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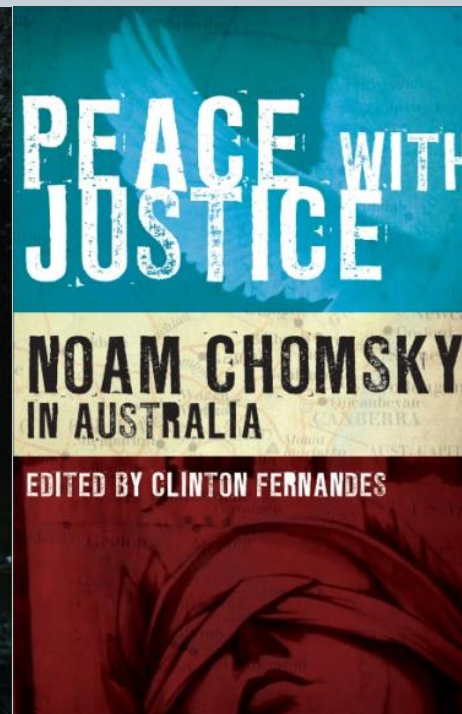
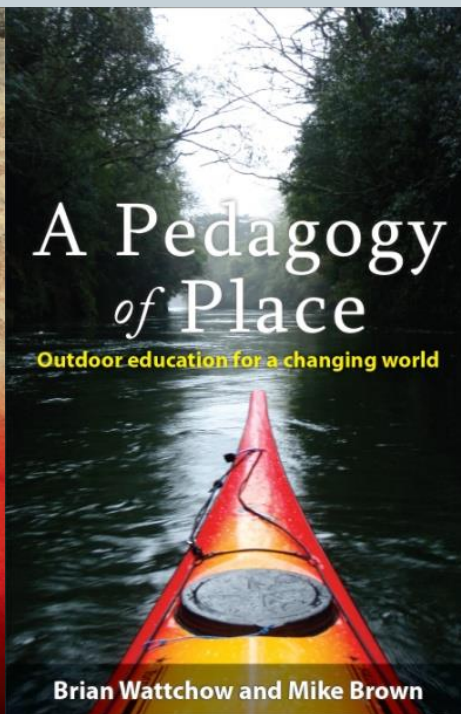
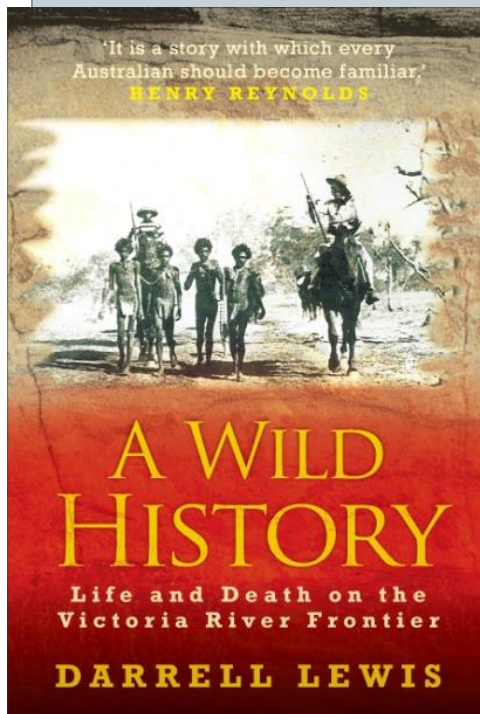
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- Our team ...



Profile photo for *Books + Publishing*, May 2016



- Art History (Dr Luke Morgan, Monash)
- Australian History (Assoc Prof Sean Scalmer, Uni of Melb)
- Contemporary Australian Authors (Dr Melinda Harvey, Monash)
- Herb Feith Translation Series (Dr Jemma Purdey, Monash)
- Investigating Power (Prof Clinton Fernandes, ADFA)
- Monash Asia Series (Prof Marika Vicziany, Monash)
- Social Informatics (Prof Susan McKemmish, Monash)
- Vernacular Indonesia (Dr Julian Millie, Monash)



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Australia should play 'honest broker' role



At a time of economic and political disruption, Australia should become a "model of global power" in the Asia-Pacific, using its geopolitical identity to become "an agent of peaceful change", suggests former diplomat Bruce Grant.

In a new memoir, the former high commissioner to India and a journalist and academic says "time and place" gift Australia the chance to launch a new "mission of 21st-century statecraft" to reduce tensions and promote stability and prosperity in the region.

"Not just to plug ourselves into the current Asian ascendancy for obvious material benefits, although we should do that, but to take the next step and use the opportunity of our region to establish a new model of global power," he writes. "Our geopolitical identity, long considered to be our nemesis, has become an asset."

"We are sited in a region that is increasingly powerful but not

culturally defined. This also suits Australia. Once the odd man out, now the odd man in, we are uniquely placed to be an agent of peaceful change."

Mr Grant, 91, suggests Australia can play an "honest broker" role in global affairs as it is no longer a "fox terrier" for the British or "cheerleader" for the US, but he urges Australia to deepen global engagement while maintaining the ANZUS alliance.

Subtle Moments: Scenes on a Life's Journey (Monash University Publishing) chronicles Mr Grant's career as a journalist, academic, diplomat and adviser to foreign minister Gareth Evans.

34 spectrum BOOK Reviews



An epidemic still tries its patients

REVIEW BY KRISTINA OLSON

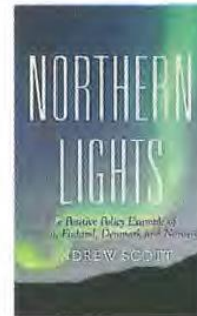
Patient care, says the poet Thomas Hardy, "is the noblest of all professions". But in the modern world, it is often a profession that is under attack. In *Confronting the Spectre of Polio*, Kristina Olson, a poet and a nurse, explores the challenges of patient care in the 21st century.

Olson is a poet and a nurse, and in *Confronting the Spectre of Polio*, she explores the challenges of patient care in the 21st century. The book is a collection of poems that explore the challenges of patient care in the 21st century.



Why the Nordic gods have plenty of wisdom to impart

REVIEW BY JANE GLEESON-WHITE



POLITICS Northern Lights: The Positive Policy Example of Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway

ANDREW SCOTT
MONASH
UNIVERSITY PRESS,
\$39.95

Kevin Rudd's proposed Resource Super Profits Tax was scuppered by a coalition of mining interests in 2010. Four years later the education reforms proposed by the Gonski Report were neutered by the new federal government. Tony Abbott's paid parental leave scheme – which contravened his party's free-market stance – was condemned by the Labor opposition in a counter-intuitive move that seemed to undermine the very fabric of labour politics. The planned closure of all local car manufacturing is due to make some 200,000 Australian workers unemployed by 2017, but as yet there is no comprehensive scheme to retrain them.

This fraught Australian history tainted by party politicking and rising inequality is coolly appraised by Andrew Scott in *Northern Lights*. Scott, an associate professor in politics and policy at Melbourne's Deakin University, argues that the social democracies of four Nordic nations – Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway – provide working models in which these same problems (of managing natural resources, education, childcare and worker retraining) have been addressed by the state and to a large extent solved.

It is to these lands, Scott contends, that we must look for ways to a more just Australia, and not to the heartlands of neoliberalism – Britain and the US – where our sights are more habitually set.

Scott devotes a chapter to the key lesson each of these Nordic nations can teach us: Sweden for childcare, Finland for education, Denmark for worker retraining and Norway for taxing and regulating the wealth of natural resources.

Sweden, for example, introduced paid parental leave as a workplace right in 1974 and has a strong culture of children's rights (in 1979 it became illegal in Sweden to hit a child). In Finland teachers are highly prized and 75 per



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Patrick H. Alexander, Pennsylvania State University Press and Libraries



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‘Monash University Publishing has made a substantial contribution to the Australian publishing landscape and garnered widespread respect and admiration in its relatively short existence.’

Andrea Hanke, Editor in Chief, *Books+Publishing*, 2016