Contents

Acknowledgements viii
List of abbreviations ix
Information panel 1: Criminal courts in eighteenth-century England x
Information panel 2: The pre-decimal currency system xi

1 Introduction 1

2 The impact of historical developments on the criminal justice system 12

3 Crime, ‘traditional’ and ‘new’ 38

4 Capturing the criminal 65

5 Punishment 92

6 Gender and the criminal justice system 126

7 Crime in contemporary literature and culture 148

8 Review and conclusion: beyond the eighteenth century 171

Appendix: Timeline 1649–1815 177
Bibliography 181
Index 200