

**Episode 723**

**THE  
SKEPTIC  
ZONE  
PODCAST**

**14 August 2022**

**Think straight with author  
Jon Guy**

**The Book of Tim  
Bent Spoon Award**

**Australian Skeptics News  
with Adrienne Hill**

**Jim Wilshire  
Skeptical Poem  
Bachelor of Seance**

**TROVE  
Prof. Ray Hyman**

[www.skepticzone.tv](http://www.skepticzone.tv)



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  
00:00:23,029 --> 00:00:16,850

[Applause]

5  
00:00:25,109 --> 00:00:23,039

[Music]

6  
00:00:26,830 --> 00:00:25,119

yes it's the skeptic zone podcast

7  
00:00:31,189 --> 00:00:26,840

episode number

8  
00:00:33,110 --> 00:00:31,199

723 for the 14th of august 2022 richard

9  
00:00:35,430 --> 00:00:33,120

saunders coming to you from sydney

10  
00:00:38,549 --> 00:00:35,440

australia coming up on the show this

11  
00:00:41,030 --> 00:00:38,559

week i interview author john guy

12  
00:00:42,549 --> 00:00:41,040

about his new book called

13  
00:00:47,670 --> 00:00:42,559

think straight

14

00:00:48,790 --> 00:00:47,680

should try to do is think clearly think

15

00:00:49,910 --> 00:00:48,800

logically

16

00:00:51,670 --> 00:00:49,920

think straight

17

00:00:53,670 --> 00:00:51,680

following that it's the book of tim with

18

00:00:56,869 --> 00:00:53,680

tim menu a bit of a different book of

19

00:00:58,869 --> 00:00:56,879

tim this week i went over to skeptics

20

00:01:01,590 --> 00:00:58,879

headquarters here in sydney

21

00:01:05,270 --> 00:01:01,600

to uh have a chat with tim about the

22

00:01:06,630 --> 00:01:05,280

australian skeptics bent spoon award

23

00:01:09,910 --> 00:01:06,640

our annual

24

00:01:11,109 --> 00:01:09,920

award for what we consider to be

25

00:01:15,030 --> 00:01:11,119

nonsense

26  
00:01:17,429 --> 00:01:15,040  
far-fetched implausible scams that sort

27  
00:01:19,350 --> 00:01:17,439  
of thing and speaking of tim mendom

28  
00:01:21,270 --> 00:01:19,360  
after that we hear from adrian hill who

29  
00:01:23,429 --> 00:01:21,280  
reads the newsletter

30  
00:01:26,789 --> 00:01:23,439  
written by tim mandum it all works you

31  
00:01:28,230 --> 00:01:26,799  
see thank you adrian once again for your

32  
00:01:29,190 --> 00:01:28,240  
wonderful

33  
00:01:30,870 --> 00:01:29,200  
news

34  
00:01:33,270 --> 00:01:30,880  
report reading

35  
00:01:36,469 --> 00:01:33,280  
after that it's another skeptical poem

36  
00:01:38,830 --> 00:01:36,479  
by the uh late great jim wilshere

37  
00:01:41,109 --> 00:01:38,840  
and this week jim will be reading his

38  
00:01:43,190 --> 00:01:41,119

poem bachelor

39

00:01:45,030 --> 00:01:43,200

of seance

40

00:01:47,510 --> 00:01:45,040

then to round off the show we dive back

41

00:01:49,670 --> 00:01:47,520

into those digital newspaper archives

42

00:01:52,389 --> 00:01:49,680

from around the world this week we're

43

00:01:53,510 --> 00:01:52,399

looking for references to a man i've met

44

00:01:55,749 --> 00:01:53,520

on a

45

00:01:58,149 --> 00:01:55,759

on several occasions

46

00:02:00,310 --> 00:01:58,159

ray hyman professor ray hyman a man i

47

00:02:03,109 --> 00:02:00,320

admire very much

48

00:02:04,709 --> 00:02:03,119

now i said in last week's episode

49

00:02:06,789 --> 00:02:04,719

this week i would be bringing you a

50

00:02:10,229 --> 00:02:06,799

report about mind body spirit or mind

51  
00:02:11,990 --> 00:02:10,239  
buddy walt well owing to scheduling

52  
00:02:14,869 --> 00:02:12,000  
and juggling

53  
00:02:17,589 --> 00:02:14,879  
segments and episodes i've put that back

54  
00:02:19,030 --> 00:02:17,599  
a week until next week

55  
00:02:20,630 --> 00:02:19,040  
i hope you're doing okay out there

56  
00:02:21,750 --> 00:02:20,640  
sometimes you all have those aches and

57  
00:02:24,710 --> 00:02:21,760  
pains

58  
00:02:27,030 --> 00:02:24,720  
those twinges i get i get um

59  
00:02:29,510 --> 00:02:27,040  
every six months or something like

60  
00:02:31,750 --> 00:02:29,520  
something weird like that i'll throw my

61  
00:02:35,509 --> 00:02:31,760  
back out and by that i mean i

62  
00:02:37,350 --> 00:02:35,519  
i'm a little nerve that gets pinched

63  
00:02:38,390 --> 00:02:37,360

in my back and i'm sort of walk funny

64

00:02:41,190 --> 00:02:38,400

for a while

65

00:02:43,830 --> 00:02:41,200

i remember some some years ago i tried

66

00:02:46,869 --> 00:02:43,840

to pick up something incorrectly too

67

00:02:49,190 --> 00:02:46,879

heavy and for the next two days i was

68

00:02:51,430 --> 00:02:49,200

more or less confined to bed

69

00:02:54,150 --> 00:02:51,440

could hardly move pinched nerves are no

70

00:02:56,070 --> 00:02:54,160

fun at all so i do sympathize

71

00:02:57,030 --> 00:02:56,080

if that's what's happening

72

00:02:58,710 --> 00:02:57,040

to you

73

00:03:01,110 --> 00:02:58,720

and if you're feeling unwell at the

74

00:03:03,110 --> 00:03:01,120

moment maybe the skeptic zone can give

75

00:03:04,390 --> 00:03:03,120

you an hour's worth of uh

76

00:03:06,550 --> 00:03:04,400

interesting

77

00:03:08,229 --> 00:03:06,560

escapism

78

00:03:09,589 --> 00:03:08,239

but now it's time for me to run

79

00:03:11,589 --> 00:03:09,599

downstairs

80

00:03:12,949 --> 00:03:11,599

and see if i have some

81

00:03:15,910 --> 00:03:12,959

well

82

00:03:17,750 --> 00:03:15,920

i wonder what you would have

83

00:03:19,589 --> 00:03:17,760

if you were to run down the stairs when

84

00:03:21,750 --> 00:03:19,599

you're making a podcast

85

00:03:23,910 --> 00:03:21,760

what would you have

86

00:03:25,990 --> 00:03:23,920

while you're thinking about that

87

00:03:38,980 --> 00:03:26,000

and while i'm thinking about that

88

00:03:48,710 --> 00:03:46,710

[Music]

89

00:03:49,910 --> 00:03:48,720

well folks critical thinking straight

90

00:03:51,910 --> 00:03:49,920

thinking

91

00:03:53,429 --> 00:03:51,920

this is something we always talk about

92

00:03:56,390 --> 00:03:53,439

here on the skeptic zone and something

93

00:03:59,190 --> 00:03:56,400

i've been teaching now for well many

94

00:04:01,750 --> 00:03:59,200

years trying to impart to people how

95

00:04:03,670 --> 00:04:01,760

important is to be a critical thinker

96

00:04:06,309 --> 00:04:03,680

but what does that mean

97

00:04:07,429 --> 00:04:06,319

joining me on the line from colorado is

98

00:04:09,110 --> 00:04:07,439

a man who's

99

00:04:11,589 --> 00:04:09,120

put together a book about critical

100

00:04:14,630 --> 00:04:11,599

thinking called think straight it's john

101  
00:04:16,469 --> 00:04:14,640  
guy hello john how's it going i'm doing

102  
00:04:17,749 --> 00:04:16,479  
very well it's raining in sydney you

103  
00:04:19,430 --> 00:04:17,759  
wouldn't believe it in fact there's a

104  
00:04:22,069 --> 00:04:19,440  
bit of a storm happening while we talk

105  
00:04:25,270 --> 00:04:22,079  
so hopefully the the connection doesn't

106  
00:04:27,030 --> 00:04:25,280  
doesn't stop but let's get uh let's get

107  
00:04:29,270 --> 00:04:27,040  
right down to the point of this you've

108  
00:04:31,430 --> 00:04:29,280  
written this book what inspired you to

109  
00:04:33,189 --> 00:04:31,440  
write a book about something we all we

110  
00:04:34,870 --> 00:04:33,199  
all like to think about which of course

111  
00:04:36,150 --> 00:04:34,880  
is uh straight thinking or critical

112  
00:04:39,189 --> 00:04:36,160  
thinking

113  
00:04:41,189 --> 00:04:39,199

um well i think the original plan uh in

114

00:04:42,469 --> 00:04:41,199

writing this book was to kind of just

115

00:04:45,270 --> 00:04:42,479

develop a

116

00:04:47,189 --> 00:04:45,280

a basic curriculum for

117

00:04:48,550 --> 00:04:47,199

um teaching rudimentary critical

118

00:04:51,909 --> 00:04:48,560

thinking skills

119

00:04:53,110 --> 00:04:51,919

and um i i gotta admit that i completely

120

00:04:55,270 --> 00:04:53,120

failed in that

121

00:04:57,430 --> 00:04:55,280

in that pursuit because

122

00:05:00,629 --> 00:04:57,440

um i didn't write that what i ended up

123

00:05:02,390 --> 00:05:00,639

writing was a 400 page book

124

00:05:04,469 --> 00:05:02,400

covering about as much as i could

125

00:05:05,749 --> 00:05:04,479

possibly fit into it

126

00:05:07,510 --> 00:05:05,759

with the word allowance from my

127

00:05:10,070 --> 00:05:07,520

publisher

128

00:05:13,110 --> 00:05:10,080

so you got a bit carried away i got very

129

00:05:13,830 --> 00:05:13,120

very much carried away

130

00:05:15,189 --> 00:05:13,840

and

131

00:05:16,070 --> 00:05:15,199

okay well let's get back to this whole

132

00:05:17,590 --> 00:05:16,080

idea of

133

00:05:19,270 --> 00:05:17,600

critical thinking because i noticed in

134

00:05:22,469 --> 00:05:19,280

some of the information

135

00:05:24,310 --> 00:05:22,479

that you sort of touch on or some of the

136

00:05:26,550 --> 00:05:24,320

information about the book at least

137

00:05:28,629 --> 00:05:26,560

touching on people we might consider

138

00:05:31,110 --> 00:05:28,639

great critical thinkings great critical

139

00:05:32,150 --> 00:05:31,120

thinkers like james randy and so on

140

00:05:34,550 --> 00:05:32,160

uh

141

00:05:36,469 --> 00:05:34,560

to what extent were you inspired by what

142

00:05:37,430 --> 00:05:36,479

we might call the pop culture critical

143

00:05:39,990 --> 00:05:37,440

thinkers

144

00:05:42,310 --> 00:05:40,000

um i really liked uh james randy was a

145

00:05:44,469 --> 00:05:42,320

big uh influence on me

146

00:05:47,430 --> 00:05:44,479

as well as other uh popularizers of the

147

00:05:50,469 --> 00:05:47,440

genre uh michael shermer

148

00:05:52,550 --> 00:05:50,479

i really got into uh carl sagan

149

00:05:55,510 --> 00:05:52,560

as far as his you know he has a lot of

150

00:05:56,710 --> 00:05:55,520

books on um on space and astronomy and

151

00:05:59,270 --> 00:05:56,720

he does a really good job of

152

00:06:02,150 --> 00:05:59,280

incorporating critical thinking into his

153

00:06:04,390 --> 00:06:02,160

work and a lot of that was was extremely

154

00:06:07,430 --> 00:06:04,400

inspiring for me i also really enjoyed

155

00:06:09,909 --> 00:06:07,440

uh richard dawkins books um

156

00:06:12,390 --> 00:06:09,919

so just you know science in general is

157

00:06:14,230 --> 00:06:12,400

kind of what led me towards uh critical

158

00:06:16,070 --> 00:06:14,240

thinking and i think you share this view

159

00:06:18,550 --> 00:06:16,080

with me as well is that you know science

160

00:06:20,550 --> 00:06:18,560

is not just about you know basic facts

161

00:06:22,790 --> 00:06:20,560

you know what you know what is you know

162

00:06:25,270 --> 00:06:22,800

how does the scientific method work and

163

00:06:27,830 --> 00:06:25,280

and you know what are the results of of

164

00:06:28,629 --> 00:06:27,840

lab work and and so on it's more about

165

00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:28,639

the

166

00:06:35,270 --> 00:06:32,960

and how it's conducted

167

00:06:37,510 --> 00:06:35,280

and how we can rely on his results and

168

00:06:40,790 --> 00:06:37,520

when we should and when we shouldn't so

169

00:06:43,350 --> 00:06:40,800

i i got i got really into the uh into

170

00:06:45,749 --> 00:06:43,360

the weeds on exactly what it means to be

171

00:06:47,189 --> 00:06:45,759

scientifically literate and that's kind

172

00:06:51,189 --> 00:06:47,199

of what

173

00:06:54,230 --> 00:06:51,199

going throughout writing the book fair

174

00:06:56,629 --> 00:06:54,240

enough fair enough too now tell me about

175

00:06:58,950 --> 00:06:56,639

jargon i mean you sort of touched on it

176

00:07:02,150 --> 00:06:58,960

there i mean science is more than just

177

00:07:05,430 --> 00:07:02,160

doing experiments just in a cold manner

178

00:07:08,150 --> 00:07:05,440

but also you you're gonna talk about or

179

00:07:10,629 --> 00:07:08,160

mention this jargon why isn't it

180

00:07:12,790 --> 00:07:10,639

important to look at this issue or do

181

00:07:15,189 --> 00:07:12,800

you think that being too scientific

182

00:07:17,029 --> 00:07:15,199

maybe using too much jargon detracts

183

00:07:19,510 --> 00:07:17,039

sometimes from people's understanding of

184

00:07:21,830 --> 00:07:19,520

science i in my experience i've found

185

00:07:23,909 --> 00:07:21,840

that learning learning jargon is one of

186

00:07:26,390 --> 00:07:23,919

the biggest hurdles to

187

00:07:27,749 --> 00:07:26,400

um to learning any subject whether it's

188

00:07:30,469 --> 00:07:27,759

science or

189

00:07:32,150 --> 00:07:30,479

mechanics or what have you even like

190

00:07:34,790 --> 00:07:32,160

when i started learning about the brain

191

00:07:36,469 --> 00:07:34,800

and and you know i mean how the brain

192

00:07:38,469 --> 00:07:36,479

works and what all the different areas

193

00:07:40,469 --> 00:07:38,479

are and what everything is called i mean

194

00:07:41,589 --> 00:07:40,479

learning the jargon is like a huge part

195

00:07:44,550 --> 00:07:41,599

of it

196

00:07:47,909 --> 00:07:44,560

yeah for sure sometimes um

197

00:07:50,070 --> 00:07:47,919

sometimes sciency stuff is very um

198

00:07:53,270 --> 00:07:50,080

jargon-laden and one of the things i did

199

00:07:55,589 --> 00:07:53,280

in my book is anytime i'm introducing um

200

00:07:57,589 --> 00:07:55,599

what i think is a term that

201  
00:07:59,589 --> 00:07:57,599  
uh somebody who's not very familiar with

202  
00:08:02,070 --> 00:07:59,599  
science or critical thinking might not

203  
00:08:03,830 --> 00:08:02,080  
have come across before is i laid out

204  
00:08:06,070 --> 00:08:03,840  
kind of a vocabulary builder in the

205  
00:08:08,710 --> 00:08:06,080  
beginning of each chapter and introduced

206  
00:08:11,029 --> 00:08:08,720  
it with a definition and then later on

207  
00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:11,039  
highlighted that term so that when it's

208  
00:08:13,909 --> 00:08:12,560  
being used in context they can

209  
00:08:15,029 --> 00:08:13,919  
understand and refer back to the

210  
00:08:17,510 --> 00:08:15,039  
definition

211  
00:08:19,350 --> 00:08:17,520  
right yes pro probably a very good idea

212  
00:08:21,270 --> 00:08:19,360  
i mean you can't help that pick up

213  
00:08:23,110 --> 00:08:21,280

jargon along the way i guess i know more

214

00:08:24,950 --> 00:08:23,120

jargon than i really

215

00:08:26,790 --> 00:08:24,960

if i thought about it i must know more

216

00:08:29,430 --> 00:08:26,800

than i than i

217

00:08:31,270 --> 00:08:29,440

would think about from day to day terms

218

00:08:32,550 --> 00:08:31,280

you hear again and again and again but

219

00:08:33,589 --> 00:08:32,560

of course when you get into the heavy

220

00:08:34,469 --> 00:08:33,599

sciences

221

00:08:36,630 --> 00:08:34,479

uh

222

00:08:38,230 --> 00:08:36,640

jargon is very important by the time you

223

00:08:40,630 --> 00:08:38,240

reach that stage but i can certainly

224

00:08:42,870 --> 00:08:40,640

understand how it could possibly put you

225

00:08:45,110 --> 00:08:42,880

off the basics of a of critical thinking

226

00:08:46,630 --> 00:08:45,120

now let's talk about something another

227

00:08:48,870 --> 00:08:46,640

topic that we love to talk about here on

228

00:08:51,590 --> 00:08:48,880

the skeptic zone which is conspiracies

229

00:08:53,990 --> 00:08:51,600

conspiracy theory and and

230

00:08:55,269 --> 00:08:54,000

uh critical thinking and we like to

231

00:08:56,630 --> 00:08:55,279

think well there must be a lack of

232

00:08:59,910 --> 00:08:56,640

critical thinking if people believe in

233

00:09:01,509 --> 00:08:59,920

conspiracy theories right sure yeah uh i

234

00:09:04,310 --> 00:09:01,519

actually have um

235

00:09:06,389 --> 00:09:04,320

far throughout the the manuscript are

236

00:09:08,550 --> 00:09:06,399

multiple references to conspiracy

237

00:09:10,790 --> 00:09:08,560

ideation and different conspiracy

238

00:09:13,590 --> 00:09:10,800

theories and um different logical

239

00:09:15,910 --> 00:09:13,600

fallacies associated with uh the

240

00:09:18,310 --> 00:09:15,920

tendency to believe in conspiracies but

241

00:09:20,630 --> 00:09:18,320

my final chapter is actually on just

242

00:09:22,550 --> 00:09:20,640

conspiracies it was actually i

243

00:09:24,230 --> 00:09:22,560

probably the funnest chapter i wrote

244

00:09:26,470 --> 00:09:24,240

i've really enjoyed

245

00:09:27,829 --> 00:09:26,480

uh quite a bit because there's i mean

246

00:09:30,630 --> 00:09:27,839

conspiracy

247

00:09:33,030 --> 00:09:30,640

ideation is such a fascinating concept

248

00:09:35,190 --> 00:09:33,040

and like you said it's it's not just it

249

00:09:37,269 --> 00:09:35,200

doesn't just boil down to a matter of

250

00:09:38,870 --> 00:09:37,279

lacking critical thinking skills because

251

00:09:41,590 --> 00:09:38,880

there's a whole lot that goes into it

252

00:09:44,790 --> 00:09:41,600

between you know prior beliefs and

253

00:09:46,870 --> 00:09:44,800

ideologies and uh the people who you're

254

00:09:48,630 --> 00:09:46,880

surrounded by and what culture you're in

255

00:09:50,389 --> 00:09:48,640

all those contribute to whether or not

256

00:09:52,630 --> 00:09:50,399

you're susceptible to believing in

257

00:09:53,829 --> 00:09:52,640

conspiracy theories absolutely and of

258

00:09:55,030 --> 00:09:53,839

course

259

00:09:57,590 --> 00:09:55,040

i mean

260

00:10:00,310 --> 00:09:57,600

people have often said to the skeptics

261

00:10:02,710 --> 00:10:00,320

or in in my experience anyway that we

262

00:10:04,470 --> 00:10:02,720

spend too much time worrying about in

263

00:10:06,389 --> 00:10:04,480

insubstantial things like conspiracy

264

00:10:07,910 --> 00:10:06,399

theories but we saw only in the last

265

00:10:09,910 --> 00:10:07,920

couple of years especially in the united

266

00:10:11,910 --> 00:10:09,920

states how conspiracy theories well

267

00:10:14,069 --> 00:10:11,920

let's talk about the the attacks on the

268

00:10:16,150 --> 00:10:14,079

capital on the 6th of january

269

00:10:18,389 --> 00:10:16,160

led largely by conspiracy theories how

270

00:10:19,750 --> 00:10:18,399

they can do real damage and maybe maybe

271

00:10:20,949 --> 00:10:19,760

if some more of those people had read

272

00:10:21,990 --> 00:10:20,959

your book

273

00:10:24,389 --> 00:10:22,000

or

274

00:10:26,470 --> 00:10:24,399

will read your book they might be

275

00:10:27,590 --> 00:10:26,480

better equipped to battle conspiracy

276

00:10:29,509 --> 00:10:27,600

theories

277

00:10:31,990 --> 00:10:29,519

i i definitely agree with that i think

278

00:10:33,910 --> 00:10:32,000

that conspiracy theories i i share the

279

00:10:35,110 --> 00:10:33,920

opinion of of many skeptics that there's

280

00:10:37,670 --> 00:10:35,120

no such thing as a harmless

281

00:10:39,190 --> 00:10:37,680

pseudoscience and conspiracy theories

282

00:10:40,069 --> 00:10:39,200

fall into that same category there's

283

00:10:42,389 --> 00:10:40,079

there's

284

00:10:44,710 --> 00:10:42,399

if you believe um joseph yuzinski does a

285

00:10:46,470 --> 00:10:44,720

lot of work on on conspiracy theories

286

00:10:49,269 --> 00:10:46,480

and and he's pretty well established

287

00:10:51,990 --> 00:10:49,279

that if you are um if you believe in one

288

00:10:53,910 --> 00:10:52,000

conspiracy you're more likely to believe

289

00:10:56,790 --> 00:10:53,920

in multiple conspiracies and there's

290

00:10:59,350 --> 00:10:56,800

other research that uh that um outside

291

00:11:01,030 --> 00:10:59,360

of uzinski's work that is um that has

292

00:11:03,509 --> 00:11:01,040

kind of established this

293

00:11:07,110 --> 00:11:03,519

so if if you take the you know

294

00:11:10,150 --> 00:11:07,120

conspiracy about you know jfk or you

295

00:11:11,670 --> 00:11:10,160

know 911 truthers or uh you know

296

00:11:13,829 --> 00:11:11,680

something to that effect

297

00:11:15,590 --> 00:11:13,839

if if you have a tendency to believe

298

00:11:17,350 --> 00:11:15,600

something like that you were probably

299

00:11:18,710 --> 00:11:17,360

more likely to believe that

300

00:11:20,470 --> 00:11:18,720

um you know

301

00:11:23,350 --> 00:11:20,480

pfizer is putting microchips in their

302

00:11:25,910 --> 00:11:23,360

vaccines or you know climate change is a

303

00:11:28,870 --> 00:11:25,920

hoax that's being you know forced on us

304

00:11:31,350 --> 00:11:28,880

by a scientific elite of liberals who

305

00:11:33,350 --> 00:11:31,360

have some agenda to shut down big oil or

306

00:11:35,430 --> 00:11:33,360

you know whatever the whatever the more

307

00:11:37,430 --> 00:11:35,440

impactful conspiracy is

308

00:11:39,269 --> 00:11:37,440

um so i definitely think that it's

309

00:11:42,550 --> 00:11:39,279

important to understand

310

00:11:47,030 --> 00:11:42,560

um kind of the psychology behind why uh

311

00:11:49,110 --> 00:11:47,040

conspiracy theories form and how to um

312

00:11:51,350 --> 00:11:49,120

talk people out of them or at least kind

313

00:11:53,110 --> 00:11:51,360

of walk walk through the conspiracy

314

00:11:55,990 --> 00:11:53,120

using the tools of critical thinking

315

00:11:57,990 --> 00:11:56,000

such as logic and empiricism and reason

316

00:12:00,069 --> 00:11:58,000

to try to help people understand

317

00:12:01,990 --> 00:12:00,079

one of the things i put in my book is

318

00:12:04,069 --> 00:12:02,000

things are not always as they seem but

319

00:12:05,190 --> 00:12:04,079

they're not always not as they see

320

00:12:08,790 --> 00:12:05,200

sometimes

321

00:12:12,629 --> 00:12:10,310

sounds like a fascinating read i look

322

00:12:14,710 --> 00:12:12,639

forward to having a look at your book uh

323

00:12:17,269 --> 00:12:14,720

but in the meantime the book is called

324

00:12:19,670 --> 00:12:17,279

think straight it's by john guy and uh

325

00:12:21,990 --> 00:12:19,680

who is your publisher uh prometheus

326

00:12:23,190 --> 00:12:22,000

prometheus of course our

327

00:12:24,870 --> 00:12:23,200

uh

328

00:12:26,790 --> 00:12:24,880

well-known um

329

00:12:28,629 --> 00:12:26,800

publisher for books about critical

330

00:12:31,110 --> 00:12:28,639

thinking i've got many books on my shelf

331

00:12:33,829 --> 00:12:31,120

as i glance over there by prometheus

332

00:12:35,350 --> 00:12:33,839

publishing and where can people find out

333

00:12:38,870 --> 00:12:35,360

more about that book where can they go

334

00:12:41,509 --> 00:12:38,880

on the on the inter-tubes they can go on

335

00:12:43,829 --> 00:12:41,519

amazon.com and search for think straight

336

00:12:45,910 --> 00:12:43,839

and owner's manual for the mine

337

00:12:48,389 --> 00:12:45,920

they can go on barnes and noble under

338

00:12:50,389 --> 00:12:48,399

the same title they can get it on a

339

00:12:52,310 --> 00:12:50,399

roman and littlefield's website pretty

340

00:12:54,230 --> 00:12:52,320

much anywhere where you buy your books

341

00:12:56,150 --> 00:12:54,240

people can get it sounds good to me

342

00:12:58,069 --> 00:12:56,160

folks i'll add a link to the book

343

00:13:00,870 --> 00:12:58,079

probably on amazon on this week's show

344

00:13:02,710 --> 00:13:00,880

notes well john guy thank you very much

345

00:13:04,870 --> 00:13:02,720

and uh maybe

346

00:13:05,750 --> 00:13:04,880

maybe who knows maybe there'll be a part

347

00:13:08,710 --> 00:13:05,760

two or

348

00:13:11,030 --> 00:13:08,720

another volume coming our way i i am

349

00:13:13,670 --> 00:13:11,040

actually working on another project um

350

00:13:17,030 --> 00:13:13,680

uh i'm working on a chapter

351

00:13:20,310 --> 00:13:17,040

uh on energy medicine for a book series

352

00:13:22,870 --> 00:13:20,320

that is on investigating uh the effects

353

00:13:25,430 --> 00:13:22,880

of pseudoscience in clinical psychology

354

00:13:29,190 --> 00:13:25,440

so it's a series that's um being edited

355

00:13:31,670 --> 00:13:29,200

by stephen hupp and um jonathan saya

356

00:13:34,310 --> 00:13:31,680

so uh that is in the works and that is

357

00:13:36,949 --> 00:13:34,320

on the way and you can also find some of

358

00:13:39,030 --> 00:13:36,959

my writings on [thinkingispower.com](http://thinkingispower.com)

359

00:13:41,189 --> 00:13:39,040

thinking is [power.com](http://power.com)

360

00:13:42,550 --> 00:13:41,199

that's with melanie trisik king right

361

00:13:44,470 --> 00:13:42,560

yeah that's right i've been writing for

362

00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:44,480

her for a while now excellent she was

363

00:13:48,310 --> 00:13:46,480

only a guest on the show a few weeks

364

00:13:50,710 --> 00:13:48,320

back well john guy all the way from

365

00:13:52,700 --> 00:13:50,720

colorado thank you very much thanks for

366

00:14:11,430 --> 00:13:52,710

having me i appreciate it

367

00:14:16,629 --> 00:14:13,750

dr harriet hall md

368

00:14:19,110 --> 00:14:16,639

known to thousands as the skeptoc a

369

00:14:20,870 --> 00:14:19,120

retired family physician and former air

370

00:14:23,189 --> 00:14:20,880

force flight surgeon

371

00:14:25,590 --> 00:14:23,199

she writes about medicine so-called

372

00:14:29,269 --> 00:14:25,600

complementary and alternative medicine

373

00:14:31,829 --> 00:14:29,279

science quackery and critical thinking

374

00:14:34,389 --> 00:14:31,839

harriet now has a free course a series

375

00:14:37,269 --> 00:14:34,399

of 10 video lectures on science-based

376

00:14:39,269 --> 00:14:37,279

medicine and alternative medicine

377

00:14:41,509 --> 00:14:39,279

the videos and an accompanying course

378

00:14:42,829 --> 00:14:41,519

guide can be found by following the link

379

00:14:45,269 --> 00:14:42,839

at

380

00:14:48,310 --> 00:14:45,279

skepdoc.info by visiting

381

00:14:55,269 --> 00:14:52,949

educational dash modules dot html

382

00:14:57,110 --> 00:14:55,279

topics covered in the series are

383

00:15:00,310 --> 00:14:57,120

science-based medicine versus

384

00:15:03,829 --> 00:15:00,320

evidence-based medicine what is cam

385

00:15:06,310 --> 00:15:03,839

chiropractic acupuncture homeopathy

386

00:15:08,230 --> 00:15:06,320

naturopathy and herbal medicine

387

00:15:11,590 --> 00:15:08,240

energy medicine miscellaneous

388

00:15:14,150 --> 00:15:11,600

alternatives pitfalls in research and

389

00:15:15,910 --> 00:15:14,160

science-based medicine in the media and

390

00:15:17,750 --> 00:15:15,920

politics

391

00:15:20,230 --> 00:15:17,760

harriet covers each topic in a

392

00:15:22,790 --> 00:15:20,240

matter-of-fact no-nonsense way that's

393

00:15:27,070 --> 00:15:22,800

sure to educate and entertain

394

00:15:41,509 --> 00:15:27,080

skeptdoc dot info

395

00:15:42,870 --> 00:15:41,519

[Music]

396

00:15:45,050 --> 00:15:42,880

and now

397

00:15:47,749 --> 00:15:45,060

a reading from the book of tim

398

00:15:50,560 --> 00:15:47,759

[Music]

399

00:15:56,389 --> 00:15:50,570

with tim menden

400

00:15:59,269 --> 00:15:57,990

i'm here with tim mandum tim we're going

401  
00:16:01,590 --> 00:15:59,279  
to be talking about the australian

402  
00:16:03,590 --> 00:16:01,600  
skeptics ben spoon award because we are

403  
00:16:05,269 --> 00:16:03,600  
uh sniffing around for more nominations

404  
00:16:06,790 --> 00:16:05,279  
i think we are steven around is actually

405  
00:16:08,150 --> 00:16:06,800  
quite appropriate it is

406  
00:16:10,710 --> 00:16:08,160  
sniffing

407  
00:16:12,550 --> 00:16:10,720  
yeah we've opened up uh the the phones

408  
00:16:15,030 --> 00:16:12,560  
people people can phone him so they can

409  
00:16:17,430 --> 00:16:15,040  
phone in speak to an operator preferably

410  
00:16:19,430 --> 00:16:17,440  
not you can uh email us actually yeah uh

411  
00:16:20,790 --> 00:16:19,440  
we're opening up nominations for the

412  
00:16:21,829 --> 00:16:20,800  
annual ben spooner well they've been

413  
00:16:23,990 --> 00:16:21,839

open for a while but we're just

414

00:16:25,269 --> 00:16:24,000

encouraging people to yeah yeah yeah we

415

00:16:27,350 --> 00:16:25,279

do it all the time we encourage people

416

00:16:28,949 --> 00:16:27,360

you can we can encourage people we

417

00:16:30,230 --> 00:16:28,959

encourage you to bend your spoons and

418

00:16:32,470 --> 00:16:30,240

send them in no it's not that sort of

419

00:16:34,550 --> 00:16:32,480

spoon isn't that really no the spoon is

420

00:16:38,790 --> 00:16:34,560

of course uh it's real it's really

421

00:16:42,069 --> 00:16:39,990

very heavy because it's made out of

422

00:16:44,710 --> 00:16:42,079

gopher wood from noah's ark yes with a

423

00:16:46,230 --> 00:16:44,720

spoon um bent by yuri himself actually

424

00:16:48,870 --> 00:16:46,240

when he wasn't aware of it

425

00:16:51,509 --> 00:16:48,880

but he does that he does uh but yeah the

426

00:16:54,310 --> 00:16:51,519

spoon has been going since 1982.

427

00:16:56,430 --> 00:16:54,320

yeah and we've awarded that every year

428

00:16:58,389 --> 00:16:56,440

uh apart from

429

00:17:00,629 --> 00:16:58,399

1988 i think it was when nothing

430

00:17:01,990 --> 00:17:00,639

happened yeah it was a boring year

431

00:17:03,590 --> 00:17:02,000

but the spoon is awarded to the

432

00:17:05,669 --> 00:17:03,600

perpetrator the most preposterous piece

433

00:17:06,549 --> 00:17:05,679

of paranormal or pseudoscientific people

434

00:17:08,470 --> 00:17:06,559

before

435

00:17:09,909 --> 00:17:08,480

as uh barry williams

436

00:17:11,909 --> 00:17:09,919

like to say

437

00:17:13,669 --> 00:17:11,919

but uh so yeah we give it to someone

438

00:17:15,270 --> 00:17:13,679

from who's performed something

439

00:17:19,110 --> 00:17:15,280

particularly uh

440

00:17:21,590 --> 00:17:19,120

noteworthy outrageous um during the

441

00:17:23,110 --> 00:17:21,600

year from one convention to the next so

442

00:17:25,189 --> 00:17:23,120

we're looking for people

443

00:17:27,429 --> 00:17:25,199

or companies who make outrageous claims

444

00:17:28,710 --> 00:17:27,439

or try to put a shock on somebody or i

445

00:17:30,150 --> 00:17:28,720

don't know what i mean what do we have

446

00:17:32,789 --> 00:17:30,160

to say something silly yeah something

447

00:17:34,630 --> 00:17:32,799

silly we've had in the past people who

448

00:17:36,470 --> 00:17:34,640

claimed that the colossus of rhodes

449

00:17:37,830 --> 00:17:36,480

would be discovered in australia yeah

450

00:17:40,230 --> 00:17:37,840

yeah yep and that was a good one we had

451  
00:17:42,710 --> 00:17:40,240  
a psychic dentist what was the psyche he

452  
00:17:44,870 --> 00:17:42,720  
actually would come and fix your your

453  
00:17:46,390 --> 00:17:44,880  
decay tooth decay yeah psychically he

454  
00:17:48,230 --> 00:17:46,400  
came actually from america but he was

455  
00:17:50,870 --> 00:17:48,240  
performing here on a tour

456  
00:17:52,870 --> 00:17:50,880  
and uh he then had to go back to america

457  
00:17:55,430 --> 00:17:52,880  
before the teeth were fixed but yeah

458  
00:17:56,549 --> 00:17:55,440  
psychic dentist that's a good one

459  
00:17:59,190 --> 00:17:56,559  
there was another one the melbourne

460  
00:18:02,710 --> 00:17:59,200  
metropolitan board of works brought out

461  
00:18:04,150 --> 00:18:02,720  
an american psychic to locate heritage

462  
00:18:05,669 --> 00:18:04,160  
buildings with the foundations of them

463  
00:18:07,750 --> 00:18:05,679

yeah and all the buildings she found

464

00:18:09,190 --> 00:18:07,760

looked like american buildings american

465

00:18:11,270 --> 00:18:09,200

barns and things nothing like australia

466

00:18:14,070 --> 00:18:11,280

people say peter brock the famous racing

467

00:18:16,390 --> 00:18:14,080

car driver before he is

468

00:18:18,789 --> 00:18:16,400

based on organ energy yes which already

469

00:18:19,990 --> 00:18:18,799

had nothing in it i think

470

00:18:21,190 --> 00:18:20,000

not a good thing yeah that's a good

471

00:18:23,590 --> 00:18:21,200

thing and they all went through all

472

00:18:25,029 --> 00:18:23,600

sorts of various technologies and uh

473

00:18:27,750 --> 00:18:25,039

that's peter brock now that's peter

474

00:18:31,270 --> 00:18:27,760

right his spirit is flying

475

00:18:33,750 --> 00:18:31,280

uh various people like uh the homeopathy

476

00:18:35,270 --> 00:18:33,760

plus outfit they won uh yes as did the

477

00:18:37,430 --> 00:18:35,280

australian vaccination network that's

478

00:18:38,470 --> 00:18:37,440

right yes um so you know some of them

479

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

were silly some of them are quite

480

00:18:43,270 --> 00:18:40,400

serious the abc's one of the couple of

481

00:18:45,430 --> 00:18:43,280

times three times i think and uh sbs has

482

00:18:47,110 --> 00:18:45,440

won it that's sbs tv

483

00:18:48,950 --> 00:18:47,120

for medical stuff most medical stuff

484

00:18:51,750 --> 00:18:48,960

yeah quite a few uh newspapers and

485

00:18:54,630 --> 00:18:51,760

things that runner um the uh of course

486

00:18:56,710 --> 00:18:54,640

uh mike willis michael is the signs from

487

00:18:58,390 --> 00:18:56,720

god yes well he actually won a positive

488

00:18:59,909 --> 00:18:58,400

award and the name

489

00:19:02,230 --> 00:18:59,919

he's the only person who've done that he

490

00:19:04,230 --> 00:19:02,240

um he was he's a good well-respected

491

00:19:06,310 --> 00:19:04,240

journalist but he was very religious man

492

00:19:08,310 --> 00:19:06,320

so he came across somebody displaying

493

00:19:10,789 --> 00:19:08,320

stigmata and he decided that was real

494

00:19:13,830 --> 00:19:10,799

yes i think he was facing the shadows of

495

00:19:15,669 --> 00:19:13,840

mortality at the time actually um

496

00:19:17,990 --> 00:19:15,679

well he only died a few years ago but he

497

00:19:19,909 --> 00:19:18,000

got he won the bench burn

498

00:19:22,070 --> 00:19:19,919

some decades ago it wasn't that long ago

499

00:19:23,830 --> 00:19:22,080

but i mean uh it was sort of

500

00:19:25,669 --> 00:19:23,840

farewell i think i think we can do some

501  
00:19:26,390 --> 00:19:25,679  
research on the 90s i think you won that

502  
00:19:28,870 --> 00:19:26,400  
was it

503  
00:19:30,950 --> 00:19:28,880  
later anyway anyway anyway

504  
00:19:33,669 --> 00:19:30,960  
so what

505  
00:19:36,310 --> 00:19:33,679  
but we have had other people i mean uh

506  
00:19:38,710 --> 00:19:36,320  
sad to say the head of the csiro yeah

507  
00:19:40,789 --> 00:19:38,720  
got it once for proposing dowsing as a

508  
00:19:42,549 --> 00:19:40,799  
and dowsing might be in the offing again

509  
00:19:44,789 --> 00:19:42,559  
uh we're we're looking at possibly

510  
00:19:46,230 --> 00:19:44,799  
nominating somebody who's come to our

511  
00:19:48,150 --> 00:19:46,240  
attention recently

512  
00:19:49,990 --> 00:19:48,160  
possibly i think we should we should

513  
00:19:52,710 --> 00:19:50,000

nominate this person but of course um

514

00:19:55,029 --> 00:19:52,720

yeah probably the most famous winner of

515

00:19:57,190 --> 00:19:55,039

the ben spoon has been quite recently

516

00:19:57,990 --> 00:19:57,200

and the only person to have won it twice

517

00:19:59,590 --> 00:19:58,000

yeah

518

00:20:01,750 --> 00:19:59,600

quite a noble achievement actually pete

519

00:20:04,149 --> 00:20:01,760

evans or paleo pete as we like to call

520

00:20:05,830 --> 00:20:04,159

him for his magic flashing light device

521

00:20:07,190 --> 00:20:05,840

that was the second one yeah yeah he's

522

00:20:09,350 --> 00:20:07,200

his flashing light thing that looked

523

00:20:10,149 --> 00:20:09,360

like a disco like you can put in your

524

00:20:11,750 --> 00:20:10,159

home

525

00:20:13,830 --> 00:20:11,760

that cue at all sorts of well he got

526

00:20:15,990 --> 00:20:13,840

into trouble for um

527

00:20:17,950 --> 00:20:16,000

proposing this device could help with uh

528

00:20:20,630 --> 00:20:17,960

covert didn't he yeah he did

529

00:20:23,110 --> 00:20:20,640

yeah yeah his previous one was of course

530

00:20:25,510 --> 00:20:23,120

his uh bone broth recipe for children

531

00:20:28,470 --> 00:20:25,520

for babies right which was uh

532

00:20:30,549 --> 00:20:28,480

quite deadly and uh he he's published

533

00:20:32,950 --> 00:20:30,559

withdrew that the book that

534

00:20:35,110 --> 00:20:32,960

included that recipe now pete's still

535

00:20:37,590 --> 00:20:35,120

around uh not quite as successful as he

536

00:20:39,590 --> 00:20:37,600

was but um and i'm sure the ben spring

537

00:20:42,070 --> 00:20:39,600

played a major part in that sure

538

00:20:44,630 --> 00:20:42,080

now people can look at all the past

539

00:20:47,430 --> 00:20:44,640

winners of the ben spoon award and also

540

00:20:49,029 --> 00:20:47,440

nominate somebody uh we we say it's

541

00:20:50,470 --> 00:20:49,039

really for australia isn't it somebody

542

00:20:51,590 --> 00:20:50,480

has to do it really it has to be in

543

00:20:54,149 --> 00:20:51,600

australia yeah you have to be an

544

00:20:56,870 --> 00:20:54,159

australian company or an individual or

545

00:20:58,390 --> 00:20:56,880

something like that and if you

546

00:20:59,830 --> 00:20:58,400

you know if you decide that these people

547

00:21:02,390 --> 00:20:59,840

are making an outrageous claim

548

00:21:04,390 --> 00:21:02,400

paranormal or pseudoscientific

549

00:21:06,870 --> 00:21:04,400

maybe free energy that was a winner one

550

00:21:09,110 --> 00:21:06,880

year a free energy energy device which

551

00:21:11,190 --> 00:21:09,120

didn't work funny that which one did

552

00:21:13,190 --> 00:21:11,200

that they could nominate right they can

553

00:21:15,990 --> 00:21:13,200

they can they can just go onto our

554

00:21:18,070 --> 00:21:16,000

website which is skeptics.com.iu

555

00:21:20,070 --> 00:21:18,080

look up the uh about i think it's on the

556

00:21:21,750 --> 00:21:20,080

awards section there yeah and there's

557

00:21:23,669 --> 00:21:21,760

the ben spoon award there so you just

558

00:21:26,310 --> 00:21:23,679

click on that you can see the history of

559

00:21:27,750 --> 00:21:26,320

the uh benspoon what it's all about and

560

00:21:29,909 --> 00:21:27,760

click on a link to make a nomination

561

00:21:31,590 --> 00:21:29,919

yeah so keep your eyes out people in

562

00:21:33,750 --> 00:21:31,600

australia if you find someone like that

563

00:21:36,549 --> 00:21:33,760

uh let us know i mean

564

00:21:38,230 --> 00:21:36,559

let us know we can you know size up your

565

00:21:39,669 --> 00:21:38,240

nomination maybe we won't think it's

566

00:21:41,350 --> 00:21:39,679

appropriate maybe you think it's great

567

00:21:42,630 --> 00:21:41,360

we don't know you well yeah with some

568

00:21:44,710 --> 00:21:42,640

nominations right but we can't be

569

00:21:47,190 --> 00:21:44,720

slanderous about this but no no don't

570

00:21:48,789 --> 00:21:47,200

nominate somebody just for for the wrong

571

00:21:50,549 --> 00:21:48,799

reasons enough yes i mean and and yeah

572

00:21:53,190 --> 00:21:50,559

it has to be a skeptical issue really

573

00:21:55,510 --> 00:21:53,200

that pseudoscience or or paranormal as

574

00:21:58,230 --> 00:21:55,520

you say yeah so but yeah by all means

575

00:22:00,470 --> 00:21:58,240

nominate them and uh you can deadline is

576

00:22:02,070 --> 00:22:00,480

probably early november all right and

577

00:22:03,990 --> 00:22:02,080

the winner will be announced at uh

578

00:22:05,669 --> 00:22:04,000

national convention just don't nominate

579

00:22:07,590 --> 00:22:05,679

us because people always do that and we

580

00:22:11,190 --> 00:22:07,600

know yeah they do

581

00:22:15,590 --> 00:22:13,190

i'd like to win our 100 thousand dollar

582

00:22:17,270 --> 00:22:15,600

prize for paranormal

583

00:22:18,710 --> 00:22:17,280

you'd rather win the benchman i actually

584

00:22:20,390 --> 00:22:18,720

got it with me so

585

00:22:22,530 --> 00:22:20,400

i can actually easily put my name on the

586

00:22:30,990 --> 00:22:22,540

plug

587

00:22:36,470 --> 00:22:33,990

[Music]

588

00:22:38,710 --> 00:22:36,480

i'm a psychic my name is psychic carey

589

00:22:40,310 --> 00:22:38,720

i'm ross oh what a pleasure to meet you

590

00:22:42,070 --> 00:22:40,320

of course i knew your name was ross

591

00:22:43,909 --> 00:22:42,080

because i'm a psychic but please take a

592

00:22:46,630 --> 00:22:43,919

seat well i was hoping we could talk

593

00:22:49,669 --> 00:22:46,640

about talk about my podcast podcast yes

594

00:22:51,990 --> 00:22:49,679

i know it's called oh no ross and carey

595

00:22:53,909 --> 00:22:52,000

yes we investigate from science

596

00:22:55,830 --> 00:22:53,919

spirituality and claims of the

597

00:22:57,669 --> 00:22:55,840

paranormal normal you took the words

598

00:22:59,909 --> 00:22:57,679

right out of my mouth yes this whole

599

00:23:01,750 --> 00:22:59,919

podcast it sounds like it's been a real

600

00:23:03,909 --> 00:23:01,760

challenge for you lately actually it's a

601  
00:23:05,909 --> 00:23:03,919  
lot of fun yes exactly because it's so

602  
00:23:07,430 --> 00:23:05,919  
fun i don't know how you do this will be

603  
00:23:09,590 --> 00:23:07,440  
75

604  
00:23:13,270 --> 00:23:09,600  
okay that seems fair oh no ross and

605  
00:23:15,520 --> 00:23:13,280  
carrie at maximumfun.org.org

606  
00:23:33,350 --> 00:23:15,530  
i have a gift

607  
00:23:35,590 --> 00:23:33,360  
[Music]

608  
00:23:37,350 --> 00:23:35,600  
hello everyone this is adrian hill from

609  
00:23:40,230 --> 00:23:37,360  
canada here to read the highlights from

610  
00:23:41,909 --> 00:23:40,240  
the australian skeptics newsletter

611  
00:23:44,630 --> 00:23:41,919  
there might be a few more giggles than

612  
00:23:46,390 --> 00:23:44,640  
usual since there seems to be some extra

613  
00:23:49,669 --> 00:23:46,400

silliness this week

614

00:23:51,510 --> 00:23:49,679

this is newsletter number 154 you can

615

00:23:53,830 --> 00:23:51,520

subscribe to this newsletter and get it

616

00:23:56,390 --> 00:23:53,840

delivered to your inbox every other week

617

00:24:04,870 --> 00:23:56,400

complete with links to all the stories

618

00:24:09,590 --> 00:24:07,269

but now let's see what tim mendem has

619

00:24:10,710 --> 00:24:09,600

for us this week

620

00:24:13,510 --> 00:24:10,720

hi all

621

00:24:16,310 --> 00:24:13,520

as we head towards skepticon 2022 in

622

00:24:17,909 --> 00:24:16,320

kamera a highlight of the annual event

623

00:24:19,590 --> 00:24:17,919

is the announcement of the skeptical

624

00:24:21,750 --> 00:24:19,600

awards

625

00:24:24,310 --> 00:24:21,760

and a highlight of the highlights is the

626  
00:24:26,149 --> 00:24:24,320  
bent spoon awarded to the perpetrator of

627  
00:24:28,950 --> 00:24:26,159  
the most preposterous piece of

628  
00:24:30,549 --> 00:24:28,960  
paranormal or pseudoscientific piffle of

629  
00:24:32,549 --> 00:24:30,559  
the year

630  
00:24:34,549 --> 00:24:32,559  
it's your chance to nominate your least

631  
00:24:36,790 --> 00:24:34,559  
favorite person for this dubious honor

632  
00:24:38,789 --> 00:24:36,800  
so they can join the list of nominees

633  
00:24:40,470 --> 00:24:38,799  
[Music]

634  
00:24:42,549 --> 00:24:40,480  
in the meantime there's always the good

635  
00:24:44,870 --> 00:24:42,559  
and the bad the happy and the sad news

636  
00:24:46,390 --> 00:24:44,880  
from the skeptical world

637  
00:24:48,620 --> 00:24:46,400  
read on

638  
00:24:52,789 --> 00:24:48,630

okay tim will do just that

639

00:24:59,350 --> 00:24:55,669

australian skeptic news

640

00:25:00,950 --> 00:24:59,360

bent spoon award nominations now open

641

00:25:03,350 --> 00:25:00,960

nominations are now open for the

642

00:25:04,950 --> 00:25:03,360

australian skeptics bent spoon award one

643

00:25:07,190 --> 00:25:04,960

of the least sought after credits in the

644

00:25:08,070 --> 00:25:07,200

skeptical world or any world for that

645

00:25:10,070 --> 00:25:08,080

matter

646

00:25:13,750 --> 00:25:10,080

luminaries who have been past winners

647

00:25:15,750 --> 00:25:13,760

include palio pete evans twice

648

00:25:17,510 --> 00:25:15,760

larry marshall head of the commonwealth

649

00:25:20,710 --> 00:25:17,520

scientific and industrial research

650

00:25:23,310 --> 00:25:20,720

organization who is into water divining

651  
00:25:25,110 --> 00:25:23,320  
former mp craig kelly

652  
00:25:27,269 --> 00:25:25,120  
r.m.i.t

653  
00:25:28,950 --> 00:25:27,279  
judy wileyman and the university of

654  
00:25:33,110 --> 00:25:28,960  
wollongong

655  
00:25:34,149 --> 00:25:33,120  
merrill dorey and the avn are aka the av

656  
00:25:36,789 --> 00:25:34,159  
sn

657  
00:25:38,950 --> 00:25:36,799  
and now the av rn

658  
00:25:43,350 --> 00:25:38,960  
the pharmacist of australia

659  
00:25:47,669 --> 00:25:45,269  
if you would like to put someone forward

660  
00:25:49,269 --> 00:25:47,679  
for this non-prestigious award then go

661  
00:25:52,550 --> 00:25:49,279  
to the bent spoon page at

662  
00:25:56,789 --> 00:25:53,990  
[Music]

663  
00:25:58,470 --> 00:25:56,799

avn appeal rejected

664

00:26:01,190 --> 00:25:58,480

the federal court has rejected the

665

00:26:03,510 --> 00:26:01,200

australian anti-vaccination network's

666

00:26:05,430 --> 00:26:03,520

appeal against a judgment that found it

667

00:26:06,789 --> 00:26:05,440

had no standing to represent members of

668

00:26:09,590 --> 00:26:06,799

the community

669

00:26:11,350 --> 00:26:09,600

a blow to its ego

670

00:26:13,350 --> 00:26:11,360

see the background to the case in the

671

00:26:15,430 --> 00:26:13,360

sample article from the june issue of

672

00:26:18,149 --> 00:26:15,440

the skeptic

673

00:26:19,990 --> 00:26:18,159

but in this latest stage the judges who

674

00:26:22,630 --> 00:26:20,000

handed down their judgment yesterday

675

00:26:24,230 --> 00:26:22,640

reportedly found the case put forward

676  
00:26:26,310 --> 00:26:24,240  
incompetent

677  
00:26:28,710 --> 00:26:26,320  
we're not quite sure if that applied to

678  
00:26:30,549 --> 00:26:28,720  
the case or the people putting it but

679  
00:26:33,830 --> 00:26:30,559  
it's been an expensive lesson for the

680  
00:26:35,990 --> 00:26:33,840  
avn which raised close to 650 000

681  
00:26:38,630 --> 00:26:36,000  
through a campaign on the gives and go

682  
00:26:42,149 --> 00:26:38,640  
christian crowdfunding site now there's

683  
00:26:46,870 --> 00:26:44,630  
biorhythms and their influence on human

684  
00:26:49,350 --> 00:26:46,880  
behavior

685  
00:26:51,750 --> 00:26:49,360  
a chronobiologist looks at a trend from

686  
00:26:55,510 --> 00:26:51,760  
years gone by and doesn't welcome the

687  
00:26:57,510 --> 00:26:55,520  
comparison with their own field

688  
00:26:59,029 --> 00:26:57,520

alternative medicines that might

689

00:27:02,390 --> 00:26:59,039

actually work

690

00:27:05,350 --> 00:27:02,400

isn't it called medicine then

691

00:27:08,710 --> 00:27:05,360

edzard ernst a leading skeptic on altmed

692

00:27:12,390 --> 00:27:08,720

or as he calls it so-called alternative

693

00:27:14,950 --> 00:27:12,400

medicine or scam for short lists five

694

00:27:17,510 --> 00:27:14,960

altmed products that might actually work

695

00:27:19,350 --> 00:27:17,520

we're not so sure some have been highly

696

00:27:21,990 --> 00:27:19,360

criticized in the past

697

00:27:24,630 --> 00:27:22,000

for the record they are st john's wort

698

00:27:27,350 --> 00:27:24,640

tens machines glucosamine for cancer

699

00:27:28,870 --> 00:27:27,360

melatonin for sleep and meditation for

700

00:27:30,950 --> 00:27:28,880

lower back pain

701  
00:27:33,190 --> 00:27:30,960  
but it's in the daily mail so it must be

702  
00:27:38,389 --> 00:27:33,200  
true

703  
00:27:43,750 --> 00:27:41,510  
the crux of the matter is plausible not

704  
00:27:45,590 --> 00:27:43,760  
that nessie actually exists

705  
00:27:47,909 --> 00:27:45,600  
researchers found the fossil of a

706  
00:27:50,789 --> 00:27:47,919  
plesiosaur in the sahara which indicates

707  
00:27:53,990 --> 00:27:50,799  
that the presumed marine only reptile

708  
00:27:56,630 --> 00:27:54,000  
might also have lived in fresh water

709  
00:27:58,470 --> 00:27:56,640  
loch ness is fresh water so

710  
00:28:01,669 --> 00:27:58,480  
hey presto

711  
00:28:04,549 --> 00:28:01,679  
nitpicking note a plesiosaur is not a

712  
00:28:06,310 --> 00:28:04,559  
dinosaur so don't start saying quote

713  
00:28:08,870 --> 00:28:06,320

there's a dinosaur in loch ness end

714

00:28:11,350 --> 00:28:08,880

quote or for that matter that quote

715

00:28:12,370 --> 00:28:11,360

there's a loch ness monster in logness

716

00:28:14,710 --> 00:28:12,380

end quote

717

00:28:17,909 --> 00:28:14,720

[Music]

718

00:28:20,230 --> 00:28:17,919

mysterious red glow over atlantic starts

719

00:28:23,350 --> 00:28:20,240

panic

720

00:28:26,149 --> 00:28:23,360

spoiler it's fishing boats much like the

721

00:28:27,190 --> 00:28:26,159

famed new zealand ufo scare in the late

722

00:28:29,269 --> 00:28:27,200

1970s

723

00:28:31,669 --> 00:28:29,279

[Music]

724

00:28:34,149 --> 00:28:31,679

the september issue of the skeptic

725

00:28:36,230 --> 00:28:34,159

magazine is in the works with a major

726

00:28:38,870 --> 00:28:36,240

look at the mysterious and often

727

00:28:41,430 --> 00:28:38,880

secretive world of organized exorcism in

728

00:28:42,389 --> 00:28:41,440

australia and not just from the catholic

729

00:28:44,710 --> 00:28:42,399

church

730

00:28:47,110 --> 00:28:44,720

plus the latest on our hall of fame for

731

00:28:49,909 --> 00:28:47,120

all med practitioners dowsing priests

732

00:28:52,470 --> 00:28:49,919

tidal waves and frogs

733

00:28:55,190 --> 00:28:52,480

meanwhile there is still the june 2022

734

00:28:57,190 --> 00:28:55,200

issue to look at or subscribe to a

735

00:28:59,990 --> 00:28:57,200

sample article from that issue on the

736

00:29:01,149 --> 00:29:00,000

trials literally and tribulations of the

737

00:29:03,350 --> 00:29:01,159

australian

738

00:29:05,510 --> 00:29:03,360

anti-vaccination network can be read

739

00:29:08,389 --> 00:29:05,520

here and if you haven't subscribed yet

740

00:29:10,710 --> 00:29:08,399

now is the time to do so

741

00:29:12,789 --> 00:29:10,720

to subscribe to the skeptic go to our

742

00:29:15,590 --> 00:29:12,799

shop to sign up for a hard copy or

743

00:29:17,110 --> 00:29:15,600

digital edition or both the digital is

744

00:29:20,950 --> 00:29:17,120

offered free to those who take up the

745

00:29:25,430 --> 00:29:23,029

items of interest

746

00:29:26,280 --> 00:29:25,440

travel tip number one woohoo

747

00:29:27,830 --> 00:29:26,290

ghosts

748

00:29:32,630 --> 00:29:27,840

[Music]

749

00:29:34,950 --> 00:29:32,640

america's first legally haunted house

750

00:29:36,950 --> 00:29:34,960

that's not haunted by lawyers but a

751

00:29:38,710 --> 00:29:36,960

property dispute that led to a court

752

00:29:40,870 --> 00:29:38,720

case where the judge found that the

753

00:29:43,909 --> 00:29:40,880

owner should have declared the victorian

754

00:29:45,909 --> 00:29:43,919

era house haunted prior to a sale

755

00:29:48,310 --> 00:29:45,919

the fact that the house is not far from

756

00:29:50,230 --> 00:29:48,320

the sleepy hollow of headless rider fame

757

00:29:52,630 --> 00:29:50,240

surely means the ghost should not have

758

00:29:54,310 --> 00:29:52,640

been a surprise

759

00:29:57,269 --> 00:29:54,320

interestingly enough i learned about

760

00:29:59,830 --> 00:29:57,279

this when i revamped the haunted house

761

00:30:01,990 --> 00:29:59,840

page on wikipedia so it's there check it

762

00:30:03,830 --> 00:30:02,000

out

763

00:30:07,269 --> 00:30:03,840

travel tip number two

764

00:30:12,070 --> 00:30:09,110

five haunted locations in south

765

00:30:14,470 --> 00:30:12,080

australia ranging from a shop an arcade

766

00:30:16,070 --> 00:30:14,480

an asylum and all the way up to two

767

00:30:18,710 --> 00:30:16,080

whole towns

768

00:30:20,310 --> 00:30:18,720

no mention of the mall's balls however

769

00:30:22,470 --> 00:30:20,320

does anyone else recall them being

770

00:30:25,590 --> 00:30:22,480

called dony's balls after the former

771

00:30:27,510 --> 00:30:25,600

premier dawn dunstan

772

00:30:28,870 --> 00:30:27,520

travel tip number three

773

00:30:30,549 --> 00:30:28,880

you guessed it

774

00:30:34,389 --> 00:30:30,559

ghosts

775

00:30:36,630 --> 00:30:34,399

hair-raising ghost tours in singapore

776

00:30:39,350 --> 00:30:36,640

none of these look particularly scary to

777

00:30:41,750 --> 00:30:39,360

us not even the walking tour of the ten

778

00:30:43,750 --> 00:30:41,760

courts of hell in ha par villa the

779

00:30:45,830 --> 00:30:43,760

tourist spot set up by the tiger bomb

780

00:30:47,590 --> 00:30:45,840

man

781

00:30:52,940 --> 00:30:47,600

follow-up

782

00:30:56,549 --> 00:30:54,310

[Music]

783

00:30:59,190 --> 00:30:56,559

last newsletter we mentioned the psychic

784

00:31:01,750 --> 00:30:59,200

who consults asparagus and got the uk

785

00:31:04,070 --> 00:31:01,760

tory leadership winner wrong

786

00:31:06,470 --> 00:31:04,080

well this time she picked the outcome of

787

00:31:08,950 --> 00:31:06,480

the euro 2022 women's football

788

00:31:11,110 --> 00:31:08,960

competition on a morning tv program

789

00:31:13,909 --> 00:31:11,120

predicting the english team the

790

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

lionesses would defeat germany three to

791

00:31:18,870 --> 00:31:15,039

two

792

00:31:21,590 --> 00:31:18,880

to one

793

00:31:24,389 --> 00:31:21,600

moral of the story you still can't trust

794

00:31:26,630 --> 00:31:24,399

asparagus but the veggies seem to have a

795

00:31:27,990 --> 00:31:26,640

greater affinity with soccer than

796

00:31:30,789 --> 00:31:28,000

politics

797

00:31:34,280 --> 00:31:30,799

second moral don't put sparrowmancers on

798

00:31:37,029 --> 00:31:34,290

tv as a lot of viewers complained

799

00:31:39,530 --> 00:31:37,039

[Music]

800

00:31:40,710 --> 00:31:39,540

back to silliest story of the week

801  
00:31:45,110 --> 00:31:40,720

[Music]

802  
00:31:47,269 --> 00:31:45,120  
ghost hand in photo sparks debate

803  
00:31:49,590 --> 00:31:47,279  
oh dear

804  
00:31:52,230 --> 00:31:49,600  
lots of theories about this watery image

805  
00:31:54,070 --> 00:31:52,240  
from believers to disbelievers but no

806  
00:31:56,870 --> 00:31:54,080  
one puts forward the theory that seems

807  
00:32:00,870 --> 00:31:56,880  
obvious to us a foot at the end of a

808  
00:32:05,029 --> 00:32:03,350  
as an aside i will be talking about

809  
00:32:07,350 --> 00:32:05,039  
ghost photography at the australian

810  
00:32:09,350 --> 00:32:07,360  
skeptics in the pub on august 25th i'm

811  
00:32:11,990 --> 00:32:09,360  
really looking forward to it except that

812  
00:32:14,070 --> 00:32:12,000  
it is 3am my time

813  
00:32:16,149 --> 00:32:14,080

but i heard somewhere most likely not

814

00:32:17,509 --> 00:32:16,159

from my doctor that sleep is highly

815

00:32:20,230 --> 00:32:17,519

overrated

816

00:32:22,389 --> 00:32:20,240

so looking forward to seeing you

817

00:32:23,350 --> 00:32:22,399

now the really silliest story of the

818

00:32:27,110 --> 00:32:23,360

week

819

00:32:29,269 --> 00:32:27,120

geller warns putin on nuclear weapons

820

00:32:32,149 --> 00:32:29,279

he really is suffering from attention

821

00:32:34,389 --> 00:32:32,159

deficit disorder or something

822

00:32:37,350 --> 00:32:34,399

baine of the cutlery industry yuri

823

00:32:40,310 --> 00:32:37,360

geller is saying he would use quote

824

00:32:42,789 --> 00:32:40,320

every last molecule of mind power end

825

00:32:47,800 --> 00:32:42,799

quote to prevent the russian leader from

826

00:32:53,110 --> 00:32:50,789

[Music]

827

00:32:55,269 --> 00:32:53,120

he warns that quote your mission control

828

00:32:57,750 --> 00:32:55,279

computers will crash your navigation

829

00:33:00,789 --> 00:32:57,760

systems will fail and your missiles will

830

00:33:04,149 --> 00:33:00,799

malfunction end quote and china should

831

00:33:06,789 --> 00:33:04,159

watch out as well ah phew glad that's

832

00:33:09,110 --> 00:33:06,799

all sorted

833

00:33:11,029 --> 00:33:09,120

well that's all for now this is adrian

834

00:33:14,149 --> 00:33:11,039

hill signing off from the land of an

835

00:33:16,630 --> 00:33:14,159

apparent 10 000 reward being offered for

836

00:33:19,590 --> 00:33:16,640

proof of the existence of the sasquatch

837

00:33:20,950 --> 00:33:19,600

which was posted in the year 1980 here

838

00:33:23,430 --> 00:33:20,960

in calgary

839

00:33:26,789 --> 00:33:23,440

how do i know this because tim mendom

840

00:33:30,980 --> 00:33:26,799

has a copy of this poster in australia

841

00:33:41,990 --> 00:33:40,149

[Music]

842

00:33:46,230 --> 00:33:42,000

bachelor of seance

843

00:33:47,990 --> 00:33:46,240

that means you know how to constantly

844

00:33:50,870 --> 00:33:48,000

keep in touch with those who've had to

845

00:33:52,630 --> 00:33:50,880

go and how to summon up their spirits if

846

00:33:54,870 --> 00:33:52,640

they're slightly willing

847

00:33:57,590 --> 00:33:54,880

and speak to the dead

848

00:33:59,750 --> 00:33:57,600

why that really is quite thrilling

849

00:34:02,710 --> 00:33:59,760

does this gift which you have mean you

850

00:34:05,509 --> 00:34:02,720

could talk to pets and do you do it via

851  
00:34:07,509 --> 00:34:05,519  
the ether or through the media events

852  
00:34:09,270 --> 00:34:07,519  
could you get in contact say with my

853  
00:34:11,669 --> 00:34:09,280  
dear departed cat

854  
00:34:14,069 --> 00:34:11,679  
or having been once run over

855  
00:34:15,990 --> 00:34:14,079  
is that the end of that

856  
00:34:18,230 --> 00:34:16,000  
and what about my dog do you think you'd

857  
00:34:21,109 --> 00:34:18,240  
hear him bark from that big doggy

858  
00:34:22,950 --> 00:34:21,119  
playground the dead dog departed park

859  
00:34:25,190 --> 00:34:22,960  
having made a connection could i be

860  
00:34:27,829 --> 00:34:25,200  
absolutely sure that the dog you were

861  
00:34:29,829 --> 00:34:27,839  
communing was the pet i'm finding for

862  
00:34:32,310 --> 00:34:29,839  
i'm worried about the chance of the

863  
00:34:34,869 --> 00:34:32,320

wrong contact being made that you might

864

00:34:36,790 --> 00:34:34,879

get a canine with which i never played

865

00:34:38,389 --> 00:34:36,800

but someone else's pet which wouldn't

866

00:34:41,109 --> 00:34:38,399

answer to my call

867

00:34:42,950 --> 00:34:41,119

or perish the thought you'd get no dead

868

00:34:45,349 --> 00:34:42,960

dog soul at all

869

00:34:48,310 --> 00:34:45,359

no i might just have to wait until i

870

00:34:50,710 --> 00:34:48,320

joined my past on pets it seems you

871

00:34:54,310 --> 00:34:50,720

might be trying to lay off my psychic

872

00:34:56,149 --> 00:34:54,320

bits and as for my parents well although

873

00:34:58,390 --> 00:34:56,159

you have that ticket

874

00:35:06,030 --> 00:34:58,400

i think the school was falling

875

00:35:06,040 --> 00:35:16,390

[Music]

876

00:35:20,710 --> 00:35:18,310

now it's time once again to dive back

877

00:35:22,550 --> 00:35:20,720

into those lovely digital archives from

878

00:35:24,950 --> 00:35:22,560

around the world in the segment we call

879

00:35:27,109 --> 00:35:24,960

trove because normally we're looking at

880

00:35:29,109 --> 00:35:27,119

the australian archives of newspapers

881

00:35:29,750 --> 00:35:29,119

and gazettes and magazines and journals

882

00:35:33,109 --> 00:35:29,760

and

883

00:35:34,710 --> 00:35:33,119

who knows what

884

00:35:36,950 --> 00:35:34,720

this week this week we're going to be

885

00:35:39,750 --> 00:35:36,960

looking again across the ocean to the

886

00:35:42,310 --> 00:35:39,760

united states and we're concentrating on

887

00:35:46,390 --> 00:35:42,320

a man i've met several times over over

888

00:35:49,109 --> 00:35:46,400

the over the years professor rayheim

889

00:35:52,230 --> 00:35:49,119

and according to wikipedia ray hyman

890

00:35:54,790 --> 00:35:52,240

born in 1928 is professor emeritus of

891

00:35:58,390 --> 00:35:54,800

psychology at the university of oregon

892

00:36:00,310 --> 00:35:58,400

in eugene oregon and a noted critic of

893

00:36:02,470 --> 00:36:00,320

parapsychology

894

00:36:04,710 --> 00:36:02,480

hyman along with james randy martin

895

00:36:06,230 --> 00:36:04,720

garner and paul kurtz is one of the

896

00:36:07,349 --> 00:36:06,240

founders of the modern skeptical

897

00:36:09,030 --> 00:36:07,359

movement

898

00:36:11,510 --> 00:36:09,040

he is the founder and leader of the

899

00:36:14,230 --> 00:36:11,520

skeptic's toolbox hyman serves on the

900

00:36:15,990 --> 00:36:14,240

executive council for the committee for

901  
00:36:19,270 --> 00:36:16,000

skeptical inquiry

902  
00:36:21,589 --> 00:36:19,280

it goes on to say that aside from his uh

903  
00:36:23,270 --> 00:36:21,599

scholarly publications and consultation

904  
00:36:26,069 --> 00:36:23,280

with the us department of defense and

905  
00:36:28,470 --> 00:36:26,079

scrutinizing psychic research one of his

906  
00:36:31,190 --> 00:36:28,480

most popular articles is 13 points to

907  
00:36:33,349 --> 00:36:31,200

help you quote amaze your friends with

908  
00:36:35,030 --> 00:36:33,359

your newfound psychic powers end quote a

909  
00:36:37,990 --> 00:36:35,040

guide to cold reading

910  
00:36:40,150 --> 00:36:38,000

hyman retired in 1998 but continues to

911  
00:36:42,950 --> 00:36:40,160

give talks and investigate paranormal

912  
00:36:45,589 --> 00:36:42,960

claims in july 2009 he appeared at the

913  
00:36:48,069 --> 00:36:45,599

amazing meeting 7 in las vegas

914

00:36:49,670 --> 00:36:48,079

indeed that's where i think i met ray

915

00:36:54,150 --> 00:36:49,680

for the first time

916

00:36:55,030 --> 00:36:54,160

also in 2011 and 2012.

917

00:37:03,430 --> 00:36:55,040

and

918

00:37:05,190 --> 00:37:03,440

works of ray hyman it's quite extensive

919

00:37:06,310 --> 00:37:05,200

of course he was an early and noted

920

00:37:09,109 --> 00:37:06,320

critic

921

00:37:10,870 --> 00:37:09,119

of such people as urigela

922

00:37:13,829 --> 00:37:10,880

and whenever i think about ray hyman of

923

00:37:15,030 --> 00:37:13,839

course i am reminded of hyman's maxim

924

00:37:18,069 --> 00:37:15,040

which goes

925

00:37:20,630 --> 00:37:18,079

along the lines of do not try to explain

926  
00:37:23,510 --> 00:37:20,640  
something until you are sure

927  
00:37:26,150 --> 00:37:23,520  
there is something to be explained

928  
00:37:27,190 --> 00:37:26,160  
and this is a very solid um

929  
00:37:28,069 --> 00:37:27,200  
guide

930  
00:37:34,230 --> 00:37:28,079  
in

931  
00:37:37,109 --> 00:37:34,240  
now this means that you don't waste time

932  
00:37:39,430 --> 00:37:37,119  
trying to explain something if the event

933  
00:37:41,190 --> 00:37:39,440  
you're trying to explain might not ever

934  
00:37:42,630 --> 00:37:41,200  
have happened if somebody comes to you

935  
00:37:45,270 --> 00:37:42,640  
and says how do you explain the fact

936  
00:37:46,710 --> 00:37:45,280  
that water diviners find water with 100

937  
00:37:48,069 --> 00:37:46,720  
accuracy

938  
00:37:50,230 --> 00:37:48,079

well of course you have to establish

939

00:37:52,790 --> 00:37:50,240

first of all that water diviners can

940

00:37:54,630 --> 00:37:52,800

find water with 100 accuracy since

941

00:37:56,550 --> 00:37:54,640

that's not been established

942

00:37:57,990 --> 00:37:56,560

you don't have to explain it

943

00:38:00,390 --> 00:37:58,000

if somebody says to you how do you

944

00:38:02,150 --> 00:38:00,400

explain the fact that airline pilots see

945

00:38:03,589 --> 00:38:02,160

alien spaceships all the time well first

946

00:38:04,630 --> 00:38:03,599

you have to establish that airline

947

00:38:07,510 --> 00:38:04,640

pilots

948

00:38:08,790 --> 00:38:07,520

do see alien spaceships then and only

949

00:38:12,310 --> 00:38:08,800

then

950

00:38:15,190 --> 00:38:12,320

so it can save a lot of time

951  
00:38:17,589 --> 00:38:15,200  
here's a clip of ray hyman

952  
00:38:19,829 --> 00:38:17,599  
in the early 90s when he appeared on a

953  
00:38:23,810 --> 00:38:19,839  
james randy special called

954  
00:38:26,870 --> 00:38:24,800  
[Applause]

955  
00:38:29,829 --> 00:38:26,880  
[Music]

956  
00:38:31,190 --> 00:38:29,839  
needless to say my message isn't always

957  
00:38:33,750 --> 00:38:31,200  
popular

958  
00:38:36,069 --> 00:38:33,760  
my friend ray hyman is a psychologist

959  
00:38:37,270 --> 00:38:36,079  
and he has an idea why

960  
00:38:38,950 --> 00:38:37,280  
we seem to be

961  
00:38:40,950 --> 00:38:38,960  
taken as we're taking something away and

962  
00:38:42,310 --> 00:38:40,960  
not giving something in return and these

963  
00:38:43,990 --> 00:38:42,320

people want something they're looking

964

00:38:45,349 --> 00:38:44,000

for something and i think we have to

965

00:38:47,510 --> 00:38:45,359

understand what is it they're searching

966

00:38:49,510 --> 00:38:47,520

for and what they're seeking

967

00:38:51,510 --> 00:38:49,520

ray has an insider's perspective on

968

00:38:53,910 --> 00:38:51,520

these questions he once worked as a

969

00:38:55,990 --> 00:38:53,920

professional palm reader

970

00:38:58,230 --> 00:38:56,000

on a recent visit to florida he allowed

971

00:39:01,510 --> 00:38:58,240

me to observe while he gave readings to

972

00:39:04,950 --> 00:39:03,270

now i want to look at a few other things

973

00:39:06,710 --> 00:39:04,960

before we go very far look at your thumb

974

00:39:08,470 --> 00:39:06,720

it's the most important ray started

975

00:39:09,750 --> 00:39:08,480

reading palms to help put himself

976

00:39:11,829 --> 00:39:09,760

through college there's a little

977

00:39:13,430 --> 00:39:11,839

narrowing of the second joint here

978

00:39:15,190 --> 00:39:13,440

that's that's tack that's just

979

00:39:17,190 --> 00:39:15,200

tactfulness

980

00:39:19,430 --> 00:39:17,200

at the time he was convinced there was

981

00:39:22,550 --> 00:39:19,440

nothing to it this is the spiritual

982

00:39:24,390 --> 00:39:22,560

mental i had no belief that would work

983

00:39:26,310 --> 00:39:24,400

but to be convincing i did read the

984

00:39:29,349 --> 00:39:26,320

books and i did study the lines the way

985

00:39:32,310 --> 00:39:29,359

and told it as it's supposed to be told

986

00:39:34,150 --> 00:39:32,320

and to my surprise it worked business

987

00:39:36,150 --> 00:39:34,160

and then it became a very rapid believer

988

00:39:37,990 --> 00:39:36,160

in palm reading

989

00:39:39,750 --> 00:39:38,000

there is a break in your lifeline this

990

00:39:42,150 --> 00:39:39,760

is your lifeline right here

991

00:39:43,829 --> 00:39:42,160

so you've had some physical problems you

992

00:39:45,750 --> 00:39:43,839

still may have some problems here some

993

00:39:47,430 --> 00:39:45,760

medical problems of some sort

994

00:39:50,069 --> 00:39:47,440

he was right about that

995

00:39:51,829 --> 00:39:50,079

that i had had some health problems

996

00:39:55,750 --> 00:39:51,839

is there anything there about my mother

997

00:40:00,150 --> 00:39:57,829

the one thing that the thing is clear is

998

00:40:01,990 --> 00:40:00,160

that uh right from the beginning you

999

00:40:03,750 --> 00:40:02,000

didn't want to be dominated by her you

1000

00:40:05,190 --> 00:40:03,760

want to make it for your own mind about

1001  
00:40:06,150 --> 00:40:05,200  
what your life is going to be like and

1002  
00:40:07,589 --> 00:40:06,160  
so on

1003  
00:40:10,710 --> 00:40:07,599  
i have been very headstrong when it

1004  
00:40:12,710 --> 00:40:10,720  
comes to my mother she has kind of tried

1005  
00:40:14,230 --> 00:40:12,720  
to dominate me sometimes and i've

1006  
00:40:15,910 --> 00:40:14,240  
rebelled against it

1007  
00:40:17,670 --> 00:40:15,920  
at the same time you wanted to be you

1008  
00:40:18,870 --> 00:40:17,680  
wanted to be on your own terms and stuff

1009  
00:40:20,069 --> 00:40:18,880  
like that

1010  
00:40:21,430 --> 00:40:20,079  
he was pretty right on the money with a

1011  
00:40:23,910 --> 00:40:21,440  
lot of things

1012  
00:40:25,510 --> 00:40:23,920  
maybe he's got some part to himself that

1013  
00:40:27,190 --> 00:40:25,520

others are not in touch with and he

1014

00:40:29,030 --> 00:40:27,200

knows these things learned about the

1015

00:40:31,109 --> 00:40:29,040

relationship between your mother and

1016

00:40:33,589 --> 00:40:31,119

yourself as a palm reader ray was quite

1017

00:40:35,510 --> 00:40:33,599

successful i was saying then a college

1018

00:40:37,190 --> 00:40:35,520

friend bet him that he would do just as

1019

00:40:40,309 --> 00:40:37,200

well if he told his subjects the

1020

00:40:43,109 --> 00:40:40,319

opposite of what he read in their palms

1021

00:40:43,910 --> 00:40:43,119

he decided to give it a try

1022

00:40:48,069 --> 00:40:43,920

and

1023

00:40:49,510 --> 00:40:48,079

didn't say where she had no reaction at

1024

00:40:52,230 --> 00:40:49,520

all which was very spooky to me because

1025

00:40:54,390 --> 00:40:52,240

i'm used to feedback

1026

00:40:55,750 --> 00:40:54,400

i thought it was because i bombed

1027

00:40:58,630 --> 00:40:55,760

but it turned out because she was so

1028

00:41:00,390 --> 00:40:58,640

stunned i was so accurate

1029

00:41:02,390 --> 00:41:00,400

and this was really a shock to me

1030

00:41:03,829 --> 00:41:02,400

because i had done everything wrong so i

1031

00:41:05,109 --> 00:41:03,839

did it the next client wrong then i

1032

00:41:07,190 --> 00:41:05,119

realized it doesn't make any difference

1033

00:41:09,829 --> 00:41:07,200

what you tell them it's

1034

00:41:13,349 --> 00:41:09,839

more what you convince them how good you

1035

00:41:15,510 --> 00:41:13,359

are and what you get them to believe

1036

00:41:17,750 --> 00:41:15,520

as a professional psychologist ray is

1037

00:41:20,470 --> 00:41:17,760

very much aware of the role that careful

1038

00:41:22,550 --> 00:41:20,480

observation can play in a reading

1039

00:41:25,109 --> 00:41:22,560

you're living in a strange world you'd

1040

00:41:28,309 --> 00:41:25,119

be better if you're living

1041

00:41:29,910 --> 00:41:28,319

maybe 50 40 years ago in some ways

1042

00:41:32,630 --> 00:41:29,920

i've always said that i should have been

1043

00:41:34,630 --> 00:41:32,640

born a long time ago this

1044

00:41:36,230 --> 00:41:34,640

present world is is

1045

00:41:37,829 --> 00:41:36,240

presents problems for you and you're not

1046

00:41:39,270 --> 00:41:37,839

too happy with it

1047

00:41:41,510 --> 00:41:39,280

from the way she was dressed and so i

1048

00:41:43,349 --> 00:41:41,520

could say that she'd rather be living in

1049

00:41:45,750 --> 00:41:43,359

an earlier time than today in fact she

1050

00:41:47,910 --> 00:41:45,760

was dressed for an earlier time anyway

1051

00:41:49,670 --> 00:41:47,920

there's a change there has been there

1052

00:41:51,910 --> 00:41:49,680

for a while looked like you had two jobs

1053

00:41:54,309 --> 00:41:51,920

or two careers i'm not sure

1054

00:41:55,910 --> 00:41:54,319

and uh very recently you have switched

1055

00:41:56,950 --> 00:41:55,920

in fact there's been a major career

1056

00:41:59,190 --> 00:41:56,960

change

1057

00:42:00,630 --> 00:41:59,200

um i've been in the same career for six

1058

00:42:02,630 --> 00:42:00,640

years

1059

00:42:05,349 --> 00:42:02,640

next year i'm thinking about changing

1060

00:42:08,710 --> 00:42:05,359

careers but i haven't done it yet so he

1061

00:42:10,630 --> 00:42:08,720

could just be a little off in his timing

1062

00:42:11,270 --> 00:42:10,640

if you set people up right you can tell

1063

00:42:12,790 --> 00:42:11,280

them

1064

00:42:14,390 --> 00:42:12,800

anything if they really got a creative

1065

00:42:16,230 --> 00:42:14,400

and intelligent mind they can make sense

1066

00:42:18,550 --> 00:42:16,240

out of no matter how crazy it seems to

1067

00:42:20,630 --> 00:42:18,560

be they can find a way of of

1068

00:42:22,950 --> 00:42:20,640

reinterpreting it so it really fits them

1069

00:42:25,670 --> 00:42:22,960

like a glove

1070

00:42:31,510 --> 00:42:25,680

this person wants me to succeed i should

1071

00:42:35,910 --> 00:42:33,349

but now let's turn to some newspaper

1072

00:42:38,630 --> 00:42:35,920

reports and items that mention ray hyman

1073

00:42:42,230 --> 00:42:38,640

over the years

1074

00:42:48,309 --> 00:42:44,630

and our first port of call our first

1075

00:42:49,829 --> 00:42:48,319

newspaper we find is the alton telegraph

1076

00:42:52,790 --> 00:42:49,839

dated the

1077

00:42:54,470 --> 00:42:52,800

4th of february 1988

1078

00:42:59,349 --> 00:42:54,480

and this is in the section called

1079

00:43:01,670 --> 00:42:59,359

entertainment debunker visits s-i-u-e

1080

00:43:04,230 --> 00:43:01,680

mentalist ray hyman will take a critical

1081

00:43:07,030 --> 00:43:04,240

look at psychics and scientists in a 7

1082

00:43:09,829 --> 00:43:07,040

30 pm discussion monday at southern

1083

00:43:12,069 --> 00:43:09,839

illinois university at edwardsville

1084

00:43:15,109 --> 00:43:12,079

hyman a psychology professor at the

1085

00:43:18,069 --> 00:43:15,119

university of oregon is concerned with

1086

00:43:21,109 --> 00:43:18,079

the question of why human beings tend to

1087

00:43:23,510 --> 00:43:21,119

readily accept supernatural explanations

1088

00:43:26,309 --> 00:43:23,520

for what is often natural occurrences in

1089

00:43:28,710 --> 00:43:26,319

the universe the professor has produced

1090

00:43:31,990 --> 00:43:28,720

30 publications critically evaluating

1091

00:43:33,589 --> 00:43:32,000

parapsychology and related claims and is

1092

00:43:35,670 --> 00:43:33,599

one of the founders of the committee for

1093

00:43:38,309 --> 00:43:35,680

the scientific investigation of claims

1094

00:43:40,390 --> 00:43:38,319

of the paranormal hyman is also on the

1095

00:43:43,510 --> 00:43:40,400

editorial board of the group's journal

1096

00:43:45,750 --> 00:43:43,520

the skeptical inquirer the lecture with

1097

00:43:48,950 --> 00:43:45,760

demonstrations magic tricks and

1098

00:43:51,510 --> 00:43:48,960

experiments to illustrate points is in

1099

00:43:53,670 --> 00:43:51,520

the communications building theater it

1100

00:43:56,470 --> 00:43:53,680

is the second in a series of magic

1101  
00:44:00,630 --> 00:43:56,480  
science and society presented by the

1102  
00:44:02,870 --> 00:44:00,640  
siue department of biological sciences

1103  
00:44:05,430 --> 00:44:02,880  
tickets are free but seating is

1104  
00:44:07,230 --> 00:44:05,440  
restricted to 400 tickets may be

1105  
00:44:08,870 --> 00:44:07,240  
obtained in room

1106  
00:44:11,270 --> 00:44:08,880  
1330

1107  
00:44:14,550 --> 00:44:11,280  
of the science building by calling

1108  
00:44:22,790 --> 00:44:19,309  
or by writing to the siue at box

1109  
00:44:25,990 --> 00:44:22,800  
1651 edwardsville illinois

1110  
00:44:29,750 --> 00:44:28,150  
i would have loved to have been there

1111  
00:44:32,390 --> 00:44:29,760  
for that presentation

1112  
00:44:33,990 --> 00:44:32,400  
way back in 1988

1113  
00:44:36,870 --> 00:44:34,000

and the accompanying photograph looks

1114

00:44:38,950 --> 00:44:36,880

like a publicity photograph of ray hyman

1115

00:44:41,270 --> 00:44:38,960

ray hyman promises the truth behind

1116

00:44:44,230 --> 00:44:41,280

psychic phenomena and he's sort of got a

1117

00:44:45,910 --> 00:44:44,240

strange um rope as if he's about to do a

1118

00:44:47,910 --> 00:44:45,920

conjuring trick

1119

00:44:50,710 --> 00:44:47,920

and now we turn to the pages of the

1120

00:44:54,430 --> 00:44:50,720

arlington heights daily herald suburban

1121

00:44:56,230 --> 00:44:54,440

chicago dated the 24th of october

1122

00:44:59,190 --> 00:44:56,240

1995.

1123

00:45:03,030 --> 00:44:59,200

in a section called dowsing for the dead

1124

00:45:07,510 --> 00:45:03,040

unearths a controversy by bert constable

1125

00:45:09,750 --> 00:45:07,520

six old graves that's what i detected as

1126

00:45:12,230 --> 00:45:09,760

i methodically walk the width and

1127

00:45:15,030 --> 00:45:12,240

breadth of this lone empty lot in

1128

00:45:17,109 --> 00:45:15,040

schaumburg's timber crest subdivision

1129

00:45:18,870 --> 00:45:17,119

while carrying two wire coat hangers

1130

00:45:21,190 --> 00:45:18,880

i've fashioned into

1131

00:45:23,030 --> 00:45:21,200

witching sticks the wires bent into the

1132

00:45:25,710 --> 00:45:23,040

shapes of pistols with extra long

1133

00:45:28,710 --> 00:45:25,720

barrels and held parallel to the ground

1134

00:45:30,150 --> 00:45:28,720

mysteriously cross whenever i step over

1135

00:45:33,510 --> 00:45:30,160

a grave

1136

00:45:37,270 --> 00:45:33,520

yep this is definitely the final resting

1137

00:45:39,990 --> 00:45:37,280

place for six long dead suburbanites

1138

00:45:43,109 --> 00:45:40,000

either that or i found a half dozen

1139

00:45:45,109 --> 00:45:43,119

cable tv hookups i'm not sure because

1140

00:45:48,870 --> 00:45:45,119

i'm just a novice when it comes to the

1141

00:45:51,270 --> 00:45:48,880

art of dowsing for dead bodies

1142

00:45:53,589 --> 00:45:51,280

and witching sticks also known as

1143

00:45:55,910 --> 00:45:53,599

dowsing rods or divining rods are the

1144

00:45:58,550 --> 00:45:55,920

best way to find old graves says donald

1145

00:46:00,710 --> 00:45:58,560

grenky past president of the illinois

1146

00:46:03,109 --> 00:46:00,720

cemetery association i've done it

1147

00:46:05,750 --> 00:46:03,119

hundreds of times greinke says i've been

1148

00:46:08,150 --> 00:46:05,760

in this business for well over 40 years

1149

00:46:11,270 --> 00:46:08,160

now believe me it works the people of

1150

00:46:13,829 --> 00:46:11,280

schaumburg want to find out if there are

1151  
00:46:15,510 --> 00:46:13,839  
bodies buried in this lot before anyone

1152  
00:46:17,430 --> 00:46:15,520  
builds a home there

1153  
00:46:19,270 --> 00:46:17,440  
communities have brought him to locate

1154  
00:46:22,069 --> 00:46:19,280  
old graves and

1155  
00:46:24,150 --> 00:46:22,079  
they were all exactly where we said they

1156  
00:46:26,069 --> 00:46:24,160  
were he boasts

1157  
00:46:29,430 --> 00:46:26,079  
he even brought a fancy set of witching

1158  
00:46:32,069 --> 00:46:29,440  
sticks made of metal rods floating in

1159  
00:46:35,270 --> 00:46:32,079  
wooden handles we have had our set for

1160  
00:46:37,349 --> 00:46:35,280  
25 years says grenkey who runs a funeral

1161  
00:46:38,710 --> 00:46:37,359  
home in cemetery in belvedere near

1162  
00:46:40,710 --> 00:46:38,720  
rockford

1163  
00:46:43,349 --> 00:46:40,720

dowsing historically refers to people

1164

00:46:45,910 --> 00:46:43,359

who claim to use fork sticks

1165

00:46:49,109 --> 00:46:45,920

limbs from fruit trees and willows are

1166

00:46:51,829 --> 00:46:49,119

the twigs of choice to find water some

1167

00:46:54,950 --> 00:46:51,839

folks still hire a dowser to locate the

1168

00:46:57,910 --> 00:46:54,960

best spot to dig a well says brenda

1169

00:47:00,630 --> 00:46:57,920

paquin director of the american society

1170

00:47:01,829 --> 00:47:00,640

of dowsers at danville vermont but

1171

00:47:03,349 --> 00:47:01,839

dowsing

1172

00:47:05,430 --> 00:47:03,359

paquin adds

1173

00:47:06,390 --> 00:47:05,440

is not just for water

1174

00:47:09,270 --> 00:47:06,400

nope

1175

00:47:12,790 --> 00:47:09,280

dowsing is just for the superstitious

1176  
00:47:14,870 --> 00:47:12,800  
insists skeptic ray hyman professor of

1177  
00:47:16,630 --> 00:47:14,880  
psychology at the university of oregon

1178  
00:47:19,030 --> 00:47:16,640  
and author of the book

1179  
00:47:21,190 --> 00:47:19,040  
water witching usa

1180  
00:47:23,190 --> 00:47:21,200  
all good studies show that dowzers can't

1181  
00:47:24,710 --> 00:47:23,200  
do what they say they can do

1182  
00:47:27,750 --> 00:47:24,720  
hyman says

1183  
00:47:30,710 --> 00:47:27,760  
it's nothing more than a random device

1184  
00:47:34,270 --> 00:47:30,720  
the national ground water association in

1185  
00:47:36,829 --> 00:47:34,280  
columbus ohio used to sell

1186  
00:47:40,549 --> 00:47:36,839  
anti-dowsing t-shirts with the

1187  
00:47:42,630 --> 00:47:40,559  
international no symbol over a dowser

1188  
00:47:44,710 --> 00:47:42,640

but the group has mellowed in recent

1189

00:47:47,190 --> 00:47:44,720

years and now looks

1190

00:47:49,990 --> 00:47:47,200

upon dowsing as nothing more than

1191

00:47:51,910 --> 00:47:50,000

a harmless superstition says anita

1192

00:47:54,790 --> 00:47:51,920

stanley a publisher with groundwater

1193

00:47:56,950 --> 00:47:54,800

publishing still she adds

1194

00:47:59,430 --> 00:47:56,960

we'd contend you'd be better off

1195

00:48:01,589 --> 00:47:59,440

contacting a professional contractor

1196

00:48:04,710 --> 00:48:01,599

than to pay someone to walk around with

1197

00:48:08,069 --> 00:48:04,720

a fork stick while hyman says dowsers

1198

00:48:09,270 --> 00:48:08,079

seem to be a sincere bunch who believe

1199

00:48:11,270 --> 00:48:09,280

in the art

1200

00:48:13,990 --> 00:48:11,280

the movement of the sticks is nothing

1201  
00:48:16,630 --> 00:48:14,000  
more than quote idiom motor action end

1202  
00:48:19,349 --> 00:48:16,640  
quote that means dowers move the rods

1203  
00:48:22,630 --> 00:48:19,359  
themselves unconsciously i put the

1204  
00:48:25,589 --> 00:48:22,640  
handle end of my rods in empty cardboard

1205  
00:48:28,390 --> 00:48:25,599  
toilet rolls to assure that my hands

1206  
00:48:30,470 --> 00:48:28,400  
don't touch the wires but hyman says i

1207  
00:48:32,950 --> 00:48:30,480  
still manipulate the rods by moving my

1208  
00:48:35,190 --> 00:48:32,960  
hands when the rods are suspended from

1209  
00:48:38,870 --> 00:48:35,200  
wires without anyone touching them they

1210  
00:48:40,870 --> 00:48:38,880  
never cross over graves hymen notes

1211  
00:48:43,910 --> 00:48:40,880  
grenkey counters hyman's logic by

1212  
00:48:47,349 --> 00:48:43,920  
suggesting the human carrying the sticks

1213  
00:48:50,549 --> 00:48:47,359

adds an integral element to the process

1214

00:48:53,510 --> 00:48:50,559

not everybody can use them cranky says

1215

00:48:55,910 --> 00:48:53,520

recalling how one skeptical employee

1216

00:48:59,109 --> 00:48:55,920

couldn't even get the rods to cross over

1217

00:49:00,549 --> 00:48:59,119

marked graves cranky who lives next to

1218

00:49:02,870 --> 00:49:00,559

his cemetery

1219

00:49:04,710 --> 00:49:02,880

says he's never had any psychic

1220

00:49:07,349 --> 00:49:04,720

experiences with ghosts or the

1221

00:49:09,430 --> 00:49:07,359

supernatural isn't superstitious and

1222

00:49:12,069 --> 00:49:09,440

doesn't care about electromagnetic

1223

00:49:14,470 --> 00:49:12,079

fields or a college professor debunking

1224

00:49:16,549 --> 00:49:14,480

his use of witching sticks no one has

1225

00:49:19,190 --> 00:49:16,559

really made a big deal out of how it

1226

00:49:21,670 --> 00:49:19,200

works frankie says you're a believer

1227

00:49:25,430 --> 00:49:21,680

after you've used them and finally we go

1228

00:49:27,349 --> 00:49:25,440

to the year 1994 the 4th of december

1229

00:49:31,510 --> 00:49:27,359

in a journal called

1230

00:49:32,549 --> 00:49:31,520

brazosport facts in the section seen and

1231

00:49:36,309 --> 00:49:32,559

heard

1232

00:49:38,549 --> 00:49:36,319

and this is a story by chao ki davidson

1233

00:49:39,829 --> 00:49:38,559

printed originally in the san francisco

1234

00:49:42,630 --> 00:49:39,839

examiner

1235

00:49:44,470 --> 00:49:42,640

haunted deep fryer high jinks amongst

1236

00:49:46,230 --> 00:49:44,480

the toys entice

1237

00:49:48,470 --> 00:49:46,240

ghost hunters

1238

00:49:51,270 --> 00:49:48,480

every day is halloween for today's ghost

1239

00:49:54,069 --> 00:49:51,280

hunters professional ghost hunting isn't

1240

00:49:56,390 --> 00:49:54,079

the lucrative business it was in the

1241

00:49:59,829 --> 00:49:56,400

bill murray comedy ghostbusters the

1242

00:50:02,870 --> 00:49:59,839

heyday of scientific phantasm chasing

1243

00:50:04,870 --> 00:50:02,880

past a century ago yet a handful of true

1244

00:50:07,030 --> 00:50:04,880

believers still lug magnetometers

1245

00:50:10,309 --> 00:50:07,040

infrared cameras video cameras and other

1246

00:50:12,870 --> 00:50:10,319

gadgets through spooky places where they

1247

00:50:15,670 --> 00:50:12,880

investigate the oddest things

1248

00:50:18,390 --> 00:50:15,680

a haunted deep fryer at a japanese

1249

00:50:21,430 --> 00:50:18,400

restaurant in rome georgia a female

1250

00:50:22,549 --> 00:50:21,440

ghost who supposedly frequents a moss

1251  
00:50:25,589 --> 00:50:22,559  
beach

1252  
00:50:28,390 --> 00:50:25,599  
california restaurant a case of spectral

1253  
00:50:31,910 --> 00:50:28,400  
hijinks at a sunnyvale california toy

1254  
00:50:33,430 --> 00:50:31,920  
store maybe physical reality isn't as we

1255  
00:50:36,390 --> 00:50:33,440  
define it today

1256  
00:50:39,589 --> 00:50:36,400  
says prominent national ghostbuster and

1257  
00:50:42,150 --> 00:50:39,599  
author lloyd albach of pleasant hill but

1258  
00:50:44,470 --> 00:50:42,160  
i would need 24th century technology to

1259  
00:50:46,710 --> 00:50:44,480  
figure out what's really going on and

1260  
00:50:50,230 --> 00:50:46,720  
right behind the ghost hunters

1261  
00:50:52,470 --> 00:50:50,240  
are the skeptics who take delight in

1262  
00:50:55,030 --> 00:50:52,480  
finding mundane explanations for

1263  
00:50:57,750 --> 00:50:55,040

allegedly supernatural phenomena for

1264

00:51:02,069 --> 00:50:57,760

example in exposing a quote spirit

1265

00:51:05,750 --> 00:51:02,079

photograph in quote as crude fakery or

1266

00:51:08,870 --> 00:51:05,760

quote ghostly in quote voices as rusty

1267

00:51:11,349 --> 00:51:08,880

pipes or eerie footsteps as vibrations

1268

00:51:14,150 --> 00:51:11,359

from the staircase next door

1269

00:51:16,470 --> 00:51:14,160

i was just asked to give advice for a

1270

00:51:19,030 --> 00:51:16,480

court trial in new jersey said

1271

00:51:20,870 --> 00:51:19,040

university of oregon psychology

1272

00:51:24,470 --> 00:51:20,880

professor ray hyman

1273

00:51:26,630 --> 00:51:24,480

a veteran critic of parapsychology and

1274

00:51:29,829 --> 00:51:26,640

skeptic about ghosts

1275

00:51:31,910 --> 00:51:29,839

people who bought a house are suing the

1276

00:51:35,270 --> 00:51:31,920

previous owners for not telling them it

1277

00:51:37,910 --> 00:51:35,280

was haunted modern ghost hunting is the

1278

00:51:41,030 --> 00:51:37,920

faint embers of a 19th century cultural

1279

00:51:43,349 --> 00:51:41,040

firestorm called spiritualism back then

1280

00:51:46,309 --> 00:51:43,359

mediums were the rage and society's blue

1281

00:51:48,870 --> 00:51:46,319

bloods from esteemed scientists to

1282

00:51:51,750 --> 00:51:48,880

acclaimed politicians sat in dark

1283

00:51:53,670 --> 00:51:51,760

seances holding hands and hoping the

1284

00:51:56,390 --> 00:51:53,680

spirits would speak

1285

00:51:58,790 --> 00:51:56,400

but the spiritualist age ended in a

1286

00:52:01,270 --> 00:51:58,800

flurry of exposes

1287

00:52:03,670 --> 00:52:01,280

the magician harry houdini and other

1288

00:52:05,910 --> 00:52:03,680

skeptics exposed phony mediums and the

1289

00:52:08,790 --> 00:52:05,920

two pioneers of spiritualism the

1290

00:52:11,589 --> 00:52:08,800

so-called fox sisters admitted they had

1291

00:52:14,630 --> 00:52:11,599

faked spook sounds by cracking their

1292

00:52:17,190 --> 00:52:14,640

joints nowadays ghost hunting and

1293

00:52:19,950 --> 00:52:17,200

afterlife research has been largely

1294

00:52:23,190 --> 00:52:19,960

banished to the fringes or beyond of

1295

00:52:26,230 --> 00:52:23,200

parapsychology the so-called science of

1296

00:52:29,430 --> 00:52:26,240

psychic phenomena which is itself

1297

00:52:32,390 --> 00:52:29,440

scorned by many mainstream researchers

1298

00:52:34,790 --> 00:52:32,400

yet even today ghosts retain a hold on

1299

00:52:37,589 --> 00:52:34,800

the modern heart witness the hyper

1300

00:52:40,470 --> 00:52:37,599

success of films such as ghost and

1301  
00:52:43,990 --> 00:52:40,480  
ghostbusters i saw a poll recently that

1302  
00:52:47,829 --> 00:52:44,000  
said that 75 of students believe in god

1303  
00:52:50,710 --> 00:52:47,839  
and 72 believe in ghosts hyman said

1304  
00:52:53,270 --> 00:52:50,720  
our bach often finds orthodox

1305  
00:52:56,470 --> 00:52:53,280  
explanations for spook sightings right

1306  
00:52:58,390 --> 00:52:56,480  
after the 1989 earthquake i received

1307  
00:53:01,750 --> 00:52:58,400  
calls from dozens of people who said

1308  
00:53:04,549 --> 00:53:01,760  
objects had moved in their homes i found

1309  
00:53:07,349 --> 00:53:04,559  
that in many cases the cause wasn't what

1310  
00:53:10,950 --> 00:53:07,359  
you would think the quake itself but the

1311  
00:53:13,510 --> 00:53:10,960  
traffic changes in the city caused by

1312  
00:53:16,470 --> 00:53:13,520  
downed freeways and bridges i told

1313  
00:53:18,870 --> 00:53:16,480

people right after an object moves look

1314

00:53:22,309 --> 00:53:18,880

outside your window and see if a truck

1315

00:53:23,430 --> 00:53:22,319

just rumbled by albach 38

1316

00:53:27,190 --> 00:53:23,440

who by

1317

00:53:30,230 --> 00:53:27,200

day is a senior instructor for the lexus

1318

00:53:32,549 --> 00:53:30,240

nexus database service also has

1319

00:53:34,950 --> 00:53:32,559

investigated a purportedly haunted toy

1320

00:53:37,109 --> 00:53:34,960

store in sunnyvale and came away

1321

00:53:39,430 --> 00:53:37,119

doubting anything odd was going on

1322

00:53:41,910 --> 00:53:39,440

but he's impressed by the accounts of a

1323

00:53:44,309 --> 00:53:41,920

ghost at moss beach distillery a

1324

00:53:46,790 --> 00:53:44,319

cliffside restaurant on highway 1 south

1325

00:53:50,549 --> 00:53:46,800

of san francisco that was once featured

1326  
00:53:53,430 --> 00:53:50,559  
in tv's unsolved mysteries our bach took

1327  
00:53:56,390 --> 00:53:53,440  
a magnetometer into the restaurant which

1328  
00:53:59,030 --> 00:53:56,400  
overlooks the pacific and claims that

1329  
00:54:02,790 --> 00:53:59,040  
something nature unknown

1330  
00:54:06,069 --> 00:54:02,800  
was disrupting the device

1331  
00:54:08,790 --> 00:54:06,079  
ironically albacht is friends with bob

1332  
00:54:10,710 --> 00:54:08,800  
steiner a nationally known magician who

1333  
00:54:12,870 --> 00:54:10,720  
is also a founder of the bay area

1334  
00:54:19,190 --> 00:54:12,880  
skeptics a group that did lights in

1335  
00:54:25,030 --> 00:54:22,630  
well there we are just a few a few

1336  
00:54:26,710 --> 00:54:25,040  
references to ray hyman in newspapers

1337  
00:54:29,030 --> 00:54:26,720  
over the years there are more i have

1338  
00:54:30,230 --> 00:54:29,040

discovered more quite lengthy articles

1339

00:54:33,109 --> 00:54:30,240

which

1340

00:54:35,349 --> 00:54:33,119

mention ray hyman here and there there's

1341

00:54:38,789 --> 00:54:35,359

one very interesting one about yuri

1342

00:54:39,990 --> 00:54:38,799

gellar from 1977 which mentions ray

1343

00:54:41,030 --> 00:54:40,000

hyman

1344

00:54:41,829 --> 00:54:41,040

and this

1345

00:54:43,829 --> 00:54:41,839

uh

1346

00:54:46,069 --> 00:54:43,839

this one is written by a psychic which

1347

00:54:48,150 --> 00:54:46,079

is very strange but anyway that's a very

1348

00:54:50,309 --> 00:54:48,160

lengthy article and only mentions ray

1349

00:54:52,710 --> 00:54:50,319

hyman in part of it

1350

00:54:54,950 --> 00:54:52,720

maybe next time i'm up in oregon i might

1351  
00:54:56,309 --> 00:54:54,960  
have the chance or make the opportunity

1352  
00:54:59,270 --> 00:54:56,319  
to once again

1353  
00:55:00,950 --> 00:54:59,280  
meet up with professor ray hyman

1354  
00:55:02,150 --> 00:55:00,960  
but no matter where you are in the world

1355  
00:55:03,990 --> 00:55:02,160  
you can take advantage of the

1356  
00:55:07,510 --> 00:55:04,000  
interesting resources

1357  
00:55:08,470 --> 00:55:07,520  
at trove at trove.nla

1358  
00:55:10,789 --> 00:55:08,480  
or

1359  
00:55:13,270 --> 00:55:10,799  
your own local digitized newspapers

1360  
00:55:17,460 --> 00:55:13,280  
because you never know what you might

1361  
00:55:17,470 --> 00:55:31,349  
[Music]

1362  
00:55:34,549 --> 00:55:32,950  
thank you for listening to the skeptic's

1363  
00:55:36,470 --> 00:55:34,559

own podcast

1364

00:55:39,670 --> 00:55:36,480

coming up on next week's show the book

1365

00:55:41,589 --> 00:55:39,680

of tim will look at micro nations these

1366

00:55:42,309 --> 00:55:41,599

are these funny little principalities

1367

00:55:45,270 --> 00:55:42,319

and

1368

00:55:47,430 --> 00:55:45,280

countries that uh people set up they

1369

00:55:48,870 --> 00:55:47,440

have no real legal standing but they can

1370

00:55:50,309 --> 00:55:48,880

be a lot of fun

1371

00:55:52,230 --> 00:55:50,319

i hope to bring you that report about

1372

00:55:53,670 --> 00:55:52,240

the mind body wallet the mind body

1373

00:55:55,510 --> 00:55:53,680

spirit

1374

00:55:57,030 --> 00:55:55,520

in the trove segment we're going to be

1375

00:55:59,750 --> 00:55:57,040

looking at the min min light that

1376

00:56:02,470 --> 00:55:59,760

mysterious light and also another poem

1377

00:56:03,829 --> 00:56:02,480

by jim wilshere all about the min min

1378

00:56:04,789 --> 00:56:03,839

light

1379

00:56:07,030 --> 00:56:04,799

and

1380

00:56:09,589 --> 00:56:07,040

also don't forget as adrian mentioned in

1381

00:56:11,670 --> 00:56:09,599

her reading of the skeptics newsletter

1382

00:56:14,069 --> 00:56:11,680

adrian hill will be our guest on the

1383

00:56:16,150 --> 00:56:14,079

25th of this month

1384

00:56:18,309 --> 00:56:16,160

uh in the evening here sydney australian

1385

00:56:20,630 --> 00:56:18,319

time for skeptics in the pub of course

1386

00:56:22,870 --> 00:56:20,640

that's online so no matter where you are

1387

00:56:26,230 --> 00:56:22,880

around the world you can tune in and

1388

00:56:28,549 --> 00:56:26,240

join us for uh adrian hill talking about

1389

00:56:30,589 --> 00:56:28,559

ghosts thank you to those people who

1390

00:56:33,030 --> 00:56:30,599

continue to support the skeptic zone at

1391

00:56:34,309 --> 00:56:33,040

skepticzone.tv by your

1392

00:56:37,270 --> 00:56:34,319

patreon

1393

00:56:39,109 --> 00:56:37,280

or your paypal micropayments it means

1394

00:56:41,510 --> 00:56:39,119

the show keeps going

1395

00:56:42,950 --> 00:56:41,520

but now it's time for me to keep going

1396

00:56:45,030 --> 00:56:42,960

and i'll

1397

00:56:47,910 --> 00:56:45,040

i'll be back next week so for now this

1398

00:56:53,190 --> 00:56:47,920

is richard saunders signing off from

1399

00:56:56,390 --> 00:56:54,950

you've been listening to the skeptic

1400

00:56:57,829 --> 00:56:56,400

zone podcast

1401

00:57:00,950 --> 00:56:57,839

please visit our website at

1402

00:57:06,630 --> 00:57:04,069

for show notes contacts and to access

1403

00:57:08,789 --> 00:57:06,640

the back catalog of episodes going back

1404

00:57:10,789 --> 00:57:08,799

to 2008.

1405

00:57:13,510 --> 00:57:10,799

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1406

00:57:15,670 --> 00:57:13,520

on twitter at skepticzone

1407

00:57:17,910 --> 00:57:15,680

visit our facebook page or leave a

1408

00:57:20,069 --> 00:57:17,920

review on itunes

1409

00:57:23,270 --> 00:57:20,079

you can also support the skeptic zone

1410

00:57:26,390 --> 00:57:23,280

via patreon or paypal the skeptic zone

1411

00:57:28,230 --> 00:57:26,400

podcast is an independent production

1412

00:57:30,549 --> 00:57:28,240

the views and opinions expressed on the

1413

00:57:33,030 --> 00:57:30,559

skeptic zone are not necessarily those

1414

00:57:34,680 --> 00:57:33,040

of australian skeptics or any other