Editorial

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Welcome to the first issue of our tenth volume of *British Politics*. 2015 is a notable year in more respects than one. As well as being a general election year, it also marks 25 years since Mrs Thatcher stood down from her role as UK Prime Minister and 10 years since this journal began to roll off the printers. We mark our ‘tin anniversary’ by providing some scholarly reflection on the lasting legacy of the late Mrs Thatcher and the political project that came to be known as ‘Thatcherism’.

We are excited to have brought together for this special issue a number of leading scholars to provide their expert views on the enduring impact which Mrs Thatcher and Thatcherism has had on the British political scene. On commissioning this volume, we asked each author to balance a scholarly approach with a more personal reflection on the broader significance of Mrs Thatcher’s legacy. We also largely avoided the temptation to be prescriptive as editors about the types of themes or policy areas we wanted each author to focus on. We are pleased that we did, since the range of narratives and perspectives which this collection of papers throws up are more impressively diverse, interesting and insightful than any we could have imagined ourselves. As such, we would like to thank Andrew Gamble, Bob Jessop, Patrick Minford, Beatrix Campbell, Dave Marsh and Sadiya Akram, Martin Smith, Pete Dorey and Tim Bale, respectively, for their excellent contributions.

It is both disconcerting and exciting for us to think that it has been a whole decade (more accurately, 11 years) since we put together a proposal for a new journal of *British Politics*. Throughout this time Palgrave have continued to provide us with unwavering and valuable support, advice and friendship. We would like to take this opportunity to express our enormous gratitude to Jane Torr, who has patiently and meticulously presided over and guided us through every issue since our first. A similarly huge debt of gratitude is owed to Emma Anderson, Guy Edwards and Marta Kask for their consistent advice and support (as well as more than a few nice lunches).

Without any doubt, the most satisfying part of the editorial experience is the opportunity it gives us to connect with a very wide circle of colleagues and friends from across the discipline. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Heather Savigny for her dedicated stewardship of our book reviews section, and also to Colin Hay, Dave Marsh and our wider editorial board. Finally, we could not have launched a single issue of the journal without the vital and continued support from all

of our contributors, readers and the very wide and generous network of reviewers who have all helped us through the past decade. Many, many thanks to you all!

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