

Press Release

www.logainm.ie

Sound files of Wicklow placenames

Visitors to www.logainm.ie can now listen to sound files that have been added to 204 placenames in County Wicklow. Sound files in Irish and English have been added to the names of the baronies, civil parishes and electoral districts as well as the names of some physical features. Sound files are already available for placenames in Counties Waterford, Galway, Donegal, Kerry, Tipperary, Louth, Leitrim, Limerick, Kilkenny and Meath. Éamon de Buitléar from Delgany did the sound recordings for the placenames in Wicklow.

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 4 million hits since its official launch on 1st October 2008. Placenames are most commonly searched for by their English version. The most-searched placename is Dublin, with 1,064 searches, Cork is in second place (661), and Blackrock is third (658). Ballina comes fourth, with 655 searches. The most frequently searched placenames in Co. Wicklow so far are Bray, with 477 searches, followed by Wicklow with 454, Arklow with 268 and Greystones, with 265 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.

"Dinny McGinley, Minister for State for Gaeltacht Affairs said: "Logainm.ie is a wonderful facility for professionals, students and for people who have an interest in our culture and language. I am very pleased that this important resource is being continually developed and expanded. I wish the project continued success."

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

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 Arts, Heritage & Gaeltacht Affairs.