

NDOLA

In the years before World War I, Ndola emerged as an important administrative and commercial centre, and by 1927 had been given municipal status. The brothers Hyam and Nathan Schulman, emigrants from the UK, played an active role in municipal affairs, with Hyam serving as Mayor in the years 1937-9. Nathan's brother-in-law Harry Figov, who arrived in Northern Rhodesia in 1920, established the Bwana Mkubwa Trading Store (which relocated to Luanshya in 1936). Latvian-born Abe Lowenthal arrived in Ndola in 1926 to become one of its most prominent Jewish residents; his name lives on through having had a street named after him, and in the still-active Lowenthal Theatre.

Hanan Elkaim, whose family had been displaced during the 1929 Arab Riots in Mandatory Palestine, arrived in Northern Rhodesia in 1938 to settle in Ndola shortly after the conclusion of World War II. He and his wife Yona were active in the Ndola Jewish community and played an important role in the building of the synagogue. Hanan also had friendly relationships with the Hindu, Moslem, and Bahai'i communities and the local Catholic Church (of which he was an honorary member). In 1991, he was presented with the Order of Distinguished Service by President Kaunda in recognition of multiple contributions to the country.

Hanan and Yona Elkaim's daughter Aviva Ron and other members of the Elkaim family are staunch supporters of the Barefoot School Project in Ndola. The project has grown from a primary school for children whose families cannot afford school uniforms and shoes to include vocational training in carpentry and tailoring, and an agricultural skills training centre. Born in Ndola, Aviva made a distinguished career for herself in international public health through her work with the World Health Organisation.



John Gee, Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft & Gus Liebowitz



Hanan Elkaim receives the Order of Distinguished Service from President Kenneth Kaunda in 1991.



Ndola Medal



The Ndola Service Station, circa 1935