



**CAGED:** Shane Dalgleish and fellow activists try the life of a battery hen. Picture: Narelle White

090407MKT

## Experiencing life of a battery hen

By Billy Crossland

EVER wondered what it's like being a battery hen trapped in a cage all day?

There is one group of activists that has.

The Human Battery Cage consists of a group touring Australia with cages.

Their installation/performance art consists of the group recreating the conditions faced by battery hens in different towns.

On Saturday they were joined by members of Animals Australia and the Ballarat Organisation for Animal Rights, some of whom were dressed in chicken suits.

The group piled into three small cages set up in Bridge Mall, creating a lot of interest from passing shoppers.

Human Battery Cage member Shane Dalgleish said they were making an obvious point.

"The message is clear, we're just focusing on confinement and we don't think that it's appropriate to keep hens locked in tiny little cages," he said.

They also got into the Easter spirit by giving away 500 Easter eggs.

"We were getting sick of people asking if we'd laid any eggs yet," Mr Dalgleish said.

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