## **Press Release**

## www.logainm.ie Sound files of Westmeath placenames

Visitors to <u>www.logainm.ie</u> can now listen to sound files that have been added to 266 placenames in County Westmeath. 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 the following counties Waterford, Galway, Louth, Donegal, Kerry, Tipperary, Dublin, Mayo, Limerick, Leitrim, Meath, Kilkenny, Wicklow, Cork, Roscommon, Wexford, Monaghan, Clare, Carlow, Sligo and Longford. The sound recordings for the placenames in County Westmeath were voiced by Aengus Finnegan from Glassan, Co. Westmeath,

<u>www.logainm.ie</u> 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 7.5 million hits since its official launch on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008. Placenames are most commonly searched for by their English version. The most searched placename so far is Dublin (1,093 searches), Finglas is in second place (804), Carrauntoohil in third (801) and Lixnaw comes fourth (719). The most frequently searched placenames in Co. Westmeath so far are Mullingar (559 searches), followed by Athlone (511), Fore (173) and Moate (125).

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

Dinny McGinley TD, Minister for State for the Gaeltacht, 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 <u>www.logainm.ie</u> is ongoing and more placenames, sound files and new interactive features are added to the website on a continuous basis.

<u>www.logainm.ie</u> 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 and the Gaeltacht.



www.logainm.ie Bunachar Logainmneacha na hÉireann Placenames Database of Ireland



