



Member Press Release

- Richard Solomon-

Earlier today I shared with the Board that after decades of service Richard has decided to hang up his shingle, retiring from the end of this year. I hear you say Wow! Not the word that came to my mind as I thought about the loss of so much knowledge and experience, but I respect his decision.

Retiring I thought, nah. A shift away from bridge, nah. More about a change in priorities, slowing down a little, and focusing on the things he loves is more likely. Richard has already extended a hand, so even though he is retiring you will continue to see him around.

The contribution Richard has made to New Zealand Bridge cannot be measured, but rest assured it is enormous- Congress, the bridge magazine, the inter-provincials, education, the Babich (now Loveblock), to name a few. We are keen to recognise Richard's contribution and will in the new year find an appropriate time and place to do just that.

To help us prepare something we are keen to hear stories, anecdotes, hands of interest, photos you may have in your collection, non-bridge stories, general good wishes, basically any tale that showcases Richard. Please send what you have to Anna (anna.kalma@nzbridge.co.nz). I know my first encounter with Richard was in Thames. I sat at the table, bidding commenced and then he started wriggling and jiggling, hands through his hair. We all know there are many characters within the



bridge circle, and I thought here is one. What I did learn was he was an exceptional player, a caring genuine person, dedicated to the success of the game, and willing to share what was on his mind.

I am sure everyone joins us in wishing Richard happiness in his “semi-retirement”, happiness and fulfilment in his new home in Te Aroha, and having the opportunity of spending quality time with his daughter who has recently returned to New Zealand.

Allan Morris
Chair- NZ Bridge Inc
22 Nov 2022

