As with other books in the series, the purpose is to introduce readers not only to the principal events in British relations with the Europe unity movement, but also to the debates on this subject between historians and political scientists. However it is important to note at the outset that the nature of this debate changes as the book proceeds. On 1 January 1973 Britain became a member of the European Communities, twenty-two years after the first of those Communities had been created without British participation. Within a year of achieving membership, Britain was already regarded as something of an awkward partner, a reputation that has remained through to the time of writing. After a brief review of the relationship between Britain and the Communities prior to membership, this book concerns itself with the basis for that reputation. It is intended to be an overview of the field, a presentation of the record more than a detailed analysis. To persuade the electorate to vote “Yes” in the June 1975 referendum on the United Kingdom’s membership of the European Economic Community, Britain in Europe, the pro-European campaign organization, adopted a pragmatic approach, focusing on the economic benefits of membership and warning about the potentially grave consequences of withdrawal. It argues that young activists yearned to discuss sovereignty and deeper integration in great detail as they offered idealistic visions for how the EEC could develop and benefit Britain. The article also advances knowledge of youth politics in the turbulent 1970s. Greater light is shone on the frustration pro-European youth groups felt towards the main Britain in Europe campaign: creates fewer jobs in Britain than in the rest of the EU. The British economy is a large economy. The changing global landscape: Europe’s relative decline. Changing demographics: not in the EU’s favour. The world’s richest economies: small can be beautiful. The Commonwealth: time for another look. Commonwealth countries are the growth markets of the future. Time to consider a Commonwealth Free Trade Agreement.