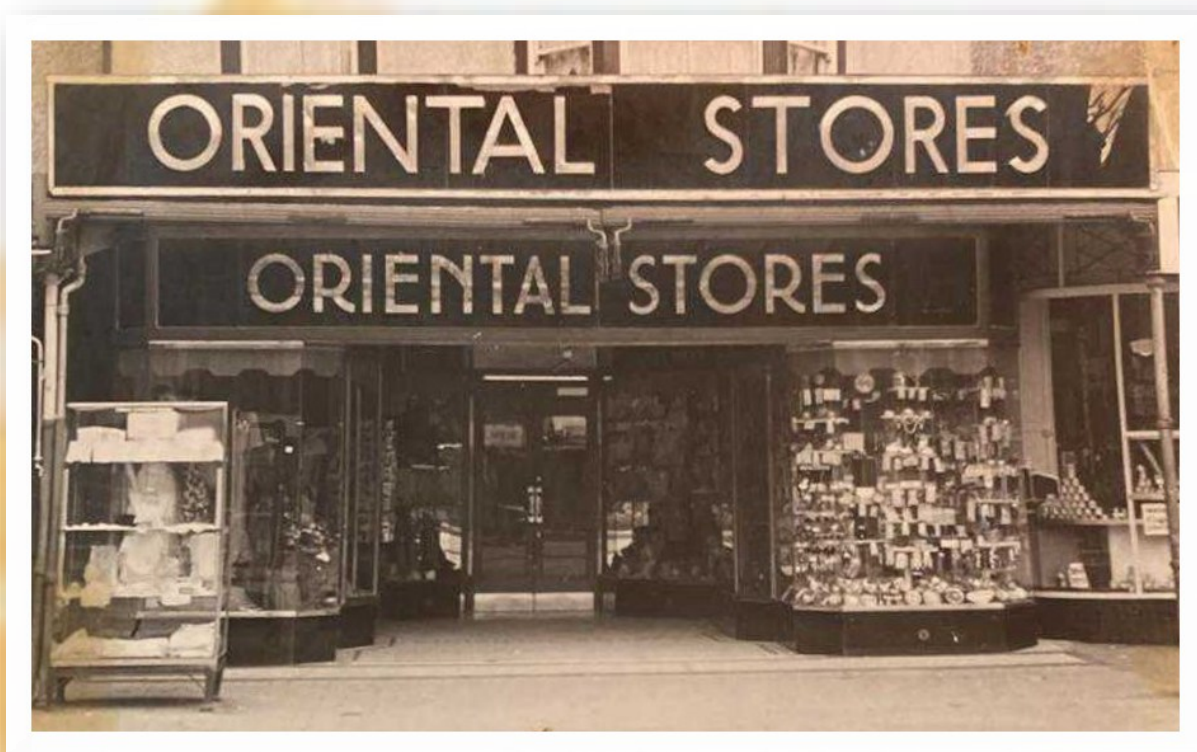


Y Teulu Gubay/The Gubay Family



*Delwedd trwy garedigrwydd Jo Dallal.
Image courtesy of Jo Dallal.*

Roedd teulu Gubay yn rhedeg y Storfeydd Oriental ar Stryd Mostyn, gan werthu popeth o gamerâu ac ysbienddrych i gardiau post, dillad a gemwaith. Roedd y siop ar agor saith diwrnod yr wythnos, gan gau dim ond ar gyfer y Flwyddyn Newydd Iddewig a Dydd y Cymod. Symudodd Lulu Gubay (née Shamash), a aned ym Maghdad ym 1890, i Llandudno ym 1918 gyda'i gwr, Yousif, a'u saith o blant i gymryd drosodd y busnes a sefydlwyd yn wreiddiol gan ei brodyr.

Nid oedd hi byth yn gallu darllen na ysgrifennu yn Saesneg na Chymraeg, ond gweithiodd yn galed i gynnal ei theulu mawr; roeddent yn cymryd golchi dillad i mewn am incwm

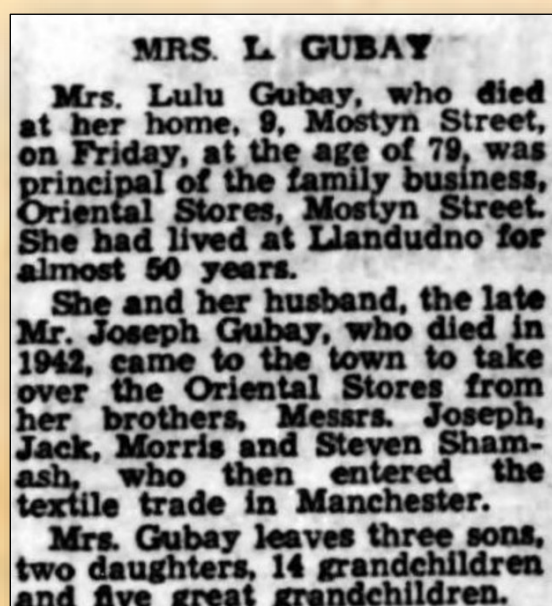
ychwanegol ac yn raddol fe adeiladon nhw amrywiaeth o fusnesau, gan gynnwys caffis, bwytaï, arcedau difyrion a pharciau carafanau. Sefydlodd wyr Lulu, Albert, y gadwyn archfarchnadoedd Kwik Save.

Dychwelodd mab Lulu Edward i Basra i briodi, yna daeth adref i Llandudno gyda'i wraig, Souad. Bu'n rhaid iddi addasu'n gyflym i ddiwylliant, iaith a theulu estynedig newydd yn byw uwchben y Siopau Oriental. Gweithiodd Souad yn y siop o'r diwrnod y cyrhaeddodd; galwodd cwsmeriaid hi'n Sue. Bu'n byw yn Llandudno am weddill ei hoes, gan farw yn 2024.

Mae merch Souad yn cofio: *'Roedd hi wastad yn gwneud i mi wenu gyda'i chefnidir, wyddoch chi, menyw fach yn dod o Irac, byddai hi'n pleidleisio dros Plaid Cymru.'*



*Edward a Souad ar ddiwrnod eu priodas ym 1947. Delwedd trwy garedigrwydd Jo Dallal.
Edward and Souad on their wedding day in 1947. Image courtesy of Jo Dallal.*



*The North Wales Weekly News, 05 Medi 1968, t. 18.
The North Wales Weekly News, 05 September 1968, p. 18.*

The Gubay family ran the Oriental Stores on Mostyn Street, selling everything from cameras and binoculars to postcards, clothing and jewellery. The shop opened seven days a week, closing only for the Jewish New Year and the Day of Atonement. Lulu Gubay (née Shamash), born in Baghdad in 1890, moved to Llandudno in 1918 with her husband, Yousif, and their seven children to take over the business originally founded by her brothers.

Lulu was never able to read or write in English or Welsh, but she worked hard to support her large family; they took in washing for extra income and

gradually built a range of businesses, including cafés, restaurants, amusement arcades and caravan parks. Lulu's grandson, Albert, founded the Kwik Save supermarket chain.

Lulu's son, Edward returned to Iraq to marry in 1947. He came home to Llandudno with his wife Souad, who came from Basra. She had to adapt quickly to a new culture, language, and extended family living above the Oriental Stores. Souad worked in the shop from the day she arrived; customers called her Sue. She lived in Llandudno for the rest of her life, passing away in 2024.

Souad's daughter recalls: *'It always made me smile with her background, you know, a little lady coming from Iraq, she would vote Plaid Cymru.'*



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