James Ollerton’s Registration Card

a bandsman’s contesting life in a few rubber stamps

Preston Town Band, 1958 – which one is James Ollerton?

Lancashire Constabulary Band, 1979 – which one is James Ollerton?

compiled by Gavin Holman - May 2019
All those who have played with brass bands in contests in the UK over the years will be familiar with Registration Cards. These were introduced after the Second World War to ensure that players did not compete with multiple bands, and also that the person was actually the correct player. When the Daily Herald dropped its sponsorship of the National Championships, the National Brass Band Contesting Council was established to run the contests and maintain the Registry which, by the early 1950s, had some 27,000 bandsmen on its books.

Each bandsman had his own card which specified which band he/she was registered with. When a player transferred to another band the card was updated to reflect the effective date of transfer. Each year the card was re-validated with a year stamp, and each time the player competed, the card would have been checked by the officials at the contest and the appropriate stamp, date and initials added. In later years photos of players were added to the cards.

Separate registries were established for Welsh and Scottish bands.

The same general process is still in operation today, with similar rules as in the past. The Brass Band Registry is no more, having been replaced by Brass Band Players, an organisation established by Kapitol, the current operators of the National Brass Band Championships.

James Ollerton was a player with Preston Town Band and competed with that band from 1955 to 1963, transferring to the Lancashire Constabulary Band (based in Preston) in January 1965 where he remained until his last known contest in 1980. Registration number 4/49922/53, which implies he registred in 1953, but he did not contest with them until 1955.

Almost nothing is known of James Ollerton’s life outside this registration card. I have found few clues elsewhere. The only possible link is the secretary of Preston Town Band, who was G. Ollerton in 1954-1955 (chairman in 1950) – his father? James’ address is given as “Marbrick”, Bye Pass Road, Garstang. Although that housename is no longer there, it was probably one of a row of houses just set back from the A6 as it looped round the west side of Garstang. A previous address is obscured – 17 Br? Ave, Sw? – possibly Swinton. He was a police constable, playing tutti cornet (named as such on the Constabulary Band’s recording in 1979).

Acknowledgements to brassbandresults.co.uk for details of the contests he attended.
The first contest attended was the North West Area 4th Section contest, on 16th April 1955 at Belle Vue, Manchester, with Preston Town Band conducted by Tom Mitchell. Drawn number 4 of 9 bands, playing the test piece *Midsummer Eve* by Drake Rimmer, they were unplaced.

Preston Town competed in the Blackpool contest on 1st May 1955, but no entry appears on James’ card, so we assume he did not play.

His next contest performance was at the Spring Festival Junior Cup at Belle Vue, on 22nd May 1955. Drawn number 14 of 14 bands, Preston Town took 4th place with their performance of *Midsummer Eve*.

Again, James appears to have missed out on Preston Town’s appearance at the NWABBA Preston District Contest in September 1955, and he next competed at the North West Area 4th Section contest at the Victoria Hall, Bolton on 28th April 1956. The band were drawn number 11 and were unplaced.

Completing the first page of his registration card stamps were:

- 26th May 1956 - Spring Festival Junior Cup, at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Three Songs Without Words* by Eric Ball (unplaced)
- 9th December 1956 – North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Second Section), at Preston Public Hall, playing *A Garland of Classics*, by William Rimmer (unplaced)
- 30th March 1957 – North West Area 3rd Section contest, at Victoria Hall, Bolton, playing *Spirit of Progress* by Drake Rimmer (drawn no. 11, unplaced)
- 18th May 1957 - Spring Festival Junior Cup, at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Sailors’ Songs* by Frank Wright (3rd place, with 167 points)
- 8th December 1957 – North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Second Section), at Preston Public Hall (details not known)
The second page of the card’s stamps begins with the 1958 Area contest:

- **19th April 1958** - North West Area (Third Section) contest at Walkden Town Hall, playing *Devon Fantasy* by Eric Ball (drawn no. 10, 5th place with 174 points)
- **17th May 1958** - Spring Festival (Junior Shield) at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Devon Fantasy* by Eric Ball (drawn no. 13, unplaced)
- **28th September 1958** - Yorkshire v. Lancashire Contest (Class B) at Huddersfield Town Hall, playing *Devon Fantasy* by Eric Ball (drawn no. 11, unplaced)
- **6th December 1958** - North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Second Section), at Preston Public Hall, playing *Snowdon Fantasy* by T.J. Powell (1st place, with 184 points)
- **9th May 1959** - Spring Festival Senior Trophy, at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Yorkshire Ridings Suite* by S.B. Wood (2nd place, with 184 points)
- **6th December 1959** - North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Second Section), at Preston Queen’s Hall, playing *Othello* by Drake Rimmer (1st place, with 364 points)
- **23rd April 1960** - North West Area (Second Section) contest at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Gallions Reach* by Peter Yorke (drawn no. 2, unplaced)
- **28th May 1960** - Spring Festival Senior Trophy, at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Gallions Reach* by Peter Yorke (unplaced)
- **11th December 1960** - North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Second Section), at Preston Queen’s Hall, with a new conductor – R. Hopkinson, playing *Homage to Pharoah* by Drake Rimmer (drawn no. 4, unplaced)

He did not compete in the 1959 Areas at Bolton Town Hall, where Preston Town Band played *English Folk Song Suite* by Ralph Vaughan Williams, but were unplaced.
The third page of the card’s stamps shows that James only competed twice more with Preston Town Band before transferring to Lancashire Constabulary. During this period Preston Town entered five contests. His first contest with the police band was at Golborne in September 1965.

- **13th** May 1961 - Spring Festival Senior Trophy, at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Salzburg Suite* by Denis Wright (drawn no. 8, unplaced)
- **25th** May 1963 - Spring Festival Senior Trophy, at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Four Preludes* by Eric Ball (drawn no. 32, unplaced)

![Lancashire Constabulary Band]

- **26th** September 1965 - Golborne Contest (Section C), conductor Frank Hough, playing their own choice *From the New World* by Antonín Dvořák, arranged by Drake Rimmer (3rd place, drawn no. 1, with 180 points)
- **28th** May 1966 - Spring Festival (Junior Shield) at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Thames Valley Suite* by Henry Geehl (4th place)
- **3rd** December 1966 - North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Third Section), at Dukinfield Town Hall, (3rd place, with 180 points)
- **5th** February 1967 - Rochdale Contest (Section B) at Rochdale Town Hall, (own choice test piece, unplaced)
- **23rd** April 1967 - Blackpool Contest (C Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, (own choice test piece, drawn no. 5, unplaced)
- **23rd** April 1967 - Blackpool Contest (B Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, (own choice test piece, drawn no. 5, unplaced)
- **29th** April 1967 - Spring Festival (Grand Shield) at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Scheherazade* by Rimsky-Korsakov, arranged by Drake Rimmer (drawn no. 25, unplaced)
- **1st** October 1967 - Golborne Contest (Section C) at Lowton Civic Hall, playing their own choice test piece (drawn no. 11, unplaced)

During this period the Lancashire Constabulary Band competed in 12 other contests that James Ollerton did not take part in.
The fourth page of the card’s stamps indicates that James missed the NWABBA Preston District Contest in December 1967, resuming his contesting in 1968.

- **4th February 1968** - Rochdale Contest (Section B) at Rochdale Town Hall, (own choice test piece, drawn no. 3, unplaced)
- **11th February 1968** - Darwen Contest (Section B) at Darwen Public Baths, playing *Themes from Symphony no. 5* by Beethoven, arranged by Denis Wright (2nd place)
- **11th February 1968** - Darwen Contest (Section A) at Darwen Public Baths, playing *Themes from Symphony no. 5* by Beethoven, arranged by Denis Wright (3rd place)
- **20th April 1968** - North West Area (Third Section) contest, at Manchester Free Trade Hall, playing *Fowey River Suite* by Eric Ball (drawn no. 3, unplaced)
- **21st April 1968** - Blackpool Contest (B Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice test piece – *Scheherazade* (drawn no. 5, unknown placing, 176 points)
- **21st April 1968** - Blackpool Contest (A Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice test piece, (drawn no. 2, unknown placing)
- **21st April 1968** - Blackpool Contest (C Section) at South Pier, Blackpool playing own choice test piece *Themes from Symphony no. 5* (2nd place, drawn no. 5)
- **25th May 1968** – Spring Festival Senior Cup at Belle Vue, playing *Devon Fantasy* by Eric Ball (drawn no.16, unplaced)
- **20th October 1968** – unknown contest under the auspices of the North West Area Brass Band Association (possibly the Skelmersdale contest, but that was 27th October – and Lancashire Police Band did not take part, so he may have been borrowed by another band)
- Undated – unknown contest under the auspices of the North West Area Brass Band Association (possibly the Bury contest on 30th November - Lancashire Police Band did not take part, so he may have been borrowed by another band)
- **8th December 1968** - North West Area Brass Band Association contest (Third Section), at Pembroke Halls, Worsley, playing *Peter Schmoll* by Carl Maria von Weber, arranged by Drake Rimmer (drawn no.9, unplaced)
The fifth page of the card’s stamps starts the year 1969 in Blackburn.

- 9\textsuperscript{th} March 1969 - Blackburn Contest (Section B) at King George’s Hall, Blackburn (no details)
- 16\textsuperscript{th} March 1969 - Darwen Contest (Section B) at Darwen Public Baths (own choice contest, no other details)
- 16\textsuperscript{th} March 1969 - Darwen Contest (Section A) at Darwen Public Baths (own choice contest, no other details)
- 20\textsuperscript{th} April 1969 - North West Area (Third Section) contest, at Worsley Civic Hall, playing \textit{Chorale & Variations} by Leighton Lucas (1\textsuperscript{st} prize, drawn no. 3, with 174 points)
- 27\textsuperscript{th} April 1969 - Blackpool Contest (B Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice \textit{Coriolanus} by Cyril Jenkins (3\textsuperscript{rd} place, with 181 points)
- 27\textsuperscript{th} April 1969 - Blackpool Contest (C Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice \textit{Three Days} by William Rimmer (1\textsuperscript{st} place, with 177 points)
- 17\textsuperscript{th} May 1969 - Spring Festival Senior Cup at Belle Vue, playing \textit{Coriolanus} by Cyril Jenkins (drawn no. 10, unplaced)
- 11\textsuperscript{th} October 1969 - National Championship of Great Britain (Third Section Final) at Fulham Town Hall, playing \textit{The Water Carrier} by Luigi Cherubini (2\textsuperscript{nd} prize, with 188 points)
- 7\textsuperscript{th} December 1969 - Wills Regional Championships Preston (Second Section) at Preston Public Hall, playing \textit{Othello} by Drake Rimmer (drawn no. 13, unplaced)

He did not play with the band in the Morecambe Entertainment contest semi-final & final in June and September 1969, nor in the Preston District contest on 16\textsuperscript{th} November 1969.
The sixth page takes us to 1970, with ten contests.

- 8th February 1970 - NWABBA Contest (Second Section) at Pembroke Halls, Worsley, playing *Themes from Symphony no. 5* by Beethoven, arranged by Denis Wright (1st place, with 185 points)
- 12th April 1970 - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Public Hall, playing *First Suite in Eb* by Gustav Holst (4th place, drawn no. 1, with 170 points)
- 26th April 1970 - Blackpool Contest (A Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice test piece (3rd place)
- 9th May 1970 - Spring Festival Senior Cup at Belle Vue, playing *Themes from Symphony no. 5* by Beethoven, arranged by Denis Wright (drawn no. 6, unplaced)
- 15th November 1970 - Saddleworth Contest (Section A) at Uppermill Civic Hall, playing own choice *Promenade* by Frank Bryce (drawn no. 4, unplaced)
- 6th December 1970 - Wills Regional Championships - Preston (Second Section) at Preston Public Hall, playing *Promenade* by Frank Bryce (unplaced)
- 21st February 1971 - NWABBA Contest (Second Section) at Pembroke Halls, Worsley, playing *Lorenzo* by Thomas Keighley (drawn no. 6, unplaced)
- 7th March 1971 - Mossley Contest at George Lawton Hall, Mossley, playing own choice test piece (drawn no. 3, unplaced)
- 18th April 1971 - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Public Hall, playing *Suite Gothique* by Leon Boelmann (2nd place, drawn no. 1, with 185 points)
- 25th April 1971 - Blackpool Contest (B Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice *Suite Gothique* by Leon Boelmann (2nd place, drawn no. 1, with 187 points)
- 25th April 1971 - Blackpool Contest (A Section) at South Pier, Blackpool, playing own choice *Lorenzo* by Thomas Keighley (3rd place, drawn no. 4, with 182 points)

He did not play with the band in the Radio Merseyside Entertainment contest on 14th February 1971.
James Ollerton started his seventh page on his card when he registered at Belle Vue for the Grand Shield contest.

- **8th May 1971** – Spring Festival Grand Shield at Belle Vue, playing *Lorenzo* by Thomas Keighley (drawn no. 7, unplaced)
- **15th May** - Whitehaven Contest (Class A), playing *Lorenzo* by Thomas Keighley (1st prize, with 186 points)
- **9th October 1971** - National Championship of Great Britain (Second Section Final) at Imperial College, South Kensington, playing *Celebration* by Eric Ball (4th place, drawn no. 15, with 92 points)
- **5th December 1971** - Wills Regional Championships - Preston (Second Section) at Preston Public Hall, playing *Songs & Dances* by Allan Street (no details)
- **26th March 1972** - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Public Hall, playing *Sinfonietta* by Joseph Horovitz (3rd prize, drawn no. 4, with 173 points)
- **NWABBA Contest** (Second Section) at Pembroke Halls, Worsley, playing *Four Corners of the World* by Ronald Hanmer (1st prize)
- **30th April 1972** - Blackpool Contest, 'B' Section at the Locarno Ballroom, Blackpool, playing own choice test piece (3rd prize, with 191 points)
- **30th April 1972** - Blackpool Contest, 'A' Section at the Locarno Ballroom, Blackpool, playing own choice test piece *Academic Festival Overture* by Johannes Brahms, arranged by Denis Wright (3rd prize, drawn no. 4, with 180 points)
- **6th May 1972** - Spring Festival Grand Shield at Belle Vue, playing *Academic Festival Overture* by Johannes Brahms, arranged by Denis Wright (drawn no. 1, placed 12th)
- **22nd October 1972** - Skelmersdale Contest (Section A) at Brookfield School, Skelmersdale, playing own choice test piece (3rd prize, with 189 points)
- **3rd December 1972** - Wills Regional Championships - Preston (Second Section) at the Public Hall, Preston, playing *Four Corners of the World* by Ronald Hanmer (1st prize, drawn no. 2)

He did not play with the band in Preston District Contest on 13th February 1972, nor the Radio Merseyside Entertainment contest on 12th March 1972, nor the Wigan contest on 19th November 1972.
The eighth page starts off the new year of 1973.

- **11th February 1973** - North West Association Contest (Second Section) at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Rhapsody in Brass* by Dean Goffin (2nd prize, drawn no. 6, with 88 points)
- **25th March 1973** - North West Area (Second Section) at Parr Hall, Warrington, playing *The White Company* by Norman Richardson (2nd prize, drawn no. 2, with 177 points)
- **1st April 1973** - Blackpool Contest (B Section) at Norbreck Hydro Hotel, Blackpool, playing own choice *Rhapsody in Brass* by Dean Goffin (1st prize, with 86 points)
- **14th April 1973** - Wills Championships Grand Finals (2nd Section) at Imperial College, South Kensington, playing *Doon Valley* by Allan Street (3rd prize, drawn no. 21, with 374 points)
- **5th May 1973** - Spring Festival Senior Cup at Belle Vue, playing *Main Street* by Eric Ball (drawn no. 8, unplaced)
- **6th October 1973** - National Championship of Great Britain (Second Section Final) at Imperial College, South Kensington, playing *Sinfonietta* by Thomas Wilson (drawn no. 15, unplaced)
- **10th February 1974** - North West Association Contest (Second Section) at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Blackfriars* by Edric Cundell, arranged by Frank Wright (2nd prize, drawn no. 2, with 362 points)
- **24th March 1974** - North West Area (Second Section) at Parr Hall, Warrington, playing *Song and Dances* by Allan Street (3rd prize, drawn no. 4, with 186 points)
- **28th April 1974** - Buxton Festival (Section A) at Pavilion Gardens, Buxton, playing *Othello* by Drake Rimmer (2nd prize, drawn no. 11, with 190 points)
The ninth page continues the run of contests in 1974.

- **5th October 1974** - National Championship of Great Britain (Second Section Final) at Imperial College, South Kensington, playing *Entertainments* by Gilbert Vinter (drawn no. 15, unplaced)
- **3rd November 1974** - NWABBA Preston District Contest (Section A) at Marine Hall, Fleetwood, playing *Suite Gothique* by Leon Boelmann (2nd prize, drawn no. 1, with 189 points)
- **9th February 1975** - NWABBA Contest (Second Section), playing *Schéhérazade* by Rimsky-Korsakov, arranged by Drake Rimmer (3rd prize)
- **23rd March 1975** - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Guild Hall, playing *Rhapsody in Brass* by Dean Goffin (4th prize, drawn no. 11, with 184 points)
- **30th March 1975** - Pontins (Second Section) at Pontins Holiday Centre, Southport, playing *Overture to “The Sicilian Vespers”* Giuseppe Verdi arranged by Edrich Siebert (4th prize, drawn no. 12, with 175 points)
- **30th March 1975** - Pontins (Championship Section) at Pontins Holiday Centre, Southport, playing own choice test piece (drawn no. 20, unplaced)
- **2nd November 1975** - NWABBA Preston District Contest (Section A) at Marine Hall, Fleetwood, playing *The Plantagenets* by Edward Gregson (2nd prize)
- **15th February 1976** - NWABBA Contest (Second Section) at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Sinfonietta for Brass Band* by Gordon Langford (3rd prize, drawn no. 4, with 368 points)
- **28th March 1976** - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Guild Hall, playing *Tournament for Brass* by Eric Ball (3rd prize)
- **18th April 1976** - Pontins Southport (Second Section) at Pontins Holiday Centre, Southport, playing *Overture to “The Sicilian Vespers”* by Giuseppe Verdi arranged by Edrich Siebert (1st prize, with 193 points)
- **9th May 1976** - Spring Festival Senior Cup at Belle Vue, playing *Suite Gothique* by Leon Boelmann (1st prize, drawn no. 15, with 186 points) – the last contest with Frank Hough as conductor

James did not compete with the band at the Buxton Festival on 27th April 1975, nor the Spring Festival Senior Cup on 10th May 1975.
The tenth page mirrors the band’s contesting, James not missing a single contest. Also the introduction of two new conductors – Harry Bentham and Billy Hill

- 9th October 1976 - National Championship of Great Britain (Second Section Final) at Imperial College, South Kensington, conducted by Harry Bentham, playing *Land of the Mountain and the Flood* by Hamish MacCunn (5th prize, drawn no. 22, with 184 points)

- 31st October 1976 - NWABBA Preston District Contest (Section A) at Marine Hall, Fleetwood, conductor Billy Hill, playing *Suite Gothique* by Leon Boelmann (1st prize, with 90 points)

- 7th November 1976 - Pontins (Second Section) at Pontins Holiday Camp, Prestatyn, playing *Suite Gothique* by Leon Boelmann (1st prize, drawn no. 7, with 182 points)

- 13th February 1977 - NWABBA Contest (Second Section) at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Morning Rhapsody* by Eric Ball (5th place, drawn no. 2, with 372 points)

- 3rd April 1977 - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Guild Hall, playing *Morning Rhapsody* by Eric Ball (1st prize, drawn no. 1, with 174 points)

- 10th April 1977 - Pontins Southport (Second Section) at Pontins Holiday Centre, Southport, playing *Promenade* by Frank Bryce (7th place, drawn no. 4, with 178 points)

- 22nd May 1977 - Spring Festival Grand Shield at Belle Vue, playing *Land of the Mountain and the Flood* by Hamish MacCunn (12th place)

- 8th October 1977 - National Championship of Great Britain (Second Section Final) at Imperial College, Kensington, conducted by Harry Bentham, playing *Scena Sinfonica* by Henry Geehl (unplaced)

- 23rd March 1978 - Pontins (Second Section) at Pontins Holiday Camp, Prestatyn, playing *Second Rhapsody on Negro Spirituals* by Eric Ball (7th place, drawn no. 19, with 183 points)
The eleventh sheet from the card showed James Ollerton with a busy time – 10 contests.

- **2nd** April 1978 - North West Area (Second Section) at Preston Guild Hall, playing *The Three Musketeers* by George Hespe (1st prize, drawn no. 9, with 193 points)
- **7th** October 1978 - National Championship of Great Britain (Second Section Final) at Imperial College, Kensington, playing *Down Under* by Ronald Hanmer (drawn no. 2, unplaced)
- **29th** October 1978 - NWABBA Preston District Contest (Section A) at Marine Hall, Fleetwood, playing unknown test piece (1st prize, with 191 points)
- **5th** November 1978 - Pontins (Second Section) at Pontins Holiday Camp, Prestatyn, playing *Rococo Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky* by Allan Street (2nd prize, drawn no. 1, with 188 points)
- **28th** January 1979 - Rochdale Contest (Championship Section) at Rochdale Town Hall, playing *Embassy Suite* by Allan Street (drawn no. 8, unplaced)
- **18th** February 1979 - NWABBA Contest (Championship Section) at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Embassy Suite* by Allan Street (drawn no. 6, unplaced)
- **1st** April 1979 - North West Area (Championship Section) at Preston Guild Hall, playing *Variations for Brass Band* by Ralph Vaughan Williams (9th place, drawn no. 2)
- **7th** April 1979 - Radio Manchester Contest Final at BBC Studios, Manchester, playing an entertainments selection (2nd prize)
- **16th** April 1979 - Pontins Southport (Championship Section) at Pontins Holiday Centre, Southport, playing *Tam O'Shanter's Ride* by Denis Wright (drawn no. 1, unplaced)
- **19th** May 1979 - Spring Festival (Grand Shield) at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *Sinfonietta for Brass Band* by Gordon Langford (10th place, drawn no. 4)

He did not play when the band competed in the Radio Manchester contest heat on 3rd December 1978.
The final page, the twelfth, chronicles his last contests with the police band. What happened to James Ollerton in life or in banding after 1980 has yet to be discovered.

- **25\(^{th}\) August 1979** - Edinburgh International Contest at Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, playing march, hymn, and own choice test piece *Le Carnaval Romain* by Hector Berlioz, arranged by Frank Wright (4\(^{th}\) place)
- **25\(^{th}\) November 1979** - City of Leicester Brass Band Festival (Championship Section) at De Montfort Hall, Leicester, playing *Le Carnaval Romain* by Hector Berlioz, arranged by Frank Wright (unplaced)
- **17\(^{th}\) February 1980** - NWABBA (Championship Section) at Bolton Town Hall, playing *Beatrice & Benedict* by Hector Berlioz, arranged by Keith Wilkinson (2\(^{nd}\) prize, drawn no. 5, with 184 points)
- **30\(^{th}\) March 1980** - North West Area (Championship Section) at Preston Guild Hall, playing *Beatrice & Benedict* by Hector Berlioz, arranged by Keith Wilkinson (drawn no. 1, unplaced)
- **7\(^{th}\) April 1980** - Pontins Southport (Championship Section) at Pontins Holiday Centre, Southport, playing *Journey into Freedom* by Eric Ball (4\(^{th}\) place, drawn no. 6, with 181 points)
- **17\(^{th}\) May 1980** - Spring Festival (Grand Shield) at Belle Vue, Manchester, playing *The Crusaders* by Thomas Keighley (18\(^{th}\) place, drawn no. 14, with 173 points)
- **23\(^{rd}\) August 1980** - Edinburgh International Contest at Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, playing march, hymn, and own choice test piece (unplaced)
- **30\(^{th}\) November 1980** - City of Leicester Brass Band Festival (Championship Section) at De Montfort Hall, Leicester, playing *La Forza del Destino Overture* by Guiseppe Verdi, arranged by Frank Wright (drawn no. 5, unplaced)
During James Ollerton’s time with the police band, they made three LP recordings:

- **The Men in Blue play a selection of marches** (Deroy Records, DER0Y 564) – 1970 – Conductor Frank Hough, recorded at the Assembly Hall, Constabulary Training School, Hutton, Preston [Great Little Army; The Contemptibles; National Emblem; The Thin Red Line; The Voice of the Guns; The Middy; General Salute; On the Quarter Deck; Officer of the Day; Death or Glory; La Rêve Passe; The New Colonial March; Blaze Away; Slow March – Scipio]

- **Brass in Blue** (Deroy Records, DER0Y 999) – 1974 – Conductor Frank Hough [Old Comrades; The Arcadians; Snowbird; Bugler’s Holiday; Eye Level; Castell Caerphilly; Amazing Grace; Cha Cha for Band; Adagio from Spartacus; The Wedding; Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines; Cavaleria Rusticana]

- **In Concert** (Hollick & Taylor, HT/LPS1610) - 1979 - Conductor Harry Bentham – [Concert Prelude; Overture to Lustspiel; Cornet Solo - Chiapanecas; Theme Music - Elvira Madigan; French Military March; La Reine de Saba; Cavatina; Hey, Mr. Music Man; Traditional Air - The Boy From Menaem; Theme Music - Superman; Aces High]

Coincidentally, my own first contest with Latchford Silver Band was the North West Area 4th Section, at Preston Public Hall in April 1971, and I distinctly recall listening to at least one of the 2nd Section performances – that of Lancashire Constabulary Band, playing *Suite Gothique*, by Leon Boellmann – the first time I’d heard that piece – it is still one of my favourites.

*Suite Gothique* is nearly the Lancashire Constabulary Band’s contest theme tune – they competed with it six times, only surpassed by *Scheherazade* (7 contest performances).

If you want to build up your own contesting history record, you can visit the Brass Band Results website (https://brassbandresults.co.uk), and register. Then, for each contest you played in, click the “I Played At This Contest” button to enter your details. Your performances will then appear in your Profile page.