

It is with deep regret I inform you of my Mother, Myra Smith's passing yesterday, 11th of February 2021 at the age of 76.

Mum had taken up bowling at the age of 21 after watching her brothers play. She was a keen netballer, darts player and loved sports. She often quoted how her and her brother Norman Lock would compete in mixed competitions at holiday camps and would win everything. The only sport she wasn't good at was playing pool – Norman had to win that on his own. The Locks certainly have competitive and stubborn blood running through their veins.

Throughout the years Mum had bowled for Fondu, Aveley and Clock House and was exceptionally successful in her bowling career. Her main highlight was winning the national mixed pairs competition in 1988 with David Wakefield. As England Champions, Mum was the first female skip to win the national mixed pairs. I was very fortunate to follow in her footsteps and also won the same competition with Allan Seth as my skip, with both Mum and Ada there to cheer us on. Mum won many Ladies County Competitions, and I believe we won the County pairs together four times. We were a successful duo, although we were known to clash at times. We reached national finals in the mother and daughter a number of times and also were semi finalists of the national ladies pairs. Mum represented Essex Ladies County and it was well known that they would pull her to one side to check her uniform, cream skirt two inches below the knee (one for travel and one to play in), cream blazer, brown tights, brown handbag, pearl earrings and a hat that she took great pride in by starching over a saucepan. She was exceptionally proud of her whites.

In 2016 Mum celebrated 50 years of bowling at Clock House and hosted a fun day with Pimms at the end of the rink, followed by fish and chips. Bowls really was her life, and we are fortunate to have made and known so many friends over the years we have played.

I was very lucky to have such a great relationship with my mum, I will miss her greatly.

Rebecca Smith