

Return Visit to the ‘Lost City of Macaria’ – November 2015

Report by Jewel Pearce

On Thursday 27th November 2015, despite the forecast of rain, a small group of enthusiastic members travelled in a convoy of cars to Roots Bar, Küçük Erenköy.



After welcoming drinks, our host Tina Luckhurst, gave the group a presentation about the “Lost City of Macaria”. Although she confesses that she is neither a researcher nor an archaeologist she had set about tenaciously researching the site after ‘stumbling’ upon it while walking her dog.

Her tenacity led to her to discover ancient maps showing where Macaria was situated. Tina was fired-up to investigate the site and found many examples of physical evidence of the civilisations who inhabited the headland. She photographed and catalogued these.



Still recovering from a serious break to her ankle, Tina was unable to accompany us on the headland walk on this occasion. So, after the presentation, the ATA group, led by Rob Vardy and Suzy Mason-Rowley, set out on the walk.

The first stop on the walk was down to the sea-shore where the group was shown the site where several pottery kilns had been before they were worn away by the sea, landslides and the passage of time. However, one kiln, in a separate area, was more protected by being further away from the tide-line. This, however, is gradually disappearing as is evidenced by its current state in comparison to when some of us first saw it in May of this year.

The next stop was near the cliff top. This area was of great interest to the dowsers of the group due to strong energy lines and the presence of a vortex. Looking down at the sea, even though the tide was in, we could clearly see the rock strata which, it is guessed, would have provided ideal piers from which goods could be loaded and unloaded unto boats.



On the cliff top at the other end of the headland, more “piers” were visible and evidence of steps winding down to sea level. Dowsers found evidence of a Roman beacon, a necessity for guiding boats to shore.

Close by, Suzy and Rob indicated the area where they were certain was the site of several mosaic floors. Allegedly, one had been uncovered in 1973 but was covered up again to preserve and protect it when the problems on the island started.

In the presentation, Tina had shown us a picture of a heart-shaped hole which she had discovered one Valentines’ Day. This was our next stop. No longer heart-shaped, the hole and the area around it were still showing signs of the disturbance of the earth following some exploratory work done by personnel from the Antiquities’ department. Tina had called them in as she felt some investigation was needed.

Continuing around this horseshoe-shaped headland and heading back to our cars, Suzy pointed out an area which may well have been a market or meeting place, and another area which dowsers confirmed was used as an entertainment, an arena.



Our last stop was to look at some millstones. There were two small ones and a huge half millstone. The latter prompted a discussion as to how a stone that huge could have been brought to the area, an uphill slope.

By this time, the forecasted rain was making its way towards us so we quickly made our way to the cars before the storm accompanied by torrential rain hit the area.

A leisurely lunch was taken at a nearby restaurant. Fortunately, the storm had passed over by the time we said our goodbyes and thanks to Tina, Suzy and Rob and headed for home.