Acknowledgements

I should like to thank the Wellcome Trust for awarding the research support grant that enabled some of the research work for this book. The Trust also awarded a further grant to me and Alison Fell (University of Leeds) to conduct a workshop that was attended by some of the best and brightest minds in the research field of First World War nursing. I offer my thanks to all of the attendees at that meeting for helping me better understand nurses' First World War writings: Carol Acton, Margaret Darrow, Alison Fell, Kirsty Harris, Margaret Higonnet, Hazel Hutchison, Jane Potter, Angela Smith, and Janet Watson. Additional thanks to Alison Fell for her friendship and collegiality, Hazel Hutchison for the insight she gave me into the work of Mary Borden, and Jane Potter for introducing me to a number of American nurse writers I would not otherwise have discovered.

The relatives of Kate Evelyn Luard have been extremely generous. Caroline and John Stevens gave me permission to reproduce two family photographs in this book (including the cover image of Kate Luard in the QAIMNS Reserve uniform) and to quote excerpts from Luard's two memoirs: *Diary of a Nursing Sister on the Western Front* and *Unknown Warriors*. Tim Luard forwarded me several transcripts of his great aunt's letters. He and I worked together on an introduction for the new edition of *Unknown Warriors* (edited by John and Caroline Stevens). I am very grateful to him and to his wife, Alison Luard, for their kindness and support. Cathy Fry was also very generous in helping me to trace materials relating to her great aunt.

Melissa Hardie-Budden and her husband, Phil, not only made material relating to Violetta Thurstan available to me, but also offered me generous hospitality in their home while I was in Penzance,

Acknowledgements

---

studying the archives of the Hypatia Trust. Jonathan Evans, at the Royal London Hospital Archives, was also very helpful in enabling me to access material relating to Violetta Thurstan. Both Sue Light (of 'Scarletfinders' and 'The Fairest Force') and Pete Starling (formerly of the Army Medical Services Museum, UK) were supportive and generous in their assistance with my questions and concerns.

In the USA, Colleen Bowers and Dean Foreman photographed one of the versions of the diary and memoir of Alice Fitzgerald held at the Archives of the Maryland Historical Society. I thank them for this and also for their valuable friendship over many years. The staffs of the Maryland Historical Society (MHS) Archives, Baltimore, and the Alan Mason Chesney (AMC) Archives, Baltimore, were wise and helpful. They assisted me in tracing and researching the five extant versions of Fitzgerald's memoir. I would like to thank, in particular, Patricia Anderson and Damon Talbot (MHS), and Marjorie Kehoe and Phoebe Litocha (AMC). In the USA the support of colleagues at both the Barbara Bates Center (University of Pennsylvania) and the Eleanor Crowder Bjoring Center (University of Virginia) strengthened my understanding of the background to this work.

In Canada, Shawna Quinn and Stephen Claydon enabled me to see the life and work of Agnes Warner in a completely new light. Both were very generous with their time and help.

Image credits are given in the list of illustrations (above, p. ix). Particular thanks for assistance with images go to Caroline Stevens, Richard Willis, Shawna Quinn, Melissa Hardie-Budden, Marjorie Kehoe, Alison Kay, Jane Sparkes, Jonathan Eaker, and Faye Cheung.

I owe thanks to the staffs of libraries and archives around the world, not only for preserving and making available the research materials on which this study is based, but also for assisting my searches. Textual materials, including excerpts from the works of nurse writers, and archive materials were made available by: the John Rylands Library, University of Manchester, UK; the British Library, London, UK; Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Canada; The National Archives, Kew, London, UK; the Archive of the Nursing and Midwifery Council, London, UK; the Royal College of Nursing Archives, Edinburgh, UK; the Archives of the Army Medical Services Museum, Aldershot, UK; the Churchill Archives, Churchill College, Cambridge, UK; the Archives of the Royal London Hospital, Aldgate,

Acknowledgements

London, UK; the Archives of the Hypatia Trust, Jamieson Library, Penzance, UK; the Imperial War Museum, London, UK; the Library of the University of Sussex, Brighton, UK; the Liddle Collection, Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, UK; the Red Cross Archive, London, UK; the Maryland Historical Society Archives, Baltimore, Maryland, USA; the Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, USA; the Archives of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, Philadelphia, USA; the Archives of the Eleanor Crowder Bjoring Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry, University of Virginia, USA; the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library/ University of Virginia, USA; and the Archives of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.

This book contains direct quotations from a number of nurses' memoirs and other personal testimony. I would like to thank the authors and publishers of these texts, for which full references are included in the bibliography. In brief, those quoted are: Anon., *A War Nurse's Diary*; Anon., *The Edith Cavell Nurse from Massachusetts*; Anon., *My Beloved Poilus*; Anon., *Twenty Months a VAD*; Enid Bagnold, *A Diary without Dates*; Enid Bagnold, *Enid Bagnold's Autobiography*; Olive Dent, *A VAD in France*; Vera Brittain, *Testament of Youth*; Florence Farmborough, *Nurse at the Russian Front*; Baroness de T'Serclaes, *Flanders and Other Fields*; Mary Borden, *The Forbidden Zone*; Helen Dore Boylston, 'Sister': *The War Diary of a Nurse*; Mabel St Clair Stobart, *The Flaming Sword in Serbia and Elsewhere*; Mary Britnieva, *One Woman's Story*; Ellen N. La Motte, *The Backwash of War*; Kate Finzi, *Eighteen Months in the War Zone*; Kate Luard, *Unknown Warriors*; Sarah Macnaughtan, *A Woman's Diary of the War*; Sarah Macnaughtan, *My War Experiences in Two Continents*; Shirley Millard, *I Saw Them Die*; Millicent, Duchess of Sutherland, *Six Weeks at the War*; Maud Mortimer, *A Green Tent in Flanders*; Irene Rathbone, *We That Were Young*; Flora Sandes, *An English Woman-Sergeant in the Serbian Army*; Lesley Smith, *Four Years out of Life*; Julia Stimson, *Finding Themselves*; Henrietta Tayler, *A Scottish Nurse at War*; Violetta Thurstan, *Field Hospital and Flying Column*; Violetta Thurstan, *The People who Run*; and Rebecca West, *War Nurse*. Brief excerpts from the following articles are also included: Ellen La Motte, 'Under Shell-Fire

Acknowledgements

---

at Dunkirk', *The Atlantic Monthly*, 116 (November 1915): 692–700; Ellen N. La Motte, 'A Joy Ride', *The Atlantic Monthly*, 118 (October 1916): 481–90; and Ellen N. La Motte, 'Under a Wine Glass', *The Century Magazine* (December 1918): 150–4. I thank all of these 'nurse writers', and their publishers.

Editorial staff at Manchester University Press have, as always, been unfailingly efficient, patient, and supportive. They ask their authors not to name individuals, so I thank them all.

This book is dedicated to my parents. My dad, David Hallett, died in 2002, but his powerful influence continues to shape my research and writing. My mum, Margaret Hallett, is an unfailing source of wisdom, generosity, and support. Along with them, I thank my husband, Keith Brindle: keen critic, loyal support, and stalwart companion.