

The Prince of Wales's lifelong contribution to rural life celebrated in Countryside Parade

Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall attended the Prince's Countryside Parade, held at the Royal Cornwall Show (Thursday 7th June).

The Parade was comprised of 58 of HRH's rural patronages including the Lleyn Sheep Society represented by West Country members made up of 450 volunteers (and 40 animals), split in to six sections representing all parts of rural life, from waterways, to livestock, to food and farming. The Parade was held to a soundtrack of the Band of the Royal Marines and the Cornish male voice choirs and narrated by Phil Vickery MBE and JB Gill.

The Parade culminated in Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall being presented with an oak tree and a two month old Boreray lamb named Bryher, led in the Parade and bred in Cornwall by local farmer Jowan Bobin. At 15, Jowan is the youngest member of the Cornwall Rare Breeds Survival Trust Support Group committee. The Boreray sheep, also known as the Boreray Blackface or Hebridean Blackface, is the smallest and rarest of all the UK's native sheep breeds. Though still the most endangered, since HRH became the Patron of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust in 1978 the Boreray has changed from being a category one critical breed, to being a category three Vulnerable breed.

Participants in the parade Gill & John Adams said, "It was a honour to represent the Lleyn Sheep Society in front of HRH at the Royal Cornwall Show. Gill held up and paraded the LLEYN SHEEP SOCIETY board and the Breed Champion Ram (a Selway 2 year old shown by Darren and Sarah Searle) and the 1st Place older ewe (bred by Sally Waters and shown by Robin Longland) looked very good and did the breed proud. ".

Following the Parade, Their Royal Highnesses attended an afternoon tea to meet with many of the volunteers, supporters, and parade participants.

His Royal Highness also thanked the generous sponsors of the afternoon including Jaguar Land Rover, Rodda's, Ginsters, Dairy Crest, South West Water, and the Eden Project. The event was also supported by volunteers from Pendennis, Duchy College and local rotary club. It was delivered by HPower in partnership with The Prince's Countryside Fund and Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association

Notes to editors

The Royal Cornwall Show played host to a special celebration of HRH The Prince of Wales's contribution to the countryside, environment and rural communities in the UK. The event promoted their collective understanding of the scope of countryside, environment and rural activity and provide a legacy to share best practice in the future.

The event showcased broad themes including wildlife and conservation, native breeds, food and farming, and heritage and skills. The breadth and diverse range of charities that took part in the parade provided an ideal opportunity to draw together and catalogue their collective achievements to date. HRH The Prince of Wales's charities illustrate the complex and interconnected nature of the countryside and the features which make it unique, and to be cherished for future generations.

Images from the parade are available.