

PLENARY

Changing Forms of Work, Worker Organisation and Protest

Thursday 8 September, 11:00-12:00

Anne Alexander is the co-ordinator of the Cambridge Digital Humanities Network, a network of researchers at the University of Cambridge who are interested in how the use of digital tools is transforming scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. This transformation spans both the content and practice of humanities research, as the diffusion of digital technologies opens up new fields of study and generates research questions which breach traditional disciplinary boundaries. The focus of Anne's research is on leadership, collective action and social movements in the Middle East, with a particular interest in Egypt, Iraq and Syria post-1945 and labour movements across the region. Her current project which will investigate the relationship between the dissemination of new media technologies and mobilisation for political change in the Middle East by exploring how three distinct generations of political activists have used ICTs to build networks, create 'spheres of dissidence' and generate new activist cultures.



Kate Hardy is a Lecturer in Work and Employment Relations at the University of Leeds. Her research interests include paid and unpaid work; gender; agency; the sex industry; materialist feminism; collective organizing; political economy; the body; disability and theorizing work and employment. Her work has been widely published academically and disseminated through radio and news media. She has co-authored a monograph with Teela Sanders, entitled *Flexible Workers: Labour, Regulation and the Political Economy of the Stripping Industry*. Kate is committed to developing methodologies which work alongside research participants, in order to undertake socially and politically transformative research.



John Kelly is a Professor of Industrial Relations at Birkbeck College, University of London. His research interests include trade unions, industrial conflict, labour movements and contemporary Trotskyism. His most recent books include *Comparative Employment Relations in the Global Economy* (with C. Frege, 2013) and *Parties, Elections and Policy Reforms in Western Europe* (with K. Hamann, 2011). He has also published in a wide range of journals including *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics* and the *British Journal of Industrial Relations*.



Chair: Gabrielle Alberti, University of Leeds.