

MRS. NETTLEFOLD
Hallfield
Edgbaston



Founding
Vice-President

What active role, if any, Mrs Frances Nettlefold took on behalf of the Midland Daffodil Society is not known. Why she even became a Vice-President is unclear, however she had connections with at least one other fellow Vice-President, Joseph Chamberlain, to whom she was related through marriage. Her late husband Edward J Nettlefold and Joseph Chamberlain were cousins. The two families were even connected in business through the firm Chamberlain and Nettlefold which was the first UK company to mass-produce wood screws. This company was eventually merged with Guest, Keen and Nettlefold (GKN) who were donors of a trophy to the Society many years later.

“After his (her husband’s) death Frances moved her large family up to Birmingham, her eldest son having already gone into the Nettlefold business. She took Hallfield in Edgbaston, a large house where she lived in great state. Her stern expression and severe manner daunted the Steer children, but underneath them was the kindest of hearts.”

Threads from the Family Tapestry—Michael Maxwell Steer’s website