

# Once more into the breach dear friends

AND there was me looking forward to a peaceful retirement thinking moderation and good sense were finally prevailing in this wonderful state.

Now I hear Forestry Tasmania, with a figleaf of a new name, is out to prove that anything can be called sustainable — if you have government permission to trash our best forests and unlimited taxpayer subsidies. As people wiser than me have said, if FT was a private company it

would have gone bust years ago.

But wait there's more, the salmon industry — no longer content with being a nice little boutique earner — wants to expand on a leviathan scale and turn the East Coast into a clone of the increasingly troubled Macquarie Harbour fish farms.

If that is not enough, we are facing a new state planning scheme that can regenerate our world-renowned national

parks into suburbs. Here we go again — dust off the placards, organise the protest rallies, fire up the networks — who said retirement was dull? Now I have plenty of time to do what I used to squeeze in between business meetings and earning a living. So once more into the breach dear friends, with a deep, inner groan at the needlessness of it all.

**Richard Upton**  
**Battery Point**

Merc 2 Nov '16