## **Press Release**

Date: 10 Sep 2017

Marcus Hill resident, Mr Jim Mason AM, announced today that he will be nominating for the upcoming City of Greater Geelong elections in Bellarine Ward.

Jim was raised on the Bellarine, loves its rural and coastal qualities and appreciates the proximity of urban Geelong. He studied engineering at the Gordon and later completed a Master of Arts Degree (International Relations) at Deakin.

Since returning to the Bellarine in 2006 Jim has re-established close and active links with the community and demonstrated a passionate interest in sustainability, education and agriculture.

His return followed a long period in Africa, Europe and the Asia/Pacific undertaking humanitarian aid work, primarily managing large scale disaster recovery programs.

Along with his wife Lynne, Jim was awarded an Order of Australia for this overseas work in 2008.

Throughout his working life Jim has learned the importance of good governance, the need for fairness and the benefits of the efficient delivery of services. He knows it is vital to accommodate all stakeholders' needs.

'I will strive for durable solutions and a fair deal for all,' Jim stated.

Many Bellarine residents are already familiar with Jim, through the various community groups that he is involved with, and his roles as the President of Bellarine Landcare and with The Friends of Mannerim Memorial Indigenous Garden.

Whilst Jim maintains a high level of community participation, he wants to bring his skills to local government as a councillor for Bellarine Ward.

"A lot of Bellarine residents have lost faith in the Council and I think we need to give back to the residents a sense of ownership and mutual respect,' Jim said.

'I will remain mindful of a balanced approach and the needs of the whole Bellarine. I will work hard for you, listen, and consult.'

Jim Mason promises to offer a fresh, independent approach and a broad professional perspective to running a large Council in a city facing innovation challenges and many changes such as recent job losses.

You can learn more about Jim and his views on his website <a href="https://www.jimmason.com.au">www.jimmason.com.au</a> or contact him on 0490 802 350.