



The Border Watch - pg 1
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The Border Watch

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Protesters were yesterday "cooped up" in Mount Gambier to raise the plight of battery hens across Australia. Caged are animal rights activists Shane Dagleish (left), Jodie Barnett, Drew Fryer, Susan Adkins and Heather Blyth. **Story Page 2.**

Free range activists caged

HOW would you cope being locked inside a cramped cage every day of your life?

That is the question being asked by a group of volunteer animal rights activists who spent most of yesterday locked inside specially-made human battery cages in front of the Lakes Village Shopping Centre.

They hoped to educate local people about the plight of egg-producing battery hens across the country - which are kept in tiny cages with little room to stretch their wings - and encourage legislative changes to help Australia catch up with progressive nations such as Switzerland, Sweden and Austria

by banning the cage.

The cages were in Mount Gambier as part of the Human Battery Cage's six month national tour, according to coordinator Heather Blyth.

"The Australian consumer deserves to know where their food comes from. Around 80pc of all eggs bought come from hens kept in tiny cages on factory farms.

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

"We're here to raise awareness of this issue in a novel way that we hope the public can easily relate to and empathise with."