

## Press Release

[www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie)

### Sound files of Co. Down placenames

Visitors to [www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) can now listen to sound files that have been added to 554 placenames in Co. Down. Sound files in Irish and English have been added to the names of the baronies, civil parishes, electoral districts and towns as well as the names of some physical features. Sound files for the 26 counties were completed in 2015, and this is the first county in Northern Ireland to be recorded. Robbie Hannan from Holywood did the sound recordings for the placenames in Co. Down. It is hoped that these sound files will provide a guide to the local pronunciation of placenames both for researchers and the public.

Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge, DCU, carried out this work in partnership with the Placenames Branch (Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht) and with the Northern Ireland Place-Name Project (Queen's University, [www.placenamesni.org](http://www.placenamesni.org)).

[www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) is a website which provides the official Irish-language names of over 110,000 districts, towns, streets and post offices throughout the country. It attracts up to 34,000 visitors per month. Among the most searched-for placenames in 2019 are Dublin (381 searches), Galway (376) and Cork (305). The most frequently searched-for placenames in Co. Down in 2019 are Down (117 searches), followed by Bangor (62) and Downpatrick (46).

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

Work on [www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) is ongoing and more placenames and new interactive features are added to the website on a regular basis. For example, c.14,000 new streets will be added to the database in the near future and a new application programming interface (API) is in beta testing.

[www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) is being developed by the Gaois research group in collaboration with the Placenames Branch of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Gaois is a research group in Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, DCU comprising lecturers, researchers and postgraduate students. Gaois's mission is to sustain and transform Irish language and culture through the development of innovative and trusted resources.