus for the purposes of this project

862
00:36:30,710 --> 00:36:28,210
every claim was judged on its own merits

863
00:36:35,430 --> 00:36:30,720

[Music]

864

00:36:39,829 --> 00:36:37,829

skeptics bias

865

00:36:41,910 --> 00:36:39,839

the project was never an exercise in

866

00:36:44,230 --> 00:36:41,920

debunking it was undertaken by the

867

00:36:46,310 --> 00:36:44,240

australian skeptics a group interested

868

00:36:48,630 --> 00:36:46,320

in getting to the truth of the matter

869

00:36:50,790 --> 00:36:48,640

whatever that truth appears to be

870

00:36:53,430 --> 00:36:50,800

this can only be done by honest

871

00:36:55,829 --> 00:36:53,440

open-minded and diligent investigation

872

00:36:57,349 --> 00:36:55,839

and research

873

00:36:59,589 --> 00:36:57,359

those involved in assessing the

874

00:37:01,430 --> 00:36:59,599

predictions often did not need to use

875

00:37:03,430 --> 00:37:01,440

judgment where personal bias could

876
00:37:05,510 --> 00:37:03,440
influence the decision as many of the

877
00:37:08,310 --> 00:37:05,520
findings were self-evident predictions

878
00:37:10,230 --> 00:37:08,320
were clearly correct or clearly wrong

879
00:37:12,870 --> 00:37:10,240
judgment was called for with predictions

880
00:37:14,069 --> 00:37:12,880
considered to be of a vague or expected

881
00:37:16,150 --> 00:37:14,079
nature

882
00:37:17,750 --> 00:37:16,160
while the conclusions reached for any

883
00:37:19,990 --> 00:37:17,760
individual prediction are open to

884
00:37:22,470 --> 00:37:20,000
rebuttal and reassessment it is felt

885
00:37:24,790 --> 00:37:22,480
that this fine tuning would not alter

886
00:37:26,630 --> 00:37:24,800
the overall results to any significant

887
00:37:29,349 --> 00:37:26,640
extent

888
00:37:31,190 --> 00:37:29,359

not all predictions cataloged

889

00:37:33,910 --> 00:37:31,200

the true number of published predictions

890

00:37:36,630 --> 00:37:33,920

made in australia over the years 2000 to

891

00:37:39,589 --> 00:37:36,640

2020 may never be known

892

00:37:41,829 --> 00:37:39,599

nevertheless with over 3 800 predictions

893

00:37:44,550 --> 00:37:41,839

cataloged it is felt that a reasonable

894

00:37:47,270 --> 00:37:44,560

representation or cross-section has been

895

00:37:49,030 --> 00:37:47,280

achieved and valid conclusions may be

896

00:37:52,630 --> 00:37:49,040

drawn

897

00:37:54,710 --> 00:37:52,640

expected equals correct

898

00:37:57,589 --> 00:37:54,720

it might be said that predictions

899

00:38:00,630 --> 00:37:57,599

included in the expected category should

900

00:38:02,870 --> 00:38:00,640

be included in the results for correct

901
00:38:04,790 --> 00:38:02,880
while this is technically true there

902
00:38:07,109 --> 00:38:04,800
needs to be a differentiation between

903
00:38:09,510 --> 00:38:07,119
those claims where an unexpected event

904
00:38:12,550 --> 00:38:09,520
occurs and those where anyone could have

905
00:38:14,870 --> 00:38:12,560
predicted it psychic powers or none

906
00:38:16,550 --> 00:38:14,880
for instance predicting an earthquake in

907
00:38:19,670 --> 00:38:16,560
an earthquake region that has

908
00:38:21,910 --> 00:38:19,680
earthquakes every year is expected

909
00:38:24,069 --> 00:38:21,920
while they do come true such results

910
00:38:25,990 --> 00:38:24,079
diminish the claim of special or psychic

911
00:38:27,990 --> 00:38:26,000
abilities and are certainly no

912
00:38:30,150 --> 00:38:28,000
indication that such abilities are

913
00:38:33,349 --> 00:38:30,160

present

914

00:38:35,349 --> 00:38:33,359

for entertainment only

915

00:38:37,510 --> 00:38:35,359

australian skeptics may well be

916

00:38:40,069 --> 00:38:37,520

criticized for attacking what is after

917

00:38:42,870 --> 00:38:40,079

all only done for entertainment what

918

00:38:44,470 --> 00:38:42,880

some have called quote low hanging fruit

919

00:38:46,230 --> 00:38:44,480

end quote

920

00:38:48,710 --> 00:38:46,240

while this may be the attitude of

921

00:38:50,390 --> 00:38:48,720

magazine editors looking to fill pages

922

00:38:52,870 --> 00:38:50,400

with content that appeals to their

923

00:38:54,950 --> 00:38:52,880

readership the psychic industry by and

924

00:38:56,950 --> 00:38:54,960

large regards predictions as being a

925

00:38:59,430 --> 00:38:56,960

genuine phenomenon and those claiming

926

00:39:01,030 --> 00:38:59,440

the ability can make a living from it by

927

00:39:03,589 --> 00:39:01,040

not only getting paid by various

928

00:39:05,829 --> 00:39:03,599

publications but also by fortune telling

929

00:39:07,109 --> 00:39:05,839

the future for personal clients and

930

00:39:09,589 --> 00:39:07,119

businesses

931

00:39:11,990 --> 00:39:09,599

also if the results of this project did

932

00:39:14,630 --> 00:39:12,000

show evidence of psychic powers it could

933

00:39:16,710 --> 00:39:14,640

lead to a revolution in science and how

934

00:39:20,950 --> 00:39:16,720

we view nature

935

00:39:23,190 --> 00:39:20,960

science cannot test the spiritual world

936

00:39:24,950 --> 00:39:23,200

while those claiming psychic powers are

937

00:39:27,349 --> 00:39:24,960

keen to point out any research that

938

00:39:29,589 --> 00:39:27,359

appears to validate their worldview they

939

00:39:31,190 --> 00:39:29,599

are equally quick to dismiss research

940

00:39:33,190 --> 00:39:31,200

that does not

941

00:39:35,270 --> 00:39:33,200

this has been documented many times by

942

00:39:37,829 --> 00:39:35,280

skeptical groups when various psychics

943

00:39:40,550 --> 00:39:37,839

fail to pass mutually agreed tests of

944

00:39:43,190 --> 00:39:40,560

their paranormal claims

945

00:39:45,270 --> 00:39:43,200

a typical line of reasoning goes quote

946

00:39:47,829 --> 00:39:45,280

love exists but you cannot measure love

947

00:39:49,829 --> 00:39:47,839

using science since you cannot measure

948

00:39:51,589 --> 00:39:49,839

my claim using science my claim

949

00:39:52,950 --> 00:39:51,599

therefore exists

950

00:39:54,870 --> 00:39:52,960

end quote

951
00:39:57,430 --> 00:39:54,880
another line of reasoning observed is

952
00:39:59,589 --> 00:39:57,440
that the universe or the spirits

953
00:40:02,710 --> 00:39:59,599
directly intervene and interfere with

954
00:40:05,349 --> 00:40:02,720
investigations into the paranormal

955
00:40:07,510 --> 00:40:05,359
in our opinion science can and does draw

956
00:40:10,150 --> 00:40:07,520
valid conclusions from the examination

957
00:40:11,750 --> 00:40:10,160
and testing of paranormal claims such as

958
00:40:13,910 --> 00:40:11,760
divination

959
00:40:16,470 --> 00:40:13,920
there is no evidence of interference

960
00:40:20,309 --> 00:40:16,480
from disembodied spirits gods a

961
00:40:23,109 --> 00:40:20,319
conscious universe or karma

962
00:40:25,270 --> 00:40:23,119
cherry picking by skeptics

963
00:40:27,109 --> 00:40:25,280

just as it is noted that psychics will

964

00:40:29,670 --> 00:40:27,119

sometimes cherry-pick their predictions

965

00:40:31,750 --> 00:40:29,680

to only highlight their successes it is

966

00:40:33,750 --> 00:40:31,760

expected that this project will be

967

00:40:35,990 --> 00:40:33,760

criticized for a bias on the part of the

968

00:40:39,109 --> 00:40:36,000

researchers to select or favor

969

00:40:41,430 --> 00:40:39,119

predictions that were not successful

970

00:40:43,270 --> 00:40:41,440

however the researchers took pains to

971

00:40:45,990 --> 00:40:43,280

simply include any and all predictions

972

00:40:47,750 --> 00:40:46,000

that could be found via whatever means

973

00:40:49,670 --> 00:40:47,760

none were rejected beforehand on the

974

00:40:50,470 --> 00:40:49,680

basis of whether they were correct or

975

00:40:52,790 --> 00:40:50,480

wrong

976

00:40:53,990 --> 00:40:52,800

or were suspected of being correct or

977

00:40:55,990 --> 00:40:54,000

wrong

978

00:40:58,230 --> 00:40:56,000

it is acknowledged that there are likely

979

00:41:02,150 --> 00:40:58,240

to be published predictions yet to be

980

00:41:03,750 --> 00:41:02,160

found from the years 2000 to 2020 and

981

00:41:06,230 --> 00:41:03,760

while they would no doubt be a mixture

982

00:41:07,990 --> 00:41:06,240

of results it is not expected that their

983

00:41:11,910 --> 00:41:08,000

possible future inclusion would

984

00:41:14,390 --> 00:41:11,920

significantly alter the overall findings

985

00:41:16,150 --> 00:41:14,400

a notable exception are the stock market

986

00:41:18,309 --> 00:41:16,160

and other world predictions of milton

987

00:41:20,550 --> 00:41:18,319

black based upon astrology or has

988

00:41:22,470 --> 00:41:20,560

claimed psychic abilities

989

00:41:24,790 --> 00:41:22,480

these predictions numbering in the

990

00:41:27,270 --> 00:41:24,800

thousands and published on his website

991

00:41:29,430 --> 00:41:27,280

are somewhat lengthy convoluted vague

992

00:41:31,990 --> 00:41:29,440

and rambling mixed with opinion and

993

00:41:34,630 --> 00:41:32,000

advice and require a huge amount of time

994

00:41:36,470 --> 00:41:34,640

to analyze when and if that is even a

995

00:41:39,430 --> 00:41:36,480

possibility

996

00:41:41,030 --> 00:41:39,440

nevertheless a sample of over 150 of

997

00:41:43,349 --> 00:41:41,040

black's predictions that could be

998

00:41:46,069 --> 00:41:43,359

analyzed is included in the project

999

00:41:47,829 --> 00:41:46,079

mainly dealing with politics if another

1000

00:41:49,670 --> 00:41:47,839

party is willing to attempt to thorough

1001

00:41:52,950 --> 00:41:49,680

analysis of all of milton black's

1002

00:41:55,829 --> 00:41:52,960

predictions they are welcome to do so

1003

00:41:58,150 --> 00:41:55,839

waste of time

1004

00:42:00,390 --> 00:41:58,160

it might be claimed that tv shows

1005

00:42:02,309 --> 00:42:00,400

magazines and the general public will

1006

00:42:04,790 --> 00:42:02,319

continue to use psychics so an

1007

00:42:05,990 --> 00:42:04,800

investigation such as this is a waste of

1008

00:42:08,230 --> 00:42:06,000

time

1009

00:42:10,230 --> 00:42:08,240

but the aim of this project was never to

1010

00:42:12,870 --> 00:42:10,240

end or limit the exposure of those who

1011

00:42:14,390 --> 00:42:12,880

claim to be able to predict the future

1012

00:42:16,630 --> 00:42:14,400

the aim was to gain a better

1013

00:42:18,630 --> 00:42:16,640

understanding of the phenomenon

1014

00:42:20,790 --> 00:42:18,640

skeptical groups have noted from long

1015

00:42:22,550 --> 00:42:20,800

experience that the consistent failure

1016

00:42:24,870 --> 00:42:22,560

of psychics when their claims are

1017

00:42:27,349 --> 00:42:24,880

examined has not resulted in their being

1018

00:42:29,430 --> 00:42:27,359

abandoned by the media or the public in

1019

00:42:31,589 --> 00:42:29,440

general

1020

00:42:33,589 --> 00:42:31,599

this does not prove that every correct

1021

00:42:36,790 --> 00:42:33,599

prediction listed in the database was

1022

00:42:38,390 --> 00:42:36,800

not achieved via paranormal means

1023

00:42:40,230 --> 00:42:38,400

we cannot prove that each and every

1024

00:42:42,710 --> 00:42:40,240

correct prediction was not achieved by

1025

00:42:45,030 --> 00:42:42,720

paranormal means but that was never the

1026

00:42:46,309 --> 00:42:45,040

purpose of the project

1027

00:42:48,390 --> 00:42:46,319

since the percentage of correct

1028

00:42:50,470 --> 00:42:48,400

predictions is low and in line with what

1029

00:42:52,790 --> 00:42:50,480

we might reasonably suspect by chance

1030

00:42:56,950 --> 00:42:52,800

alone there is not enough evidence to

1031

00:42:59,190 --> 00:42:56,960

suspect a paranormal possibility

1032

00:43:01,670 --> 00:42:59,200

ultimately it is not up to skeptical

1033

00:43:03,750 --> 00:43:01,680

groups to disprove any particular claim

1034

00:43:04,790 --> 00:43:03,760

it is up to those making the claim to

1035

00:43:06,870 --> 00:43:04,800

prove it

1036

00:43:10,829 --> 00:43:06,880

given the results of this project they

1037

00:43:17,220 --> 00:43:15,190

so self-assessment cherry picking and

1038

00:43:19,910 --> 00:43:17,230

shoe horning

1039

00:43:21,670 --> 00:43:19,920

[Music]

1040

00:43:23,990 --> 00:43:21,680

it is not uncommon for those making

1041

00:43:26,150 --> 00:43:24,000

predictions to pour over their work and

1042

00:43:27,670 --> 00:43:26,160

highlight successes either real or

1043

00:43:29,910 --> 00:43:27,680

perceived

1044

00:43:32,309 --> 00:43:29,920

an example of psychics assessing their

1045

00:43:35,430 --> 00:43:32,319

own predictions can be found in an

1046

00:43:38,790 --> 00:43:35,440

archived web page from sarah culkins and

1047

00:43:41,990 --> 00:43:38,800

her mother kerry colkins dated from 2006

1048

00:43:44,309 --> 00:43:42,000

where 176 predictions were listed going

1049

00:43:46,630 --> 00:43:44,319

back to 2001.

1050

00:43:49,270 --> 00:43:46,640

the predictions they considered to have

1051
00:43:51,790 --> 00:43:49,280
come true are marked with a tick

1052
00:43:54,390 --> 00:43:51,800
and those equate to about

1053
00:43:56,390 --> 00:43:54,400
75 percent

1054
00:43:59,349 --> 00:43:56,400
these include

1055
00:44:01,750 --> 00:43:59,359
the start of major earth changes

1056
00:44:03,829 --> 00:44:01,760
strange storms and torrential rains

1057
00:44:07,190 --> 00:44:03,839
very severe weather patterns indicated

1058
00:44:10,069 --> 00:44:07,200
we may have to learn to live with

1059
00:44:12,630 --> 00:44:10,079
wild storms and bushfire danger

1060
00:44:15,829 --> 00:44:12,640
using antigravity to lift heavy objects

1061
00:44:17,990 --> 00:44:15,839
will become a reality instead of a dream

1062
00:44:21,109 --> 00:44:18,000
the same predictions are marked as too

1063
00:44:22,630 --> 00:44:21,119

vague expected expected and wrong

1064

00:44:24,870 --> 00:44:22,640

in the database

1065

00:44:27,990 --> 00:44:24,880

there is also a tendency of psychics and

1066

00:44:30,309 --> 00:44:28,000

or their followers to shoehorn

1067

00:44:32,550 --> 00:44:30,319

vague expected or even incorrect

1068

00:44:33,990 --> 00:44:32,560

predictions to make them fit events as

1069

00:44:36,870 --> 00:44:34,000

they play out

1070

00:44:39,829 --> 00:44:36,880

an example of a prediction that could be

1071

00:44:42,309 --> 00:44:39,839

shoehorned comes from the 19th of

1072

00:44:45,109 --> 00:44:42,319

october 2019

1073

00:44:46,230 --> 00:44:45,119

where rose smith is quoted on the

1074

00:44:49,270 --> 00:44:46,240

website

1075

00:44:50,630 --> 00:44:49,280

starts at 60 dot news where it says in

1076

00:44:52,630 --> 00:44:50,640

part

1077

00:44:54,710 --> 00:44:52,640

all of a sudden i could see the statue

1078

00:44:56,550 --> 00:44:54,720

of liberty with all those blue stars

1079

00:44:59,349 --> 00:44:56,560

rotating above the head

1080

00:45:01,910 --> 00:44:59,359

here i was trying to do a horoscope

1081

00:45:03,430 --> 00:45:01,920

nothing to do with it and i thought this

1082

00:45:05,270 --> 00:45:03,440

is for america

1083

00:45:07,270 --> 00:45:05,280

it seemed to involve all the states

1084

00:45:10,870 --> 00:45:07,280

because it reminded me of each state it

1085

00:45:13,109 --> 00:45:10,880

was like 10 12 or 15 involved next

1086

00:45:14,069 --> 00:45:13,119

minute jesus was right in my face and a

1087

00:45:16,150 --> 00:45:14,079

cross

1088

00:45:17,990 --> 00:45:16,160

that usually means sacrifice so there

1089

00:45:20,470 --> 00:45:18,000

may be a big sacrifice coming up in

1090

00:45:22,870 --> 00:45:20,480

america probably around october because

1091

00:45:23,670 --> 00:45:22,880

i was doing october horoscopes at the

1092

00:45:25,349 --> 00:45:23,680

time

1093

00:45:27,510 --> 00:45:25,359

there's going to be something really bad

1094

00:45:29,750 --> 00:45:27,520

happen but i don't know what it was

1095

00:45:32,150 --> 00:45:29,760

because i couldn't focus on it as i was

1096

00:45:33,990 --> 00:45:32,160

doing something different i could tell

1097

00:45:37,430 --> 00:45:34,000

it's bad it's going to hurt a lot of

1098

00:45:39,670 --> 00:45:37,440

people it might be and i'm guessing here

1099

00:45:41,589 --> 00:45:39,680

something like new legislation that puts

1100

00:45:43,750 --> 00:45:41,599

large numbers of people out of work or

1101
00:45:46,630 --> 00:45:43,760
it might be health care legislation

1102
00:45:47,990 --> 00:45:46,640
all i know is millions of people will be

1103
00:45:50,309 --> 00:45:48,000
affected

1104
00:45:53,430 --> 00:45:50,319
in hindsight it would be tempting to

1105
00:45:56,150 --> 00:45:53,440
view this as a forewarning of covert 19

1106
00:45:57,910 --> 00:45:56,160
but to do that would be to cherry-pick

1107
00:46:00,309 --> 00:45:57,920
the parts of the overall prediction that

1108
00:46:02,870 --> 00:46:00,319
fit and ignore the rest especially the

1109
00:46:05,270 --> 00:46:02,880
reference to october 2019

1110
00:46:07,910 --> 00:46:05,280
the last line dealing with health care

1111
00:46:09,430 --> 00:46:07,920
legislation could be seen as the

1112
00:46:12,870 --> 00:46:09,440
continuing efforts of the trump

1113
00:46:16,630 --> 00:46:12,880

administration to dismantle obamacare

1114

00:46:18,309 --> 00:46:16,640

but this was hardly an unknown situation

1115

00:46:20,630 --> 00:46:18,319

as it stands this prediction is

1116

00:46:23,109 --> 00:46:20,640

catalogued under the too vague column in

1117

00:46:25,430 --> 00:46:23,119

the database as there are just too many

1118

00:46:28,230 --> 00:46:25,440

possible interpretations it is

1119

00:46:31,510 --> 00:46:28,240

conceivable that this conclusion would

1120

00:46:34,630 --> 00:46:31,520

be open to criticism by rose smith or

1121

00:46:36,950 --> 00:46:34,640

her supporters who may well view this

1122

00:46:39,190 --> 00:46:36,960

prediction in a somewhat more

1123

00:46:41,109 --> 00:46:39,200

forgiving light

1124

00:46:43,910 --> 00:46:41,119

another notable example comes from april

1125

00:46:46,630 --> 00:46:43,920

2020 when the australian media

1126
00:46:49,030 --> 00:46:46,640
especially the nine tv network were

1127
00:46:51,030 --> 00:46:49,040
reporting that harry t

1128
00:46:53,829 --> 00:46:51,040
a regular tv psychic had predicted

1129
00:46:56,910 --> 00:46:53,839
covert 19 years in advance

1130
00:47:00,710 --> 00:46:56,920
harry t relied on an email he sent in

1131
00:47:03,510 --> 00:47:00,720
2016 to the producers of the today show

1132
00:47:07,030 --> 00:47:03,520
channel 9 tv however when he appeared on

1133
00:47:09,270 --> 00:47:07,040
tv in 2020 to trumpet his success we

1134
00:47:11,030 --> 00:47:09,280
were not shown the original email only

1135
00:47:12,069 --> 00:47:11,040
the following points

1136
00:47:14,870 --> 00:47:12,079
point

1137
00:47:15,750 --> 00:47:14,880
saw china taking over america

1138
00:47:17,910 --> 00:47:15,760

point

1139

00:47:21,990 --> 00:47:17,920

saw more people getting sick

1140

00:47:24,630 --> 00:47:22,000

almost like the flu and other diseases

1141

00:47:27,270 --> 00:47:24,640

point europe not the greatest feeling

1142

00:47:28,950 --> 00:47:27,280

stuff happening reorganized europe will

1143

00:47:31,270 --> 00:47:28,960

change as we know it

1144

00:47:32,309 --> 00:47:31,280

point australia is the safest place to

1145

00:47:35,030 --> 00:47:32,319

be

1146

00:47:38,069 --> 00:47:35,040

from those points he was able at least

1147

00:47:41,270 --> 00:47:38,079

to the satisfaction of morning tv to

1148

00:47:43,829 --> 00:47:41,280

make them fit the covert 19 pandemic of

1149

00:47:45,510 --> 00:47:43,839

2020 and link what might be otherwise

1150

00:47:48,470 --> 00:47:45,520

unconnected predictions

1151

00:47:50,870 --> 00:47:48,480

it is not known what if any other points

1152

00:47:53,510 --> 00:47:50,880

were made in the email at the time and

1153

00:47:55,829 --> 00:47:53,520

one could speculate any other points

1154

00:47:58,069 --> 00:47:55,839

that did not seem to fit being left out

1155

00:47:59,829 --> 00:47:58,079

in other words cherry picking

1156

00:48:01,670 --> 00:47:59,839

the above predictions are not included

1157

00:48:04,630 --> 00:48:01,680

in the database as they were not

1158

00:48:07,270 --> 00:48:04,640

published at the time in 2016. if they

1159

00:48:09,589 --> 00:48:07,280

were included they would be categorized

1160

00:48:13,109 --> 00:48:09,599

individually as being wrong

1161

00:48:15,670 --> 00:48:13,119

expected too vague and expected

1162

00:48:20,230 --> 00:48:15,680

for more on this see the report in the

1163

00:48:22,230 --> 00:48:20,240

skeptic the volume 40 number 2 page ten

1164

00:48:25,270 --> 00:48:22,240

vague predictions are always open to

1165

00:48:27,990 --> 00:48:25,280

interpretation as events unfold

1166

00:48:30,790 --> 00:48:28,000

the media in april and may of 2020

1167

00:48:33,670 --> 00:48:30,800

especially tv were happy to run with the

1168

00:48:35,190 --> 00:48:33,680

story as if harry t really did predict

1169

00:48:37,670 --> 00:48:35,200

covert 19.

1170

00:48:40,150 --> 00:48:37,680

astrologer milton black states the

1171

00:48:42,710 --> 00:48:40,160

following on his website

1172

00:48:45,430 --> 00:48:42,720

milton is renowned for his uncanny and

1173

00:48:46,870 --> 00:48:45,440

accurate forecasts on world politics and

1174

00:48:49,030 --> 00:48:46,880

economics

1175

00:48:50,230 --> 00:48:49,040

his predictions are astoundingly

1176

00:48:52,069 --> 00:48:50,240

accurate

1177

00:48:54,069 --> 00:48:52,079

nevertheless an analysis of his

1178

00:48:56,790 --> 00:48:54,079

predictions in the database shows a

1179

00:48:59,190 --> 00:48:56,800

success rate of about 20 percent

1180

00:49:00,950 --> 00:48:59,200

which is not far above the expected

1181

00:49:03,510 --> 00:49:00,960

range of what could be considered

1182

00:49:05,910 --> 00:49:03,520

educated guessing the problems

1183

00:49:09,430 --> 00:49:05,920

encountered with black's predictions are

1184

00:49:10,320 --> 00:49:09,440

discussed in the predictable complaints

1185

00:49:13,270 --> 00:49:10,330

sidebar

1186

00:49:16,480 --> 00:49:13,280

[Music]

1187

00:49:18,630 --> 00:49:16,490

they did not see that coming

1188

00:49:21,349 --> 00:49:18,640

[Music]

1189

00:49:23,589 --> 00:49:21,359

another aspect considered were major

1190

00:49:26,950 --> 00:49:23,599

events in australia and from around the

1191

00:49:29,109 --> 00:49:26,960

world that if people could truly glimpse

1192

00:49:31,670 --> 00:49:29,119

the future should have been predicted

1193

00:49:35,349 --> 00:49:31,680

and published in the media to that end a

1194

00:49:38,390 --> 00:49:35,359

list of 210 events 10 from each year of

1195

00:49:40,630 --> 00:49:38,400

the project were compiled and compared

1196

00:49:44,630 --> 00:49:40,640

with the overall database

1197

00:49:46,230 --> 00:49:44,640

these events range from the 911 attacks

1198

00:49:48,390 --> 00:49:46,240

although it is noted that various people

1199

00:49:50,470 --> 00:49:48,400

claim to have predicted this to the rise

1200

00:49:52,950 --> 00:49:50,480

of donald trump and the outbreak of

1201

00:49:54,630 --> 00:49:52,960

curve at 19. again we have claims of

1202

00:49:56,870 --> 00:49:54,640

that being predicted

1203

00:49:58,790 --> 00:49:56,880

although we do find many examples of

1204

00:50:01,030 --> 00:49:58,800

earthquakes and other natural disasters

1205

00:50:03,670 --> 00:50:01,040

being foretold most of these are of a

1206

00:50:05,349 --> 00:50:03,680

vague or expected nature most years

1207

00:50:07,430 --> 00:50:05,359

australia will have major flooding and

1208

00:50:10,470 --> 00:50:07,440

or bushfires for example

1209

00:50:12,549 --> 00:50:10,480

what was clear after this exercise and

1210

00:50:13,430 --> 00:50:12,559

looking at the data in the project as a

1211

00:50:16,390 --> 00:50:13,440

whole

1212

00:50:19,750 --> 00:50:16,400

is that most of what is predicted does

1213

00:50:20,640 --> 00:50:19,760

not occur and most of what occurs

1214

00:50:23,670 --> 00:50:20,650

is not predicted

1215

00:50:26,680 --> 00:50:23,680

[Music]

1216

00:50:29,030 --> 00:50:26,690

control group

1217

00:50:30,390 --> 00:50:29,040

[Music]

1218

00:50:31,990 --> 00:50:30,400

this project

1219

00:50:34,390 --> 00:50:32,000

also tried to have some sort of

1220

00:50:37,750 --> 00:50:34,400

understanding as to a benchmark or guide

1221

00:50:40,150 --> 00:50:37,760

for what success rate a psychic would

1222

00:50:42,069 --> 00:50:40,160

need to achieve before we might consider

1223

00:50:43,910 --> 00:50:42,079

the real possibility of their having

1224

00:50:45,990 --> 00:50:43,920

paranormal powers

1225

00:50:47,829 --> 00:50:46,000

the flip side of this question is what

1226
00:50:50,549 --> 00:50:47,839
success rate would the average person in

1227
00:50:53,030 --> 00:50:50,559
the street with no claimed paranormal

1228
00:50:56,549 --> 00:50:53,040
powers have been predicting the coming

1229
00:50:59,190 --> 00:50:56,559
year's events by just guessing

1230
00:51:01,349 --> 00:50:59,200
to that end in late 2016 a group of

1231
00:51:03,470 --> 00:51:01,359
seven volunteers together with the

1232
00:51:06,630 --> 00:51:03,480
author made a list of

1233
00:51:08,870 --> 00:51:06,640
162 predictions for the year 2017 that

1234
00:51:10,430 --> 00:51:08,880
was published online with a timestamp

1235
00:51:12,150 --> 00:51:10,440
the results

1236
00:51:14,549 --> 00:51:12,160
27.2

1237
00:51:17,630 --> 00:51:14,559
correct more than two and a half times

1238
00:51:19,910 --> 00:51:17,640

the average of professional psychics

1239

00:51:23,829 --> 00:51:19,920

61.1 percent wrong

1240

00:51:25,109 --> 00:51:23,839

1.2 percent vague and 10.5 percent

1241

00:51:27,430 --> 00:51:25,119

expected

1242

00:51:29,430 --> 00:51:27,440

while these are relatively impressive it

1243

00:51:31,510 --> 00:51:29,440

has to be noted that skeptics probably

1244

00:51:33,430 --> 00:51:31,520

avoided having too many vague style

1245

00:51:36,230 --> 00:51:33,440

predictions which are common among

1246

00:51:38,950 --> 00:51:36,240

professionals and given the relatively

1247

00:51:41,589 --> 00:51:38,960

small number of data points it should be

1248

00:51:43,510 --> 00:51:41,599

viewed as a more of a talking point

1249

00:51:45,829 --> 00:51:43,520

nevertheless the success rate for the

1250

00:51:49,030 --> 00:51:45,839

control was higher than the success rate

1251
00:51:51,910 --> 00:51:49,040
for those claiming paranormal abilities

1252
00:51:53,370 --> 00:51:51,920
this may be a result of more educated

1253
00:51:56,549 --> 00:51:53,380
guesswork

1254
00:51:57,349 --> 00:51:56,559
[Music]

1255
00:52:03,470 --> 00:51:57,359
if

1256
00:52:07,430 --> 00:52:04,870
[Music]

1257
00:52:08,630 --> 00:52:07,440
skeptical groups sometimes pose the

1258
00:52:11,829 --> 00:52:08,640
question

1259
00:52:14,069 --> 00:52:11,839
what would the world be like if certain

1260
00:52:16,150 --> 00:52:14,079
paranormal or supernatural claims such

1261
00:52:18,710 --> 00:52:16,160
as prophecy or divination

1262
00:52:20,630 --> 00:52:18,720
were actually true with the melbourne

1263
00:52:23,829 --> 00:52:20,640

cup horse race being the

1264

00:52:25,910 --> 00:52:23,839

subject of 57 predictions it is worth

1265

00:52:28,150 --> 00:52:25,920

considering what it would mean to the

1266

00:52:30,710 --> 00:52:28,160

horse racing industry if people really

1267

00:52:33,829 --> 00:52:30,720

could foretell the results of races at a

1268

00:52:37,030 --> 00:52:33,839

rate above what we would expect from the

1269

00:52:38,309 --> 00:52:37,040

yearly statistics known from decades of

1270

00:52:41,510 --> 00:52:38,319

betting

1271

00:52:43,430 --> 00:52:41,520

like casinos the win loss ratio is a

1272

00:52:45,109 --> 00:52:43,440

known quantity and falls within a bell

1273

00:52:47,430 --> 00:52:45,119

curve of results

1274

00:52:48,549 --> 00:52:47,440

if there is an anomaly in the favor of a

1275

00:52:50,710 --> 00:52:48,559

punter

1276
00:52:52,710 --> 00:52:50,720
this can lead to suspicions of cheating

1277
00:52:55,030 --> 00:52:52,720
by whatever means

1278
00:52:58,230 --> 00:52:55,040
this is especially true with casinos

1279
00:53:00,870 --> 00:52:58,240
where statistics are kept for each table

1280
00:53:03,349 --> 00:53:00,880
the house always knows what to expect

1281
00:53:05,829 --> 00:53:03,359
heavy or consistent betting being placed

1282
00:53:08,309 --> 00:53:05,839
on winners via psychic predictions

1283
00:53:10,150 --> 00:53:08,319
would result in a radical change to the

1284
00:53:12,150 --> 00:53:10,160
operation of horse racing casinos

1285
00:53:13,510 --> 00:53:12,160
lotteries and every other form of

1286
00:53:17,349 --> 00:53:13,520
betting

1287
00:53:19,190 --> 00:53:17,359
this has never been observed and any

1288
00:53:21,349 --> 00:53:19,200

consistent anomalies have been the

1289

00:53:23,109 --> 00:53:21,359

result of more mundane activities

1290

00:53:25,190 --> 00:53:23,119

ranging from cheating or rigging the

1291

00:53:26,309 --> 00:53:25,200

system or technical faults with

1292

00:53:28,950 --> 00:53:26,319

equipment

1293

00:53:31,430 --> 00:53:28,960

if it were the case that psychics could

1294

00:53:34,069 --> 00:53:31,440

correctly predict the outcomes it would

1295

00:53:35,750 --> 00:53:34,079

lead to the collapse of these industries

1296

00:53:37,829 --> 00:53:35,760

it is interesting to note that while

1297

00:53:40,630 --> 00:53:37,839

around 20 of predictions concerning the

1298

00:53:42,630 --> 00:53:40,640

melbourne cup are marked as correct

1299

00:53:44,710 --> 00:53:42,640

most of these are of a general nature

1300

00:53:47,670 --> 00:53:44,720

with only five predictions naming the

1301
00:53:49,750 --> 00:53:47,680
actual winner on a more serious issue

1302
00:53:52,470 --> 00:53:49,760
could a psychic be held legally

1303
00:53:55,349 --> 00:53:52,480
accountable for not passing on warnings

1304
00:53:57,750 --> 00:53:55,359
of future negative events if prophecy or

1305
00:53:59,990 --> 00:53:57,760
divination really did work as claimed

1306
00:54:02,950 --> 00:54:00,000
the entire history of our species would

1307
00:54:05,589 --> 00:54:02,960
be drastically different and we would be

1308
00:54:09,990 --> 00:54:05,599
living in a world unrecognizable to the

1309
00:54:15,990 --> 00:54:12,760
looking into the future

1310
00:54:17,670 --> 00:54:16,000
[Music]

1311
00:54:20,790 --> 00:54:17,680
the great australian psychic prediction

1312
00:54:21,990 --> 00:54:20,800
project like science itself is a work in

1313
00:54:24,150 --> 00:54:22,000

progress

1314

00:54:26,630 --> 00:54:24,160

it is open to the addition of new

1315

00:54:29,270 --> 00:54:26,640

predictions published in australia by

1316

00:54:31,109 --> 00:54:29,280

australian psychics from the time period

1317

00:54:33,750 --> 00:54:31,119

2000 to 2020

1318

00:54:36,630 --> 00:54:33,760

if found and the correction of those

1319

00:54:38,789 --> 00:54:36,640

predictions that are in error

1320

00:54:41,510 --> 00:54:38,799

such as a correct prediction that is

1321

00:54:44,630 --> 00:54:41,520

later found out to be wrong or

1322

00:54:47,349 --> 00:54:44,640

too vague or indeed a wrong or unknown

1323

00:54:48,470 --> 00:54:47,359

prediction that is later found out to be

1324

00:54:51,829 --> 00:54:48,480

correct

1325

00:54:53,349 --> 00:54:51,839

people mentioned in the database are

1326

00:54:55,109 --> 00:54:53,359

misquoted or predictions are

1327

00:54:58,069 --> 00:54:55,119

misattributed

1328

00:55:00,710 --> 00:54:58,079

given the sheer number of catalogued

1329

00:55:03,589 --> 00:55:00,720

predictions it is not expected that any

1330

00:55:06,230 --> 00:55:03,599

future corrections will significantly

1331

00:55:08,150 --> 00:55:06,240

change the conclusions of this report it

1332

00:55:10,309 --> 00:55:08,160

is expected that some

1333

00:55:12,950 --> 00:55:10,319

or many of the people listed in the

1334

00:55:14,789 --> 00:55:12,960

database will come forth with a list of

1335

00:55:15,750 --> 00:55:14,799

other predictions made by them that are

1336

00:55:20,870 --> 00:55:15,760

correct

1337

00:55:22,870 --> 00:55:20,880

prove the conclusion wrong

1338

00:55:25,510 --> 00:55:22,880

at least in their case

1339

00:55:27,510 --> 00:55:25,520

these would be considered for inclusion

1340

00:55:30,630 --> 00:55:27,520

as long as there was proof of the

1341

00:55:32,789 --> 00:55:30,640

original publication date they were not

1342

00:55:34,789 --> 00:55:32,799

altered and were not cherry-picked out

1343

00:55:36,470 --> 00:55:34,799

of a range of predictions that included

1344

00:55:38,309 --> 00:55:36,480

those that failed

1345

00:55:39,750 --> 00:55:38,319

it is not expected that enough of these

1346

00:55:42,069 --> 00:55:39,760

possible corrections would be put

1347

00:55:44,710 --> 00:55:42,079

forward to significantly change the

1348

00:55:46,390 --> 00:55:44,720

conclusions of this project

1349

00:55:48,630 --> 00:55:46,400

australian skeptics welcomes and

1350

00:55:50,870 --> 00:55:48,640

encourages other groups or individuals

1351

00:55:53,670 --> 00:55:50,880

anywhere in the world to repeat or

1352

00:55:55,190 --> 00:55:53,680

create a similar project independently

1353

00:55:55,790 --> 00:55:55,200

and we would be interested in the

1354

00:55:59,190 --> 00:55:55,800

results

1355

00:56:04,950 --> 00:56:01,820

conclusions

1356

00:56:10,549 --> 00:56:08,309

even with taking a margin of error into

1357

00:56:13,190 --> 00:56:10,559

account it is hard to see how the

1358

00:56:16,950 --> 00:56:13,200

results of this project can point to any

1359

00:56:19,750 --> 00:56:16,960

other conclusion that those claiming to

1360

00:56:22,150 --> 00:56:19,760

see into the future simply cannot do so

1361

00:56:24,950 --> 00:56:22,160

with a success rate better than chance

1362

00:56:27,589 --> 00:56:24,960

educated guesswork or luck

1363

00:56:30,789 --> 00:56:27,599

there is no reason to come to the

1364

00:56:33,430 --> 00:56:30,799

conclusion that mystical abilities exist

1365

00:56:34,710 --> 00:56:33,440

and they can be used to see into the

1366

00:56:37,109 --> 00:56:34,720

future

1367

00:56:39,270 --> 00:56:37,119

given the number of predictions

1368

00:56:42,549 --> 00:56:39,280

over 3800

1369

00:56:46,470 --> 00:56:42,559

we expect to find many examples of those

1370

00:56:48,390 --> 00:56:46,480

that come true to one degree or another

1371

00:56:50,390 --> 00:56:48,400

it is also noted that psychics and their

1372

00:56:52,870 --> 00:56:50,400

supporters have at times

1373

00:56:54,950 --> 00:56:52,880

shoehorned predictions to make them fit

1374

00:56:57,589 --> 00:56:54,960

events as they unfold thus giving a

1375

00:57:00,069 --> 00:56:57,599

false impression of success

1376
00:57:02,549 --> 00:57:00,079
small number of correct predictions can

1377
00:57:05,430 --> 00:57:02,559
seem uncanny indeed

1378
00:57:08,870 --> 00:57:05,440
but again this is expected given we have

1379
00:57:11,190 --> 00:57:08,880
over 3 800 predictions to choose from

1380
00:57:14,150 --> 00:57:11,200
even someone with no claimed mystical

1381
00:57:17,270 --> 00:57:14,160
powers can score well as we can see with

1382
00:57:20,069 --> 00:57:17,280
the control group from the year 2017. it

1383
00:57:22,150 --> 00:57:20,079
would also be expected that if the

1384
00:57:25,030 --> 00:57:22,160
people listed in the database could

1385
00:57:27,670 --> 00:57:25,040
indeed use mystical powers to foresee

1386
00:57:29,069 --> 00:57:27,680
events the number of correct predictions

1387
00:57:32,230 --> 00:57:29,079
would be

1388
00:57:34,630 --> 00:57:32,240

significantly higher than what was found

1389

00:57:36,470 --> 00:57:34,640

the author is confident given the fact

1390

00:57:39,109 --> 00:57:36,480

that an 11

1391

00:57:41,109 --> 00:57:39,119

correct rate remained more or less

1392

00:57:42,309 --> 00:57:41,119

consistent during the years of working

1393

00:57:44,789 --> 00:57:42,319

on the project

1394

00:57:47,670 --> 00:57:44,799

that this rate represents the norm for

1395

00:57:49,270 --> 00:57:47,680

those claiming psychic abilities

1396

00:57:51,109 --> 00:57:49,280

while this project remains open to

1397

00:57:52,549 --> 00:57:51,119

correction if errors are discovered it

1398

00:57:54,710 --> 00:57:52,559

is not expected that there would be

1399

00:57:56,549 --> 00:57:54,720

enough of these errors found to cause a

1400

00:57:57,829 --> 00:57:56,559

rethink of the conclusions

1401
00:58:00,390 --> 00:57:57,839
in summary

1402
00:58:01,670 --> 00:58:00,400
what we find is that

1403
00:58:03,910 --> 00:58:01,680
point

1404
00:58:05,589 --> 00:58:03,920
psychics make many predictions the

1405
00:58:06,549 --> 00:58:05,599
scattergun effect

1406
00:58:08,870 --> 00:58:06,559
point

1407
00:58:11,589 --> 00:58:08,880
many of these are vague and amenable to

1408
00:58:13,670 --> 00:58:11,599
reinterpretation as events unfold

1409
00:58:15,430 --> 00:58:13,680
point a few predictions will be more or

1410
00:58:17,510 --> 00:58:15,440
less specific

1411
00:58:18,630 --> 00:58:17,520
point psychics point out the ones that

1412
00:58:20,870 --> 00:58:18,640
come true

1413
00:58:23,829 --> 00:58:20,880

or can be shoe warned and ignore the

1414

00:58:26,390 --> 00:58:23,839

rest point there is no need to worry

1415

00:58:28,470 --> 00:58:26,400

about tv producers or magazine editors

1416

00:58:31,829 --> 00:58:28,480

verifying the predictions

1417

00:58:33,910 --> 00:58:31,839

as they don't care or need to

1418

00:58:35,829 --> 00:58:33,920

point there is no need to worry about

1419

00:58:37,030 --> 00:58:35,839

the viewers or readers verifying your

1420

00:58:38,630 --> 00:58:37,040

predictions

1421

00:58:42,870 --> 00:58:38,640

as they will soon

1422

00:58:47,349 --> 00:58:45,530

some statistics

1423

00:58:49,030 --> 00:58:47,359

[Music]

1424

00:58:52,630 --> 00:58:49,040

the total number of predictions in the

1425

00:58:55,589 --> 00:58:52,640

database is 3811.

1426
00:58:57,510 --> 00:58:55,599
this may well grow as more predictions

1427
00:58:59,270 --> 00:58:57,520
are found

1428
00:59:01,670 --> 00:58:59,280
the final breakdown of verdicts

1429
00:59:04,390 --> 00:59:01,680
percentage-wise is correct

1430
00:59:06,950 --> 00:59:04,400
10.9 expected fourteen point nine

1431
00:59:07,990 --> 00:59:06,960
percent too vague eighteen point seven

1432
00:59:17,349 --> 00:59:08,000
percent

1433
00:59:21,030 --> 00:59:18,730
credits

1434
00:59:22,870 --> 00:59:21,040
[Music]

1435
00:59:25,270 --> 00:59:22,880
the author would like to thank everyone

1436
00:59:26,950 --> 00:59:25,280
who over the last 12 years or so has

1437
00:59:29,750 --> 00:59:26,960
given their time and support to this

1438
00:59:32,870 --> 00:59:29,760

project in no particular order brian

1439

00:59:35,910 --> 00:59:32,880

ecko trish han lara benham and lethia

1440

00:59:38,950 --> 00:59:35,920

dean dr steve roberts tim mendenham

1441

00:59:40,069 --> 00:59:38,960

sierra jones michelle franklin michelle

1442

00:59:41,349 --> 00:59:40,079

bickersma

1443

00:59:43,670 --> 00:59:41,359

leonard trammell

1444

00:59:45,750 --> 00:59:43,680

rob palmer pontes buckman

1445

00:59:47,910 --> 00:59:45,760

paula larabach

1446

00:59:50,870 --> 00:59:47,920

hillman susan gerbic

1447

00:59:54,309 --> 00:59:50,880

adrian hill wendy hughes ben radford

1448

00:59:56,789 --> 00:59:54,319

eric trebant stan west jim newman brian

1449

01:00:00,150 --> 00:59:56,799

hart dr angela matkey

1450

01:00:03,270 --> 01:00:00,160

kelly burke ian bryce percy crisp peter

1451

01:00:04,549 --> 01:00:03,280

beldich rebecca jones tom kelly

1452

01:00:06,309 --> 01:00:04,559

kyle polly

1453

01:00:10,870 --> 01:00:06,319

mikey robbins

1454

01:00:14,470 --> 01:00:12,069

[Music]

1455

01:00:16,549 --> 01:00:14,480

about the author richard saunders is

1456

01:00:19,190 --> 01:00:16,559

chief investigator for australian

1457

01:00:21,960 --> 01:00:19,200

skeptics inc and producer and presenter

1458

01:00:26,589 --> 01:00:21,970

of the skeptic zone podcast at

1459

01:00:28,789 --> 01:00:26,599

[Music]

1460

01:00:30,630 --> 01:00:28,799

skepticzone.tv and that was the great

1461

01:00:32,309 --> 01:00:30,640

australian psychic prediction project

1462

01:00:33,990 --> 01:00:32,319

published in the pages of the skeptic

1463

01:00:37,910 --> 01:00:34,000

the journal from australian skeptics

1464

01:00:39,829 --> 01:00:37,920

volume 41 number four from december 2021

1465

01:00:41,270 --> 01:00:39,839

and you can subscribe to the skeptic

1466

01:00:42,710 --> 01:00:41,280

magazine

1467

01:01:05,510 --> 01:00:42,720

at www.skeptics.com

1468

01:01:08,630 --> 01:01:07,030

thank you for listening to the skeptic

1469

01:01:10,950 --> 01:01:08,640

zone and thank you to adrian hill very

1470

01:01:12,549 --> 01:01:10,960

much for helping me read that report

1471

01:01:14,549 --> 01:01:12,559

about the great australian psychic

1472

01:01:16,630 --> 01:01:14,559

prediction project and i think we can

1473

01:01:19,030 --> 01:01:16,640

confidently say now

1474

01:01:21,349 --> 01:01:19,040

that uh well we've always been skeptical

1475

01:01:23,910 --> 01:01:21,359

of paranormal claims of

1476
01:01:25,990 --> 01:01:23,920
people being able to foresee events in

1477
01:01:28,789 --> 01:01:26,000
the future but now we have a good

1478
01:01:31,510 --> 01:01:28,799
basis to say why we're skeptical

1479
01:01:32,950 --> 01:01:31,520
now this being december so no matter

1480
01:01:33,910 --> 01:01:32,960
where you are around the world listening

1481
01:01:36,870 --> 01:01:33,920
to this

1482
01:01:38,870 --> 01:01:36,880
your local media will probably

1483
01:01:41,270 --> 01:01:38,880
have some time in the next couple of

1484
01:01:42,549 --> 01:01:41,280
weeks and into january

1485
01:01:43,510 --> 01:01:42,559
psychics

1486
01:01:45,430 --> 01:01:43,520
come in

1487
01:01:47,510 --> 01:01:45,440
to give their predictions

1488
01:01:49,030 --> 01:01:47,520

keep an eye out for that

1489

01:01:50,309 --> 01:01:49,040

now getting back to this protest

1490

01:01:52,630 --> 01:01:50,319

downtown which you can hear in the

1491

01:01:54,789 --> 01:01:52,640

background there

1492

01:01:57,190 --> 01:01:54,799

it was pretty small really people

1493

01:01:58,789 --> 01:01:57,200

carrying australian flags upside down

1494

01:02:02,870 --> 01:01:58,799

australian flags

1495

01:02:04,870 --> 01:02:02,880

the navy

1496

01:02:07,910 --> 01:02:04,880

i'm just looking at the video i shot now

1497

01:02:11,190 --> 01:02:07,920

hospitals are filled with jab victims it

1498

01:02:16,230 --> 01:02:13,190

and they were at the

1499

01:02:18,150 --> 01:02:16,240

door here of the court buildings is like

1500

01:02:20,630 --> 01:02:18,160

a little entryway

1501
01:02:22,150 --> 01:02:20,640
and on the glass they were posting up

1502
01:02:23,430 --> 01:02:22,160
their

1503
01:02:25,589 --> 01:02:23,440
apparently

1504
01:02:27,910 --> 01:02:25,599
legal signs

1505
01:02:31,109 --> 01:02:27,920
anyway off they marched from around the

1506
01:02:33,990 --> 01:02:31,119
law courts to the parliament building

1507
01:02:35,750 --> 01:02:34,000
and at one stage as i was filming these

1508
01:02:37,349 --> 01:02:35,760
people

1509
01:02:38,789 --> 01:02:37,359
more or less minding my own business i

1510
01:02:39,829 --> 01:02:38,799
didn't say a word i was just very

1511
01:02:43,109 --> 01:02:39,839
discreet

1512
01:02:45,270 --> 01:02:43,119
i walked past some women who started to

1513
01:02:46,789 --> 01:02:45,280

go

1514

01:02:49,589 --> 01:02:46,799

at me

1515

01:02:52,470 --> 01:02:49,599

because i was wearing a mask and as i

1516

01:02:54,950 --> 01:02:52,480

watched this video now none of them

1517

01:02:56,789 --> 01:02:54,960

none of them were wearing masks at all

1518

01:02:59,270 --> 01:02:56,799

and they were all in very close

1519

01:03:01,510 --> 01:02:59,280

proximity to each other

1520

01:03:02,789 --> 01:03:01,520

so there you go i saw a protest for the

1521

01:03:05,109 --> 01:03:02,799

first time

1522

01:03:06,390 --> 01:03:05,119

first hand

1523

01:03:08,230 --> 01:03:06,400

thank you to those listeners and

1524

01:03:10,510 --> 01:03:08,240

supporters who don't go to protests but

1525

01:03:13,349 --> 01:03:10,520

keep supporting the skeptic zone at

1526

01:03:15,510 --> 01:03:13,359

skepticzone.tv via patreon or paypal

1527

01:03:16,789 --> 01:03:15,520

your contribution means you listen to

1528

01:03:18,950 --> 01:03:16,799

the show every week and everybody else

1529

01:03:20,710 --> 01:03:18,960

listens to the show every week so

1530

01:03:22,710 --> 01:03:20,720

everybody who doesn't support the show

1531

01:03:25,109 --> 01:03:22,720

i'm very pleased that you listen to the

1532

01:03:27,670 --> 01:03:25,119

show but maybe you can spare a thought

1533

01:03:29,750 --> 01:03:27,680

of thanks to those people who do

1534

01:03:30,789 --> 01:03:29,760

chip in every week so the show can keep

1535

01:03:32,789 --> 01:03:30,799

going

1536

01:03:34,150 --> 01:03:32,799

thank you people

1537

01:03:36,150 --> 01:03:34,160

but for this week

1538

01:03:41,990 --> 01:03:36,160

this is richard saunders signing off

1539

01:03:45,190 --> 01:03:43,750

you've been listening to the skeptic

1540

01:03:46,630 --> 01:03:45,200

zone podcast

1541

01:03:49,750 --> 01:03:46,640

please visit our website at

1542

01:03:55,430 --> 01:03:52,870

for show notes contacts and to access

1543

01:03:57,589 --> 01:03:55,440

the back catalog of episodes going back

1544

01:03:59,589 --> 01:03:57,599

to 2008.

1545

01:04:02,309 --> 01:03:59,599

you can follow the skeptic zone podcast

1546

01:04:04,470 --> 01:04:02,319

on twitter at skepticzone

1547

01:04:06,710 --> 01:04:04,480

visit our facebook page or leave a

1548

01:04:08,870 --> 01:04:06,720

review on itunes

1549

01:04:12,069 --> 01:04:08,880

you can also support the skeptic zone

1550

01:04:15,190 --> 01:04:12,079

via patreon or paypal the skeptic zone

1551

01:04:17,029 --> 01:04:15,200

podcast is an independent production

1552

01:04:19,349 --> 01:04:17,039

the views and opinions expressed on the

1553

01:04:21,829 --> 01:04:19,359

skeptic zone are not necessarily those

1554

01:04:23,490 --> 01:04:21,839

of australian skeptics or any other