

while but today Jerry "absolutely adores" the stuff.

"Later on I began selling life insurance, I excelled at that," says Jerry" and John Noonan the guy who hired and trained me, is one of my best friends in the world today. "Honesty, Honesty, Honesty ...just be honest," were the words of advice from John he will always remember. One winter Jerry soon found himself in Ballarat, about seventy miles outside of Melbourne doing construction work "The coldest whore of a place I have ever been on the face of this earth," says Jerry, "Brutal, absolutely Brutal ... you'd come to work in the morning and try to pick up the wood or the steel and it would be stuck solid to the ground." continued Jerry, "Frozen!" Here Jerry continued with his music and joined a band, 'Brian Boodle and the Baroque Band'. Jerry played bass and provided backing vocals. They went on to record 'High Class Girl' for EMI Australia. The flip side was 'All Out Of Love' a song previously recorded by and a worldwide hit for 'Air Supply'. He married in Australia and became a father to a beautiful baby daughter Angela. Then along came Sean, Jerry's only son. Today at 22, six foot four, he's a great Aussie rules football player. "The only Aussie I have ever met," say's Jerry "that doesnt drink beer, he hates the stuff. "

After fifteen years there, Jerry divorced amicably and himself and daughter Angela left Australia and arrived in Los Angeles where his first item of business was to purchase a \$30 saw, a hammer and some bits and pieces which left him "virtually penniless," says Jerry. He immediately began canvassing the local neighborhoods handing out flyers and sticking them in mailboxes promoting himself as a local 'Handyman for Hire'. After a couple of odd jobs he then bought an old station wagon and that's how they got started ..."depending on nobody," says Jerry. Sequoia Pacific Inc was born and Jerry began working long and hard to make ends meet. Then the music quickly followed. A friend of his was doing a regular gig on Sundays at 'The Central' now called the 'Viper Room' on Sunset Blvd. Jerry's friend then moved on to other things and Jerry ran the show for another two years and formed a partnership with recently deceased Garrison White, playing six nights a week. "I was playing at night and doing part-time carpentry work during the day," says Jerry.

In 1992 Jerry got 'Blues'd out' and moved to Sonoma with

his brother and his wife. "We were going to start a contracting business. Unfortunately, our timing couldn't be worse. The recession had hit California and we were in bad shape. It was worse for my brother and his wife than for me because I could pack my guitar and PA system and go down to San Francisco every night and play." Jerry started a band called 'Blackthorne Aire' and got bookings throughout San Francisco, Sonoma, Napa and other Counties. "We were well paid wherever we went and that's what saved me," said Jerry, "it paid the bills." While up north, Jerry, who was the front man and only vocalist of the group, began going solo, writing and singing his own stuff.

He eventually moved back to Los Angeles in the early 90's and played solo in every Irish bar around. During this time he was writing his own "little bits and pieces" of music and saving his cash to ultimately record his own music album. Jerry searched for a studio and finally settled on Studio X owned by Tom Manche. Jerry, Tom and Tom's wife Susan, a vocal coach became very good friends and found some top of the line musicians to come aboard for the album. Jerry felt he had a "quality product" and it deserved the investment, which meant only the best musicians. The project lasted almost a year as Jerry first recorded a basic rough cut in his home studio. Then he brought it to the Tom Manche who professionally recorded a couple of songs at a time. Then replaying, remixed, tweaked and re-recorded until the Tom and Jerry team felt this was his 'truth'. "They were professional studio musicians," says Jerry, "and I expected them to go to town on it, and they did. I am very happy with the caliber of their work, and the end result. I have also done several live shows with all of these guys."

Today, Jerry still has his own contracting business Sequoia Pacific Inc and is very busy with work around L.A. and up the coast. Most of his work however is performed on commercial buildings. Since his divorce long ago in Australia, Jerry was cruising through life's highway in the Batchelor Lane until he was 'sideswiped by a women driver'. He was recently married to Trish and they are blessed with a beautiful baby girl named Annie Maggy.

His CD is the self titled 'Jerry McLean' and contains 14 tracks of original material. It is available at the Irish Import Shop at 738 N. Vine Street in Hollywood.

The CD is also available through Jerry's website www.jerrymclean.com



Our picture Top: shows Jerry with his 'trouble and strife' Patricia and Bottom: Jerry with daughter Annie Maggy

