ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At McGill University, it was my PhD supervisor Audrey Kobayashi, a past IODE War Memorial Scholar herself, who wrote ‘What about the IODE?’ in the margin of an early thesis proposal. Thus began the study that has eventually led to this book. Together with my thanks to Audrey, I wish to express my gratitude to the rest of my PhD committee, the late Theo Hills, Andrée Lévesque and Sherry Olson, and to Barbara Welch who put me in touch with two of the party of girls who formed the 1928 English Schoolgirl Tour of Canada.

More recently, valuable guidance and encouragement have been offered by my colleagues in New Zealand: at the University of Canterbury, Garth Cant, Graeme Dunstall, Miles Fairburn, David McIntyre, Philippa Mein Smith, Ann Parsonson and Luke Trainor; at the University of Otago, Barbara Brookes, Melissa Kerdemelidis and Dot Page; at the University of Auckland, Don Kerr and Wendy Larner; and from afar and during visits to Vancouver, Myra Rutherford of the University of British Columbia.

I owe an enormous thanks to my family and friends, and to everyone who has supported and helped me along the way. For their assistance with records, I am grateful to numerous archivists across Canada, and at the Royal Commonwealth Society Library and the Imperial War Museum, London, UK. Tim Nolan and Pauline Wedlake at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, provided technical assistance. The contributions of the series’ editor John MacKenzie, the anonymous readers and the staff at Manchester University Press are greatly appreciated.

A version of part of chapter eight originally appeared as ‘Forgotten colonizers: the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE) and the Canadian north’, The Canadian Geographer, 42: 2 [1998], 193–204, as also has a version of part of chapter four, which appeared as ‘Exhibiting Canada: Empire, migration and the 1928 English Schoolgirl Tour of Canada’, Gender, Place and Culture, 7:1 [2000], 81–96.

Without the support and assistance of members of the IODE across Canada, and of the two women from the 1928 English Schoolgirl Tour, this would be a very different book. I have appreciated their sharing of memories and opinions with such wisdom, honesty, warmth and hospitality. Meeting with them has been an experience that I shall treasure always.