Series editor’s foreword

When the New Ethnographies series was launched in 2011, its aim was to publish the best new ethnographic monographs that promote interdisciplinary debate and methodological innovation in the qualitative social sciences. Manchester University Press was the logical home for such a series, given the historical role it played in securing the legacy of the famous ‘Manchester School’ of anthropological and interdisciplinary ethnographic research, pioneered by Max Gluckman in the years following the Second World War.

Five years later, New Ethnographies has established an enviable critical and commercial reputation. We have published over a dozen titles on a wide variety of ethnographic subjects, which include English football fans, Scottish Conservatives, Chagos islanders, international seafarers, asylum seekers in Ireland, post-civil war Sri Lanka, Iraqi women in Denmark, and the British in rural France, amongst others. Our authors include both established and emerging scholars, including some of the most exciting and innovative up-and-coming ethnographers of the next generation. Our list of forthcoming titles reflects some of the best scholarship based on fresh ethnographic research carried out all around the world.

New Ethnographies continues to provide a platform for social scientists and others engaging with ethnographic methods in new and imaginative ways. We also publish the work of those grappling with the ‘new’ ethnographic objects to which globalization, geopolitical instability, transnational migration and the growth of neoliberal markets have given rise in the twenty-first century. We will continue to promote interdisciplinary debate about ethnographic methods as the series further grows. Most importantly, we will continue to champion ethnography as a valuable tool for apprehending a world in flux.

Alexander Thomas T. Smith