

WWII - Philip Edward Michael Bourke

Philip Edward Michael (Mick) Bourke was the second son of Edward Bourke and Theresa Carrucan and a great grand child of Patrick Carrucan and Mary O'Brien.

He was born in 1904 in South Melbourne and educated at St Joseph's South Melbourne. After the death of his mother in 1920, when he was aged 16, he left Melbourne and found his way eventually to Quambatook where he secured work at Ryan's Blacksmith shop.

He worked at various jobs in the area before marrying Hanora Keating of Quambatook and moving to Bendigo in 1937. From his base in Bendigo he worked as a shearer and seasonal worker, employed mainly in the grain production industry.

In World War II, he enlisted in the AIF, and served overseas in the 2/2 Field Engineers attached to the 6th division AIF.

After the war he moved to Koroit as part of the Soldier Settlement programme where he farmed successfully until his retirement in the mid-sixties. He then moved to Geelong.

Mick married Hanora Keating and they had seven children - five sons and two daughters.

He died in 1979 and is buried in Quambatook.