The New Zealand Asia Institute – following its predecessor, the Centre of Asian Studies at The University of Auckland – has built up a list of publications that both reflect and reflect upon New Zealand’s engagement with Asia.

**British and Portuguese Timor 1941-1976.**  
By Nicholas Tarling [2013] 319 pp

In Timor’s chequered history, many other states have been involved. The prime purpose of this book is to examine the role of the British. Timor was not a part of their empire nor important to their commerce. But it had a long relationship with Portugal, with which, indeed, Timor had its longest relationship. Britain’s interest was thus largely indirect. It had two peaks, marked by the Second World War and the decolonisation of Southeast Asia. Those are recognised in the book, one the concern of the first four chapters, the other the focus of the last four. But there are links between them, in memory and in history.

Published by Monash University Publishing: http://publishing.monash.edu/books/bpt-9781921867347.html

**Stand & Deliver.**  

This book contains a selection of addresses by Nicholas Tarling, Professor of History, broadcaster, and sometime actor, now Fellow at the New Zealand Asia Institute at The University of Auckland. Many were given while Nicholas was the University’s Public Orator, and honoured such figures as Dean Martin Sullivan, Kendrick Smithman, Sir Lewis Ross, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Maurice Paykel, Dame Dorothy Winstone, Prime Minister Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, H.E. Mme Sadao Ogata, Paakariki Harrison, Sir Donald McIntyre, Sir Miles Warren and Sir Colin Maiden.

Published by Dunmore Publishing

**Status and Security in Southeast Asian State Systems.**  
By Nicholas Tarling [2013] 182 pp

Southeast Asia serves as an excellent case study to discuss major transformations in the relationship between states. This book looks at the changing nature of relationships between countries in Southeast Asia, as well as their relationships with other states in Asia and beyond. Offering a long-term perspective on these issues, this interdisciplinary study is of interest to scholars and students of Southeast Asian history and politics, world history and international relations.

Published by Routledge: http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415532112/

**Hard Interests, Soft Illusions.**  

Natasha Hamilton-Hart explores the belief held by foreign policy elites in much of Southeast Asia—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, and Vietnam—that the United States is a relatively benign power. She argues that this belief is an important factor underpinning U.S. pre-eminence in the region, because beliefs inform specific foreign policy decisions and form the basis for broad orientations of alignment, opposition, or nonalignment. Such foundational beliefs, however, do not simply reflect objective facts and reasoning processes. Hamilton-Hart argues that they are driven by both interests—in this case the political and economic interests of ruling groups in Southeast Asia—and illusions.
Studying Singapore’s Past.

This publication had its origins in a conference organised to discuss C.M. (Mary) Turnbull’s work. The volume includes ten contributions, some from long-established scholars of Singapore’s history, others from a new generation of researchers.

The Works of Nicholas Tarling on Southeast Asia.

This is a variorum edition of the articles on Southeast Asia and its history that Nicholas Tarling has published, some 72 in all, included in seven volumes. They are introduced and edited by Ooi Keat Gin, Professor of History at Universiti Sains Malaysia, who sees them as part of the corpus of works of the ‘pioneering scholars’ in the field that have possessed a ‘long shelf-life’.
Published by and available from Routledge: http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415670753/


The Hickling Memorandum published here for the first time in an annotated edition, is a compendium of political culture, institutions of governance, monarchical power and a brief history of Brunei Darussalam.
Published by and available from Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Bandar Seri Begawan.

Eighty Years on: further memoirs.

This is Nicholas Tarling’s second volume of memoirs, beginning with the 1980s and early 1990s. Tarling was involved in the struggle with the government and its agencies over university ‘reforms’, with the attempt to keep the Mercury Theatre afloat, and with the founding of what became New Zealand Opera. Tarling was among the top brass at the University of Auckland and continued to teach, research and write.
Published by and available from Dunmore Publishing: http://www.dunmore.co.nz/product/427711-EightyYearsonfurthermem
oirs/9781877399558

By Nicholas Tarling, Confucius Institute [2011] 271 pp

This book offers a portrait of New Zealand that is informed by the author’s own involvement in its history. The book is published by Confucius Institute in Auckland and can be purchased directly: info@ci.ac.nz.
This study focuses on the Geneva conference on Laos of 1961-1962, which Britain played a role in bringing about and bringing to a conclusion. It throws light on Britain’s policy in Southeast Asia in what in some sense may be seen as the last of the decades in which its influence was crucial. It is the first book to make full use of the British archives on the conference. The book also bears on the history of Laos, of Vietnam, and of Southeast Asia more generally. It will interest those working in the various fields on which it touches, such as Modern Southeast Asian history, the history of Laos, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and international relations.


The study of Asia was introduced into the curriculum of The University of Auckland nearly fifty years ago. Why was it done? How was it done? This book describes the objectives and achievements and endeavours to place them in a larger context. The importance of the issues raised indeed extends well beyond the university world. During this period New Zealand’s relationship with Asia has been transformed, but the interest in studying it has not expanded to the same extent. What is now the way forward? This book has been written in the belief that knowing more about the past may help in influencing the future.

Price: NZ$30.00 International Price: NZ$35.00


The success of regionalism in Southeast Asia depends on the attitudes of the states within the region but also on the attitude of those outside it. This book is an erudite and stimulating study on the latter. Placing these states in a long term historical context, Tarling brings out the way in which the rivalries of those powers within and outside the region have affected the states within the region. He also shows how divisions within the region, and within states in the region, offered invitations and opportunities for intervention from outside, and so perhaps gave Southeast Asia an importance in international relations it would not otherwise have had. Regional leaders appear in recent decades to have recognized what may be construed as one of the lessons of history; if Southeast Asia can provide security for the Straits route, and stable conditions for trade and investment, it might enjoy both peace and a measure of prosperity. Southeast Asia and the Great Powers is an important read for students and scholars of the history and international relations of Southeast Asia.


This edited volume presents the research findings of the New Zealand Asia Institute’s research project - English in Asia. One of the challenges facing languages schools is how to help Asian students, within a limited time, attain the required test scores and meanwhile prepare them for ensuing degree studies. Likewise, a challenge facing universities is to continue the ‘relay’ to help these students, who often still have insufficient language and/or ‘cultural capital’, assume confidence through the academic disciplines and to meet the expectations of their respective academic programmes. This publication draws together issues and activities related to the English language in the context of Asian students’ attempting degree studies.


This book compares high-tech entrepreneurs in the UK and Japan, both countries often associated with liberal and coordinated market capitalism respectively. It finds some basic similarities in the way entrepreneurs exit employment, tentatively start their businesses and become innovative over time, rather than starting with a “home run” idea. It also finds some compelling differences. Casting “project entrepreneurship” and “lifework entrepreneurship” as two polar extremes, British entrepreneurs tend to be closer to the project pole, and Japanese entrepreneurs closer to the lifework pole. Many of the differences can be explained by the nature of markets in the two countries. The findings pose a basic dilemma: should policymakers adapt their policies to the nature of domestic entrepreneurship, or should they try to foster the “home run”, strategy-driven rapid growth ventures of Silicon Valley?
Japanese corporate governance and managerial practice is at a critical juncture. At the start of the decade pressures mounted for Japan to move to a shareholder-value driven, ‘Anglo-American’ system of corporate governance. Subsequent changes, however, may be seen as an adjustment and renewal of the post-war model of the Japanese firm. In adapting to global corporate governance standards, Japanese managers have also been reshaping them according to their own agenda of reform and restructuring decision-making. This publication is based on detailed and intensive field work in large Japanese companies and interviews with investors, civil servants, and policy makers in the period following the adoption of significant corporate law reforms in the early 2000s, up to the months just before the global financial crisis of 2008.

History Boy – Nicholas Tarling. A Memoir.

Nicholas Tarling is an historian of Southeast Asia who has pursued a variety of other interests as well. Known to many New Zealanders after nearly thirty years as a professor at The University of Auckland, he has also been a broadcaster, an actor, a critic, and an opera buff. Drawing on letters and diaries, the author recalls, with at least something of an historian’s objectivity, some of the people, places and problems he encountered – sometimes with pain, sometimes with pleasure. As a child in the 1930s he was described as ‘a fair-haired cherub who could do no wrong’. A colleague in the 1970s remarked on his ‘wisdom, low cunning and dry wit’. Published by Dunmore Publishing

The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia (Vol. 1).

In these four volumes, now published in paperback, twenty-one scholars of international reputation consider the whole of mainland and island Southeast Asia from Burma to Indonesia.

The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia (Vol. 2).

In these four volumes, now published in paperback, twenty-one scholars of international reputation consider the whole of mainland and island Southeast Asia from Burma to Indonesia.

The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia (Vol. 3).
By Nicholas Tarling. Translated into Thai [2009] 501 pp

In these four volumes, now published in paperback, twenty-one scholars of international reputation consider the whole of mainland and island Southeast Asia from Burma to Indonesia.
This book considers British policy during the dispute over “West Papua” between Indonesia and the Netherlands following the collapse of the Suharto regime. Although there are books and theses on American, Australian and Dutch policies, those of the British have remained unexplored. The work looks at the factors that conditioned Britain’s response to the unrest from accommodating its allies to navigating Cold War.

Published by Edwin Mellen Press

In these four volumes, now published in paperback, twenty-one scholars of international reputation consider the whole of mainland and island Southeast Asia from Burma to Indonesia.

The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia (Vol. 4).

In these four volumes, now published in paperback, twenty-one scholars of international reputation consider the whole of mainland and island Southeast Asia from Burma to Indonesia.

Britain and the West New Guinea Dispute, 1949-1962

This book considers British policy during the dispute over “West Papua” between Indonesia and the Netherlands following the collapse of the Suharto regime. Although there are books and theses on American, Australian and Dutch policies, those of the British have remained unexplored. The work looks at the factors that conditioned Britain’s response to the unrest from accommodating its allies to navigating Cold War.

Published by Edwin Mellen Press

The State, Development and Identity in Multi-Ethnic Societies. Ethnicity, Equity and the Nation.

This book challenges the widely held belief that an authoritarian political system is necessary to ensure communal co-existence in developing countries where ethnic minorities have a considerable economic presence. It tests the assumptions behind these arguments, discussing ethnic communities, identity, economy, society and state, and the links between them, in a range of countries in East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific and diaspora communities of Asian peoples in the East. The country studies provide evidence on two key issues that raise concerns about the call to governments in multi-racial developing countries to avert communal conflict by limiting civil liberties until economic equity is achieved among all ethnic groups; first, that ethnic communities are by no means a homogenous group who share a collective identity; and second, that intra-ethnic patterns of enterprise development are dissimilar and corporate decisions by business people are not determined by factors such as the need to expand communal equity ownership.

Historians Discipline: The Call of Southeast Asian History.

Intended both for students and scholars, this book of personal essays is the first by a group of historians as researchers, writers and teachers specializing in Southeast Asia. The group has not, to our knowledge, as a collective unit at least found any biographers before. They consist of a number of ‘veterans’ who have been invited by Professor Nicholas Tarling to comment on the way they got into southeast Asian history, its development over the past decades and its future. As result, the essays mainly semi-autobiographical in nature, are not only illuminating, but also reveal many ‘trade secrets’ why they chose their particular area of specialization, and how they went on to pursue their research interests, academic careers and writings on their chosen subjects.


In Crisis of Identity? Wilf Malcolm and Nicholas Tarling explore the nature and the importance of the university identity and describe how it evolved. They give a detailed account of its history in New Zealand and show how it has been challenged by recent developments. They believe that robust development must be based on a clear understanding of the university’s role and therefore conclude by putting forward a set of core values and principles that they believe are essential to the idea of a university and the expression of that idea in governance and management.

This is a measured and erudite reflection on the profound changes to the New Zealand university system since its inception. It seeks to stimulate ongoing debate and review in New Zealand. It will also be of great interest to those concerned with universities in other countries.

How did Japan fall from challenger, to US hegemonic leadership in the high tech industries in the 1980s, to stumbling giant by the turn of the century? What is it doing about it? This box examines the challenges faced by Japan’s high tech companies through successful emulation of some of their key practices by foreign competitors, and the emergence of new competitive models linked to open innovation and modular production.


This publication provides the reader with a historical analysis of Southeast Asia from the distinct perspective of regionalism. Southeast Asian history is usually written from a national point of view, which underplays the links between neighbouring states and nations and the effects of these bonds on the development of regionalism. This innovative book first defines the meaning of ‘region’ and ‘regionalism’ and then applies it to periods of history in Southeast Asia to show how patterns of regionalism have shifted through time to the present day.


This small book consists of nine policy related papers that reflect on and present the American, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Russian as well as New Zealand and Australian perspectives on the prospect of and challenges to multilateralism and denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in the wake of North Korea’s missile launches in July 2006. The recent nuclear test carried out by Kim Jong-il’s regime has significantly increased the stakes of regional security and nuclear non-proliferation in Northeast Asia. Collectively, this timely publication addresses this important strategic issue confronting the regional policy communities.

Price: $10.00 International Price: $20.00


After sweeping all before it in the 1980s, ‘Japanese management’ ran into trouble in the 1990s, especially in high-tech industries, prompting many to declare it had outlived its usefulness. From the late 1990s leading companies embarked on wide-ranging reforms designed to restore their entrepreneurial vigour. From the perspective of the community firm, Inagami and Whittaker examine changes to employment practices, corporate governance and management priorities, drawing on a rich combination of survey data and an in-depth study of Hitachi, Japan’s leading general electric company and enterprise group. They find change and continuity, the emergence of a ‘reformed model’, but not the demise of the community firm.


In recent years much has been said about governance and corruption in Asia, both before and after the 1997 crisis. This edited volume analyses the causes of corruption in East and Southeast Asia and considers the means of limiting and, wherever possible, eliminating the problem through better governance.

Taking a country-by-country approach, the book explores the diversity in the quality of governance and patterns of corruption among countries and regions. Insightful analysis of these differences and similarities is used to argue that political will, appropriate structures and legislation, and political transparency are required if corruption is to be stopped. All these are needed along with a strategy relevant to the circumstances of the particular country concerned.
**The Origins of China’s Awareness of New Zealand 1674-1911.**

This book is about the origins and process of China’s growing awareness of New Zealand through the centuries, up to the fall of the Qing Dynasty in 1911. The author describes the experiences of early Chinese settlers in New Zealand as the sources of information fed back to their homeland in China. He also traces the long-drawn-out negotiations between the Qing Government and the British Government over Chinese consular representation in Australia and New Zealand, leading eventually to the establishment of the Chinese consulates in the two countries. He also argues that New Zealand missionaries and social workers had won the friendship and respect of the Chinese people at the local or national level, contributing eventually to China’s perception of New Zealand as a friendly nation.


There are many definitions of ‘Imperialism’ ranging over many centuries. Nicholas Tarling in the Introduction to his recent book, Imperialism in Asia, considers a number of them. He suggests that the most common version, based on the writings of Hobson and Lenin may be too restricted when one looks carefully at Asia. In a number of essays, Tarling then looks at India, China, Russia, Japan, and Southeast Asia. He concludes that Imperialism, as a scholarly construct, was and is useful only for a brief period of time. Today the ‘vogue’ word in international policies is indeed no longer ‘imperialism’ but ‘globalisation’ and Tarling suggests that there are lessons to be learnt, especially in understanding and tolerance towards others, from the lessons learnt from Imperialism. The essay is about ‘Imperialism’ and the colonisation of Asia by Western powers.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00


The movement of international students, so marked a feature of the life of universities and other educational institutions in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, has been too little studied. Much of what has been written tends, moreover, to focus on marketing places and on what are seen as learning difficulties. The present book, based on official records, newspaper reports, interviews and personal recollections, is intended as a first step towards encouraging a larger, better-informed and comparative debate.

Price: $35.00 International Price: $40.00

**China and New Zealand: A Thriving Relationship Thirty Years On**

Politicians and academics contributed to a series of lectures given in 2002 to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and the People’s Republic of China. They reflected on the past three decades and on earlier linkages. They also looked to the future of the bilateral relationship.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00


Representatives from North and South Korea came together for the first time on New Zealand soil at a conference organised by the New Zealand Asia Institute in October 2000. This volume collects the papers given at one of the first meetings between the two sides after the Pyongyang Summit of June 2000.

Price: $20.00 International Price: $30.00
In this essay, Nicholas Tarling, Professor of History at The University of Auckland 1968-96, reflects on the nature of history-writing and on the nature of the historiography of Southeast Asia. It will be of interest to students of Southeast Asia and to those who think, read and write about history.

Price: $20.00 International Price: $30.00

New Zealand and Asia Perceptions, Identity and Engagement

Published in association with the Asia 2000 Foundation, this volume collects together the work of a number of younger scholars at The University of Auckland, exploring various aspects of New Zealand’s engagement with Asia since the Second World War, in significant and sometimes provocative ways.

Price: $20.00 International Price: $30.00


This book brings together eighteen papers given at a conference held in 1998 on the economic and political crisis in Indonesia. It examines Indonesia’s historical development from pre-colonial and colonial times, its cultural characteristics, regional economic and security issues, military rule and democratisation, and East Timor’s journey from two colonialisms to independence.

Price: $20.00 International Price: $30.00


The volume brings together papers delivered by a range of key researchers and policy-makers at a policy consultation that was designed to situate the domestic debate on Asian immigration in relation to two main discourses – that relating to the Treaty of Waitangi and Maori sovereignty and that relating to Asian perspectives on human rights – and to identify long-term issues and practical means of developing policy.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00

The Journal of Henry Burney in the Capital of Burma 1830-1832.

Grandson of the great musician Charles Burney and nephew of the novelist Fanny Burney, Henry Burney was himself, as the East India Company recognized, a man of ‘zeal, temper, address and ability’. Those qualities were to serve him well in his difficult role as the first British Resident at the court of the Burmese king. His biography was written by the late D.G.E. Hall. The present volume reproduces the greater part of the diary he kept in his first years in Ava.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00
**New Zealanders in Republican China 1912-1949.**

This work, in origin a thesis for the Department of History at The University of Auckland, examines the 'transformative intent' and practice of New Zealanders who engaged in missionary and aid work in China, in particular in the China Inland Mission, the Canton Villages Mission, the New Zealand church Missionary Society and CORSO. Of importance to those studying missions in general, and the New Zealand-China relationship in particular.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00

**Singapore and the Singaporeans since 1819.**

This volume aims to recapture part of Singapore’s past by quoting the writings of inhabitants and visitors over more than a century and a half. They comment not, like Van Leur’s sources, ‘from the deck of the ship, the ramparts of the fortress, the high gallery of the trading house’, but from the verandah of the hotel, the seat in the rickshaw, the floor of the ballroom. The collection testifies both to enduring features of Singapore and to the vast changes it has undergone.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00

**The Whole Thing was Orchestrated: New Zealand’s Response to the Indo-Chinese Refugees Exodus 1975 to 1985.**

The book examines the most complex refugee experience ever faced by New Zealand. It considers how the government and the community coped with this problem and eventually created a more formal refugee-immigration policy. A pioneering work, based on documents, statistics and interviews, of interest both from a New Zealand and a comparative point of view.

Price: $25.00 International Price: $30.00

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