

# Fitting winners on the Signature hole

There was hardly a dry-eye in the house when Tom Watson went agonisingly close to rolling back the years in a heroic bid to win this year's Open.

And over at the Highways golf day there was hardly a dry ball in the clubhouse as the imposing lake in front of the feature 18th hole claimed plenty of victims. This year's event saw the cream of the industry's golfers do battle at a new venue – Collingtree Park in Northampton. The course is one of the finest in the area with great views from the clubhouse onto the signature last hole with its wide expanse of water protecting the green.

Eight teams of four players gathered in the spike bar for bacon rolls and coffee with the odd latecomer blaming the rural location of the course for their tardiness. As one team captain ruefully observed: "My lads spend all day putting up street signs but it seems they can't actually read them when it comes to getting directions right and arriving early."

But everyone made it to the first tee on time and a welcome burst of midlands sunshine meant playing conditions were perfect. The format was a traditional top-two Stableford scores on each hole with everyone playing off three quarters of their full handicap. The winners this year were Signature who are regulars at the event and also bagged the trophy back in 2003. Runners-up were Morelock who were previous winners in 1999 and 2000 while third place went to Tennants.

The Signature team was driven along by the monster hitting of Dave Moreton who picked-up the prize for longest drive while nearest the pin went to Richard Davis of JPCS. After a great days golf and an enjoyable few drinks on the terrace the teams gathered in the clubhouse restaurant for a three-course meal and the prize giving ceremony. Local comedian Steve Tandy battled manfully through a faulty microphone to raise a laugh or two and a round of heads and tails raised £700 for the Lighthouse club charity.

The event was made possible by the backing of a host of sponsors including Morelock, Route Signs, Acklea and Traffex who had banners placed around the course. Colas kindly provided golf balls for all the players and Shell sponsored umbrellas in case the weather turned.

The full list of competitors was: Morelock, Signature, JPCS, Acklea x 2, Route Signs, TMCA and Tennants. Publisher Neill Levett said: "I must thank our sponsors again for helping make this such a successful day.

"The course was fantastic and the Highways golf day has now become an essential date in the diary for the industry."



## First Place



The winning Signature team on the tee



The victorious Signature team get their hands on the trophy

## Second Place



Runners-up Morelock get ready for battle



Morelock receive their prizes

## Third Place



Third place Tennants as play begins



The Tennants team rope in a local diner to help pick-up their prize