

Contents

	<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>vii</i>
	<i>Notes on Contributors</i>	<i>viii</i>
	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>xi</i>
	<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	<i>xiii</i>
1	Introduction: Rethinking Women and Politics in Early Modern England <i>James Daybell</i>	1
2	Sisterhood, Friendship and the Power of English Aristocratic Women, 1450-1550 <i>Barbara J. Harris</i>	21
3	A Rhetoric of Requests: Genre and Linguistic Scripts in Elizabethan Women's Suitors' Letters <i>Lynne Magnusson</i>	51
4	Politics in the Elizabethan Privy Chamber: Lady Mary Sidney and Kat Ashley <i>Natalie Mears</i>	67
5	Portingale Women and Politics in Late Elizabethan London <i>Alan Stewart</i>	83
6	Negotiating Favour: the Letters of Lady Raleigh <i>Karen Robertson</i>	99
7	'Suche newes as on the Quenes hye wayes we have mett': the News and Intelligence Networks of Elizabeth Talbot, countess of Shrewsbury (c. 1527-1608) <i>James Daybell</i>	114
8	Esther Inglis and the English Succession Crisis of 1599 <i>Tricia Bracher</i>	132

Women and Politics in Early Modern England, 1450-1700

The Cavendish-Talbot Women: Playing a High-Stakes Game <i>Sara Jayne Steen</i>	147
Aristocratic Women, Power, Patronage and Family Networks at the Jacobean Court, 1603-1625 <i>Helen Payne</i>	164
Anne of Denmark and the Historical Contextualisation of Shakespeare and Fletcher's <i>Henry VIII</i> <i>Susan Frye</i>	181
Mothers, Lovers and Others: Royalist Women <i>Jerome de Groot</i>	194
Beyond Microhistory: the Use of Women's Manuscripts in a Widening Political Arena <i>Elizabeth Clarke</i>	211
Loyal and Dutiful Subjects: English Nuns and Stuart Politics <i>Claire Walker</i>	228
Assuming Gentility: Thomas Middleton, Mary Carletoe and Aphra Behn <i>Valerie Wayne</i>	243
<i>Index</i>	257