Editorial

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Welcome to the third issue of the fourth volume of *British Politics*. In contrast to some of our recent issues, our contributions here traverse a variety of themes and subjects. Our first two contributions, however, are both notable for the novelty of their theoretical perspectives. In the first of these papers, Daniel Bulley offers an original and reflective analysis of foreign policy under New Labour. By adopting and promoting the method of Derridean deconstruction, Bulley explores the various ways in which core issues of foreign policy have been discursively framed, and attempts to highlight the potential utility which a post-structuralist approach can bring to the analysis of British politics more generally. Continuing in this vein, our second main article, from Cairtriona Carter and Andy Smith, offers an original take on the subject of Scottish devolution. Here, the authors explore the issue of sectoral regulation by focusing on the ways in which the representation of territory has been used for political advantage, an approach which they term as ‘territorial institutionalism’. This approach is applied to an empirical examination of the Scottish fisheries and whisky industries.

These analyses are followed, in our third paper, by an examination of one of the key aspects of the political philosophy of the Conservative party. In this, Kevin Hickson sets out a narrative of post-war Conservatism, which highlights an underlying belief in inequality as a core aspect of Conservative Party ideology. As well as locating this ideological trend historically, the author also throws up some insights into the current philosophy of the party under the leadership of David Cameron. Remaining within the sphere of party politics, our final main article, from Colin Corpus, examines the often overlooked issue of English nationalism. Through a critical engagement with the more generic question of nationalism, this contribution analyses three parties, which the author argues can be characterised as English ‘national’ parties, and considers the electoral strategies and problems faced by each.

Our final paper for this issue belongs to our Beyond the Mainstream section, and addresses the politics of food in the United Kingdom. In this, Peter Feindt and Andrew Flynn present an historical institutional analysis of food policy throughout the post-war era. The authors contend that its evolution and development is best expressed in terms of a stretching and layering of both

ideational and institutional levels, and that the current politics of food is being driven by a complex interaction of multiple factors.

Steven Kettell

University of Warwick, Coventry, UK

E-mail: s.kettell@warwick.ac.uk

Peter Kerr

University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

E-mail: p.kerr@bham.ac.uk