

Sir Evan Yorke Nepean Bt, G5YN, SK

LIEUTENANT COLONEL Sir Evan Yorke Nepean Bt, G5YN, died at the age of 92 on 11 March 2002. Son of Sir Charles Evan Molyneux Yorke Nepean Bt and educated at Winchester and Cambridge, Evan became the 6th Baronet on the death of his father in 1953. He had a life-long interest in radio, taking out a Post Office receiving licence when he was 16 and, two years later, his first transmitting licence. He joined the RSGB in 1926 and was, at the time of his death, the longest-serving member of the Society, clocking up an incredible 75 years of unbroken membership. Sir Evan will probably be best remembered for his activity from Tibet as AC4YN in 1936. He was the last-surviving member of a British political mission to Tibet, which travelled overland from India via Sikkim to Lhasa, crossing the Himalayas on foot. Bearers and pack animals carried the radio equipment, which had been broken down into several loads of 80 to 120 pounds in weight.

During WWII Evan worked for MI8 on codes and ciphers. He was sent to Iraq and Egypt in 1941. He retired from the army six months after the Suez crisis and then worked for the Civil Service on ciphers until 1973.

For many years G5YN was President of the Salisbury Amateur Radio Club and was a tower of strength to many, particularly those struggling with Morse code, driving in from 10 miles away for almost every meeting. He ran the 'G5YN Net' on 80m SSB most weekdays from 1970 onwards and remained active until 2001.

His funeral took place on 18 March and was attended by at least 10 radio amateurs. The RSGB was represented by the President, Bob Whelan, G3PJT.

(Source of historical information: personal interviews by Roger Croston with Sir Evan Nepean in 2000 and 2001.)

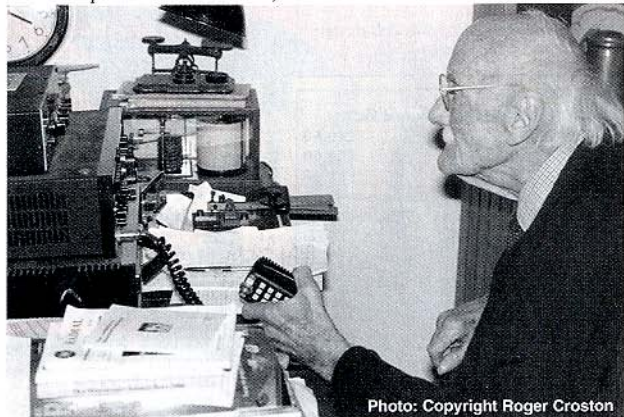


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Evan, G5YN, on the air in October 2000 at the age of 90.