'Rule III – That the legitimate objects of the charity are the destitute children of deceased Seamen, Fishermen, Rivermen, Marine Engineers, Firemen and Ship-Carpenters, who go to sea' (Rules of the Port of Hull Society, 1883)

THE SAILORS' FAMILIES SOCIETY



Fact: A committee, set up by the Port of Hull Society for the Religious Instruction of Seamen in 1837, would become the Sailors' Families Society

In 1836, four Hull whaling ships were lost, leaving 20 widows and 61 fatherless children in need of help.

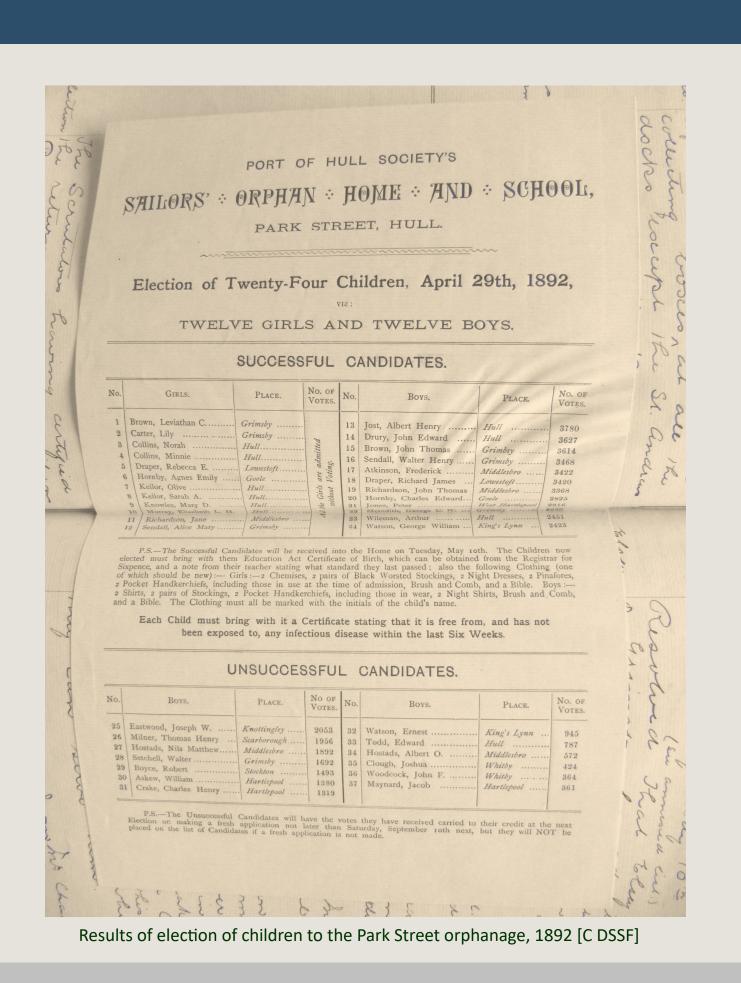
Although a collection of £49 was raised, a more organised approach was required to help the families of seafarers.

A Sailors' Orphan Institute was established in 1837 by a special committee of the Port of Hull Society for the Religious Instruction of Seamen to clothe and educate children of deceased sailors.

Children supported by the society attended the British and Foreign School on Dock Green, as well as Sunday School and services on board the 'Valiant'.

They were provided with a set of clothes every year, and when the Port of Hull Society opened a sailors' institute on Waterhouse Lane, the children's schooling was moved there.

Between 1837 and 1863 the society clothed and educated 700 children.





By the 1860s, it was felt that a residential home for seafarers' orphans was needed. The society opened a home on Castle Row in 1863, which catered for 6 boys and 6 girls.

Applications to the society could be made on behalf of children aged 7-14, or 15 in the case of girls. On leaving the home, boys were found apprenticeships and girls were usually placed in domestic service.

In 1865, a second home was opened at No.8 Spencer Street to house 30 children, but further provision was still needed.

In 1867 Thanet House on Park Street was purchased to provide more adequate accommodation and, after alterations, the new home could house 150 children.

In 1871, an orphanage band was formed for the boys. It began life as a drum and fife band before becoming a brass band a few years later. Donations were requested for the band to appear at civic events in the city, and these donations were a vital source of fundraising for the society.

Fact: In 1863, the Sailors' Families Society opened its first residential home for orphans on Castle Row

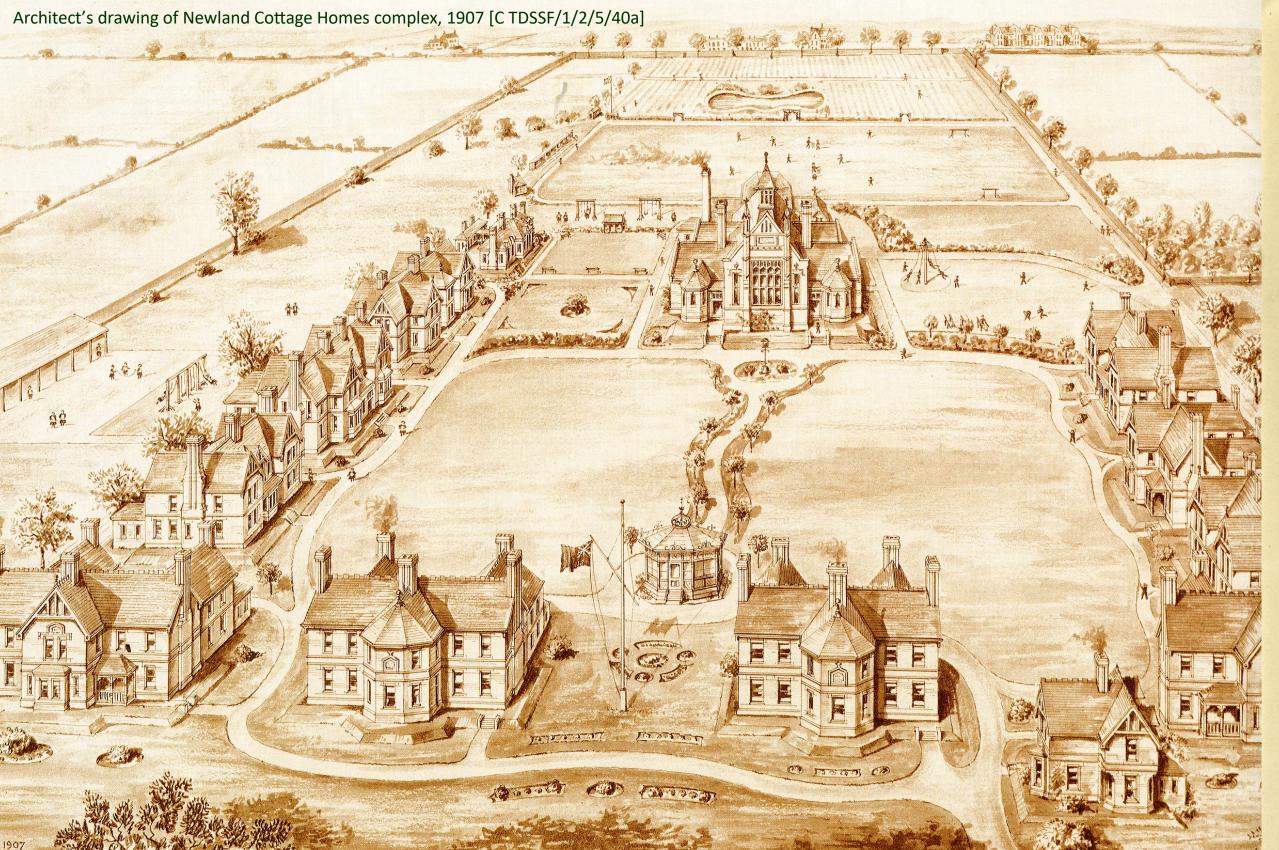
Ever in need of extra beds, the society developed a plan to replace the Park Street orphanage with a 'cottage homes' complex on Cottingham Road.

Newland Cottage Homes opened in 1895, having been funded by substantial donations from local figures. These new homes sought to provide a healthier, more family-oriented environment for children. Over the years, the complex was expanded to include a hospital ward, school, central dining hall, sports ground and cinema.

In addition to attending school, the boys undertook gardening and other manual labour tasks, whilst the girls were taught sewing, cooking and washing as training for future domestic service jobs. A staple of the orphanage's calendar was the Whitsuntide Festival, held annually to raise money for the homes.

Newland Cottage Homes accommodated children for over a century, but in 2004 the decision was taken to close the site. The Society's work was refocused towards subsidising the education and clothing of children in their own homes. And so the Society's work had come full circle, back to where they had started in 1837.





Newland - 1907

Fact: In 1895, the society opened Newland Cottage Orphans Homes, a complex of small homes, in a healthier out of town location on Cottingham Road

Programme, Saturday, May 10th, 1913.

The Orphan Boys' Band will play during the afternoon.

The Orphan Children will line the central path.

His Worship the Sheriff (Hubert Johnson, Esq.), Mrs. Johnson, and Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Sanderson will be received by Councillor and Mrs. J. H. Robins and Members of the Carniva Committees at the Band Stand, and the Carnival will be opened by Mr. Sanderson on the invitation of the Sheriff. The Chairman, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson and friends, led by the Band, will proceed to the Schoolroom where Mrs. Sanderson will declare the Fancy Fair open, and votes of thanks will be accorded.

To 6-30 ... Comic Costume Cricket Match—Police v. Tramways.

in front of the School.

to 5...... Cafe Chantant in the Frances Reckitt Home.

Afternoon Teas in the Pavilion 6d, each. Meat Teas in the Pavilion 6d.

4-30 to 6-30... Afternoon Teas in the Pavilior 6d. each. Meat Teas in the Stratten Hall, 1s. each. High Teas in the Whitby and Hartlepool Home, 1s. 6d. each.

5-0 Children's Tea on the Grass.
6-0 to 6-30 ... Physical Exercises, Drills, etc., by the Orphan Boys, on the lawn in front of the School.

7-15 to 9-15...... Reckitt's Morris Dancers in the Stratten Hall.
7-30 to 9-30..... Cafe Chantant in the Francis Reckitt Home.

Two of the Homes will be open for inspection.
Football Competition, Aunt Sally, Cocoanut-shy, Quoits, Swings, etc.
The Prince's Hall Cinematograph Operator will take Photographs.

Tug of War Competition.

Full details of the day's programme will be found on pages 29. 31, 33, 37 & 41.

Saturday, May 10th, at 4-30 p.m.,

NEAR GIRLS' PLAYGROUND,

Competing Teams:—

1. HULL POLICE, GORDON STREET TEAM.

2. do. WINCOLMLEE do.

3. SISSONS BROS., "A" TEAM.

4. do. "B"

5. RECKITT'S CANISTER WORKS TEAM.

6. BRITISH GAS CO., "A" TEAM.

7. do. "B" do

CATCH WEIGHT COMPETITION, last man over the mark.

1st and 2nd Prizes for Winning Teams will be presented by JNO. YOUNG, Esq.

Referee: INSPECTOR M. CARROL.