

2024-04-23 Graham & John Update on various issues and speak with Kym Staton about Jullian Assange...

Well, G'day everyone, and welcome to another episode of Club Grubbery, uh, week 485, 375, 000 since we started. And uh, it feels that way, Johnny, at Tuesday the 23rd of April, doesn't it? Yeah, he's never a dull moment, would he? Uh, one thing after another. One thing after another. And, and Kim Staton, uh, producer, filmmaker, and, uh, and the wonderful man who's been uh, Taking Julian Assange to the world and done a great job.

Welcome to our program for an update on Julian and the movie. Uh, Kim Staton. Thank you very much, Graham. Good to be with you guys. Yeah, it's great, mate. And, uh, boy, there's been a lot of news around Julian of late. And we're going to cover off on some of those shortly with you and then talk to you about how the movie's progressing.

But before, we've got some news items to cover off on, John. Um, Malcolm Roberts, first of all. What can you tell us about what he's just been posting? Yeah, well, Malcolm put out a post this morning saying that the Senate inquiry had found overwhelmingly that there was a requirement for a COVID Royal Commission, so that's good news.

It is good news and I saw the document, the report published by that Senate committee and your speech and mine were featured in that pretty prominently. Uh, which we're, we're very proud of. I have to say it was a great opportunity to get in there and get our feelings down on the inside and maybe do some good.

Now it's up to Albanese, of course, John, as to whether, um, whether this goes through and whether it has any teeth. Yeah, well, we were very lucky, weren't we? That, uh, Tony Nikolic, uh, was able to sort of get us in there, but, uh, yeah, look, let's just hope hoodie that, uh, Albanese, uh, Gets the public's vibe and, uh, and goes ahead with it.

Absolutely. And news out of New Zealand, John, which is, uh, out of the Daily Telegraph in New Zealand today. Um, I believe Haseem Malhotra has been appearing in court in Scandinavia, uh, referencing a case brought by a, uh, uh, a citizen of Denmark against the, uh, health department over there. And, uh, this headline, I'll read it out, comes from the Daily Telegraph.

Uh, a WHO official has testified that vaccine passports were a scam to promote global vaccination agenda. She's, um, she's given this evidence under oath in the court in Denmark. A high ranking official at the World Health Organization, the WHO, has confessed during a dramatic testimony that the vaccine passports advocated by the agency were nothing more than a ruse to further the worldwide vaccination drive.

Dr. Hannah, uh, Noyek. Serving as the World Health's organization's, chair of the strategic group of experts on immunization, and also holding the position of chief physician at the Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare delivered the bombshell admission in Helsinki courtroom. Uh, her testimony unfolded in a lawsuit brought by Finnish citizen Mike Keller, who has, uh, who was denied entry to a cafe for lacking a vaccine passport during a court appearance.

Dr. Uh, Noy Nik. Disclosed that despite her warnings to both the WHO and the government against the necessity for vaccine passports, her concerns were disregarded. She told the court that the COVID 19 mRNA shots were deemed ineffective in halting the virus transmission, rendering the passports and vaccinations essentially ineffective and providing a false sense of security to the public.

And her testimony goes on. John, of course, this will be all over Channel 9, Channel 7 and the ABC. Oh, you're an optimist, Hoody. Uh, no doubt about it. I am an eternal optimist, John. And, um, I mean, it's just, this stuff keeps

rolling out. It keeps rolling out. And yet we hear all this talk about after everything, the tragedy of Bondi and the stabbing in the church that followed, uh, that social media people like us are spreading misinformation.

Well, if that's misinformation, everybody, uh, you can make, you can be your own judge. Also, a couple of our interviews have been fact checked again, John. Oh, that's very interesting. Yeah, so the ABC have done a story on fact checkers, and I'm going to review that, and we'll talk about that in the next episode, but suffice to say, uh, basically fact checkers check their facts against mainstream narrative.

So that's, that's really what that's all about. They don't, if, if they're, if they're, uh, fact checking us on a, on an article or an interview we're doing around the COVID vaccines, are they checking it against Peter McCullough's evidence? Who's written nearly 90 peer reviewed papers on COVID. Uh, no, they're not, John, they're going to, uh, the same source that, uh, Dr.

Normie Swan on the ABC goes to, and, uh, we find ourselves just being fact checked against the mainstream narrative. So it's just a waste of time. Well, I had to, I had to laugh with you too, because, uh, our old mate, Commissioner Karen Webb. Uh, she popped up and say, was saying, you can't trust anyone other than the government sources.

I mean, these people are off with the fairies, aren't they? I mean, here's a woman that, that is. Proven herself to be, uh, severely lacking in that role, severely lacking, uh, and should resign. And look, this, this won't impress too many people, I don't suppose, but look, I'll say it anyway, because that's what we do here on Club Grubbery.

Why has, uh, Karen Webb as a commissioner not faced an investigation after revealing Uh, confidential information to the public on deceased persons, uh, from the Bondi, uh, uh, tragedy. Now, Ray Hadley was given information and he admitted this on, uh, 2GB radio that he was given information about the, uh, about the death of somebody not even related to him.

Now, if that had have been any other police officer hoody, uh, they would be under investigation and probably sacked for gross misconduct under a 181 D probably Karen, but no, you can give out whatever information you like, can't you? Because you guys, you've got a soft ride a couple of weeks earlier. Uh, from Ray when he interviewed you, you didn't want to turn up on Ben Fordham's program.

So you said, Oh, yeah, I want to, uh, Ray, and I'll get a nice little soft ride. And, uh, a couple of weeks later, you're giving out more confidential information to. Members of the media. Now, I'm in tragic circumstances. I can understand those loved ones, those family members wanting that information, but the right thing to do, Karen, was to take the details and have somebody seeing you ring the family.

It's not up to Ray Hadley to deliver that information. It's not up to any member of the public. That's the police's role. You've got it all wrong. There should be a, uh, LEC inquiry into this. There should be, uh, uh, people from your own branch crawling all over what you're doing because people have lost confidence in the commissioner's, uh, uh, role in New South Wales.

You, you are not upholding, uh, the whole commissioner's, uh, role is now politicized. We don't know. What information is being released? We don't know. Yeah, look, it's, it's become a farce. There's no doubt about that, John. And also, other farcical matters, uh, the, the, uh, instance of, um, Well, the incident rather relating to Dr.

Nick Petrovsky, that's going through South Australian Health and, um, and the Federal Court and Flinders University. Now, we did, uh, publish an urgent appeal, uh, a few nights ago, last week we did, and, uh, Basically, just for everybody who's asking questions, why the video that we put out was withdrawn. Uh, I was actually in bed, uh, John sent me a message saying, can we turn the studio on and do an urgent interview?

Because Nick Petrovsky has just been handed a ruling from the federal court and we have his lawyer and the professor himself ready to come on. We did that. We interviewed them straight away. It was a very emotional interview, um, and it highlighted the fact that, uh, Petrovsky's research, cancer research was being shut down.

Um, and there's a whole lot of nefarious reasons that may be happening, may be happening, but at that stage, he had 24 hours to shut down his research and there was a young girl in a Chinese hospital from Australia who had gone over there to have a biopsy done and where a sample would be taken from a tumor on her brain, I believe.

And that sample was going to be used to make a serum, which might prolong her life. So it was very urgent that we put that out and, um, all, all our listeners responded, they were fantastic. John, they, uh, they bombarded South Australian health with telephone calls, the media, they were all over it and good on you guys.

But this is what transpired because you were so effective in getting this thing looked at by South Australian health and the federal court, the court decided to hear an appeal and grant a one week extension. Now the lawyers got back onto us straight away and said they thought it would be best for the case if we, if we pulled that interview so it didn't prejudice the case and see how the appeal goes this week.

And then they promised us they would come on and give us full details of what's going on. So we are in talks with, uh, with, uh, Nikolai Petrovsky and his lawyers. And as soon as we have something more concrete, we'll bring that to you. But kudos to all of you Club Grub reviewers and all those people you shared that with because you actually had an effect.

And I'm sorry we weren't able to explain that at greater depth when we had to pull it because it just wasn't going to be, uh, it wasn't going to be, um, palatable for the court. So, it was best we pulled it at their request and see where it goes from there. So, thanks for that. Also, uh, Dezel Peters, a lot of people asking us about Dezel.

Uh, the latest rumor I've heard. But, uh, we've asked the family to give us an update, but I understand. But Dezelle is under another doctor who's looking at the whole thing very differently and, um, and she's a fighter, she's still going and any further information we're able to bring you, we will, even if we've got to refer you to another source to get that information.

So, without further ado, thanks so much for your patience, Kim Staten, um, you've become a bit of a regular on our program and, um, for good reason, um, the man behind you, Julian Assange, Has, has been through an absolute horror train wreck ride in the last 14 years. And he's still waiting. I mean, this is like Chinese waterboarding only at a much grander scale.

And we're going to touch on some of those things before we talk about the, uh, the, the film that you've made and how it's going. But, um, what are the latest you, what are the latest updates you've got for us on Julian's situation? Yeah, thanks, Graham. Well, the current situation is that the US were to provide assurances to the UK High Court by the 16th of April.

Um, the UK High Court asked for assurances of, on three points, um, if they were to allow, uh, Sanja's extradition for, for the US to put him on a CIA plane and put him on trial for these ridiculous, uh, this ridiculous 18 count indictment. Um, and so they were given about seven weeks to provide these assurances.

And as has been characteristic of this whole ordeal for Julian, everything is dragged out. Um, you know, we know from the Stratfor document, uh, back in 2008, that there was a plan to destroy Wikileaks and destroy Julian Assange. And the main method of doing that was to drag him from country to country, um, undermine his reputation, put him through the courts, bankrupt him.

And so they've continued that. And, you know, this is, this extradition trial is just one of about two dozen, uh, court actions that he's had to battle against. And it just drags on and on. Um, as you said, it's, it's a death by a thousand cuts. It's, it's a slow motion murder. They're trying to, um, make it drag out as much as possible.

Um, so these assurances that were requested, uh, there was three assurances that the UK high court requested. The first was that the US would assure, uh, the, the high court that, uh, if Julian was taken to America, that his offense wouldn't be upgraded to a capital offense, which would carry a death penalty.

So in other words, that he wouldn't be executed in America. Um, they've, they've basically provided a. A weak assurance on that, a standard assurance. It's not very assuring. Uh, it's not very convincing. We can read that out shortly if you like. And, uh, the second one was that he would be given first amendment protections.

He would have free speech protections, even though he's an Australian citizen, that they would uphold that, uh, that principle of free speech. And the third is that, uh, he wouldn't be discriminated against being an Australian citizen being tried in the U. S. Pardon me. So, uh, they, they basically provided some very weak assurances, uh, in regards to whether he could be, uh, given a death sentence and, uh, and a non assurance in regards to the free speech, uh, request.

You know, that, that he would have free speech protection. So we can, we can have a look at this actual letter. It's a very brief letter considering they took seven weeks to write it. Um, and, and let's have a little analysis of that, if you like, and, and see what they actually said. Right, uh, Kim. So we can see a document there from the, uh, embassy of the United States.

Yeah, go ahead. Yeah, so let's have a look. Let's, let's jump to this first assurance. Um, Assange will not be prejudiced by reason of his nationality. So, you know, that they've pretty much covered that one. But then the second one, uh, a sentence of death will never, neither be sought nor imposed on Assange.

The United States able to provide such a soreness as Assange is not charged with a death penalty and eligible offense and the United States assures that he will not be tried for a death eligible offense. The thing we, the two things we have to keep in mind here is that The 18 charge indictment, uh, that, that Julian is, is, um, being what they're, they're wanting to take him to the U S to, to put him on trial for those 18 charges.

Um, most of them espionage charges, uh, carry a sentence of 175 years. So that's a death sentence anyway. It's just a slower one. So, uh, this, this sort of assurance is kind of mute considering the scale of his, his, his Uh, potential sentence. Uh, and then the third one regarding, um, the free speech assurances, uh, is basically, Yeah, that's, that's a part of this first one here.

So, uh, Assange will have the ability to raise and seek to rely upon at trial, the rights and protections given under the first amendment. So this is the key word here to raise and seek to rely upon. That doesn't sound very convincing, does it? So no, he can, he can seek it, you know, can, is there an assurance that no, there's no assurance on that.

He can just seek it. Yeah. Okay. Um, and, and, you know, they're basically saying that it's within the purview of the U. S. courts. So they're not, uh, agreeing to this. And, and, you know, I think, I think most, uh, people in this campaign would, would agree that this is all basically a setup so that the U. K. high court that can then basically, uh, deny the extradition at this point.

And then they'll allow the appeal because the assurances have not been, um, definite enough. And then the appeal can go on another six months. Julian's stuck in solitary confinement for another six months in a six meter square cell. And then conveniently, uh, if we look at the calendar, that brings us up two weeks.

Pass the U. S. election. So it seems like a nicely planned out, uh, strategy so that, uh, Julian won't, uh, you know, an award winning journalist, um, won't turn up on a, on a plane to America with handcuffs, uh, while Biden's trying to, um, win the next election. And speaking of award winning journalists, I mean, the Australian did a hit piece on, on Julian under the banner of Alan Howe.

Who is a, uh, uh, who is a journalist on obituaries and history. Um, and what a piece. I mean, good grief. Um, I hope you can share that on the screen with us as well. Um, Kim, but, and it's one of the most disgusting articles I've ever read. I mean, this guy's a journalist. Uh, he hasn't for one minute thought that he might end up, uh, in the same situation as Julian Assange.

If we, uh, if we morally accept what's happening to Julian Assange, it can happen to Alan Howe. But that, um, that seems to have, uh, have, have skipped his, uh, his radar at the moment. Uh, have you got that article there that we can share that? Because that was just unbelievable. Yeah, I do. Yeah. So this is a full on smear piece by the Australian.

Julian Assange is a criminal, a fabulist, and an undisciplined, arrogant, work shy fraud, who lacks an education while remaining a manalist. Vulgarian. The Wikileaks founder is no journalist. So it's unbelievable in this day and age after fourteen years have passed of the persecution of a journalist uh that someone would be coming out uh you know at this time uh with what's going on um when you've got uh Yeah, you know, 2021 human rights and free speech organizations wrote a joint letter, uh, five of the top newspapers wrote a joint letter, uh, calling for his freedom.

Um, even, even the Australian government has a sort of weak, um, Gutless sort of call for his for his case to come to a conclusion. Uh, no surprise that this is a Murdoch media newspaper and and the timing of it. Um, but you know, you have to wonder so called journalists like like this. Mr. Alan Howe. Um, what's behind this, you know, is, is he basically, uh, paid to write this article?

Uh, of course, he's paid to write the article, but is he, is he given some sort of bonus, um, for, for writing this sort of disgusting stuff or, uh, is it, is it some sort of, um, strategy or, or is he just, you know, Is he just jealous? I do wonder sometimes with this kind of attitude from a supposed journalist. I do wonder, you know, with journalists like Mr.

Howe, uh, you know, perhaps he's been in journalism his whole life and he, for decades, and he, he watched this young Assange guy come up in 2006 and from a four year space of time from the founding of WikiLeaks in 2006 to the, to the height of their success in 2010. Uh, that he won so many awards and maybe these people just build up this incredible jealousy and chagrin against, uh, against Assange just based on that and, uh, and then it all boils up and then they have to sort of spit out this, um, this vomitive sort of stuff.

Um, but you know, let's just, let's just look at this terminology. Well, he's, he's, he's, um, he's obviously spent his whole life writing obituaries. Um, and his career hasn't been all that bright, although he's won several awards. We shouldn't be too hard on him, but this is a, this is, um, I mean, this is more like an assassin hit than a, than a piece of journalism, but go on him.

Yeah. Let me just, let me just debunk some of this, like a criminal. No, uh, he, Definitely a journalist and he's exposed the crimes of others. There's 10, 000 documents on the WikiLeaks website of, of other people's crimes. Um, the only thing he's actually literally guilty of was jumping bail, which is a 52 week, uh, offense sentence that you would get for that.

And he's already been in Belmarsh for five years. A fabulist is someone that makes up stories. No, uh, Wikileaks is the only, uh, media outlet that has never put out anything false. It's a hundred percent factual. It's a hundred percent true and accurate. And no, there's no, uh, media outlet, uh, that, that can claim that, especially the Australian that's probably having to redact things every single day.

Undisciplined. There's incredible discipline involved with the work that Assange did and for him to survive his current conditions. Um, but you know, everyone that knows anything about his work understands that, uh, he's incredibly disciplined, that he can, uh, you know, stay up all day and all night studying, uh, the, the documents that are received, fact checking it.

And that's how they achieve that transparency is because they did their due diligence. They, they made sure that all of the. Uh, material that they printed, uh, published was, uh, was factual, incredible disembodied involved in that definitely not shy of any work. And, uh, a Bulgarian. Well, you know, and then we won't, I don't think we should give the time to this Alan Howe fellow, uh, looking into this, this idea that Assange is vulgar.

Uh, I, I did read it just, just for my own amusement to see what he thought was vulgar about Assange and all he said was this sort of vague story about Assange eating with his hands when he stayed at someone's house in London. Um, you know, this is like Australian people. Um, eat, eat pies and sandwiches with our hands.

Uh, and Indian people eat the whole meal with their hands. There's nothing wrong with that at all. It doesn't make you vulgar. Um, and you know, and then his last line, I think really tells us everything about this guy's attitude. He's no journalist. Um, you know, and that's ridiculous. Like how did, why did he win the Walkley award and, and two dozen other awards, uh, if he wasn't doing the work of a journalist, uh, a journalist just receives.

Information. Um, and analyzes it for its accuracy and prints it for the public. That's what a journalist is. And Assange is certainly a journalist. Well, Assange exposed video from the military, the US military, showing the military ruthlessly killing innocent people. In fact, other journalists, um, with that, with that helicopter gunship strike in the Middle East.

I mean, uh, this, this journalist really isn't worth the paper that he writes on. Um, he's not a journalist, this guy. Yeah. Well, you know what's ironic about, about these kind of journalists is that, um, and you know, I, I do sympathize them with them, but, uh, any journalists that can't, uh, really write anything of value is being replaced by Because, uh, computers are getting smarter than these, uh, average journalists.

Very average journalists. Um, so, the current situation, well, Belmarsh Prison. The one thing we need to comment on in that article was that Assange is living in luxury in Belmarsh. Uh, perhaps Alan Howe needs to go and spend 14 years in there to tell us what he thinks. Sorted luxury, sorted. Sorted luxury.

Unbelievable. It's absolutely absurd. It's a six meter square cell. It's a maximum security prison. He's only able to make a couple of phone calls a day and goodness knows what kind of food they serve there. And, uh, you know, what is it about these people that let their Like Mr. Howe lets his jealousy overcome his ability to be compassionate about somebody's situation.

Imagine being in that cell for five years, not knowing when you're going to get out or if you're going to get out, and right next door are criminals. You're actually a heroic, award winning journalist, and you're surrounded by the worst criminals in the UK. Your life is in danger on a daily basis.

Unbelievable. And the man, Julian, has deteriorated in health so much in the last 14 years. I mean, the last vision of him, uh, being taken out to the paddy wagon in, uh, in the UK was just gut wrenching to watch. Yeah. He's had a, he's had a stroke about a year ago. He's left eyelid droops, you know, Mr. Howe, go and visit Julian if they'll let you and, uh, go and, you know, just, uh, get over your jealousy.

That's what I want to say. Well He'd be lucky to cover the, uh, regional horse races, you know, under our watch. He would, but, um, but we've got to get back to the, this fantastic documentary that you've made. Where's it at at the moment? Where's it being seen and how many people are looking at it? Yeah, it continues to just build and grow and progress.

Uh, now we're playing in three regions, Australia, New Zealand and the UK. Um, we're over 300 cinemas involved. Um, something like, uh, I can only estimate, uh, the, the total numbers because it's moving fast, but it's at least 30, 000 people have watched the film in cinemas. Um, the big news, um, I'm not sure if I shared this update in our last, um, chat that, uh, the biggest.

cinema chain in the UK, Odeon, uh, has taken on the film and they'll be showing it at 88 sites across England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales from the 8th of May. So we're really excited to have them on board the biggest cinema chain in, in the United Kingdom. Um, and that follows from major chain, uh, chains in Australia and New Zealand showing the film, um, There's some interesting sessions coming up, including a special mention to the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra.

They're going to be showing it on the 25th of June with three MPs on the panel. Andrew Wilkie and two other, a Labor MP and a Liberal MP. MP. Um, if you bear with me a second, I'll, I'll tell you their names. And so, you know, really pleased to have politicians coming along and, um, and, and, and seeing, you know, what we're doing.

So it's, uh, and watching the film most importantly. So yeah, Andrew Wilkie, uh, Josh Wilsh, Josh Wilson, and Bridget Archer. Now, Kim, you and I are locals of Northern New South Wales and the Northern rivers. I think we're not too far apart from one another and, um, There's an event in Nimbin, I believe, coming up with the trust for Julian Assange.

Yeah, that's right. Um, the 2nd of May, 7. 30 at the Nimbin Bush Theatre, a very unique venue, uh, down in the greenery there, um, as you come into Nimbin, um, I'll be there to introduce the film and to have a chat with people after I'll have this, uh, little book of mine that people can purchase, uh, as a way of supporting the project and look forward to connecting with Nimbin locals at that event.

We might pop over to that. We might just pop in and, and, uh, take a sneak peek. It'd be great. That'd be fantastic. Even if you just come at the end, like around nine, nine 30, you know, come and have a chat. That'd be awesome. It's a sellout now. Yes. Oh, it's a sellout. Yeah, mate. For sure. And that's an open air theater, is it?

It's inside. It's a, it's, they renovated an old theater, so it's, yeah, it's in, it's indoors and then there's a cafe outside. It's inside. Great. Well, we might, uh, Michelle and I might pop over and, uh, and participate in that. It'd be good to catch up with the crew at Nimbin. Awesome. That'd be terrific. It'd be a lot of people there.

So yeah, it'd be good. Right. Well, okay. Well, I'm going to go and put that in the calendar. Terrific. Hope to see you there. Well done. And, uh, it's getting a lot of traction and it'll go off in the UK because the sound is at the forefront of a lot of people's thinking over there. And yeah, well, the UK is the country where he's being held, there's a lot of activism, there's a massive campaign there.

Um, you know, we saw, um, about two years ago, um, the human chain event where 7, 000 people linked arms, you know, in a very, uh, emotive way. Heartfelt, uh, display, um, going for all the way around parliament. So a big loop of many kilometers around London, linking hands in a, in a symbolic action. Um, so there's a huge campaign in the UK.

Um, we, we expect it to really, um, just blow up. On the back of the Odeon, uh, showings and, uh, and then the, the big regions are still to come, the, the U. S. and Europe and we're, um, we've got our eyes on the U. S. to do next and starting to make preparations for that. Have you been blown away by the support, uh, the generous support of, uh, people around the world for, for this initiative?

Absolutely. You know, I probably mentioned in our previous discussions that the film was originally going to be a YouTube project with a zero budget. I was going to spend three months on it and just use other people's footage, um, just as, as a way of showing support and exploring the issue in a, in a sort of a, um, no, not very ambitious way.

And uh, the very first interview that I did with Julian's father, John Shipton, I shot it with my mobile phone on a tripod. Um, I forgot to put it in HD, so it was shot in standard. And, uh, and, and then from there, the project just. Really went viral. And here we are three years later, coming up to three years in a couple of weeks, and we've had over 2000 people donate to the project through our GoFundMe campaign.

And then about 15 investors to make this all possible and the entire budget of the project. We picked it up to over 300, 000 to make something cinema worthy. Um, so, uh, it's, it's an, um, uh, incredible experience of seeing that global support, um, and, and for that support to continue and make it possible for us to end up interviewing 25 people, um, licensing some incredible footage and, and, and some very insightful interviews and, Putting it all together with animations and then to show it in cinemas and have people walk out in tears, uh, that are incredibly moved by the tragedy and the sadness, uh, of this situation, um, and, and to be motivated to take action.

And we get every day, we get, uh, messages and emails from people telling us that they've watched the film and here's what they're going to do. You know, for example, the other day, a lady, uh, in Sydney said, I'm going to go stand out. the front of Anthony Albanese's office with a sign, um, you know, people just every day tell us what actions they're taking.

Um, and that was our original goal, you know, was to motivate people into taking action of some sort. Well, I hope the sign's got pictures on it because I'm not sure that Anthony Albanese can read John, can he? No, I think, uh, I think he went to the same school as Alan.

Alan, how? Oh dear. Well, look, we could go on. Johnny, any comments? Well, look, I think it's, um, it's great that, uh, all this is gaining traction and, uh, it's wonderful too, that Club Grubbery in some way has been able to contribute to that because, uh, one of, one of our supporters has been, uh, one of the people that's gone in and, uh, given some financial support and, uh, I know Hoodie was instrumental in, uh, Organising that and, uh, a lot of people wouldn't really, uh, know that.

So, so it's really good that, uh, we've been able to reach out to all these different, um, new social media platforms like ours and, and, and be able to, um, to, to get involved and, um, and try and push this cause along because. It is, uh, an absolute injustice, um, and the sooner that, uh, the government, uh, gets this, uh, idiot over in the United States, this, this, uh, president that, uh, should be starring in Weekend at Bernie's 2, um To act, uh, uh, the pretty word.

Well, yeah, you guys have been a massive help. And, um, you know, the thing about, um, doing cinema is it's a very competitive environment. We quickly realized that we were competing with. Films like, uh, you know, the latest Ghostbusters or Godzilla, um, that attract a lot of the young folk in and, um, and, and, you know, just so many of the latest releases.

And we really have to get noticed by the cinemas for them to want to run the film, unless they happen to be knowledgeable on the issue and a supporter of Assange. Um, and, and so, you know, having investors enabled us to advertise, uh, albeit at a much smaller budget than these blockbuster movies. Um, but, you know, the, the thing that, uh, that I realized is that, you know, if we're going to, uh, advertise, uh, You know, if a big production house can have millions of dollar budget for advertising Godzilla, shouldn't we have some sort of budget to advertise a documentary about an issue that affects all of us and our freedoms and the rights of future generations?

And what's more scary, Godzilla or the US government? Oh, exactly. Exactly right. Well said. And, um, uh, perhaps the whole thing should have been funded by the Australian government if they're really keen on getting Assange released. Uh, this movie should be promoted and funded by the Australian government.

Well, why? Why shouldn't it be? He's one of, he's one of our sons. You know, they're happy to put money in for films for other causes, aren't they, Hoody? You know, it's not, uh, it's not a ridiculous notion at all. Not at all. Not at all. Yeah. We had an experience of this. You know, I compare it to the, the quit smoking campaign, the Australian government's been doing a public awareness campaign 15 years.

And had some success in reducing the number of people that smoke cigarettes. Um, when we, uh, films for change, my educational enterprise, uh, took on this topic of the impact of single use plastic on marine life, uh, in Sydney, primarily we, we showed these films about plastic, the impact of plastic to 10, 000 people for free.

Um, we had coming through the doors over a two year period. We reached out 5 million people with a short trailer on. on social media ads. Uh, and in the end, the government changed the laws. Um, so we had that experience of public awareness, uh, through those events and with, uh, Assange's situation, we've gone into bat for him, um, by putting this film into cinemas, uh, and, and thanks to the donations of supporters and investors, uh, we've been able to give the film a really big run in Australia.

But I do agree with you, the government, you know, if, if Albanese put his money where his mouth is, he would be, uh, educating people on the achievements of WikiLeaks and Assange. Assange is, is, should be a national hero. He should be, uh, um, you know, uh, winning the Nobel prize. He should be the next prime minister of this country.

Uh, he should be recognized as a national treasure for his intelligence, his, his brilliance and his courage. Absolutely. And nobody in the Western world has any moral authority while he remains incarcerated. We don't. And we can't emphasize that enough. He must be freed by now. Surely he must be freed. But the question, the question begs asking, um, if he is free, where does he go and how does he have a life?

I mean, it's just, it beggars belief. You know, what, what's in front of him if he is released? I mean, it's crazy, isn't it? Yeah, well, the main thing is that he'd be alive and he can get his health back. Uh, and what he does from there is, is up to him and he, he would certainly have security issues because when you expose the crimes of the powerful, as he's done, um, of basically every country on the planet, especially the, the, the biggest, uh, empire that's ever existed, the U S government, uh, you know, you make a lot of enemies.

Um, so he's always had to watch his back. And, uh, he would have to be, you know, super careful once he's free that, that, uh, that he, he, he's, uh, has his personal safety in mind. Um, but you know, that's, that's the same for many, many people. And, um, you know, look at Robert F. Kennedy, that his, his father and, uh, his father, his uncle, I, I, I believe it is, were, were both assassinated, but here he is.

You know, running for president, um, speaking his mind and I don't, I don't agree with all of his views, but, but he's certainly a courageous fellow and Assange was always under threat, uh, from the minute they started exposing the crimes of the powerful. Well, I think that's why, you know, Assange really has to be released now.

I mean, It's a good question. What do you, you know, what happens to him? But I think, um, Kim just sort of touched on it there. I think his health, uh, you know, when you think of the prisoners that were in Changi and the like, you know, that they never really recovered today, uh, existed. Uh, and, and I, and I say the same for Julian Assange.

I mean, I, I don't know that mentally you'd ever recover from what they've They put him through and, uh, the malnourishment that he's likely received in these prisons, uh, who knows what's going on, uh, the mental torture at the very minimum, um, you know, it's, it's hard to see that he would, he would be able to, uh, uh, you know, contribute in the same way he did previously.

previously. I mean, I, I think, you know, he just needs to be able to, uh, get back with his family at the very instance, first instance, and, um, and, and, and just enjoy, enjoy that time, um, as a bare minimum. Well, surely the Australian government needs to be lobbying very hard with the UK government in accordance with the fact that we're both Commonwealth countries and, um, and any instrument available to, to the King to, um, to come down and.

And, um, arranged for a science to be released and given freedom that should be pushed at the highest levels. Yeah, well, the latest from the Australian government, um, we, we did see Albanese comment, um, a couple of weeks ago after Joe Biden did that sort of throwaway comment, uh, in Washington where he said, uh, we're considering it in regards to the, uh, the calls.

These sort of weak calls from the Australian government that it should be brought to a conclusion. Um, then we heard Albanese repeat that mantra of his, that enough is enough. Bring it to a conclusion. Um, prior to that, February 14, Andrew Wilkie made the motion in Parliament. Um, You know, calling for, uh, Assange to the matter to be brought to a close.

So notice that they don't go as far as saying that he should be free. They just say, let's, uh, let's move it along boys, you know, let's keep going. So, you know, and then you have the mainstream media come out and do headlines saying Albanese calls for Julian's freedom. And, and he didn't. Uh, Albanese did sign that.

He did, uh, agree to that, uh, motion. It was 86, 86 yeses and 42 no, including Albanese. Um, but he's yet to make that, uh, step where he actually says, free this man. Uh, he's an Australian citizen and he's, he's, Australian citizen. He's done nothing wrong. He should be freed. Yes, and you can bet your bottom dollar, John, if a miracle happens and he arrives at Sydney airport or Canberra Airport from the uk, uh, Albanese will be the first there to press the flesh and, uh, get all the credit for it.

I mean, that's just the way these guys operate, isn't it? Yeah, it is. It's just amazing. It probably needs to be made an election issue in the US as well. Um, you know, I, I, I think there seems to be, um, significant avoidance of the, uh, of, of, of the whole. Situation. Um, and one needs to ask the question why. I, I, I mean, I don't have any confidence that this bloke in charge has any idea what's going on.

I mean, he, he, he, he might as well be in a nursing home. You know, last week he was talking about how his relatives were, uh, were, uh, shot down in World War II in New Guinea, and, and he said he was making out, they were eaten by cannibals. And, and, and yet, you know, a, a, a totally different, uh, um, um, record of events, uh, is apparently.

On, on file. So, I mean, he doesn't, he's clearly, clearly incapacitated. I don't know. I don't know how the bloke can even be running again. I mean, he shouldn't be there now. Um, but certainly, you know, there's, there's a lack of interest for anyone to comment.

Yeah, Biden, definitely barely conscious. Um, it's, it's almost like some sort of form of gaslighting, isn't it? Uh, the stuff that he says each day and that, that he's running again for president. And even that people support the Democrats to the extent that they would actually see him as a fit leader is, is a damning in blood indictment on the on the state of, you know, people's, uh, mental abilities in the U.

S. I think, um, and you know that that's a big part of the opposition to Assange is that people blame him for Clinton, Hillary Clinton, not getting into power for Trump getting in. So, yeah, there's there's a lot of ignorance there. And as you say, it does need to become an election issue in the in America.

And that's why we made this film to raise awareness in these countries, Australia, UK, US that are that are responsible for this persecution of a journalist, um, to to give people an ability to just sit down for a couple of hours and fully wrap their heads around this, this debacle and understand it for the first time.

Absolutely. Well, we just hope and pray that that's what happens and, um, he's in our prayers at home here. I can tell you and all around the world, the guy needs to be free. It's just gone on too long and, and free, not just, you know, have this matter dealt with. He should be free. Enough's enough. Goodness sake.

And, and, uh, it's surprising because if, if we had journalists of that caliber in Australia, Working for the ABC, John, there's a lot of, uh, narratives in this country that would have been exposed and, uh, great many politicians, I would imagine, and bureaucrats would be in jail, or should be, but these things tend to be swept under the carpet, as we all know.

All right, well, we better bring this to a close and get it out for tonight, uh, Kim, it's, it's great that you've been able to share this, um, It's almost grotesque to ask the following question, but because you're going to be so involved in seeing this case brought home, what's on your radar for the future?

Well, uh, I haven't really thought that far, but, um, you know, I think we're going to be putting this film out, um, you know, In, in many forms over the next for at least another year, just before it, uh, gets onto, you know, digital formats and streaming and television. Uh, and then from there, it will be just solely in the hands of our distributor, I guess.

And, uh, but for now it's a lot of hard work to push it out to the cinemas. And so that it's seen in the most powerful format that it can be seen. Um, and I think once the films. Uh, done its job. Uh, then I can go, go back to

my previous passions, which was actually music and-ing songwriting. And, you know, my guitar's really gathering dust at this point.

Um, and, and you know, I'd also like to do some gardening. And our, our, our lawn is, is about a, a. Uh, foot past my knees at the moment. We, we, we had a little trip to London and uh, then over to New Zealand, came back, went again to New Zealand and we didn't even get time to mow the lawn. Uh, I tried to and then the lawnmower conked out, um, because the grass was so long it just ruined it.

So yeah, uh, life's very hectic right now and um, Yeah, but you know, it's not hard to stay motivated when you're trying to save the life of someone that was so courageous and, uh, that did such a self sacrifice to, to help our understanding of the world. Um, so, you know, I, I, I just get up every day, check the news, realize that Julian is still in the prison and keep working.

Well, the thing is for a documentary filmmaker with, with talent and with integrity, there's no shortage of material. Currently available. And I'm sure with what's coming, there'll be plenty of material if you want to keep that going. And I kind of hope you do. Because what you've done has been incredible.

You've really opened my eyes to Julian Assange and I thank you so much for that. I feel so much better knowing more about this and the fact that I'm taking it more seriously and I should have done that a long time ago. I mean we just dismiss things and get on with our everyday life and it's just not how we're meant to operate.

So, uh, thank you so much Kim for coming on and customarily I close with a prayer so if you don't mind guys we'll do that now. Lord Father in heaven. Amen. Locked away in a six by six cell in a prison in the UK is an innocent man who just wants to bathe in the light of truth and he wants us to have the ability to choose to bathe in the light of truth also.

Lord God, if, if Julian Assange was around 2000 years ago when you were walking around Jerusalem, what, I wonder what outcomes may have been had he been able to report to a world about the issues that you were facing and you were dealing with. We need people with integrity like Julian Assange. So we ask you to be with him, whether he believes or not, we don't know father God, but we pray that you'll be in his cell, that you'll be watching over him and that you will bring this to a conclusion that will bring peace and harmony to his family and to the, to a world that is waking up to the plight of this man.

We ask you to watch over him in Jesus name. Amen. Alright, uh, Johnny Lardy, you've often been heard to say you just couldn't make this stuff up. Could you, Alan Howe? Yes, you could, Alan Howe, and you do, you do stay out of the trees, everyone. And thank you to all those people who are coming to churchwithoutwalls.

com. au. A lot of wonderful comments about that. We're just, we're just going on a little journey together and it's great. So don't forget www.churchwithoutwalls.com.au. Thank you. And keep supporting us at Club Grubbery. We need you to subscribe because everything's going to get crazy in social media and you need to be on our website.

And there it is on the screen clubgrubbery.com.au and go to the website for the Trustful Julian Assange, which is thetrustful.org and support it wherever you can and spread the word. And if you haven't seen it for goodness sake, go and see it. Don't wait for it to come out. on, uh, on streaming, which we know it will, but it needs to be supported.

Now you're putting your bum in the seat of a cinema is what brings this to prominence. So God bless you all. Thank you for your wonderful response to the situation with Nick Petrovsky. We will keep you updated. And, uh, from John and Kim and myself, thanks for watching Club Grubbery. And we'll see you in a day or two.

Bye for now.