

Press Release

www.logainm.ie

Sound files of Kerry placenames

Visitors to www.logainm.ie can now listen to sound files of the pronunciation of 710 placenames in Co. Kerry in Irish and English. The sound files contain the names of all baronies, civil parishes and electoral districts. Names of townlands and physical features are also included. Sound files are already available for placenames in Counties Waterford, Galway and Donegal. Neasa Ní Chinnéide from *Baile an Mhúraigh* in *Corca Dhuibhne* did the sound recordings for the placenames in Kerry.

www.logainm.ie is a public website which provides the official Irish-language names of almost 100,000 towns, streets and post offices throughout the country. The placenames website has attracted 1,604,308 hits since its official launch on 1st October 2008. Placenames are most commonly searched for by their English version. The most-searched placename was Dublin, with 234 searches, Tallaght was in second place (148), and Belfast came third (142). Dingle came fourth, with 134 searches. The most frequently searched placenames in Co. Kerry so far are Dingle, with 134 searches, followed by Killarney with 75, Kenmare with 53 and Tralee, with 51 searches.

Students, teachers, journalists, translators and others who need the authoritative Irish form of placenames can find them easily by searching on www.logainm.ie. The site is also of interest to people worldwide who are interested in the heritage, culture and geography of Ireland.

Minister Ó Cuív said: “In its short life so far, www.logainm.ie has been an overwhelming success. The addition of the new sound files for Kerry placenames will benefit a wide variety of users and is an example of how technology can be used as an effective language tool. I wish both Fiontar and the Placenames Branch continued success in the development of this resource.”

Work on www.logainm.ie is ongoing and more placenames, sound files and new interactive features will be added to the website in 2009-2010.

www.logainm.ie is being developed by Fiontar, Dublin City University’s Irish-medium teaching and research unit, in collaboration with the Placenames Branch of the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.