

# an Tilleadh



**NEW EXHIBITION**

Opening 18<sup>th</sup> April

COMUNN EACHDRAIDH NIS



# Precious Island discoveries.

Bronze Age finds return to Ness. The Adabrock Hoard and the Aird Dell Swords were both found in north Lewis. They are amongst some of the most important Bronze Age artefacts discovered in the UK. They are now returning to Ness on loan from The National Museum of Scotland for a special exhibition.





# The Adabrock Hoard

Made: *approx. 850 BC*

Discovered: 1910

Discovery site: Adabrock, Ness, Isle of Lewis

**In 1910, an eclectic hoard of objects was recovered while peat digging near Adabrock.**

This hoard dates to the Late Bronze Age (c.1000-800 BC). It contains bronze axeheads, a spearhead, three razors and other tools, as well as fragments of a decorated vessel, two whetstones and rare beads of glass, amber and gold. It is one of the most diverse hoards in Britain and speaks to different aspects of Bronze Age life, involving different crafts and highlighting a connected Bronze Age world. How this group of objects came together and why exactly they were sunk into the peat three thousand years ago remains a mystery.

## Opens 18<sup>th</sup> April

Entry to the museum and exhibitions is free but we do welcome donations.

*(There is a small charge for groups of ten or more.)*

For visiting information please see overleaf.

Or visit: [www.nesshistorical.co.uk](http://www.nesshistorical.co.uk)

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## The Aird Dell Swords

Made: *approx. 850 BC*

Discovered: 1891

Discovery site: Aird Dell, Ness, Isle of Lewis

Two Late Bronze Age bronze swords were found on separate occasions while peat digging at Aird Dell in 1891 and 1892.

These swords are characteristic of the period, bearing elegant 'leaf-shaped' blades. One sword is incomplete, whereas the other one is still complete and reasonably sharp, even after three thousand years in the ground. More remarkably, an original horn handle survives on the second sword with attachment rivets embedded in the hilt. Weapons, especially swords, are representative of warfare and conflict in the Late Bronze Age, but the burial of usable weapons suggests that their deposition served another purpose, as powerful items offered to the land.

# Visiting info

Our museum, exhibition galleries, cafe and gift shop are open  
**Monday - Friday**  
**10am - 4.30pm.**

We are also open Saturday during July and August.

Please note we are closed on Sunday.

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## an Tilleadh



COMUNN EACHDRAIDH NIS  
NESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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