



Reader Doug Cliff's picture of black swans on the lagoon.

Swans enjoying 'healthy' lagoon

Andrew Priestley

LARGE numbers of black swans are being sighted at Narrabeen Lagoon, which is a good sign for the waterway's health.

The swans were initially spotted in significant numbers last year and now 26 have been seen on the lagoon.

The prevalence of sea grasses in the lagoon is understood to be attracting the swans to the area.

Know Your Birds author Louise Egerton said the sea grass, which needed adequate light to grow, indicated good clarity in the water.

"It shows the water is very clear," she said.

"Clarity is very import-

ant. It is one of the things you look for in healthy water."

Members of the community and government authorities have been working for decades to improve the lagoon's water quality and amenity.

The lagoon's health has been affected in the past by stormwater run-off carrying rubbish and silt from creeks around the peninsula.

Overflows from the sewerage system flooding have also been a problem in the past, and remains a problem on occasions.

But now Ms Egerton said the swans seemed to be enjoying themselves at the lagoon.

"They are happy there," she said.



Victor Steele is releasing his first EP.

A treat for sore ears

EP WILL SET PULSES RACING

Rod Bennett

HE'S still singing up a storm but it's no longer with the aim of calming hyperventilating children.

Rather, Dr V is about to release a debut EP.

In 2011 we reported on Victor Uwagboe, the singing doctor at Manly Hospital.

And while he is no longer working at Manly, where singing to patients seemed like a natural thing to do, he is still pursuing musical interests.

The Manly resident has recorded a five-track EP, *Factor This*, under the name of Victor Steele, which is being launched tonight at Manly's Shore Club.

Between his role as a doctor at Royal North Shore Hospital and playing gigs in local nightspots, Steele has been taking guitar lessons.

Steele said every song he writes comes from a per-

STEELE EP LAUNCH

WHERE: The Shore Club, South Steyne

WHEN: Tonight, 9pm

DETAILS: [9977 6322](tel:99776322)

sonal diary. "For me, a song is a story told to music," he said.

"You have to be telling a story, otherwise you're just making noise.

"And there's a lot of noise out there."

Steele said encouragement from his singing teacher had spurred him on.

"Most people can see that there's a lot of emotion behind each song," he said.

"Every word in every song is something that actually happened - said, thought or felt.

"If I had to pick favourite (of his originals) it would have to be *I Just...*

"It's about a girl from Balgowlah."