

## NEPEAN (née BELLIS), MARY EDITH (1876 - 1960), novelist

**Name:** Mary Edith Nepean  
**Date of birth:** 1876  
**Date of death:** 1960  
**Spouse:** Molyneux Edward Nepean  
**Parent:** Mary Bellis  
**Parent:** John Bellis  
**Gender:** Female  
**Occupation:** novelist  
**Area of activity:** Literature and Writing  
**Author:** Sally Roberts Jones

Born at LlandudnoLlandudno, Caernarfonshire in 1876, daughter of John Bellis, a Caernarfonshire county councillor, and Mary, his wife. She was educated at home, studying art with Robert Fowler, and later showed her work at a number of exhibitions. She married in 1899 Molyneux Edward Nepean, of a family of high-ranking civil servants, and resided in England, moving in literary circles in London. In 1932 she accused **Caradoc Evans** of libelling her in his novel *Wasps* (1933), and the book had to be altered before publication. She also took part in public life, being Commandant of a section of the Red Cross in Kent, and travelled in the Near East and the Balkans, taking a particular interest in the life of the gypsies of Transylvania.

Her first novel, *Gwyneth of the Welsh Hills* (1917), showed the influence of both **Allen Raine** (Anne Adalisa Puddicombe), and **Caradoc Evans**. A further 34 light romantic novels followed, almost all with Welsh settings or characters, and she wrote one book based on her travels, *Romance and realism in the Near East* (1933), as well as much popular journalism. Her husband died in 1948. She died 23 March 1960 and was buried in the Great Orme cemetery, Llandudno.

### Author

**Sally Roberts Jones**

### Sources

*Who was who?*

T. Ll. Williams, *Caradoc Evans* (Cardiff 1970)(1970), 93-4

*Llandudno and District Advertiser*, 26 March and 2 April 1960

### Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Edith Nepean](#)

### Additional Links

VIAF: [34243903](#)

Wikidata: [Q20566881](#)

**Published date:** 2001

**Article Copyright:** <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/>

LGC  
NLW

LLYFRGEL  
THE NATION



Ysgrifeddi  
Llywodraeth Cymru  
Copied by  
Welsh Government