

## ***Brian Howard***

Brian gained his Bachelor of Engineering degree at Canterbury University in 1970. During one of his under-graduate summer vacation training jobs he was given a copy of the Report to The President of The United States on the 1965 Northeast Power Blackout. When he read this, Brian discovered the existence of the little "black boxes" called protection relays. These are intended to help keep the power system running by detecting and disconnecting short circuits on the system. But they could also create the most extraordinary havoc if not correctly set up. This discovery permanently changed Brian's life. He determined to find out more about protection relaying, and eventually joined the Protection Section of the NZ Electricity Department in 1972. He has worked as a protection design engineer from that day to this, in NZED and Transpower; and for six years as a Consulting Engineer with Worley Consultants (now AECOM Maunsell). He involved himself in the GridHeritage executive some three years ago."

