



Episode **698**

# THE SKEPTIC ZONE PODCAST

20 February 2022

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The Skeptic Zone Podcast  
Episode 698 - 20 February 2022



Richard Saunders

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Tim Mendham

Nurses on the march  
in Sydney

The book of Tim  
with Tim Mendham  
The origins of  
the word "bunk"

TROVE  
"Mind Body \$pirit"



1  
00:00:09,190 --> 00:00:06,550

[Music]

2  
00:00:13,930 --> 00:00:09,200

welcome to the skeptic zone the podcast

3  
00:00:16,840 --> 00:00:13,940

from australia for science and reason

4  
00:00:24,070 --> 00:00:16,850

[Applause]

5  
00:00:28,189 --> 00:00:26,230

yes it's the skeptic's own podcast

6  
00:00:32,310 --> 00:00:28,199

episode number

7  
00:00:34,229 --> 00:00:32,320

698 for the 20th of february 2022

8  
00:00:36,470 --> 00:00:34,239

richard saunders coming to you today

9  
00:00:37,990 --> 00:00:36,480

from sydney australia

10  
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:38,000

where it's um

11  
00:00:42,549 --> 00:00:39,440

still

12  
00:00:46,069 --> 00:00:42,559

somewhat uh muggy and hot although the

13  
00:00:48,790 --> 00:00:46,079

temperatures are fluctuating a bit

14  
00:00:50,470 --> 00:00:48,800  
maybe i should become a weather reporter

15  
00:00:53,029 --> 00:00:50,480  
coming up on this week's show it's the

16  
00:00:54,709 --> 00:00:53,039  
return the return of the book of tim

17  
00:00:56,869 --> 00:00:54,719  
with tim mendem

18  
00:00:58,790 --> 00:00:56,879  
tim mendem being the executive officer

19  
00:01:02,069 --> 00:00:58,800  
of australian skeptics and of course the

20  
00:01:04,070 --> 00:01:02,079  
editor of that fine journal the skeptic

21  
00:01:06,070 --> 00:01:04,080  
tim will be reading from the pages of

22  
00:01:09,429 --> 00:01:06,080  
the skeptic once again

23  
00:01:12,390 --> 00:01:09,439  
and this time he dives into the meaning

24  
00:01:14,070 --> 00:01:12,400  
the origin of the word

25  
00:01:22,550 --> 00:01:14,080  
bunk

26

00:01:26,149 --> 00:01:22,560

find out with tim mendum

27

00:01:27,830 --> 00:01:26,159

also this week on the trove segment we

28

00:01:29,990 --> 00:01:27,840

look at some of the historical

29

00:01:32,950 --> 00:01:30,000

references to the term

30

00:01:36,469 --> 00:01:32,960

mind body spirit or festival of mind

31

00:01:38,950 --> 00:01:36,479

body spirit or mind body spirit expos

32

00:01:40,950 --> 00:01:38,960

and things like that new age fairs with

33

00:01:43,990 --> 00:01:40,960

psychics and all sorts of people who

34

00:01:46,069 --> 00:01:44,000

claim to be able to heal you via

35

00:01:48,149 --> 00:01:46,079

mystical methods

36

00:01:49,670 --> 00:01:48,159

but to start off the show this week our

37

00:01:52,069 --> 00:01:49,680

first report is something a little

38

00:01:55,429 --> 00:01:52,079

unusual i'm on the spot i'm in the

39

00:01:57,590 --> 00:01:55,439

street i'm on the scene as nurses and

40

00:01:59,109 --> 00:01:57,600

midwives here in sydney

41

00:02:00,310 --> 00:01:59,119

and i think throughout the state of new

42

00:02:03,429 --> 00:02:00,320

south wales

43

00:02:05,350 --> 00:02:03,439

took industrial action and protested in

44

00:02:07,830 --> 00:02:05,360

the streets

45

00:02:09,029 --> 00:02:07,840

now the reason i got out of bed to cover

46

00:02:10,469 --> 00:02:09,039

this uh

47

00:02:12,070 --> 00:02:10,479

this protest

48

00:02:15,110 --> 00:02:12,080

was that they were

49

00:02:17,510 --> 00:02:15,120

um protesting against

50

00:02:20,150 --> 00:02:17,520

well what's happened to them really

51

00:02:22,390 --> 00:02:20,160

since uh the pandemic hit

52

00:02:24,949 --> 00:02:22,400

and the tough conditions they've found

53

00:02:26,150 --> 00:02:24,959

themselves in having to deal with covert

54

00:02:28,790 --> 00:02:26,160

patients

55

00:02:31,270 --> 00:02:28,800

and also things like having to be on the

56

00:02:33,270 --> 00:02:31,280

scene when people are in the last stages

57

00:02:34,869 --> 00:02:33,280

of life and their friends and family

58

00:02:38,150 --> 00:02:34,879

can't be there because of covert

59

00:02:39,990 --> 00:02:38,160

restrictions having their

60

00:02:43,110 --> 00:02:40,000

colleagues

61

00:02:45,190 --> 00:02:43,120

fall sick with covert and then

62

00:02:47,190 --> 00:02:45,200

being stretched to the limits

63

00:02:48,070 --> 00:02:47,200

because of low staffing and all sorts of

64

00:02:50,550 --> 00:02:48,080

things

65

00:02:52,229 --> 00:02:50,560

so i thought that was worth covering but

66

00:02:54,070 --> 00:02:52,239

was also a chance for me to see the

67

00:02:55,589 --> 00:02:54,080

difference between

68

00:02:56,470 --> 00:02:55,599

um

69

00:02:58,710 --> 00:02:56,480

people

70

00:03:00,869 --> 00:02:58,720

who are firmly based in science and

71

00:03:03,509 --> 00:03:00,879

reason the nurses and the midwives

72

00:03:06,229 --> 00:03:03,519

protesting as opposed to the people who

73

00:03:09,589 --> 00:03:06,239

are firmly not based on science and

74

00:03:12,309 --> 00:03:09,599

reason the anti-vaxxer conspiracy theory

75

00:03:14,949 --> 00:03:12,319

protests the freedom fighters

76  
00:03:17,750 --> 00:03:14,959  
and i found the differences to be stark

77  
00:03:20,229 --> 00:03:17,760  
i did come across a freedom anti-vaxxer

78  
00:03:21,589 --> 00:03:20,239  
protest a few months ago in sydney

79  
00:03:24,070 --> 00:03:21,599  
and

80  
00:03:26,309 --> 00:03:24,080  
it was a rabble of people with

81  
00:03:28,390 --> 00:03:26,319  
ridiculous legal signs

82  
00:03:29,670 --> 00:03:28,400  
all sorts of banners

83  
00:03:35,110 --> 00:03:29,680  
and

84  
00:03:37,430 --> 00:03:35,120  
in the upcoming story

85  
00:03:40,229 --> 00:03:37,440  
in fact at the anti-vaxxer protest when

86  
00:03:42,390 --> 00:03:40,239  
i walked by wearing a mask i was yelled

87  
00:03:45,110 --> 00:03:42,400  
at because i was wearing a mask

88  
00:03:49,350 --> 00:03:45,120

another thing to note during this story

89

00:03:52,789 --> 00:03:49,360

coming up is that it was loud it was

90

00:03:55,350 --> 00:03:52,799

very loud there were speeches made on uh

91

00:03:57,350 --> 00:03:55,360

public address systems so i'm a little

92

00:03:59,190 --> 00:03:57,360

bit drowned out at times but bear with

93

00:04:01,270 --> 00:03:59,200

it uh you should be able to hear what

94

00:04:03,190 --> 00:04:01,280

i'm saying although sometimes it's a

95

00:04:05,350 --> 00:04:03,200

little difficult

96

00:04:10,309 --> 00:04:05,360

and thank you to the various nurses who

97

00:04:14,470 --> 00:04:12,949

so here we are coming up towards the end

98

00:04:16,789 --> 00:04:14,480

of february

99

00:04:18,390 --> 00:04:16,799

and another shout out to my teacher

100

00:04:19,509 --> 00:04:18,400

friends out there

101  
00:04:20,629 --> 00:04:19,519  
who are

102  
00:04:22,550 --> 00:04:20,639  
still

103  
00:04:25,189 --> 00:04:22,560  
being very cautious and careful

104  
00:04:28,070 --> 00:04:25,199  
especially in the playground and around

105  
00:04:30,150 --> 00:04:28,080  
um as lots of students thousands of

106  
00:04:33,350 --> 00:04:30,160  
students have gone back to school so

107  
00:04:35,189 --> 00:04:33,360  
just to let you know teachers

108  
00:04:37,270 --> 00:04:35,199  
i'm thinking about you i

109  
00:04:39,030 --> 00:04:37,280  
think you do a wonderful job just

110  
00:04:41,430 --> 00:04:39,040  
like i think the nurses do a wonderful

111  
00:04:42,790 --> 00:04:41,440  
job too now that's enough from me right

112  
00:04:45,110 --> 00:04:42,800  
now

113  
00:04:46,629 --> 00:04:45,120

i'm going to run downstairs

114

00:04:48,230 --> 00:04:46,639

and have something i don't know if

115

00:04:50,150 --> 00:04:48,240

you've tried this

116

00:04:52,150 --> 00:04:50,160

nice crusty toast

117

00:04:56,310 --> 00:04:52,160

a little bit of um

118

00:04:58,390 --> 00:04:56,320

well cream cheese or butter or margarine

119

00:04:59,430 --> 00:04:58,400

a nice

120

00:05:02,629 --> 00:04:59,440

dollop

121

00:05:05,749 --> 00:05:02,639

gollum of peanut butter and then

122

00:05:09,189 --> 00:05:05,759

a little bit of maple syrup

123

00:05:23,940 --> 00:05:09,199

what a nice combination well i try that

124

00:05:23,950 --> 00:05:33,110

[Music]

125

00:05:36,870 --> 00:05:35,430

nurses and midwives throughout new south

126  
00:05:39,909 --> 00:05:36,880  
wales took

127  
00:05:41,510 --> 00:05:39,919  
very rare industrial action

128  
00:05:43,670 --> 00:05:41,520  
they marched in the streets they held up

129  
00:05:46,230 --> 00:05:43,680  
placards they had rallies

130  
00:05:48,230 --> 00:05:46,240  
to protest against what they perceive as

131  
00:05:49,909 --> 00:05:48,240  
poor working conditions

132  
00:05:53,110 --> 00:05:49,919  
and being completely and utterly

133  
00:05:56,309 --> 00:05:53,120  
overstretched during the covert 19

134  
00:05:57,990 --> 00:05:56,319  
pandemic of the last two years

135  
00:05:59,909 --> 00:05:58,000  
now we've certainly seen

136  
00:06:01,510 --> 00:05:59,919  
many protests in the last couple of

137  
00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:01,520  
years to do with covert but they have

138  
00:06:05,830 --> 00:06:02,639

all been

139

00:06:07,510 --> 00:06:05,840

really from the conspiracy theory crowd

140

00:06:11,430 --> 00:06:07,520

the freedom fighters

141

00:06:13,510 --> 00:06:11,440

and so on with their mass protests

142

00:06:16,150 --> 00:06:13,520

i thought i'd go down to macquarie

143

00:06:17,749 --> 00:06:16,160

street here in sydney where our state

144

00:06:19,270 --> 00:06:17,759

parliament is

145

00:06:22,070 --> 00:06:19,280

to where the protest was happening with

146

00:06:23,990 --> 00:06:22,080

the nurses to find out what was going on

147

00:06:25,670 --> 00:06:24,000

and as you'll hear one of the things

148

00:06:27,510 --> 00:06:25,680

that certainly struck me was the fact

149

00:06:29,029 --> 00:06:27,520

that the nurses and the midwives and all

150

00:06:32,150 --> 00:06:29,039

the people there

151  
00:06:33,670 --> 00:06:32,160  
were wearing masks it was a sea of blue

152  
00:06:35,590 --> 00:06:33,680  
scrubs

153  
00:06:38,550 --> 00:06:35,600  
and blue masks

154  
00:06:40,469 --> 00:06:38,560  
unlike the anti-vaccination protests

155  
00:06:43,430 --> 00:06:40,479  
we take you now to

156  
00:06:44,420 --> 00:06:43,440  
macquarie street in sydney on the 15th

157  
00:06:46,390 --> 00:06:44,430  
of february

158  
00:06:49,430 --> 00:06:46,400  
[Music]

159  
00:06:51,430 --> 00:06:49,440  
it's tuesday the 15th of february

160  
00:06:54,150 --> 00:06:51,440  
i'm here in martin place sydney walking

161  
00:06:55,990 --> 00:06:54,160  
up to the giant protest from the nurses

162  
00:06:58,230 --> 00:06:56,000  
and midwives

163  
00:07:02,070 --> 00:06:58,240

who are

164

00:07:03,830 --> 00:07:02,080

protesting here at parliament house

165

00:07:05,830 --> 00:07:03,840

because they've been put under

166

00:07:08,230 --> 00:07:05,840

increasing pressure

167

00:07:10,550 --> 00:07:08,240

going to covert

168

00:07:12,629 --> 00:07:10,560

unreasonable work hours

169

00:07:14,469 --> 00:07:12,639

uh

170

00:07:17,110 --> 00:07:14,479

terrible pressures as you can imagine

171

00:07:20,070 --> 00:07:17,120

the thousands of people being ill

172

00:07:22,870 --> 00:07:20,080

and quite frankly they've had enough

173

00:07:24,790 --> 00:07:22,880

so as i walk closer and closer there are

174

00:07:26,390 --> 00:07:24,800

hundreds of nurses here in scrubs and

175

00:07:28,100 --> 00:07:26,400

what have you

176  
00:07:41,510 --> 00:07:28,110  
lots of media policing here

177  
00:07:41,520 --> 00:07:45,360  
you

178  
00:07:45,370 --> 00:07:55,830  
[Music]

179  
00:08:00,390 --> 00:07:57,589  
our patients are wearing thin that's a

180  
00:08:03,670 --> 00:08:00,400  
great sign some nurses holding up

181  
00:08:05,110 --> 00:08:03,680  
and we understand and

182  
00:08:07,110 --> 00:08:05,120  
they simply

183  
00:08:14,629 --> 00:08:07,120  
they've had enough and i can well

184  
00:08:19,909 --> 00:08:16,790  
another sign says thank you doesn't pay

185  
00:08:22,390 --> 00:08:19,919  
my bills which is very true

186  
00:08:25,110 --> 00:08:22,400  
and it's good to see so many

187  
00:08:29,270 --> 00:08:25,120  
people here very passionate taking place

188  
00:08:32,709 --> 00:08:31,430

[Applause]

189

00:08:34,550 --> 00:08:32,719

and i think they're protesting for the

190

00:08:35,430 --> 00:08:34,560

right reasons because this is the flip

191

00:08:37,509 --> 00:08:35,440

side

192

00:08:39,990 --> 00:08:37,519

you see the protesters

193

00:08:42,149 --> 00:08:40,000

who have been in the same location

194

00:08:43,350 --> 00:08:42,159

the anti-vaxxers and the conspiracy

195

00:08:45,030 --> 00:08:43,360

theorists

196

00:08:48,480 --> 00:08:45,040

well this is the side they don't want to

197

00:08:53,350 --> 00:08:51,269

[Applause]

198

00:08:54,470 --> 00:08:53,360

let me tell

199

00:08:56,150 --> 00:08:54,480

this you

200

00:08:57,829 --> 00:08:56,160

one of the results of their reckless

201  
00:08:59,430 --> 00:08:57,839  
behavior and their conspiratorial

202  
00:09:01,910 --> 00:08:59,440  
thinking

203  
00:09:02,870 --> 00:09:01,920  
that the healthcare workers who we rely

204  
00:09:06,070 --> 00:09:02,880  
on

205  
00:09:07,910 --> 00:09:06,080  
are really under pressure so much so

206  
00:09:09,670 --> 00:09:07,920  
they've taken the extraordinary step of

207  
00:09:11,829 --> 00:09:09,680  
doing this

208  
00:09:17,550 --> 00:09:11,839  
public protest which is

209  
00:09:21,509 --> 00:09:20,070  
[Applause]

210  
00:09:23,030 --> 00:09:21,519  
it's a bit hard to talk to people at the

211  
00:09:26,460 --> 00:09:23,040  
moment because the uh they're all

212  
00:09:26,470 --> 00:09:31,590  
[Music]

213  
00:09:34,790 --> 00:09:33,590

okay one striking thing about this

214

00:09:37,260 --> 00:09:34,800

protest

215

00:09:37,270 --> 00:09:42,150

[Music]

216

00:09:46,870 --> 00:09:44,550

it smokes it right in the face

217

00:09:49,190 --> 00:09:46,880

that they're all wearing masks

218

00:09:52,870 --> 00:09:49,200

i have a sea of nurses and health

219

00:09:52,880 --> 00:09:56,949

wearing masks in public

220

00:10:00,530 --> 00:09:59,350

which is a real big two fingers up to

221

00:10:08,470 --> 00:10:00,540

the anti-vaxxers

222

00:10:11,670 --> 00:10:10,630

so many people here i actually can't see

223

00:10:13,190 --> 00:10:11,680

the speaker they're in front of

224

00:10:15,829 --> 00:10:13,200

parliament but i'm

225

00:10:17,670 --> 00:10:15,839

way back in the crowd

226

00:10:19,829 --> 00:10:17,680

it's very hard to see where the speaker

227

00:10:25,090 --> 00:10:19,839

is because in front of you just a sea of

228

00:10:25,100 --> 00:10:43,750

[Music]

229

00:10:49,269 --> 00:10:46,389

more sea of blue scrubs

230

00:10:51,509 --> 00:10:49,279

blue scrubs and masks it's just amazing

231

00:10:53,030 --> 00:10:51,519

and experiencing and even a little kid

232

00:10:56,310 --> 00:10:53,040

dressed up in his

233

00:11:01,829 --> 00:10:58,550

center of attention

234

00:11:03,430 --> 00:11:01,839

fair pain nurses stay the sign says here

235

00:11:05,350 --> 00:11:03,440

absolutely

236

00:11:07,030 --> 00:11:05,360

they're paying nurses stay i like that

237

00:11:08,710 --> 00:11:07,040

very much can i check you for a moment

238

00:11:10,550 --> 00:11:08,720

for my podcast

239

00:11:12,230 --> 00:11:10,560

oh okay then

240

00:11:13,670 --> 00:11:12,240

i mean you're just a sort of a random

241

00:11:16,389 --> 00:11:13,680

person i've come across here at the

242

00:11:18,389 --> 00:11:16,399

protest okay uh why are you here what's

243

00:11:20,230 --> 00:11:18,399

the motivation what's your passion

244

00:11:23,030 --> 00:11:20,240

better conditions for the nurses in new

245

00:11:24,870 --> 00:11:23,040

south wales we need a pay rise we need

246

00:11:26,949 --> 00:11:24,880

to not have to prove that we got covert

247

00:11:28,550 --> 00:11:26,959

at work to have some covered leave and

248

00:11:29,829 --> 00:11:28,560

we need ratios

249

00:11:31,750 --> 00:11:29,839

we need it now

250

00:11:33,350 --> 00:11:31,760

and one of the things that walking

251  
00:11:34,790 --> 00:11:33,360  
around here i've noticed apart from the

252  
00:11:35,910 --> 00:11:34,800  
sea of blue scrubs we're seeing

253  
00:11:38,230 --> 00:11:35,920  
everywhere

254  
00:11:39,509 --> 00:11:38,240  
is that as opposed to the conspiracy

255  
00:11:41,350 --> 00:11:39,519  
theorists who like to march and

256  
00:11:43,350 --> 00:11:41,360  
everything we're all wearing masks

257  
00:11:45,750 --> 00:11:43,360  
that's right that's it's a covert safe

258  
00:11:47,030 --> 00:11:45,760  
event i suppose nurses know more than

259  
00:11:48,389 --> 00:11:47,040  
everything that they need to wear their

260  
00:11:49,350 --> 00:11:48,399  
masks

261  
00:11:50,629 --> 00:11:49,360  
um

262  
00:11:53,350 --> 00:11:50,639  
so yeah

263  
00:11:55,110 --> 00:11:53,360

i absolutely agree with doing it safely

264

00:11:56,550 --> 00:11:55,120

very safely here you are that's the

265

00:11:59,269 --> 00:11:56,560

podcast thank you for chatting to us

266

00:12:01,829 --> 00:11:59,279

thank you have a lovely day you too

267

00:12:04,870 --> 00:12:01,839

so uh you have i i noticed your son

268

00:12:06,710 --> 00:12:04,880

having a midwife crisis uh why are you

269

00:12:08,230 --> 00:12:06,720

here what's what's the deal with the

270

00:12:09,030 --> 00:12:08,240

midwives

271

00:12:11,350 --> 00:12:09,040

um

272

00:12:12,310 --> 00:12:11,360

we're really needing more staff on the

273

00:12:13,269 --> 00:12:12,320

floor

274

00:12:15,910 --> 00:12:13,279

um

275

00:12:17,110 --> 00:12:15,920

women and babies their lives are in

276  
00:12:18,230 --> 00:12:17,120  
danger

277  
00:12:20,870 --> 00:12:18,240  
because

278  
00:12:24,150 --> 00:12:20,880  
we don't have adequate nurses to care

279  
00:12:27,750 --> 00:12:26,310  
i was just saying before to somebody

280  
00:12:29,990 --> 00:12:27,760  
else it's amazing to be here because

281  
00:12:32,790 --> 00:12:30,000  
everyone's wearing masks as opposed to

282  
00:12:34,870 --> 00:12:32,800  
the um anti-vaxxer protest

283  
00:12:37,269 --> 00:12:34,880  
it's very good well thank you so much

284  
00:12:41,340 --> 00:12:37,279  
for your time have a listen um

285  
00:12:41,350 --> 00:12:48,150  
[Music]

286  
00:12:53,910 --> 00:12:50,790  
it looks like the crowd could be on the

287  
00:12:55,190 --> 00:12:53,920  
move now i'm not sure it's hard to tell

288  
00:12:58,069 --> 00:12:55,200

if i'm back here

289

00:12:59,110 --> 00:12:58,079

i'm losing my voice because it's so loud

290

00:13:00,870 --> 00:12:59,120

yes

291

00:13:04,829 --> 00:13:00,880

lots of movement now people are starting

292

00:13:08,790 --> 00:13:04,839

to disperse or move somewhere else

293

00:13:10,470 --> 00:13:08,800

unless instead of heading my way

294

00:13:11,750 --> 00:13:10,480

lots of people coming by i might be able

295

00:13:13,990 --> 00:13:11,760

to

296

00:13:16,150 --> 00:13:14,000

chat with somebody else

297

00:13:19,030 --> 00:13:16,160

lots of signs lots of signs support the

298

00:13:22,790 --> 00:13:20,949

nurse is more here here to that i

299

00:13:25,670 --> 00:13:22,800

absolutely agree

300

00:13:29,350 --> 00:13:25,680

come on parrot give this is fair pay

301  
00:13:30,310 --> 00:13:29,360  
perite is the premier of the state

302  
00:13:32,949 --> 00:13:30,320  
and

303  
00:13:37,990 --> 00:13:32,959  
again i'm seeing a

304  
00:13:40,550 --> 00:13:38,000  
a sea of blue scrubs blue scrubs

305  
00:13:42,310 --> 00:13:40,560  
with the odd green scrub here and there

306  
00:13:43,829 --> 00:13:42,320  
but yes now the crowd are starting this

307  
00:13:45,430 --> 00:13:43,839  
burst

308  
00:13:47,430 --> 00:13:45,440  
moving down there where are they moving

309  
00:13:50,310 --> 00:13:47,440  
too i wonder if they're just gonna

310  
00:13:52,310 --> 00:13:50,320  
break up the whole thing

311  
00:13:53,509 --> 00:13:52,320  
and i've managed to put myself up on a

312  
00:13:55,430 --> 00:13:53,519  
wall here

313  
00:13:59,590 --> 00:13:55,440

near the front of the sydney hospital

314

00:14:01,910 --> 00:13:59,600

and a sea of blue scrubs marching by

315

00:14:03,910 --> 00:14:01,920

all wearing masks i can't emphasize that

316

00:14:05,269 --> 00:14:03,920

point enough

317

00:14:07,269 --> 00:14:05,279

it's

318

00:14:10,550 --> 00:14:07,279

so good to see they're covered safe

319

00:14:13,189 --> 00:14:10,560

they're really taking this seriously

320

00:14:14,629 --> 00:14:13,199

i think i'll march with them

321

00:14:15,990 --> 00:14:14,639

so to speak

322

00:14:18,389 --> 00:14:16,000

it's a little hard i'm trying to be a

323

00:14:20,230 --> 00:14:18,399

dispassionate reporter but i

324

00:14:23,189 --> 00:14:20,240

i can understand their point of view and

325

00:14:24,949 --> 00:14:23,199

i appreciate the fact that they're

326

00:14:26,870 --> 00:14:24,959

they know what's going on

327

00:14:28,310 --> 00:14:26,880

they're on the front line

328

00:14:32,310 --> 00:14:28,320

they're having to deal with this

329

00:14:34,629 --> 00:14:32,320

pandemic like like nobody else okay i

330

00:14:36,870 --> 00:14:34,639

love your sign skeleton staff equals

331

00:14:39,189 --> 00:14:36,880

skeleton patience we've seen enough

332

00:14:41,910 --> 00:14:39,199

patients suffer from low staffing levels

333

00:14:44,230 --> 00:14:41,920

and it's about time it stops

334

00:14:46,069 --> 00:14:44,240

what do you think what why aren't the

335

00:14:48,230 --> 00:14:46,079

government doing what we would consider

336

00:14:49,990 --> 00:14:48,240

to be the right thing in helping nurses

337

00:14:51,030 --> 00:14:50,000

i feel like they just need to spend one

338

00:14:52,550 --> 00:14:51,040

shift

339

00:14:54,710 --> 00:14:52,560

shadowing a nurse

340

00:14:56,230 --> 00:14:54,720

and seeing what we do in a shift and

341

00:14:57,269 --> 00:14:56,240

maybe they would get some understanding

342

00:14:59,430 --> 00:14:57,279

but at the moment they've got no

343

00:15:00,870 --> 00:14:59,440

contacts at all i think you're right and

344

00:15:02,310 --> 00:15:00,880

one of the things i've mentioned to

345

00:15:04,310 --> 00:15:02,320

other people here

346

00:15:05,750 --> 00:15:04,320

the striking thing about this protest

347

00:15:07,350 --> 00:15:05,760

and other protests i've seen from the

348

00:15:09,350 --> 00:15:07,360

conspiracy theorists and those who don't

349

00:15:11,670 --> 00:15:09,360

believe in covert

350

00:15:13,990 --> 00:15:11,680

we're all wearing masks oh yeah i've got

351

00:15:16,069 --> 00:15:14,000

a sea of scrubs and a sea of masks it's

352

00:15:17,910 --> 00:15:16,079

so good the science is

353

00:15:19,350 --> 00:15:17,920

what works it's the proof it's what we

354

00:15:21,350 --> 00:15:19,360

practiced by and

355

00:15:23,110 --> 00:15:21,360

that doesn't change the fact that we

356

00:15:25,110 --> 00:15:23,120

still need to provide that science in

357

00:15:27,509 --> 00:15:25,120

safe safe ways

358

00:15:38,069 --> 00:15:27,519

all said thank you so much thank you you

359

00:15:42,790 --> 00:15:40,150

so there you go i followed the

360

00:15:44,629 --> 00:15:42,800

protesters after they dispersed

361

00:15:46,230 --> 00:15:44,639

and they marched through hyde park and

362

00:15:48,470 --> 00:15:46,240

there was a river snaking through the

363

00:15:52,150 --> 00:15:48,480

footpath in hyde park

364

00:15:55,030 --> 00:15:52,160

blue scrubs and still blue masks a

365

00:15:56,790 --> 00:15:55,040

covered safe protest and i can't help

366

00:15:58,790 --> 00:15:56,800

thinking if all the other protests

367

00:16:01,269 --> 00:15:58,800

lately had been covered safe

368

00:16:02,470 --> 00:16:01,279

there might be fewer people in hospital

369

00:16:05,030 --> 00:16:02,480

for these

370

00:16:07,350 --> 00:16:05,040

valiant nurses and midwives to look

371

00:16:20,060 --> 00:16:07,360

after

372

00:16:20,070 --> 00:16:24,629

[Music]

373

00:16:28,069 --> 00:16:26,870

i'm mick west in my podcast tales from

374

00:16:29,509 --> 00:16:28,079

the rabbit hole i have extended

375

00:16:31,829 --> 00:16:29,519

conversations with people who've been

376

00:16:33,509 --> 00:16:31,839

involved in conspiracy culture i do this

377

00:16:34,790 --> 00:16:33,519

for a couple of reasons firstly because

378

00:16:36,470 --> 00:16:34,800

it's really interesting these people

379

00:16:38,150 --> 00:16:36,480

have great stories about how they fell

380

00:16:39,990 --> 00:16:38,160

down the conspiracy theory rabbit hole

381

00:16:41,749 --> 00:16:40,000

what they did down there and what it was

382

00:16:42,870 --> 00:16:41,759

that helped them out sometimes i also

383

00:16:44,230 --> 00:16:42,880

talk to people who investigate

384

00:16:45,749 --> 00:16:44,240

conspiracy theories and they have

385

00:16:47,990 --> 00:16:45,759

equally fascinating stories from the

386

00:16:49,350 --> 00:16:48,000

other side secondly i want to understand

387

00:16:51,030 --> 00:16:49,360

how best to prevent the spread of

388

00:16:52,790 --> 00:16:51,040

conspiracy theories and misinformation

389

00:16:55,189 --> 00:16:52,800

which is an increasing problem in a time

390

00:16:57,110 --> 00:16:55,199

when alternative media is exploding the

391

00:16:59,110 --> 00:16:57,120

best way to do this is to communicate

392

00:17:01,030 --> 00:16:59,120

effectively with the people involved and

393

00:17:02,550 --> 00:17:01,040

the best way to do that is with a nice

394

00:17:05,110 --> 00:17:02,560

long chat

395

00:17:07,510 --> 00:17:05,120

check it out tales from the rabbit hole

396

00:17:18,949 --> 00:17:07,520

tftrh.com

397

00:17:20,309 --> 00:17:18,959

[Music]

398

00:17:22,460 --> 00:17:20,319

and now

399

00:17:25,189 --> 00:17:22,470

a reading from the book of tim

400

00:17:28,000 --> 00:17:25,199

[Music]

401  
00:17:34,230 --> 00:17:28,010  
with tim menden

402  
00:17:36,549 --> 00:17:34,240  
[Music]

403  
00:17:38,150 --> 00:17:36,559  
hi my name is tim mendem i'm the editor

404  
00:17:40,310 --> 00:17:38,160  
of australian skeptics magazine the

405  
00:17:42,230 --> 00:17:40,320  
skeptic and i'm executive officer for

406  
00:17:43,510 --> 00:17:42,240  
australian skeptics inc

407  
00:17:45,350 --> 00:17:43,520  
and i'll be reading today from the

408  
00:17:47,590 --> 00:17:45,360  
skeptic magazine

409  
00:17:51,110 --> 00:17:47,600  
volume 33

410  
00:17:54,310 --> 00:17:51,120  
number three which is september 2013.

411  
00:17:57,350 --> 00:17:54,320  
and this is an article about bunk

412  
00:17:59,270 --> 00:17:57,360  
in fact it's bunk about bunk

413  
00:18:01,110 --> 00:17:59,280

this is an article by martin bridgstock

414

00:18:03,350 --> 00:18:01,120

that looks at the history of bunk and

415

00:18:04,300 --> 00:18:03,360

finds that it's not all what it seems

416

00:18:11,909 --> 00:18:04,310

but is it bunk

417

00:18:15,430 --> 00:18:13,510

most skeptics are familiar with the term

418

00:18:17,590 --> 00:18:15,440

bunk or perhaps buncombe with its

419

00:18:20,230 --> 00:18:17,600

associated skeptical activity of

420

00:18:22,070 --> 00:18:20,240

debunking the oxford english dictionary

421

00:18:24,710 --> 00:18:22,080

tells us that it means humbug or

422

00:18:26,630 --> 00:18:24,720

nonsense and of course henry ford told

423

00:18:28,710 --> 00:18:26,640

us that history is bunk

424

00:18:31,190 --> 00:18:28,720

but why bunk the word has several

425

00:18:33,669 --> 00:18:31,200

perfectly legitimate uses it can be a

426

00:18:35,669 --> 00:18:33,679

type of bed like a bunk bed

427

00:18:38,470 --> 00:18:35,679

or a plant from which drugs can be made

428

00:18:40,390 --> 00:18:38,480

and also it refers to part of a sled

429

00:18:43,110 --> 00:18:40,400

none of these meanings has any obvious

430

00:18:45,029 --> 00:18:43,120

connection to empty claptrap

431

00:18:46,630 --> 00:18:45,039

so how did nonsense come to be termed

432

00:18:49,110 --> 00:18:46,640

bunk

433

00:18:51,750 --> 00:18:49,120

the answer lies in politics and slavery

434

00:18:54,870 --> 00:18:51,760

and goes back nearly 200 years

435

00:18:58,950 --> 00:18:54,880

let us go back in imagination to the

436

00:19:00,710 --> 00:18:58,960

united states congress of february 1820

437

00:19:01,750 --> 00:19:00,720

the representatives were nearly

438

00:19:03,590 --> 00:19:01,760

exhausted

439

00:19:05,590 --> 00:19:03,600

a highly contentious issue was being

440

00:19:07,350 --> 00:19:05,600

discussed and had been the subject of

441

00:19:09,510 --> 00:19:07,360

argument for about a month

442

00:19:12,390 --> 00:19:09,520

this was the status of the proposed

443

00:19:13,750 --> 00:19:12,400

state of missouri the first new state

444

00:19:16,310 --> 00:19:13,760

which would be west of the great

445

00:19:18,070 --> 00:19:16,320

mississippi river the question was

446

00:19:21,029 --> 00:19:18,080

should missouri be allowed to have

447

00:19:22,630 --> 00:19:21,039

slaves or must it be free

448

00:19:24,230 --> 00:19:22,640

a great deal hung on the outcome of

449

00:19:26,870 --> 00:19:24,240

questions like this the united states

450

00:19:29,430 --> 00:19:26,880

began as a string of colonies down the

451  
00:19:31,750 --> 00:19:29,440  
east coast of america after independence

452  
00:19:33,510 --> 00:19:31,760  
the americans moved inland setting up

453  
00:19:35,669 --> 00:19:33,520  
new states as they went

454  
00:19:38,070 --> 00:19:35,679  
the southern states had become wedded to

455  
00:19:40,630 --> 00:19:38,080  
a slave economy while many northerners

456  
00:19:43,510 --> 00:19:40,640  
regarded slavery with horror

457  
00:19:46,150 --> 00:19:43,520  
as a result the entry of each new state

458  
00:19:48,470 --> 00:19:46,160  
was watched closely by both sides if too

459  
00:19:49,350 --> 00:19:48,480  
many slave or non-slave states enter the

460  
00:19:51,590 --> 00:19:49,360  
union

461  
00:19:53,909 --> 00:19:51,600  
then partisans might be able to force

462  
00:19:57,270 --> 00:19:53,919  
legislation through congress

463  
00:19:59,590 --> 00:19:57,280

an uneasy balance ensued with slave and

464

00:20:01,190 --> 00:19:59,600

free states being admitted in roughly

465

00:20:03,669 --> 00:20:01,200

equal numbers

466

00:20:05,350 --> 00:20:03,679

the congressmen of 1820 were weary they

467

00:20:07,510 --> 00:20:05,360

had been arguing and yelling for about a

468

00:20:09,270 --> 00:20:07,520

month on this missouri question

469

00:20:11,430 --> 00:20:09,280

eventually they forged the missouri

470

00:20:13,430 --> 00:20:11,440

compromise which allowed slavery in

471

00:20:15,909 --> 00:20:13,440

missouri and some south western

472

00:20:17,190 --> 00:20:15,919

territories but not in a huge swathe of

473

00:20:18,149 --> 00:20:17,200

northwestern

474

00:20:20,549 --> 00:20:18,159

land

475

00:20:23,110 --> 00:20:20,559

the compromise with additions held for

476  
00:20:24,950 --> 00:20:23,120  
about 40 years before it collapsed and

477  
00:20:27,350 --> 00:20:24,960  
was unused

478  
00:20:28,950 --> 00:20:27,360  
it was an ugly political measure

479  
00:20:30,950 --> 00:20:28,960  
but it was the best that either side

480  
00:20:32,470 --> 00:20:30,960  
could obtain

481  
00:20:35,590 --> 00:20:32,480  
right at the end of this debate

482  
00:20:40,070 --> 00:20:35,600  
representative felix walker of buncombe

483  
00:20:43,750 --> 00:20:41,669  
he rose to speak

484  
00:20:45,990 --> 00:20:43,760  
he did not complete his speech according

485  
00:20:48,230 --> 00:20:46,000  
to legend his words were so empty of

486  
00:20:50,549 --> 00:20:48,240  
meaning so worthless that other

487  
00:20:52,870 --> 00:20:50,559  
congressmen began to shout him down

488  
00:20:54,950 --> 00:20:52,880

he persisted replying that he had to

489

00:20:57,430 --> 00:20:54,960

speak for bungam

490

00:20:59,669 --> 00:20:57,440

the critics grew louder the cries grew

491

00:21:01,590 --> 00:20:59,679

louder and eventually he was persuaded

492

00:21:04,070 --> 00:21:01,600

to sit down

493

00:21:06,149 --> 00:21:04,080

the city of washington gazette

494

00:21:09,350 --> 00:21:06,159

whether out of kindness or cruelty

495

00:21:11,110 --> 00:21:09,360

printed his speech in full the next day

496

00:21:14,070 --> 00:21:11,120

the legend grew that felix walker had

497

00:21:16,070 --> 00:21:14,080

made an utterly worthless speech simply

498

00:21:18,230 --> 00:21:16,080

seeking to fool the people of buncombe

499

00:21:19,750 --> 00:21:18,240

into thinking that he was working hard

500

00:21:21,350 --> 00:21:19,760

at representing them

501  
00:21:23,190 --> 00:21:21,360  
so the customer developed that when

502  
00:21:25,430 --> 00:21:23,200  
someone was speaking simply for the sake

503  
00:21:28,230 --> 00:21:25,440  
of appearances he was described perhaps

504  
00:21:31,350 --> 00:21:28,240  
with a wink as speaking for buncombe

505  
00:21:33,270 --> 00:21:31,360  
and then just bunkum b-u-n-k-u-m and

506  
00:21:35,669 --> 00:21:33,280  
finally bunk

507  
00:21:38,950 --> 00:21:35,679  
so the name of a southern us

508  
00:21:41,190 --> 00:21:38,960  
town became the label for nonsense

509  
00:21:42,789 --> 00:21:41,200  
the town of buncombe has put the best

510  
00:21:44,710 --> 00:21:42,799  
face on this a can

511  
00:21:46,789 --> 00:21:44,720  
outside the town is a sign commemorating

512  
00:21:49,750 --> 00:21:46,799  
the way that representative walker gave

513  
00:21:51,990 --> 00:21:49,760

a whole new meaning to the term bunkum

514

00:21:53,669 --> 00:21:52,000

the exact meaning naturally is not

515

00:21:55,510 --> 00:21:53,679

explained

516

00:21:58,149 --> 00:21:55,520

when i learned about the words origins i

517

00:21:58,950 --> 00:21:58,159

became curious about the original speech

518

00:22:01,270 --> 00:21:58,960

what

519

00:22:03,590 --> 00:22:01,280

i wondered was so awful about walker's

520

00:22:05,110 --> 00:22:03,600

words that he was held down by his

521

00:22:06,470 --> 00:22:05,120

fellow congressman

522

00:22:08,710 --> 00:22:06,480

what would the

523

00:22:10,789 --> 00:22:08,720

quintessence of bunk look like

524

00:22:13,430 --> 00:22:10,799

so i located walker's original speech

525

00:22:15,510 --> 00:22:13,440

and read it rather to my astonishment

526

00:22:17,750 --> 00:22:15,520

walker's speech is not bunk

527

00:22:20,070 --> 00:22:17,760

the original piece of buncombe does not

528

00:22:21,830 --> 00:22:20,080

conform to the definition at all

529

00:22:23,990 --> 00:22:21,840

indeed if you want a summary of the

530

00:22:26,149 --> 00:22:24,000

arguments advanced by one side in the

531

00:22:28,149 --> 00:22:26,159

debate walker's speech does a good job

532

00:22:29,590 --> 00:22:28,159

of making the key points

533

00:22:31,990 --> 00:22:29,600

i should make two important points

534

00:22:33,750 --> 00:22:32,000

before moving on i suspect most skeptics

535

00:22:35,350 --> 00:22:33,760

would agree with my stance that slavery

536

00:22:37,270 --> 00:22:35,360

is a total evil

537

00:22:39,750 --> 00:22:37,280

and that the northern anti-slavers like

538

00:22:42,230 --> 00:22:39,760

abraham lincoln and william lloyd

539

00:22:44,390 --> 00:22:42,240

garrison were completely in the right

540

00:22:46,870 --> 00:22:44,400

therefore we might feel unsympathetic to

541

00:22:49,350 --> 00:22:46,880

walker still we should remember that

542

00:22:51,750 --> 00:22:49,360

millions of people supported slavery and

543

00:22:54,549 --> 00:22:51,760

it was his job to represent them and of

544

00:22:56,310 --> 00:22:54,559

course a speech can support a bad cause

545

00:22:58,549 --> 00:22:56,320

without being vacuous

546

00:23:00,149 --> 00:22:58,559

the two are not logically linked

547

00:23:01,350 --> 00:23:00,159

second the speech is appallingly

548

00:23:03,830 --> 00:23:01,360

long-winded

549

00:23:05,590 --> 00:23:03,840

it is just under 5000 words long and out

550

00:23:07,430 --> 00:23:05,600

of guess its entire content could

551  
00:23:08,470 --> 00:23:07,440  
probably be stated in about a fifth of

552  
00:23:10,630 --> 00:23:08,480  
that length

553  
00:23:12,310 --> 00:23:10,640  
its stance and its worthiness can

554  
00:23:14,710 --> 00:23:12,320  
prejudice us against the fact that it

555  
00:23:16,870 --> 00:23:14,720  
makes about a dozen important points

556  
00:23:19,110 --> 00:23:16,880  
what sort of things does walker say

557  
00:23:19,990 --> 00:23:19,120  
he freely concedes that slavery is an

558  
00:23:22,149 --> 00:23:20,000  
evil

559  
00:23:23,830 --> 00:23:22,159  
arguing only that abolition is probably

560  
00:23:25,270 --> 00:23:23,840  
more evil yet

561  
00:23:28,070 --> 00:23:25,280  
he makes the point that the current

562  
00:23:29,909 --> 00:23:28,080  
slave owners do not originate slavery

563  
00:23:31,510 --> 00:23:29,919

that the people they brought from africa

564

00:23:33,590 --> 00:23:31,520

were not free originally

565

00:23:36,789 --> 00:23:33,600

they might well he thinks be better off

566

00:23:38,230 --> 00:23:36,799

in the usa even as slaves preventing

567

00:23:40,630 --> 00:23:38,240

slavery from spreading across the

568

00:23:41,750 --> 00:23:40,640

mississippi river will not free a single

569

00:23:43,909 --> 00:23:41,760

slave

570

00:23:46,230 --> 00:23:43,919

he also points out that the family of

571

00:23:48,630 --> 00:23:46,240

american states is likely to be torn

572

00:23:51,269 --> 00:23:48,640

apart by conflict over this issue the

573

00:23:53,110 --> 00:23:51,279

most terrible conflict imaginable he

574

00:23:55,350 --> 00:23:53,120

regards americans from the states in the

575

00:23:57,510 --> 00:23:55,360

north and the east as his brethren and

576

00:23:59,510 --> 00:23:57,520

appalled that they don't regard him

577

00:24:01,269 --> 00:23:59,520

in the same way

578

00:24:04,070 --> 00:24:01,279

skeptics can exercise their critical

579

00:24:05,750 --> 00:24:04,080

faculties by reading walker's speech it

580

00:24:07,750 --> 00:24:05,760

provides good practice

581

00:24:09,669 --> 00:24:07,760

in cutting through verbiage

582

00:24:12,549 --> 00:24:09,679

to see the key points beneath in

583

00:24:15,110 --> 00:24:12,559

addition it is useful practice to refute

584

00:24:16,830 --> 00:24:15,120

the different arguments for example is

585

00:24:19,669 --> 00:24:16,840

it perfectly true that

586

00:24:23,029 --> 00:24:19,679

contemporaneous by 19th century american

587

00:24:25,029 --> 00:24:23,039

slave owners did not originate slavery

588

00:24:27,430 --> 00:24:25,039

on the other hand those who perpetuate

589

00:24:29,430 --> 00:24:27,440

an evil and benefit from it must

590

00:24:30,470 --> 00:24:29,440

acknowledge some responsibility for that

591

00:24:32,549 --> 00:24:30,480

evil

592

00:24:33,750 --> 00:24:32,559

in addition they must not be surprised

593

00:24:35,909 --> 00:24:33,760

if they are

594

00:24:37,510 --> 00:24:35,919

regarded badly by those who seek to

595

00:24:38,950 --> 00:24:37,520

eliminate the evil

596

00:24:40,870 --> 00:24:38,960

the other points can be addressed in a

597

00:24:42,630 --> 00:24:40,880

similar way on one point though walker

598

00:24:45,029 --> 00:24:42,640

is completely correct he points to the

599

00:24:47,430 --> 00:24:45,039

dangers of conflict within the union and

600

00:24:50,310 --> 00:24:47,440

goes on to predict terrible consequences

601  
00:24:51,350 --> 00:24:50,320  
if anti-slavery legislation is forced

602  
00:24:53,350 --> 00:24:51,360  
through

603  
00:24:56,470 --> 00:24:53,360  
the last paragraph of his speech goes

604  
00:24:57,510 --> 00:24:56,480  
like this and it is wordy as people have

605  
00:24:58,549 --> 00:24:57,520  
complained

606  
00:25:01,350 --> 00:24:58,559  
sir

607  
00:25:02,870 --> 00:25:01,360  
in the last war we lost our thousands

608  
00:25:05,269 --> 00:25:02,880  
but if you will force upon us this

609  
00:25:07,190 --> 00:25:05,279  
restriction you may in the end

610  
00:25:09,590 --> 00:25:07,200  
in the course of your mistake and policy

611  
00:25:12,390 --> 00:25:09,600  
which if persisted in go on with

612  
00:25:14,870 --> 00:25:12,400  
increasing rapidity at last compel us to

613  
00:25:17,990 --> 00:25:14,880

take leave of each other and lead to an

614

00:25:19,750 --> 00:25:18,000

event that may prostrate the lives of

615

00:25:20,950 --> 00:25:19,760

the ten thousands of your choice

616

00:25:23,750 --> 00:25:20,960

citizens

617

00:25:26,149 --> 00:25:23,760

and fatally terminate in the dissolution

618

00:25:28,230 --> 00:25:26,159

of our confederated government

619

00:25:29,909 --> 00:25:28,240

walker was exactly right though he did

620

00:25:32,310 --> 00:25:29,919

not leave to see his prediction

621

00:25:35,269 --> 00:25:32,320

confirmed the missouri compromise and

622

00:25:38,070 --> 00:25:35,279

its successes held for 40 years

623

00:25:40,470 --> 00:25:38,080

when compromises finally came apart the

624

00:25:42,390 --> 00:25:40,480

american civil war claimed not tens of

625

00:25:44,310 --> 00:25:42,400

thousands but hundreds of thousands of

626  
00:25:45,909 --> 00:25:44,320  
lives and left large parts of the

627  
00:25:48,230 --> 00:25:45,919  
country in ruins

628  
00:25:50,710 --> 00:25:48,240  
at this point walker was terribly

629  
00:25:52,149 --> 00:25:50,720  
hideously right

630  
00:25:53,990 --> 00:25:52,159  
now i hope that i have justified my

631  
00:25:56,710 --> 00:25:54,000  
argument that walker's speech although

632  
00:25:58,390 --> 00:25:56,720  
mediocre is by no means empty claptrap

633  
00:26:00,310 --> 00:25:58,400  
it certainly does not justify the

634  
00:26:02,710 --> 00:26:00,320  
appellation of bunk

635  
00:26:04,390 --> 00:26:02,720  
why then has it acquired such a

636  
00:26:06,710 --> 00:26:04,400  
bad reputation

637  
00:26:08,310 --> 00:26:06,720  
i suspect the context explains this the

638  
00:26:09,990 --> 00:26:08,320

politicians had been struggling for a

639

00:26:11,669 --> 00:26:10,000

month to come up with a solution

640

00:26:14,149 --> 00:26:11,679

undoubtedly there had been hours of

641

00:26:16,390 --> 00:26:14,159

bargaining and debate in offices inns

642

00:26:18,549 --> 00:26:16,400

and corridors these discussions would

643

00:26:21,110 --> 00:26:18,559

not be concerned with general principles

644

00:26:23,510 --> 00:26:21,120

but with hard facts and questions about

645

00:26:25,590 --> 00:26:23,520

what each side might find acceptable

646

00:26:28,230 --> 00:26:25,600

therefore when walker spoke

647

00:26:30,470 --> 00:26:28,240

to exhausted congressmen his general

648

00:26:32,470 --> 00:26:30,480

points fell upon deaf ears

649

00:26:35,110 --> 00:26:32,480

this shows that content is an important

650

00:26:37,510 --> 00:26:35,120

factor in getting your viewpoint across

651  
00:26:40,149 --> 00:26:37,520  
if your message isn't appropriate for a

652  
00:26:41,190 --> 00:26:40,159  
particular audience it probably won't be

653  
00:26:43,350 --> 00:26:41,200  
heard

654  
00:26:45,669 --> 00:26:43,360  
sometimes you can tailor your message so

655  
00:26:48,789 --> 00:26:45,679  
that it will be heard but sometimes as

656  
00:26:50,549 --> 00:26:48,799  
with felix walker it is impossible

657  
00:26:52,470 --> 00:26:50,559  
another important point is directly

658  
00:26:55,750 --> 00:26:52,480  
related to skepticism

659  
00:26:57,990 --> 00:26:55,760  
popular perception is not always right

660  
00:27:00,070 --> 00:26:58,000  
walker's speech was not empty claptrap

661  
00:27:02,710 --> 00:27:00,080  
but has gone down in history as exactly

662  
00:27:04,070 --> 00:27:02,720  
that there is always value in examining

663  
00:27:05,110 --> 00:27:04,080

the evidence for popular myths and

664

00:27:06,390 --> 00:27:05,120

beliefs

665

00:27:08,510 --> 00:27:06,400

and finding out

666

00:27:13,190 --> 00:27:08,520

how much truth is in them

667

00:27:18,310 --> 00:27:15,029

and that's bunk about bunk from the

668

00:27:21,269 --> 00:27:18,320

skeptic magazine september 2013

669

00:27:23,190 --> 00:27:21,279

volume 33 number three

670

00:27:24,950 --> 00:27:23,200

and you can read the full issue

671

00:27:27,750 --> 00:27:24,960

of that magazine of that particular

672

00:27:28,549 --> 00:27:27,760

edition on our website along with many

673

00:27:31,350 --> 00:27:28,559

other

674

00:27:33,430 --> 00:27:31,360

editions of the skeptic for free just go

675

00:27:34,470 --> 00:27:33,440

to [skeptics.com.iu](http://skeptics.com.iu) and click on

676  
00:27:36,630 --> 00:27:34,480  
magazines

677  
00:27:38,310 --> 00:27:36,640  
and you will see a plethora

678  
00:27:39,909 --> 00:27:38,320  
of great reading

679  
00:27:41,909 --> 00:27:39,919  
but you won't get the most recent four

680  
00:27:44,789 --> 00:27:41,919  
ones that way and you certainly won't

681  
00:27:46,230 --> 00:27:44,799  
get future ones unless you subscribe

682  
00:27:48,340 --> 00:27:46,240  
so there you are

683  
00:28:01,190 --> 00:27:48,350  
i'm sure you'll do that straight away

684  
00:28:06,710 --> 00:28:03,909  
hi this is heidi robertson from the

685  
00:28:09,110 --> 00:28:06,720  
northern rivers vaccination supporters

686  
00:28:11,350 --> 00:28:09,120  
we are a group of concerned citizens

687  
00:28:13,990 --> 00:28:11,360  
dedicated to promoting good science and

688  
00:28:17,029 --> 00:28:14,000

common sense in our region the far north

689

00:28:18,950 --> 00:28:17,039

coast of new south wales this area

690

00:28:21,990 --> 00:28:18,960

famous for its natural beauty and

691

00:28:25,110 --> 00:28:22,000

relaxed lifestyle also has the lowest

692

00:28:27,430 --> 00:28:25,120

rates of vaccination in australia

693

00:28:29,990 --> 00:28:27,440

we are out to change that by challenging

694

00:28:31,830 --> 00:28:30,000

the myths and misinformation and by

695

00:28:34,470 --> 00:28:31,840

providing good evidence-based

696

00:28:36,389 --> 00:28:34,480

information to the community

697

00:28:39,510 --> 00:28:36,399

we'd love for you no matter where you

698

00:28:41,750 --> 00:28:39,520

are in the world to join our fight

699

00:28:47,269 --> 00:28:41,760

please visit our webpage

700

00:28:50,470 --> 00:28:48,870

we also have a link there to our

701  
00:28:52,110 --> 00:28:50,480  
facebook page

702  
00:28:55,510 --> 00:28:52,120  
tweet us at

703  
00:28:57,510 --> 00:28:55,520  
nrvox supporters that's vox

704  
00:28:59,669 --> 00:28:57,520  
and check us out on wikipedia by

705  
00:29:01,750 --> 00:28:59,679  
searching for northern rivers

706  
00:29:05,040 --> 00:29:01,760  
vaccination supporters

707  
00:29:22,950 --> 00:29:20,950  
[Music]

708  
00:29:25,789 --> 00:29:22,960  
yes it's time once again to look into

709  
00:29:27,830 --> 00:29:25,799  
those archives at trove at

710  
00:29:29,510 --> 00:29:27,840  
trove.nla.gov dot a u the online

711  
00:29:31,590 --> 00:29:29,520  
resource for australian digitized

712  
00:29:33,750 --> 00:29:31,600  
newspapers and periodicals and gazettes

713  
00:29:34,950 --> 00:29:33,760

and magazines and

714

00:29:37,669 --> 00:29:34,960

menus

715

00:29:38,789 --> 00:29:37,679

it's just about everything you can

716

00:29:41,269 --> 00:29:38,799

imagine

717

00:29:45,029 --> 00:29:41,279

fully searchable going back decades and

718

00:29:47,909 --> 00:29:45,039

decades and decades and we've certainly

719

00:29:49,430 --> 00:29:47,919

discovered many many interesting things

720

00:29:51,990 --> 00:29:49,440

over the months here

721

00:29:53,430 --> 00:29:52,000

in the trove segment but today i thought

722

00:29:55,510 --> 00:29:53,440

we would visit

723

00:29:57,990 --> 00:29:55,520

revisit visit

724

00:30:01,510 --> 00:29:58,000

something that i haven't been to for a

725

00:30:03,990 --> 00:30:01,520

while owing to the pandemic and that is

726

00:30:07,110 --> 00:30:04,000

the festival of mind

727

00:30:08,389 --> 00:30:07,120

body spirit or of course as the skeptics

728

00:30:11,950 --> 00:30:08,399

refer to it

729

00:30:18,389 --> 00:30:15,830

[Music]

730

00:30:20,470 --> 00:30:18,399

now i've been visiting this festival

731

00:30:23,110 --> 00:30:20,480

well roughly every six months for almost

732

00:30:26,789 --> 00:30:23,120

20 years well until recently of course

733

00:30:29,590 --> 00:30:26,799

and i have learned a great deal a great

734

00:30:32,630 --> 00:30:29,600

deal by visiting the psychic fairs and

735

00:30:33,990 --> 00:30:32,640

expos and so on i've reported on many of

736

00:30:37,029 --> 00:30:34,000

them in the pages of the skeptic

737

00:30:38,549 --> 00:30:37,039

magazine and here on the skeptic zone

738

00:30:40,230 --> 00:30:38,559

and over the years it's been a great

739

00:30:41,350 --> 00:30:40,240

social opportunity to meet up with other

740

00:30:44,549 --> 00:30:41,360

skeptics

741

00:30:46,630 --> 00:30:44,559

wander around and learn what's going on

742

00:30:48,470 --> 00:30:46,640

in the alternative world

743

00:30:51,669 --> 00:30:48,480

and we've uncovered

744

00:30:53,110 --> 00:30:51,679

our fair share of scams and cons along

745

00:30:55,110 --> 00:30:53,120

the way

746

00:30:57,590 --> 00:30:55,120

so let's dive into those archives and

747

00:31:02,710 --> 00:30:57,600

see what we can find in the history of

748

00:31:08,070 --> 00:31:04,789

and our first entry comes from monday

749

00:31:09,909 --> 00:31:08,080

the 4th of september 1995.

750

00:31:11,669 --> 00:31:09,919

from the canberra times

751  
00:31:14,070 --> 00:31:11,679  
psychic affair

752  
00:31:15,750 --> 00:31:14,080  
sears rub auras

753  
00:31:18,710 --> 00:31:15,760  
with skeptics

754  
00:31:19,830 --> 00:31:18,720  
and this is a story by chris orman

755  
00:31:22,789 --> 00:31:19,840  
somehow

756  
00:31:25,669 --> 00:31:22,799  
the scene was eerily familiar

757  
00:31:28,630 --> 00:31:25,679  
albert hall seethed with spiritual

758  
00:31:29,590 --> 00:31:28,640  
healers clairvoyance tarot card and palm

759  
00:31:31,909 --> 00:31:29,600  
readers

760  
00:31:33,509 --> 00:31:31,919  
aura photographers naturopaths and a

761  
00:31:35,750 --> 00:31:33,519  
myriad of

762  
00:31:38,470 --> 00:31:35,760  
other world prophets

763  
00:31:42,389 --> 00:31:38,480

and new age healers at yesterday's 16th

764

00:31:43,909 --> 00:31:42,399

annual spiritual and psychic fair

765

00:31:47,350 --> 00:31:43,919

they were not alone

766

00:31:49,110 --> 00:31:47,360

canberra's credulous and curious were

767

00:31:51,990 --> 00:31:49,120

out in droves

768

00:31:54,950 --> 00:31:52,000

last year the fair pulled 2 000 people

769

00:31:57,990 --> 00:31:54,960

despite a minor scheduling hiccup no one

770

00:31:59,669 --> 00:31:58,000

had foreseen this event clashing with

771

00:32:03,509 --> 00:31:59,679

grand final day

772

00:32:06,710 --> 00:32:03,519

alas so thick was the lunchtime crush

773

00:32:09,269 --> 00:32:06,720

around the psychics card tables that it

774

00:32:11,909 --> 00:32:09,279

was impossible to break in to ask for a

775

00:32:14,389 --> 00:32:11,919

quick reading on a list of test

776

00:32:16,630 --> 00:32:14,399

questions being circulated

777

00:32:18,149 --> 00:32:16,640

by canberra skeptics

778

00:32:20,470 --> 00:32:18,159

among some quite

779

00:32:23,110 --> 00:32:20,480

predictable questions in the skeptics

780

00:32:25,990 --> 00:32:23,120

prediction challenge

781

00:32:28,870 --> 00:32:26,000

was the tantalizing quote

782

00:32:32,149 --> 00:32:28,880

will carmen lawrence be forced to stand

783

00:32:35,110 --> 00:32:32,159

down end quote alas we shall just have

784

00:32:36,870 --> 00:32:35,120

to wait and see

785

00:32:38,470 --> 00:32:36,880

near the front door

786

00:32:41,909 --> 00:32:38,480

the aura photographers were doing a

787

00:32:43,430 --> 00:32:41,919

brisk trade at 25 a snap including

788

00:32:45,590 --> 00:32:43,440

reading

789

00:32:47,750 --> 00:32:45,600

customers sat on a chair and placed

790

00:32:50,549 --> 00:32:47,760

their hands on a machine called

791

00:32:51,990 --> 00:32:50,559

an aura spectrometer

792

00:32:54,389 --> 00:32:52,000

six thousand

793

00:32:56,310 --> 00:32:54,399

while their pictures were taken

794

00:32:59,269 --> 00:32:56,320

for their money believers were given

795

00:33:01,990 --> 00:32:59,279

what looked like a badly exposed

796

00:33:04,789 --> 00:33:02,000

polaroid and then someone explained what

797

00:33:06,149 --> 00:33:04,799

the lured swirls of color about their

798

00:33:08,310 --> 00:33:06,159

heads meant

799

00:33:10,870 --> 00:33:08,320

unable to quiz the seers there was

800

00:33:13,669 --> 00:33:10,880

nothing to do but browse the wares and

801  
00:33:15,990 --> 00:33:13,679  
services on sale at the stalls the

802  
00:33:17,430 --> 00:33:16,000  
donation brought you a quick bit of

803  
00:33:19,110 --> 00:33:17,440  
spiritual healing

804  
00:33:21,750 --> 00:33:19,120  
for a few dollars more you could get

805  
00:33:24,870 --> 00:33:21,760  
what to the untrained eye look like the

806  
00:33:28,789 --> 00:33:24,880  
same thing but lying down there was an

807  
00:33:32,070 --> 00:33:28,799  
astounding variety of crystals potions

808  
00:33:35,590 --> 00:33:32,080  
meditative cds and dolphin posters the

809  
00:33:37,509 --> 00:33:35,600  
prize for stop you in your tracks impact

810  
00:33:39,029 --> 00:33:37,519  
went to the store selling

811  
00:33:40,070 --> 00:33:39,039  
unicorn milk

812  
00:33:42,070 --> 00:33:40,080  
and

813  
00:33:44,710 --> 00:33:42,080

mermaid essence

814

00:33:47,269 --> 00:33:44,720

unfortunately the storeholders answers

815

00:33:48,549 --> 00:33:47,279

to the obvious questions was

816

00:33:51,750 --> 00:33:48,559

mundane

817

00:33:53,669 --> 00:33:51,760

no we do not have a unicorn tied up out

818

00:33:56,070 --> 00:33:53,679

the back she said

819

00:33:59,830 --> 00:33:56,080

unicorn milk turns out to be a mixture

820

00:34:02,310 --> 00:33:59,840

of soothing oils and no mermaid essence

821

00:34:04,789 --> 00:34:02,320

is not what you get when you run a few

822

00:34:06,630 --> 00:34:04,799

of them through a blender it's another

823

00:34:07,830 --> 00:34:06,640

concoction of oils with special

824

00:34:11,109 --> 00:34:07,840

properties

825

00:34:13,909 --> 00:34:11,119

the storeholder laura manning is a

826

00:34:16,550 --> 00:34:13,919

full-time sydney aromatherapist who

827

00:34:18,710 --> 00:34:16,560

sells products for a queensland company

828

00:34:21,030 --> 00:34:18,720

dragon's parlor

829

00:34:22,389 --> 00:34:21,040

she said the names for the oils were

830

00:34:24,389 --> 00:34:22,399

designed to be

831

00:34:25,589 --> 00:34:24,399

interesting and to appeal to people's

832

00:34:27,349 --> 00:34:25,599

sense of fun

833

00:34:30,550 --> 00:34:27,359

unicorns milk sounds a lot more

834

00:34:32,030 --> 00:34:30,560

interesting than relaxation oil she said

835

00:34:34,869 --> 00:34:32,040

so it does

836

00:34:39,030 --> 00:34:34,879

alongside the aura photographers was a

837

00:34:40,149 --> 00:34:39,040

table manned by harold w titza of burma

838

00:34:41,990 --> 00:34:40,159

gui

839

00:34:44,310 --> 00:34:42,000

he was flogging a range of

840

00:34:46,869 --> 00:34:44,320

self-published titles including

841

00:34:48,710 --> 00:34:46,879

the miracle fungus which he said had

842

00:34:51,109 --> 00:34:48,720

sold ninety thousand copies in the past

843

00:34:53,909 --> 00:34:51,119

fourteen months according to one of mr

844

00:34:57,430 --> 00:34:53,919

teacher's flyers the fungus in question

845

00:34:59,430 --> 00:34:57,440

kombucha can be brewed at home and is

846

00:35:02,150 --> 00:34:59,440

apparently very good for you although

847

00:35:03,990 --> 00:35:02,160

the flyer says much of what is written

848

00:35:06,630 --> 00:35:04,000

about the fungus includes

849

00:35:08,550 --> 00:35:06,640

nonsense information half truths or even

850

00:35:10,870 --> 00:35:08,560

dangerous statements

851  
00:35:13,109 --> 00:35:10,880  
so in case you were wondering there is

852  
00:35:15,190 --> 00:35:13,119  
no proof that you can get pregnant

853  
00:35:17,270 --> 00:35:15,200  
without seeing a male

854  
00:35:18,230 --> 00:35:17,280  
just by drinking kombucha

855  
00:35:19,670 --> 00:35:18,240  
but

856  
00:35:20,950 --> 00:35:19,680  
you never know

857  
00:35:22,870 --> 00:35:20,960  
now that's very interesting when was

858  
00:35:25,589 --> 00:35:22,880  
that 1995

859  
00:35:27,670 --> 00:35:25,599  
and in my 20 years or so of experience

860  
00:35:30,310 --> 00:35:27,680  
it going to mind body wallet nothing has

861  
00:35:32,150 --> 00:35:30,320  
changed you'd still see the same sort of

862  
00:35:33,109 --> 00:35:32,160  
things especially the aura camera which

863  
00:35:34,950 --> 00:35:33,119

has been

864

00:35:36,390 --> 00:35:34,960

doing the rounds for years and years and

865

00:35:37,829 --> 00:35:36,400

years and years

866

00:35:39,829 --> 00:35:37,839

and uh

867

00:35:42,630 --> 00:35:39,839

i would hope most people simply treat it

868

00:35:44,550 --> 00:35:42,640

as a bit of silly fun

869

00:35:45,589 --> 00:35:44,560

but that's interesting the skeptics at

870

00:35:49,190 --> 00:35:45,599

the time

871

00:35:50,950 --> 00:35:49,200

had a prediction challenge hmm i'd be

872

00:35:53,190 --> 00:35:50,960

curious to see

873

00:35:54,710 --> 00:35:53,200

what that challenge involved what the

874

00:35:56,790 --> 00:35:54,720

questions were

875

00:35:59,750 --> 00:35:56,800

and next we find an entry in the

876

00:36:03,349 --> 00:35:59,760

riverina herald from echuca victoria

877

00:36:04,550 --> 00:36:03,359

dated the 5th of april 1999 a few years

878

00:36:07,589 --> 00:36:04,560

later

879

00:36:10,390 --> 00:36:07,599

psychic fair this weekend

880

00:36:13,589 --> 00:36:10,400

pegasus psychic fares will be in echuca

881

00:36:16,710 --> 00:36:13,599

from friday april 9 to sunday april 11

882

00:36:18,550 --> 00:36:16,720

inclusive at paramount arts center in

883

00:36:21,750 --> 00:36:18,560

hair street

884

00:36:24,150 --> 00:36:21,760

jeffrey john roger and mark riley have

885

00:36:27,430 --> 00:36:24,160

traveled extensively with their fares

886

00:36:29,030 --> 00:36:27,440

and now have put their own touch into

887

00:36:31,349 --> 00:36:29,040

pegasus fares

888

00:36:33,190 --> 00:36:31,359

two events have been held at warrenbull

889

00:36:35,430 --> 00:36:33,200

and madura

890

00:36:36,630 --> 00:36:35,440

and echuca promises to be just as

891

00:36:39,589 --> 00:36:36,640

successful

892

00:36:41,750 --> 00:36:39,599

pegasus fares as far as possible uses

893

00:36:44,550 --> 00:36:41,760

readers and storeholders from the local

894

00:36:46,870 --> 00:36:44,560

area thereby providing a wide exposure

895

00:36:48,790 --> 00:36:46,880

for them in our own community

896

00:36:50,950 --> 00:36:48,800

organizers anticipate two or three

897

00:36:52,790 --> 00:36:50,960

people from echuca area will be at the

898

00:36:55,109 --> 00:36:52,800

fair with others coming from adelaide

899

00:36:57,990 --> 00:36:55,119

melbourne and other victorian country

900

00:36:59,910 --> 00:36:58,000

areas a wide variety of readers will be

901  
00:37:02,710 --> 00:36:59,920  
present including tarot readers

902  
00:37:05,750 --> 00:37:02,720  
astrologers and palmists as well as new

903  
00:37:08,790 --> 00:37:05,760  
age books cds crystals and other new age

904  
00:37:11,190 --> 00:37:08,800  
products free workshops will also be

905  
00:37:14,069 --> 00:37:11,200  
held during each day a photography

906  
00:37:20,310 --> 00:37:14,079  
exhibition featuring landscapes by the

907  
00:37:25,349 --> 00:37:23,190  
and this reminds me of the smaller

908  
00:37:27,990 --> 00:37:25,359  
mind-body wallet affairs and i've

909  
00:37:31,190 --> 00:37:28,000  
certainly been too many of those

910  
00:37:33,349 --> 00:37:31,200  
they seem to pop up in the past 20 years

911  
00:37:36,150 --> 00:37:33,359  
at least in um

912  
00:37:37,990 --> 00:37:36,160  
local clubs what we call the rsl clubs

913  
00:37:39,910 --> 00:37:38,000

or the services clubs or the leagues

914

00:37:41,510 --> 00:37:39,920

clubs or something like that

915

00:37:43,270 --> 00:37:41,520

australian listeners

916

00:37:44,950 --> 00:37:43,280

will know what i mean

917

00:37:47,349 --> 00:37:44,960

and now here's an entry from the times

918

00:37:51,829 --> 00:37:47,359

of victor harbour in south australia

919

00:37:54,630 --> 00:37:51,839

dated the 11th of february 1999.

920

00:37:58,550 --> 00:37:54,640

health and harmony fair

921

00:38:02,230 --> 00:37:58,560

is being held at pioneer hall at

922

00:38:03,990 --> 00:38:02,240

middleton on february 20 and 21.

923

00:38:06,470 --> 00:38:04,000

this year's fair is shaping up as an

924

00:38:08,390 --> 00:38:06,480

all-encompassing festival of mind body

925

00:38:10,310 --> 00:38:08,400

and spirit it will feature free

926  
00:38:11,349 --> 00:38:10,320  
workshops music indoor and outdoor

927  
00:38:13,910 --> 00:38:11,359  
stalls

928  
00:38:16,310 --> 00:38:13,920  
numerous healing mediums and a large

929  
00:38:19,270 --> 00:38:16,320  
variety of practitioners readings

930  
00:38:20,870 --> 00:38:19,280  
crystals demonstrations and a cafe will

931  
00:38:23,430 --> 00:38:20,880  
be available as well

932  
00:38:26,069 --> 00:38:23,440  
a ticket for the day is only

933  
00:38:27,910 --> 00:38:26,079  
three dollars and a ticket for both days

934  
00:38:30,550 --> 00:38:27,920  
is five dollars

935  
00:38:33,270 --> 00:38:30,560  
children under 12 are free everyone is

936  
00:38:35,109 --> 00:38:33,280  
invited to attend and share the healing

937  
00:38:39,910 --> 00:38:35,119  
energies

938  
00:38:41,750 --> 00:38:39,920

and now we come to the riverina herald

939

00:38:43,190 --> 00:38:41,760

echuca victoria

940

00:38:47,750 --> 00:38:43,200

dated

941

00:38:50,870 --> 00:38:47,760

the 31st of may 1999 so many entries

942

00:38:52,310 --> 00:38:50,880

this week from 1999 in a section called

943

00:38:56,950 --> 00:38:52,320

the melting pot

944

00:38:59,750 --> 00:38:56,960

change your life

945

00:39:02,550 --> 00:38:59,760

discover the unique powers of tribal

946

00:39:04,790 --> 00:39:02,560

medicine taste the juice of the noni

947

00:39:07,750 --> 00:39:04,800

plant and have your tarot read or

948

00:39:11,589 --> 00:39:07,760

discover the power of kinesiology

949

00:39:13,589 --> 00:39:11,599

the 1999 mind body spirit festival

950

00:39:15,510 --> 00:39:13,599

is just around the corner and this

951  
00:39:17,190 --> 00:39:15,520  
year's event promises to be the most

952  
00:39:20,230 --> 00:39:17,200  
varied entertaining

953  
00:39:23,990 --> 00:39:20,240  
and enlightening to date

954  
00:39:26,790 --> 00:39:24,000  
i think it's a pretty low bar

955  
00:39:29,030 --> 00:39:26,800  
more than 170 exhibitors will come

956  
00:39:32,710 --> 00:39:29,040  
together for four days at the melbourne

957  
00:39:35,750 --> 00:39:32,720  
exhibition center from june 11 to 14

958  
00:39:38,069 --> 00:39:35,760  
for celebration and education

959  
00:39:41,910 --> 00:39:38,079  
as we head towards the new millennium

960  
00:39:44,950 --> 00:39:41,920  
australians become more and more aware

961  
00:39:46,790 --> 00:39:44,960  
and intrigued by alternative medicines

962  
00:39:50,150 --> 00:39:46,800  
the study and practice of ancient

963  
00:39:51,430 --> 00:39:50,160

remedies plus the power of the mind over

964

00:39:54,069 --> 00:39:51,440

body

965

00:39:56,910 --> 00:39:54,079

in our search for knowledge and meaning

966

00:40:00,230 --> 00:39:56,920

clairvoyance reiki practitioners

967

00:40:03,990 --> 00:40:00,240

aromatherapists hypnotists masseuse

968

00:40:06,470 --> 00:40:04,000

educators and psychologists among others

969

00:40:08,470 --> 00:40:06,480

are responding to this quest for

970

00:40:11,190 --> 00:40:08,480

knowledge and the mind body spirit

971

00:40:12,550 --> 00:40:11,200

festival allows the public to experience

972

00:40:15,270 --> 00:40:12,560

first hand

973

00:40:16,870 --> 00:40:15,280

many of the products and practitioners

974

00:40:19,750 --> 00:40:16,880

they are interested in

975

00:40:22,309 --> 00:40:19,760

demonstrations lectures music referral

976  
00:40:24,790 --> 00:40:22,319  
services and education information can

977  
00:40:27,190 --> 00:40:24,800  
be found along with great tasting

978  
00:40:29,030 --> 00:40:27,200  
healthy foods and beverages

979  
00:40:31,270 --> 00:40:29,040  
and i'll just stop here to say yes over

980  
00:40:34,390 --> 00:40:31,280  
the years at mind body wallet i have

981  
00:40:38,150 --> 00:40:34,400  
certainly enjoyed lots of yummy food

982  
00:40:40,710 --> 00:40:38,160  
and bought my fair share of things like

983  
00:40:42,230 --> 00:40:40,720  
hot sauces and things like that so it's

984  
00:40:43,910 --> 00:40:42,240  
not all woo

985  
00:40:45,829 --> 00:40:43,920  
a highlight of the festival is the

986  
00:40:48,550 --> 00:40:45,839  
renowned lectures and workshops which

987  
00:40:50,870 --> 00:40:48,560  
sees the industry experts impart their

988  
00:40:53,510 --> 00:40:50,880

knowledge on topics such as

989

00:40:56,710 --> 00:40:53,520

qigong chinese art of healing or a

990

00:40:59,829 --> 00:40:56,720

reading psychological blockages positive

991

00:41:03,670 --> 00:40:59,839

parenting aromatherapy spirituality

992

00:41:05,349 --> 00:41:03,680

self-empowerment relationships feng shui

993

00:41:09,109 --> 00:41:05,359

plus many more

994

00:41:11,349 --> 00:41:09,119

visit the 1999 mind body spirit festival

995

00:41:13,670 --> 00:41:11,359

rejuvenate your spirit improve your

996

00:41:17,190 --> 00:41:13,680

health and have a great time

997

00:41:18,870 --> 00:41:17,200

special door prizes valued at 2 000

998

00:41:21,430 --> 00:41:18,880

are another reason to treat your body

999

00:41:24,150 --> 00:41:21,440

and soul one thousand dollars worth of

1000

00:41:27,109 --> 00:41:24,160

bounty essentials aromatherapy products

1001  
00:41:30,069 --> 00:41:27,119  
plus a chance to experience a hepburn

1002  
00:41:31,829 --> 00:41:30,079  
spa resort escape also valued at one

1003  
00:41:34,470 --> 00:41:31,839  
thousand dollars will be on offer as

1004  
00:41:36,550 --> 00:41:34,480  
well as course discounts free books and

1005  
00:41:39,030 --> 00:41:36,560  
tapes free massages

1006  
00:41:41,349 --> 00:41:39,040  
and much much more

1007  
00:41:44,230 --> 00:41:41,359  
you may discover a past you never knew

1008  
00:41:47,349 --> 00:41:44,240  
or a future you never dreamt of the show

1009  
00:41:50,470 --> 00:41:47,359  
is on friday june 11 from 10 am until 10

1010  
00:41:54,069 --> 00:41:50,480  
pm and saturday sunday and monday

1011  
00:41:57,349 --> 00:41:54,079  
queen's birthday from 10 am to 7 pm

1012  
00:41:59,030 --> 00:41:57,359  
it costs 12 for adults while children

1013  
00:42:00,870 --> 00:41:59,040

under 14 are free

1014

00:42:03,069 --> 00:42:00,880

for more information contact the

1015

00:42:04,630 --> 00:42:03,079

festival hotline on

1016

00:42:06,430 --> 00:42:04,640

1900

1017

00:42:08,309 --> 00:42:06,440

931

1018

00:42:11,270 --> 00:42:08,319

798

1019

00:42:13,510 --> 00:42:11,280

the riverina herald melting pot has five

1020

00:42:15,589 --> 00:42:13,520

double passes to the mind body spirit

1021

00:42:17,990 --> 00:42:15,599

festival to give away

1022

00:42:20,150 --> 00:42:18,000

to be in the running to win simply cut

1023

00:42:23,349 --> 00:42:20,160

out the melting pot banner on the top of

1024

00:42:25,349 --> 00:42:23,359

this page remember to include the date

1025

00:42:27,910 --> 00:42:25,359

and send it to

1026

00:42:31,030 --> 00:42:27,920

the riverina herald melting pot po box

1027

00:42:33,910 --> 00:42:31,040

21 echuca 3564

1028

00:42:36,390 --> 00:42:33,920

or drop it into the office at 270 hair

1029

00:42:38,790 --> 00:42:36,400

street echuca remember to include your

1030

00:42:41,990 --> 00:42:38,800

name address and telephone number

1031

00:42:45,670 --> 00:42:42,000

entries close midday friday june 4.

1032

00:42:48,309 --> 00:42:45,680

i wonder if anybody applied i wonder

1033

00:42:50,870 --> 00:42:48,319

and finally we dip right back right back

1034

00:42:53,750 --> 00:42:50,880

to the year 1980

1035

00:42:56,829 --> 00:42:53,760

from the australian woman's weekly

1036

00:42:59,750 --> 00:42:56,839

on uh the 1st of

1037

00:43:02,069 --> 00:42:59,760

october and it's just one of the search

1038

00:43:04,630 --> 00:43:02,079

results that came back when i

1039

00:43:05,670 --> 00:43:04,640

ran my inquiry

1040

00:43:08,150 --> 00:43:05,680

psychic

1041

00:43:10,950 --> 00:43:08,160

with a drawing board

1042

00:43:13,670 --> 00:43:10,960

coral polge is a psychic

1043

00:43:16,710 --> 00:43:13,680

she says that by sitting down with you

1044

00:43:19,109 --> 00:43:16,720

saying a short prayer and squeezing your

1045

00:43:22,710 --> 00:43:19,119

hands tightly she can contact someone

1046

00:43:23,829 --> 00:43:22,720

who was close to you but who is now

1047

00:43:25,430 --> 00:43:23,839

dead

1048

00:43:28,309 --> 00:43:25,440

what makes her different from most

1049

00:43:31,190 --> 00:43:28,319

mediums is that she will then draw a

1050

00:43:33,109 --> 00:43:31,200

picture of the person she has contacted

1051

00:43:34,870 --> 00:43:33,119

she is in so much demand in london that

1052

00:43:37,109 --> 00:43:34,880

you have to wait six months for an

1053

00:43:39,270 --> 00:43:37,119

appointment with her in october she is

1054

00:43:42,030 --> 00:43:39,280

coming to australia for six weeks at the

1055

00:43:44,390 --> 00:43:42,040

invitation of the victorian

1056

00:43:47,030 --> 00:43:44,400

spiritualists union

1057

00:43:49,670 --> 00:43:47,040

i don't ask my subject any questions

1058

00:43:51,910 --> 00:43:49,680

coral says i don't want to know anything

1059

00:43:53,750 --> 00:43:51,920

about them but when i concentrate if

1060

00:43:56,550 --> 00:43:53,760

there is somebody there who wants to

1061

00:43:57,990 --> 00:43:56,560

make contact i begin to draw i don't

1062

00:44:00,069 --> 00:43:58,000

know who i'm drawing until i have

1063

00:44:02,309 --> 00:44:00,079

finished the picture if the person

1064

00:44:04,950 --> 00:44:02,319

recognizes it and if it is particularly

1065

00:44:08,069 --> 00:44:04,960

accurate then there is usually a very

1066

00:44:10,309 --> 00:44:08,079

emotional moment for both of us coral

1067

00:44:12,069 --> 00:44:10,319

emphasizes that she cannot communicate

1068

00:44:15,829 --> 00:44:12,079

further than drawing

1069

00:44:18,069 --> 00:44:15,839

she dismisses criticism as unfair

1070

00:44:20,150 --> 00:44:18,079

if a spirit wants to make contact with

1071

00:44:23,670 --> 00:44:20,160

you then it seems perfectly natural to

1072

00:44:26,710 --> 00:44:23,680

me we are all spirits she said and we

1073

00:44:29,670 --> 00:44:26,720

wear a disguise which is a body for part

1074

00:44:32,630 --> 00:44:29,680

of our existence when we die that

1075

00:44:35,030 --> 00:44:32,640

disguise our body goes but our spirit

1076

00:44:37,190 --> 00:44:35,040

does not this spirit is invisible to

1077

00:44:39,829 --> 00:44:37,200

most people but there are some and i am

1078

00:44:42,069 --> 00:44:39,839

one who can communicate with them if i

1079

00:44:44,390 --> 00:44:42,079

can put you in touch with somebody you

1080

00:44:46,309 --> 00:44:44,400

have loved and make you aware that they

1081

00:44:49,670 --> 00:44:46,319

want to make contact with you it can

1082

00:44:50,870 --> 00:44:49,680

only give a feeling of love and comfort

1083

00:44:53,109 --> 00:44:50,880

to you

1084

00:44:55,430 --> 00:44:53,119

and that is good enough reason for my

1085

00:44:59,190 --> 00:44:55,440

work coral's only public appearance will

1086

00:45:02,790 --> 00:44:59,200

be at q civic center kotham road q

1087

00:45:06,309 --> 00:45:02,800

melbourne on october 23 at 8 pm

1088

00:45:08,390 --> 00:45:06,319

november 7 at 8 p.m and november 19 at 8

1089

00:45:09,990 --> 00:45:08,400

pm admission

1090

00:45:12,370 --> 00:45:10,000

6.

1091

00:45:16,470 --> 00:45:12,380

i wonder what ever happened to her

1092

00:45:18,870 --> 00:45:16,480

[Music]

1093

00:45:21,349 --> 00:45:18,880

well there you go just a brief dip

1094

00:45:23,670 --> 00:45:21,359

our toe we dipped our toe and a bit of

1095

00:45:26,069 --> 00:45:23,680

our foot into the waters of trove

1096

00:45:29,270 --> 00:45:26,079

and we saw some of the references to the

1097

00:45:31,670 --> 00:45:29,280

mind body spirit festival and

1098

00:45:35,240 --> 00:45:31,680

with that last one sort of sort of a

1099

00:45:40,390 --> 00:45:37,670

[Music]

1100

00:45:42,390 --> 00:45:40,400

yes once the pandemic is over i look

1101  
00:45:44,550 --> 00:45:42,400  
forward oddly enough to going back to

1102  
00:45:47,030 --> 00:45:44,560  
mind body spirit festivals

1103  
00:45:49,030 --> 00:45:47,040  
because i never know

1104  
00:45:51,589 --> 00:45:49,040  
what i might find

1105  
00:45:52,870 --> 00:45:51,599  
just as in trove have a look and you'll

1106  
00:45:55,840 --> 00:45:52,880  
never know

1107  
00:46:15,960 --> 00:45:55,850  
what you might find

1108  
00:46:19,510 --> 00:46:17,829  
[Applause]

1109  
00:46:21,190 --> 00:46:19,520  
thank you for listening to the skeptic

1110  
00:46:22,630 --> 00:46:21,200  
zone this week and if you're listening

1111  
00:46:24,390 --> 00:46:22,640  
to the skeptic zone

1112  
00:46:26,150 --> 00:46:24,400  
just when it comes out tomorrow night

1113  
00:46:29,349 --> 00:46:26,160

here in australia

1114

00:46:31,589 --> 00:46:29,359

i'll be talking live on zoom for the

1115

00:46:34,950 --> 00:46:31,599

gold coast skeptics my talk about

1116

00:46:37,190 --> 00:46:34,960

strange energy and strange devices

1117

00:46:38,150 --> 00:46:37,200

uh follow the link in this week's show

1118

00:46:39,990 --> 00:46:38,160

notes

1119

00:46:43,190 --> 00:46:40,000

and you can register

1120

00:46:44,470 --> 00:46:43,200

and check out that talk all about orgon

1121

00:46:46,069 --> 00:46:44,480

energy

1122

00:46:48,390 --> 00:46:46,079

and uh

1123

00:46:50,309 --> 00:46:48,400

scalar energy

1124

00:46:53,829 --> 00:46:50,319

the power balance

1125

00:46:56,309 --> 00:46:53,839

uh fiasco of about 10 years ago and a

1126  
00:46:59,829 --> 00:46:56,319  
more updated example of people using

1127  
00:47:00,870 --> 00:46:59,839  
applied kinesiology tricks to sell

1128  
00:47:02,710 --> 00:47:00,880  
products

1129  
00:47:04,069 --> 00:47:02,720  
now i'm looking forward to that tomorrow

1130  
00:47:05,910 --> 00:47:04,079  
night here in australia which will be

1131  
00:47:06,950 --> 00:47:05,920  
monday night here in australia

1132  
00:47:08,150 --> 00:47:06,960  
or

1133  
00:47:09,990 --> 00:47:08,160  
it will be

1134  
00:47:11,190 --> 00:47:10,000  
uh

1135  
00:47:13,510 --> 00:47:11,200  
sunday

1136  
00:47:15,750 --> 00:47:13,520  
in north america or check your local

1137  
00:47:17,510 --> 00:47:15,760  
time zones for um

1138  
00:47:19,109 --> 00:47:17,520

time zones

1139

00:47:20,470 --> 00:47:19,119

thank you to those people who continue

1140

00:47:22,230 --> 00:47:20,480

to support the skeptic zone at

1141

00:47:25,030 --> 00:47:22,240

skepticzone.tv

1142

00:47:27,349 --> 00:47:25,040

by a patreon or paypal

1143

00:47:29,390 --> 00:47:27,359

and you can also support the skeptic

1144

00:47:31,510 --> 00:47:29,400

zone by visiting

1145

00:47:33,910 --> 00:47:31,520

www.skepticzone.tv scrolling to the

1146

00:47:37,510 --> 00:47:33,920

bottom of the page

1147

00:47:38,950 --> 00:47:37,520

and buying an eprint an e-copy of one of

1148

00:47:43,430 --> 00:47:38,960

my

1149

00:47:45,109 --> 00:47:43,440

photography scroll to the bottom of the

1150

00:47:48,309 --> 00:47:45,119

page and have a look

1151  
00:47:50,069 --> 00:47:48,319  
and you'll also notice there a few free

1152  
00:47:52,710 --> 00:47:50,079  
samples you can just simply download

1153  
00:47:54,710 --> 00:47:52,720  
print out put on the wall and

1154  
00:47:57,589 --> 00:47:54,720  
well there you go

1155  
00:47:59,910 --> 00:47:57,599  
and they include pegasus the flying pig

1156  
00:48:04,150 --> 00:47:59,920  
the origami pig i invented at the

1157  
00:48:05,589 --> 00:48:04,160  
request of james randy way back in 2007

1158  
00:48:07,910 --> 00:48:05,599  
and incidentally every now and then on

1159  
00:48:11,349 --> 00:48:07,920  
the skeptic zone you may hear

1160  
00:48:13,510 --> 00:48:11,359  
uh a promo in japanese

1161  
00:48:15,349 --> 00:48:13,520  
in japanese and that is talking all

1162  
00:48:16,549 --> 00:48:15,359  
about the fact that you can download

1163  
00:48:18,069 --> 00:48:16,559

those pictures

1164

00:48:20,549 --> 00:48:18,079

and that lovely voice you're hearing

1165

00:48:22,870 --> 00:48:20,559

doing the japanese is none other than

1166

00:48:24,150 --> 00:48:22,880

our reporter michelle bigesma hello

1167

00:48:26,069 --> 00:48:24,160

michelle

1168

00:48:27,589 --> 00:48:26,079

coming up on next week's show more of

1169

00:48:29,910 --> 00:48:27,599

the book of tim

1170

00:48:32,309 --> 00:48:29,920

and well we'll just have to see and that

1171

00:48:35,190 --> 00:48:32,319

will be show 699

1172

00:48:38,230 --> 00:48:35,200

on the 27th of february so that means

1173

00:48:40,309 --> 00:48:38,240

it's almost it's almost 700 episodes of

1174

00:48:42,870 --> 00:48:40,319

the skeptic zone i don't have anything

1175

00:48:45,190 --> 00:48:42,880

special lined up i'll see what the next

1176

00:48:48,549 --> 00:48:45,200

uh week might bring

1177

00:48:52,630 --> 00:48:48,559

but yeah the skeptic zone will soon be

1178

00:48:54,630 --> 00:48:52,640

uh celebrating 700 episodes

1179

00:48:57,510 --> 00:48:54,640

but for this week this is richard

1180

00:49:03,030 --> 00:48:57,520

saunders signing off once again from

1181

00:49:06,230 --> 00:49:04,790

you've been listening to the skeptic

1182

00:49:07,670 --> 00:49:06,240

zone podcast

1183

00:49:10,790 --> 00:49:07,680

please visit our website at

1184

00:49:16,470 --> 00:49:13,910

for show notes contacts and to access

1185

00:49:18,630 --> 00:49:16,480

the back catalog of episodes going back

1186

00:49:20,630 --> 00:49:18,640

to 2008.

1187

00:49:23,349 --> 00:49:20,640

you can follow the skepticzone podcast

1188

00:49:25,510 --> 00:49:23,359

on twitter at skepticzone

1189

00:49:27,750 --> 00:49:25,520

visit our facebook page or leave a

1190

00:49:29,910 --> 00:49:27,760

review on itunes

1191

00:49:33,109 --> 00:49:29,920

you can also support the skeptic zone

1192

00:49:36,230 --> 00:49:33,119

via patreon or paypal the skeptic zone

1193

00:49:38,069 --> 00:49:36,240

podcast is an independent production

1194

00:49:40,390 --> 00:49:38,079

the views and opinions expressed on the

1195

00:49:42,870 --> 00:49:40,400

skeptic zone are not necessarily those

1196

00:49:44,530 --> 00:49:42,880

of australian skeptics or any other

1197

00:49:57,589 --> 00:49:44,540

skeptical organization

1198

00:50:12,710 --> 00:49:59,190

well the kookaburras think it's funny

1199

00:50:17,750 --> 00:50:14,230

you gotta laugh

1200

00:50:18,630 --> 00:50:17,760

they're supposed to be in the morning i

1201

00:50:26,870 --> 00:50:18,640

think

1202

00:50:28,549 --> 00:50:26,880

just flew down somewhere

1203

00:50:30,549 --> 00:50:28,559

oh yeah well i've got a little lizard

1204

00:50:31,750 --> 00:50:30,559

here that tries to get in the window

1205

00:50:34,470 --> 00:50:31,760

especially interested in the cricket

1206

00:50:37,910 --> 00:50:36,309

some people say australia doesn't exist

1207

00:50:41,829 --> 00:50:37,920

you know i know they will yeah that's

1208

00:50:44,710 --> 00:50:41,839

what cookable that's true okay

1209

00:50:47,190 --> 00:50:44,720

oh shut up

1210

00:50:49,109 --> 00:50:47,200

you're recording this aren't you yes

1211

00:50:50,549 --> 00:50:49,119

you could use this as anything i think i

1212

00:50:52,230 --> 00:50:50,559

will

1213

00:50:54,230 --> 00:50:52,240

those people listening to the easter egg