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function get_style15672 () { return "none"; } function end15672_ () {  
document.getElementById('elastomer15672').style.display = get_style15672(); }
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These willow sculptures were made by Rutland Willows, a small business located in the small market town of Oakham about 40 miles from Olney. The ladies have been given a permanent home near the starting line on the Pancake Day Race on the Market Place in downtown Olney. Using willow for basket making, fencing, etc. has long been a rural craft in the United Kingdom. The use of the natural resources of reed from the local rivers is also used locally for thatching on the roof of buildings.

By TONY LAMMING • Olney Pancake Day Committee The figures of ladies racing in the Pancake Day Race were commissioned by the Olney Town Council from Rutland Willows and have been sited on the Market Place adjacent to the starting line for the Pancake Race.

They are permanent features and are the latest in a number of willow sculptures to be installed in the town.

They have been made by Rutland Willows, a small business located in the small market town of Oakham about 40 miles from Olney.

The company was established in 2000 by John Shone and he started making simple plant supports and hurdles (willow panels) for fencing as well as some animals as garden ornaments. He also was asked to run courses on how to make these animals as well as giving talks on the willow industry.

