



MESSAGE: Eve and Lila Lyon protest the conditions of egg-laying hens in the Mall.

Picture: PETER HYETT.

Activists lobby plight of caged chooks

ACTIVISTS locked themselves in a cage yesterday to lobby Bendigo to take note of the plight of battery hens.

Volunteer animal rights activists from the Human Battery Cage, a lobby group for chicken liberation invited Bendigo residents to join them to ex-

perience the living conditions of a battery hen.

From 10.30 am to 4.30 pm, organisers estimate about 30 people joined four of Human Battery Cage's activists inside the cage and six Bendigonians who spent most of the day there.

"Our primary aim is to

raise awareness of the implications of consumer decisions," group spokesman Drew Fryer said.

"We want the public to think of more than the price, especially of the welfare of the hens."

"About 80 per cent of all eggs bought come from

hens kept in tiny cages on factory farms.

"Those 10 million hens each have a space less than the size of an A4 sheet of paper and never get the chance to stretch their wings or see the light of day."

Mr Fryer said he was pleased with the Bendigo response.