

Lightning blamed for UFO

THE unidentified flying object that lifted a family car was identified as a "dry thunderstorm" by a leading meteorologist yesterday.

This followed claims on Australian TV by housewife Faye Knowles.

She said she and her three adult sons were stalked by the eggcup-shaped UFO for 90 minutes before it lifted their car with its suction cups, spun them round and dropped them.

Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger, head of meteorology at Flinders University in Adelaide, said the details were consistent with a dry thunderstorm in which charged dust-particles create a pall of lightning.

Many Australian bush-fires were the result of the unusual natural phenomena, he said.

But Mike Manton, chief meteorological researcher in Melbourne, said there was no thunderstorm activity in the area at the time.

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