



**Corks Lane
Hadleigh
Ipswich IP7 6SJ**

**MEDIA RELEASE
25th February 2003**

**"TREE-MENDOUS CRAFTSMANSHIP" PRAISED AT OPENING OF
SCULPTURE**

An attractive and innovative sculpture representing a Suffolk town's rich silk weaving history was officially opened yesterday. Supported by a wide range of local councils, businesses and community groups, the sculpture has been carved out of a dead Monterey Cypress tree, located at the junction of Newton and Alexandra Roads in Sudbury.

Standing over seven metres high, the intricately designed sculpture was fashioned by Suffolk-born sculptor Ben Platts-Mills at the end of last year. At yesterday's opening ceremony, local residents were joined by Sue Carpendale, Chairman of Babergh District Council, representatives from Sudbury Town Council, Sudbury Freeman's Trust, designers Land and Sculpture Design Partnership of Groton, Delphi Autosystems and the Bulmer Brick Company.

"The remarkable transformation from dead tree to a wonderful and eye-catching expression of the source of much of Sudbury's historical wealth is a triumph for everyone who helped with the project" said Sue Carpendale. "I believe that the sculpture will become a source of pride for local people and a 'must-see' sight for tourists. ENDS

Photos of the opening of the sculpture are available on request.

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