

WAS IT A GHOST?

"Stop" shouted 11 year- old David as they drove from Seaton Sluice. His Dad pulled over to the grass verge.

What's the matter "he said as they got out of the car. David pointed to the sky. A solitary gull wheeled and dipped and uttered a shrill squawk now and again.

"It's only a seagull and you've seen them lots of time before. Get back into the car."

"No. I've just seen Nana and she's flying up to heaven" and he pointed to a cluster of white fluffy clouds drifting slowly through the blue sky.

"That's a cloud, not your Nana." his Dad said.

"No it's Nana. I can see her face and curly hair and she's happy"

Two weeks later David walked downstairs in his pyjamas, opened the front door and stood outside.

His Dad said "Come inside son" David stared at him unblinkingly. His Dad waved his hand back and forwards in front of him but David didn't see him.

"My God he's sleepwalking. He's never done that before"

David was waving his hand and looking upwards said "Bye, bye Nana"

For the next few weeks whenever David saw white clouds he would wave and say "Bye, Bye Nana. I know you're only a ghost but soon you'll be an Angel."

"I want you to stop waving at clouds and realise it's not your Nana" his Dad said

"It is my Nana because I can smell her as well"

"What do you mean you can smell her?"

"She always smelt of flowers when she cuddled me. I loved that smell" David said.

His Dad said to his wife "My Mother sprayed herself with lavender every day when she changed from her working clothes after lunch. The smell of lavender lingered in the air practically all over the house. She always wore it. David didn't know that."

David looked at the sky. "Nana has gone now. I haven't seen her for days and |I can't smell her anymore".

His Dad sighed and said "Thank goodness David has stopped waving at white fluffy clouds 1 now the ghost of his Nana has left his sight or mind or whatever it was"

Stella Rutherford.

