



A shot uploaded by Crowe.

# Rusty's Sydney UFO claims are seriously out there

**C** "RUSSELL Crowe's claims of a UFO sighting in Sydney's Botanic Gardens have, mercifully, been debunked.

And not surprisingly the mysterious light seen hovering over Woolloomooloo Wharf is the light at the top of a boat mast. Fancy that!

The *Gladiator* star sparked a stir on Wednesday when he published a series of photo-

graphs which appeared to show a flying saucer-type object whizzing across the Sydney skyline.

"UFO? Time lapse photos outside RC's Woolloomooloo office (THESE ARE REAL!)," Crowe tweeted.

The South Sydney Rabbits co-owner's manager later clarified to *Confidential* that the footage, shot by Crowe's pal and cinematogra-

pher Duane Manwiller, is four years old but had only recently come to Crowe's attention.

The footage, posted online, caused headlines worldwide.

"Russell Crowe uploads 'UFO' video possibly believes in aliens," ran the *New York Post's* headline.

The UK's *The Sun* newspaper added: "Russell Crowe captures UFO footage 'of flying saucer' in Sydney."

Others dismissed the pictures as fake or lens flares but experts in video and photography have since weighed in on the video and all have agreed it was a simply the light at the top of a boat mast captured cruising past in time lapse.

Meanwhile, the bizarre video did manage to achieve one thing.

His new film *Broken City*, which opened in the US in

January to poor reviews and a paltry box office, got a bump in the publicity stakes as it opened in Australia yesterday.

Crowe had early opined the movie, co-starring **Mark Wahlberg**, had not received a sufficient release campaign.

But when it comes to generating his own publicity, it seems Crowe certainly has a beautiful mind.

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