

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**15 May 2015**

**MATES4MATES ANNOUNCES NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

The Mates4Mates Board have announced the appointment of the organisation's new Chief Executive Officer, Simon Sauer, effective 9 June 2015.

Simon comes to Mates4Mates with a strong Defence background after 26 years as a Royal Australian Air Force Officer. He will be leaving his position as Chief of Staff, Combat Support Group at RAAF Base Amberley.

Simon served as a Ground Defence Officer throughout his career with experience in operational units, training units and staff roles. He has seen operational service in Kuwait, East Timor and Afghanistan.

Simon was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the January 2010 Australia Day honours, and awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross in the June 2006 Queen's Birthday honours.

Announcing Simon's appointment, Mates4mates Chair Miriam Dwyer said the Board wanted to find the best person for the role and believes it has found the right person in Simon to lead Mates4Mates.

"Simon was chosen in a competitive selection process from a strong field of candidates and we are looking forward to working with him to support wounded, injured and ill Mates and their families," Miriam said.

"Simon's expertise and insights will help Mates4Mates to move forward in a changing environment."

**ENDS**