## Contents

	List of Figures	vii
	Notes on Contributors	viii
	Acknowledgements	xi
	List of Abbreviations	xiii
	Introduction: Rethinking Women and Politics in Early Modern England  James Daybell	1
2	Sisterhood, Friendship and the Power of English Aristocratic Women, 1450-1550  Barbara J. Harris	21
3	A Rhetoric of Requests: Genre and Linguistic Scripts in Elizabethan Women's Suitors' Letters Lynne Magnusson	51
1	Politics in the Elizabethan Privy Chamber: Lady Mary Sidney and Kat Ashley Natalie Mears	67
5	Portingale Women and Politics in Late Elizabethan London Alan Stewart	83
5	Negotiating Favour: the Letters of Lady Ralegh Karen Robertson	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)  James Daybell	114
3	Esther Inglis and the English Succession Crisis of 1599	132

vi	Women and Politics in Early Modern England, 1450-1700	
9	The Cavendish-Talbot Women: Playing a High-Stakes Game Sara Jayne Steen	147
10	Aristocratic Women, Power, Patronage and Family Networks at the Jacobean Court, 1603-1625  Helen Payne	164
11	Anne of Denmark and the Historical Contextualisation of Shakespeare and Fletcher's <i>Henry VIII</i> Susan Frye	181
12	Mothers, Lovers and Others: Royalist Women Jerome de Groot	194
13	Beyond Microhistory: the Use of Women's Manuscripts in a Widening Political Arena Elizabeth Clarke	211
14	Loyal and Dutiful Subjects: English Nuns and Stuart Politics Claire Walker	228
15	Assuming Gentility: Thomas Middleton, Mary Carleton and Aphra Behn Valerie Wayne	243

257

Index