

## Two new off road vehicles from Suzuki



### GOLF COURSE TRACTORS ARE IN THE VINTAGE CLASS

The majority of tractors used on British golf courses have been purchased second hand and many are over twenty years old according to a survey conducted with over a thousand greenkeepers by Golf Greenkeeping.

The trend is to replace the second hand agricultural tractor with one of the new generation of compacts, though the higher horse power models are still favoured for fairway mowing.

Few club committees appear to budget for the renewal of equipment, preferring to wait until the machinery breaks down and is non repairable before it is replaced.

The age of machinery is also reflected in a survey of implements to be used with the tractors. It is not uncommon to find golf courses cutting the fairways with Ransome 5 gangs over 20 years old. The best to date however is a set of Pennsylvania five gangs from Lloyds still cutting after 42 years.

Next month Golf Greenkeeping will be examining the current state of the tractor market as it affects golf clubs. As well as a detailed report on tractor use and buying trends for the future as supplied through the survey, we will also be publishing a list of the current models and prices, together with mechanical and technical details.

The Editor would like to thank all greenkeepers who completed the survey forms and supplied such valuable information. It is by such co-operation that we at Golf Greenkeeping are able in turn to give you that vital knowledge so you may make better buying decisions.

### FOR SALE

**TWO ISEKI TRACTORS**  
with Demonstration Hours Only  
**ISEKI 3210**

Luxury Cab, 4 wheel drive,  
with Chief 500 loader  
June 1986

NEW: £11,000

**OUR PRICE:**  
**£6,500**

**ISEKI 2160 Compact**

4 wheel drive, turf tyres,  
roll bar, June 1986

NEW: £5,500

**OUR PRICE:**  
**£2,500**

**Tel: Ripon (0765) 700999**  
or  
**Richmond (0748) 832587**

Two special Suzuki Santana models with exclusively designed body stripes and interiors for the British market are being introduced this month. The all white Santana and all black Santana "Sport". Both retain all the main characteristics of the outstanding SJ410 models and are powered by the same well proven 1 litre engine, but the newcomers boast a host of special features as standard.

These include a 5-speed gearbox, special colour co-ordinated deluxe cloth interior, split rear seats, servo-assisted brakes and softer suspension for improved on road ride. In addition, each of the two models have their own distinctive styling features:

The all white Suzuki Santana has colour co-ordinated white wheelarch trims and bumpers as well as coloured keyed headlights and indicator guards. The deluxe white hood is standard. Grey and yellow graphics on the car's exterior are complimented by a matching grey and yellow flecked cloth interior treatment.

On the all black Suzuki Santana "Sport", the wheelarch trims, bumpers and lightguards are colour-keyed black to match the body. The exterior graphics are grey and red, matching the grey and red pinstripe interior of the vehicle.

The Suzuki Santana is the Spanish built version of the "go-anywhere" rugged SJ410 series. It is the result of a joint venture between Suzuki Motor Company and the Land Rover Santana Factory at Linares - in which Suzuki now has a 20% holding - to build SJ models in Europe.

The 4 stroke 970cc engine runs on 2 star petrol from an 8.8 gallon tank. The price inclusive of VAT is £6,499.

## LETTERS

Dear Sir,

With regard to your comment last month 'SNOW BOUND', page 8, I would like to let you know that apart from two days mid-week our course remained open all winter, and our Saturday and Sunday Winter League competitions have been completed to date.

Yours sincerely,  
S. J. PHILIPS,  
Greenkeeper St. David's City G.C.  
Haverfordwest, Dyfed.

### Preamble . . . *by James A. Wyllie, C.G.C.S.*

*On a recent trip to Britain I visited with Mr. Fred Hawtree, a golf course architect of world renown. While we were at his home Fred showed me his incredible golf museum and library. It was one of the best private collections of golf memorabilia I have ever seen. During my perusal, I came across a copy of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America's official magazine. It was the National Greenkeeper, Oct. 1931, and it cost 25 cents.*

*It was a great surprise to open the book and lo and behold the headline staring at me said, "Toronto Hit by Hot Weather", by Wm. J. Sansom, Greenkeeper, Toronto Golf Club, Toronto, Ontario.*

*Mr. Hawtree was kind enough to copy the article for me. It is an interesting article, especially as it talks about "scald" and Poa Annua. Interestingly, he was recommending a 5-12-2 fertilizer, a complete opposite of what is recommended today.*

*Fred Hawtree is a very interesting gentleman, and a superb host. He and his son Martin operate a very successful firm called Hawtree and Son, Golf Course Architects. They are located in Woodstock, a very beautiful town, quite close to Oxford. Fred is a regular and witty writer of articles for Golf Greenkeeping and Course Maintenance.*

Spotted in the February edition of Greenmaster the magazine for the Canadian Superintendents

# SECTIONAL News

## SOUTH COAST

*Hon. Sec: J. R. Dennis,  
Hampshire College of Agriculture,  
Sparsholt, Winchester,  
Hampshire SO21 2NF.  
Telephone: (096) 272441 Ext. 288.*

Our Winter Lecture Programme continued in February with a visit by Mr. Paul Watson of Ransomes.

Mr. Watson gave an illustrated talk on the firm's history, and brought us up to date with Ransomes new equipment aimed at the golf course market. This included Ransomes TMV 20, a three-wheeled dual truck maintenance power unit, and their new diesel GT Triple Greens Machine, first seen last year at the Windsor Show.

For information, full details on these machines were given in the Windsor Show review in the October Journal.

A full list of Section Tournaments for 1987 are listed below:-

*Spring Tournament:*

Stoneham Golf Club,  
Thursday, May 28th, 1987

*Vitax Greenkeepers Tournament:*

Ferndown Golf Club  
Wednesday, May 20th, 1987

*Summer Tournament:*

Lee-on-Solent Golf Club  
Thursday, July 16th, 1987

*Annual Match:*

South-West - High Post Golf Club  
Thursday, September 3rd, 1987

*Autumn Invitation Meeting:*

Cowdray Park Golf Club  
Thursday, September 24th, 1987

*Turkey Trot:*

Royal Winchester Golf Club  
Wednesday, December 9th, 1987

The position of Tournament Organiser, now vacant, should be resolved at the Section's A.G.M. in March. The name of our new organiser will be given in the April notes of the Section, and all applications to play in our tournaments should be directed to the new organiser.

At a recent Committee Meeting, it was agreed that a handicap limit of 22 be placed on all members when playing in our Section Tournaments. Some of us, including your scribe, are still trying to maintain a handicap in excess of this figure!

## MID ANGLIA

*Hon. Sec: L. Wakerell,  
26 Loxley Road, Berkhamsted,  
Herts. HP4 3PS*

The January Lecture at St. Neots Golf Club was well attended when some 50 members came along to hear Jon Albutt, Technical Manager of Synchemicals Limited, give a lengthy talk on the up to date legislation for the use and storage of chemicals on golf courses.

Some clubs give low priority to the safety aspects as required by law, while most give no priority at all.

This could well change in the future as new legislation will require a Certificate of Competence from the user as from 1st January, 1989.

Who will be responsible for issuing these Certificates? Greenkeepers should expect the new administration of B.I.G.G.A. to offer positive guide lines in the future as the new laws are complex and extensive.

### 1987 FIXTURES

The Spring Meeting will be held at Bedford and County Golf Club on Tuesday, 12th May over 27 holes. Please let Ken Bunting have your Entry, Handicap and £12.00 Fee by 1st May.

Other dates for the diary are:-

*A.G.M. and 18 holes:*

Arkley G.C.  
17th June.

*Mid Anglia v. Midlands*

Berkhamsted G.C.  
Thursday 9th July

*Summer Tournament over 36 holes:*

Welwyn Garden City G.C.  
Monday 13th July

*B.I.G.G.A. Annual Tournament:*

Verulam Golf Club  
Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th,  
Wednesday 19th August

*Autumn Meeting over 27 holes:*

Woodlands Golf Club  
Wednesday 23rd September

*Christmas Invitation:*

South Bedfordshire Golf Club  
Thursday 10th December

## MIDLANDS

*Hon. Sec: Steve Wood  
37 Holford Avenue,  
Bescot, Walsall*

*Telephone: (0922) 611380*

*Minutes of Regional Board Meeting held on Monday, 23rd February, 1987, at Lutterworth.*

Present: P. McCarron (Chairman), A. Kite, S. Wood, W. Cole, R. W. Willars (Secretary).

Being the first meeting of the newly formed B I G G A, it has been called to discuss any points that the Regional Board felt should be brought up at the next Board of Management Meeting on 2nd March by its representative P. McCarron.

1. Communication. It was felt that Minutes of Board of Management meetings should be sent to all Area Administrators as soon as possible after such meetings.
2. It was reported that E I G G A, East of England section had been contacted and a list of members sent to the Chairman. The Midland section said they had no E I G G A members.
3. It was suggested that Regional Board meeting expenses be paid from Headquarters.
4. Concern was expressed about the 1988 Annual Golf Tournament which was to be held in the Midland section. If this is correct, could a date be determined to enable a venue to be arranged, if this is possible at this later date.
5. Annual Golf Tournament to be arranged by Board of Management.
6. Category of non trade members to be determined.
7. Membership cards, with courtesy of Course, to be given to all members as in the past.

*Next Meeting to be arranged by the Chairman*

## NORTHERN

*Hon. Sec: D. C. Hannam,  
12 Moorfield Avenue, Menston,  
W. Yorks.  
Telephone: (0943) 72008*

Winter is still with us but it seems a kind winter. Kind because in this neck of the woods construction is continuing outside virtually unabated, resulting in some good work being accomplished. Drainage work, which as a rule ends up with you being stuck up to the eyeballs in mud has progressed on a relatively clean level with heavy materials moving about without fuss.

A retrospective view of golf green construction was taken on January 22 when "8th green: Baildon - take two" was successfully screened. Apart from the nostalgia the compelling question was "How the hell did we do it?" All in a winter's work, of course!

On the early morning of St. Valentine's Day, 1987 60-plus people, some still drying tears of mirth from their eyes departed from Oakdale Golf Club after our Annual Dinner. Joining us for the evening were our honoured guests, Mr. W. Coates, President of Oakdale G.C. and his wife. Mr. George Malcolm, current Chairman of the now amalgamated BGGG, and his wife. The man responsible for the merriment was our guest speaker, Mr. Brian Bolus the former Yorks / Notts / Derby and England cricketer who succeeded in having most people in stitches throughout his spot. All in all an excellent evening.

### FORTHCOMING FIXTURES:

*Spring Tournament, Keighley G.C.  
June 3rd*

*President's Day, Horsforth G.C.  
June 16th*

*Roses Match, Saddleworth G.C.  
July 22nd*

It is with sadness that we report the death, during January of Mr. A. R. Millar of Skegness.

Mr. Millar was a Northern Section Life Member. Our deepest sympathies to his family.

In order to prevent a break in continuity if you feel like sending your subscription through it will be banked and held safe. Although it is not confirmed, it seems fairly certain that the sub-rate will be £15 for ALL classes. Whatever line is adopted by our new Board of Management, it will take some time for the organisation to function. Please be patient and **do not** become disillusioned. The provincial scene will remain relatively unchanged.

## FOR SALE

Second Hand  
Diesel Driven Irrigation Pump  
Suitable for Sprinkler System

Second Hand  
40ft x 10ft Portacabin  
Ideal for all sorts of uses

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