

another *Unlock the Past* seminar with visiting experts

# Louis Kessler & Paul Blake

## DOWNUNDER – 2016 genealogy seminar tour

Auckland ♦ Wellington ♦ Dunedin ♦ Sydney ♦ Melbourne ♦ Perth ♦ Brisbane

### Melbourne

 Friday 26 February 2016

British probate records - nonconformity - Ireland - methodology

Louis Kessler and Paul Blake are leading international genealogists and presenters. They are featured presenters on the 10th *Unlock the Past* history and genealogy cruise in February-March 2016. This seminar is one of a series in seven cities around New Zealand and Australia.

- **four main presentations** by Louis Kessler and Paul Blake
- **other supporting presentations** by local and sponsoring partners
- **an exhibition** – including sales from seminar supporters and sponsors
- **special offers** and hundreds of dollars worth of **prizes**

**WHEN:** Friday 26 March 2016, 10.00am - 4.30pm

**WHERE:** Celtic Club, 316-320 Queen Street, Melbourne

**COST:** pre-booked - by Tuesday 23 February 2016 - \$39.50 full day, \$29.50 half day  
on the day - \$50 full day, \$35 half day

**FULL DETAILS** and bookings at [www.unlockthepast.com.au/Melbourne](http://www.unlockthepast.com.au/Melbourne) or 08 8395 7476

### Seminar supporters and sponsors



Unlock the Past Cruises



gen<sup>e</sup>books



# Melbourne program

10.00am	registration, exhibition, sales
10.25am	welcome and seminar introduction
10.30am	<b>How to improve research with source-based genealogy</b> - Louis Kessler
11.15am	break and exhibition
11.45am	<b>Using British probate records to discover the origins of your emigrant</b> - Paul Blake
12.30pm	seminar sponsor presentation
12.45pm	lunch break and exhibition
2.00pm	prize draw
2.10pm	local partner promos
2.30pm	<b>Origins of your Irish ancestors</b> - Paul Blake
3.15pm	break and exhibition
3.45pm	<b>Protestant nonconformity in England and Wales</b> - Paul Blake
4.30pm	close

**Louis Kessler** (Canada). Louis is a programmer, genealogist and promoter of family history research to the masses. A member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, Louis has been Chair of the Archives Committee, Board Member and President of the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada. Louis has led projects such as his society's Cemetery Photography Project, written a genealogy column for a local newspaper, and given many lectures on genealogy and genealogy technology to societies, a previous Unlock the Past cruise and at RootsTech in 2014.

Louis built his own website at lkessler.com in 1997. He designed and operates gensoftreviews.com, a site where genealogists can rate and review their genealogy software, and in 2011 at beholdgenealogy.com he released version 1 of his own software program Behold—destined to be the world's first report-based data editor for genealogy.

Louis has university degrees in statistics and computer science. He lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada with his wife and two daughters. His daytime job is as the manager of the forecasting department at his province's electric and gas utility company. Genealogy and programming are his after hour passions.

Louis is an active Geneablogger and blogs at beholdgenealogy.com blog, tweets at @louiskessler, Google plus at +louiskessler and participates in the Q&A at genealogy.stackexchange.com.

**Paul Blake** (England). Paul is a full-time researcher, lecturer and writer, with over 20 years experience. He holds the Diploma in Genealogy from the Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies. Based in London, England he specialises in London and military ancestry but has wide general expertise and is therefore available for commissions for all England and Wales. He is a regular visitor to The [British] National Archives and the several London record offices. He is joint author of two books, and expects to have several more published with Unlock the Past by early 2016. Paul lectures widely on a variety of genealogy and related subjects in England, North America and elsewhere overseas, and on cruise ships. Paul has served on many committees. He is a past chairman, of the Society of Genealogists Executive Committee and of its Lectures Committee. He was vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Family History Societies, and its Director of Publicity. He serves on The National Archives Online Advisory Board and on the Regular Users Committees of TNA and the Family Records Centre. Paul is President of the East Surrey FHS and a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists.

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**Unlock the Past** - [www.unlockthepast.com.au](http://www.unlockthepast.com.au)

- a major events resource - supporting events by others and running our own expos, seminars, cruises etc.
- a publishing brand - over 60 guide books for researchers ... and many in the pipeline
- online directories of events, organisations, product and service suppliers, etc., in family and local history
- a significant free content site - articles, blogs, free sample of data CDs, e-handouts of presentations

**Unlock the Past cruises** - [www.unlockthepastcruises.com](http://www.unlockthepastcruises.com) - genealogy conferences at sea

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