

## **A SYMPOSIUM POEM    Peter Tatham**

On Friday we came together not pods but peas  
A bunch of people from Separate countries

To talk about life and work and careers  
In session panels and over a few beers

Our purpose to develop career applications  
For workforce development and all generations

We talked of challenge, links and learning in our objectives  
And we set out ways of getting different perspectives

First was Helen Silver with a human capital big picture  
And with that our thinking became broader and richer

At mixer tables you sat and started to bloom  
We knew then the talent was in the room

We broadened how workforce development was understood  
To preparation, adaptability, reintegration and that's pretty good

I thought then I must be a dill  
It's obvious you start with the owner of the pulp mill

And youth, that canny y generation  
We need to customise to meet their expectation

The Lester and Wendy talked of raising a profile  
I quite liked his Michael Parkinson interview style

On Sunday morning when Richard Sweet  
Introduced the diversity panel now that was a treat

How do they do career in an ex war zone or  
Impacts of acts in families and homes  
What about work from a remote location  
Who would have thought E-colonisation

And special groups we gave a mention  
Gender, culture, indigenous need more attention

So to older workers and barrier and retention  
Recognised that careers has a lifespan dimension

The evidence base and what to measure  
Makes national career centres important  
And an International one a treasure

Well I've given you my thoughts in line with your attention span  
It's time for country teams to meet and do you action plan.