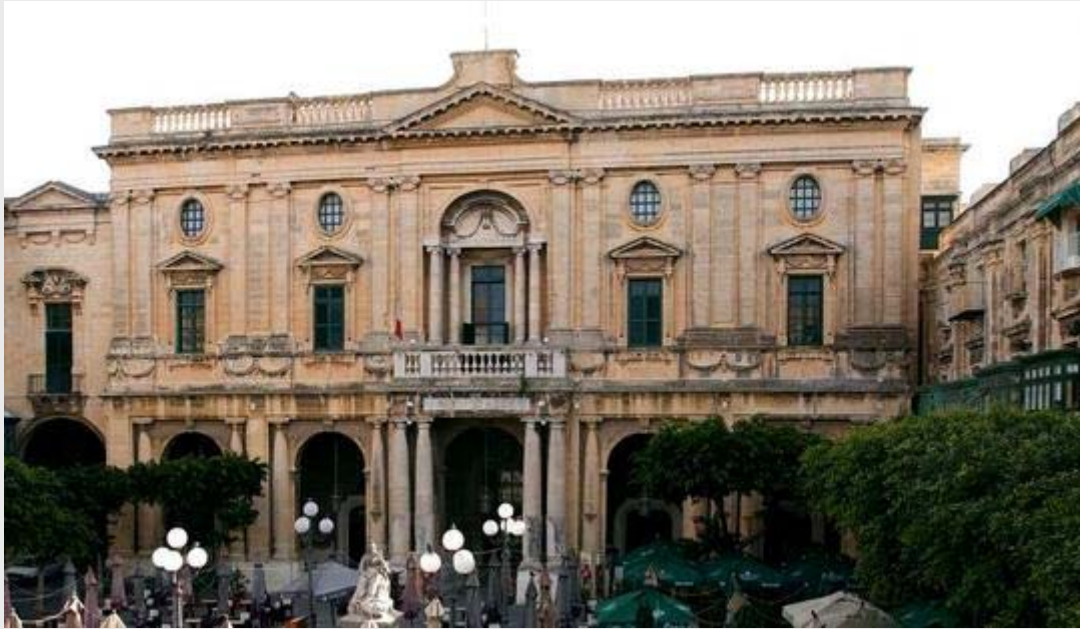


National Library designated 'Palace of New Thinking'



The government has designated the National Library in Valletta as the 'Palace of New Thinking' following a call by Edward deBono.

Prof deBono, a world-renowned author on creative thinking, had proposed the siting of a 'Palace of New Thinking' in Malta last October, saying it should be a building where ideas would be generated.

The first public meetings of the 'Palace of Thinking' will be held later this month, with conflict resolution being discussed on January 28 and the current economic crisis on the following day. The Israeli-Palestinian issue will be the main sub-focus of conflict resolution, while the discussion on the current economic crisis will explore new ways of dealing with unemployment.

The full day programmes run from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The purpose of the 'Palace for New Thinking' is to provide a platform for new ideas; to generate new concepts on the global macro level and to make alternative concepts available in situations requiring possibility design, especially prior to conflict resolution negotiations.

Comments

Raymond Sammut (1 week, 5 days ago)

@ Alfred Camilleri

Trees close to structures, especially historical buildings, cause damage and cluttering, and need to be removed.

Your use of the word "afforestation" is appropriate so long as the right trees are planted in the right place, where they really belong. Most, if not all, streets and squares in Valletta, with all the complex structures involved, both above and below ground, need to be free from organic growth that can potentially cause structural damage.

T Mifsud (1 week, 5 days ago)

This is a move in the right direction.

Re the national Archives, I hope that authorities have a scanned copy of all important documents and held offsite in multiple copies. I hope EVERYTHING is done. There is too much history vulnerable under one roof.

Corinne Vella (1 week, 6 days ago)

Helena Psaila: The national archives are in Rabat, not Valletta. There IS a library in Valletta: a national library is exactly what its name says it is. A national library is not meant to be a lending library. That function is served by community libraries. In Malta, there's one at Belt is-Sebh.

Matt Bonanno (1 week, 6 days ago)

I think you may be onto something there Helena...

What is it with this government and cheesy names and slogans? Palace of New Thinking? I can just imagine someone rushing in yelling "I have a new idea!" "Yes well write it down and we'll catalogue it and you'll be put on a waiting list and in about a year or so you can come back and talk about it. We'll ignore it of course but hey, prooosit, kija ap."

Reminds me a bit of Orwell's Nineteen Eighty Four...

trevor b muscat (1 week, 6 days ago)

I'm sure that a lot of thinking went into this! Achieve new thinking, creativity and innovation by investing money, time and resources in your people and not by simply fluffing up a library with a new name. What's the next trick to amuse us all? Do you have to wear a thinking hat to enter the library now?

James De Giorgio (1 week, 6 days ago)

Palace of thinking?? Last time I was there doing some research for a University assignment made me remember the place as a cluttered room generating headaches.

Ok, just being sarcastic. The Archives stored inside there are fascinating, but I just don't see the "palace of thinking" thingie fitting in there...

Charles Sammut (1 week, 6 days ago)

Never mind the Israeli-Palestinian issue or the world economic crisis, how about something closer to home, like how to go about fixing the atrocious roads or stemming/reversing illegal

immigration?

All the thinking in the world will be futile without the political will. But it sounds good and highbrow and above all costs nothing.

Dare I say that the emperor has no clothes?

Dr.Emmy Bezzina,LL.D.,Dip.S.Th., (1 week, 6 days ago)

And when we are all Alone

With a Bottle of Vintage Port

And some well-chosen Cheese

To Match....then we will Merrily Laugh

A satisfying Loud LAUGH

For YES we have succeeded to

Land in a CATCH!!

Joe Xuereb (1 week, 6 days ago)

I resisted the idea of a 'Palace of New Thinking' last October saying that truly radical thinking (what else could new thinking be?) would only benefit the insider clique and not the man in the street. Of course by new thinking I was also assuming it meant a new mindset. Much in need in Malta and very radical indeed. Something that filters down to Jason, Omar and whatever German boy's name is currently fashionable. I was right. The Middle-East is going to be discussed and and the economic crisis. Even if radical solutions were found, would they be 'sold'. Or is it going to be just a clique of clever people scoring points round a table. In any case, how will any of this impact the man in the street? The good thing is that an existent building is being utilised. So when this 'Palace of New Thinking' goes the way it can only go, no money will have been squandered. Prof. Debono needs to realise that the New Thinking that would be useful for Malta has nothing to do with conflicts abroad and £sd here or elsewhere. Anything else is just more 'bzar fil-ghajnejn' (in English, hogwash will do).

Alfred Camilleri (1 week, 6 days ago)

What is this madness of wanting to uproot trees, especially in Valletta. After the ill-adviced (in my opinion) removal of the trees in front of Castille, there was a suggestion to remove the trees in front of St John's Cathedral, opposite the Law Courts and the bastions. Now we have a suggestion to remove trees in Republic Square, facing the National Library.

Have trees now become public enemy No 1 in Malta? As far as I am aware, the government is engaged on a continuous drive for the afforestation of Malta.

Rita Spiteri (1 week, 6 days ago)

Will we (the tax payers) be forking out any money to these so called thinkers???

J.Bonnici (1 week, 6 days ago)

Our national library has been described by foreign experts as a 'silent disaster', with many priceless documents facing rapid deterioration. How about generating ideas to solve this problem?

Igalea (1 week, 6 days ago)

Adrian Allain

It seems that people have nowadays forget the KISS principle.

C Bonello (1 week, 6 days ago)

Basically the government has told Edward De Bono to put his Imagination Hat on, and imagine that the National Library is a Palace of New Thinking. The government could have pulled off the same stunt with a fast food outlet or a cowshed. "Imagine it's a palace. It's easy if you try...."

D Delia (1 week, 6 days ago)

Perhaps silly ideas is what comes out of this creative, lateral, conflict etc thinking fuss. I haven't seen anything good coming out of this these concepts yet, except for Prof Debono himself.

Vincent Galea (1 week, 6 days ago)

Do you feel like me who feels differently on different days? Does it have to do with the weather we had these last days ? Or how I slept the night before ? Or victim of unkind words that did upset me ?

Why can't I always be happy ?

Thought is the mode of human expression that never ceases. I usually choose not to speak or not to act when I try to avoid certain way of speaking, But undesirable thoughts keep just running in my head.They cannot stop.However, I keep a constant vigilance over my thoughts, actively choosing such thinking that I would like to dwell upon and quickly replace thoughts that tend to do me in.Negative thoughts and down days are part of human nature.It doesn't take much to jump from being down to be happy.

In the hard drive of my brain I have a folder in which are stored backup files of positive thoughts and remind myself of all good things that I am blessed with.

How fortunate to wake up, walk, breathe ,there's no DNA like mine in the world.There never was and never will be another me.

I am special.

Helena Psaila (1 week, 6 days ago)

The National Library is not a real library. It is a place where the country's archives are stored - all our very old documents are there. You don't go to the National Library and come out with a reading book.

This is such a silly piece of news that I think there is an ulterior motive behind it: Government wants us to think that there already is a library in Valletta, so there is no need for a library at opera house site.

How sad :(

Efrem Buhagiar (1 week, 6 days ago)

IS there really a need to have a 'Palace' for 'Thinking'? The old greeks developed in open places, noble and vital concepts still alive today, noting that the most important feature is the dialogue and not the meeting place. Wouldn't a University lecture theatre or an internet blog have served the purpose too?

william sciberras (1 week, 6 days ago)

well done

i think that the previous comments although a bit negative are also valid.

It will cost very little to run this place and the possible benefits would far outweigh the .

expense.

We should try to look ahead and move forward by any means possible.

Adrian Allain (1 week, 6 days ago)

Oh dear ! Oh dear!

I hope that this is not going to become a trend in Malta. Turning simple names into something more complicated.

Sounds very Chinese or North Korean.

We have a head teacher in England who thinks that 'School' is a word that upsets children and parents, so her school has now become a 'Place of Learning'. The word 'school' has been banned from all correspondence, noticeboards and stationery.

There is also a female social worker, who doesn't 'meet' people anymore; she 'experiences face to face contact' with them. (sounds more like kissing to me).

Please Malta, keep it simple.

Raymond Sammut (1 week, 6 days ago)

The "current economic crisis" and the "Israeli-Palestinian issue" will be quite a task to accomplish in two days.

Some ideas first, please, on how to deal with the eyesore and the deprivation.

If trees-in-the-wrong-place were not good for Castille, why are they good for the National Library? Why does the congestion of tables and umbrellas continue to deprive the rightful owners of this important square in Valletta?

With our ideas, in the midst of cobweb and cluttering, we want to save the world but not ourselves.
