



# DACH HALL ON "LANDFALL II"

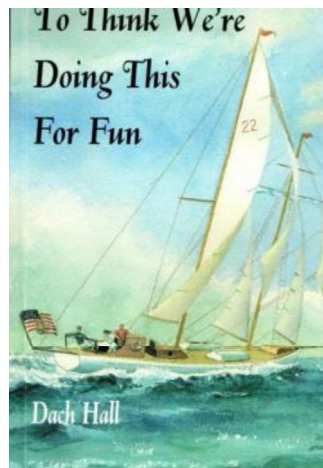
"Landfall II" is a 48' Staysail Schooner, designed by Edson Schock, and built by Boeing Aircraft Co in Vancouver for John "Victor" Farrow and Maureen O'Sullivan in 1934.

Victor Farrow was a movie director and Maureen O'Sullivan was the original Jane in the 1930's Tarzan movies, they are actress Mia Farrow's parents.

She was originally called "Mavourneen" which comes from old Irish "Mhuirnin" which means "My Darling". By 1936 she was sold to S. Austin Jones of Los Angeles and renamed "Landfall II", she was then bought by a retired US Naval Surgeon, William F. Holcomb in 1941 who kept her until his death in 1976.

In 1954 a young 18 year old Australian lad, Darrell "Dach" Hall, having just finished school at Sydney Grammar, was invited to join as crew and joined her in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and continued to be their on board for 2 years and 7 months and sailing 27,000 miles, Dach sailed all the 'Puddles' except the Pacific.

Skipper 'Ted' Holcomb and his wife had sailed Landfall II extensively around the world from 1953 to 1957 (some 60,000 miles) and was awarded the prestigious Trophy, the "Blue Water Medal", by the American Yacht Club of Rye (New York) in May 1957.



Dach's adventures on board were, as you would expect, incredible (sailing through weather foul and fair) and some 40 years later Dach wrote a book titled "To Think We're Doing This for Fun" based on the letters he had sent home and which he had found when sorting out his Mother's Estate.

Dach recalls one very freezing night sailing through rough seas and being frozen, drenched and wet all over and Skipper saying to him "And just imagine boy, they think we are doing this for fun" which became the inspiration for the title of his book about his exploits.

Dach Hall and his wife Margot have been living in retirement at The Mark Moran Village in Vaucluse 2016. Dach has been a member of the Sydney Model Shipbuilders Club for many years and has been a keen modeller just about all his life. He has made a number

of models of ships that are now exhibited at Royal Australian Navy establishments and at The Mark Moran Village.

It took Dach 2 years to complete his model of "Landfall II" at the scale of 1:24 based on original plans and blueprint supplied by the Mystic Seaport Museum, whose staff were absolutely fantastic and assisted with details, plans and drawings in bringing the model alive.

The model is displayed in a diorama depicting it as "Landfall II" is sailing in the trough of a swell in 20 knot winds, while the swordfish incident described in the book is readying to make its move in piercing the hull in the Indian Ocean.

The model was first exhibited at the Annual EXPO of SMSC in 2018 and is now on display at The Mark Moran Village.

Dach is an Honourary Member of the Waverley Shed as he continues, with Tom Wolf, to run the annexe at The Mark Moran Village.

