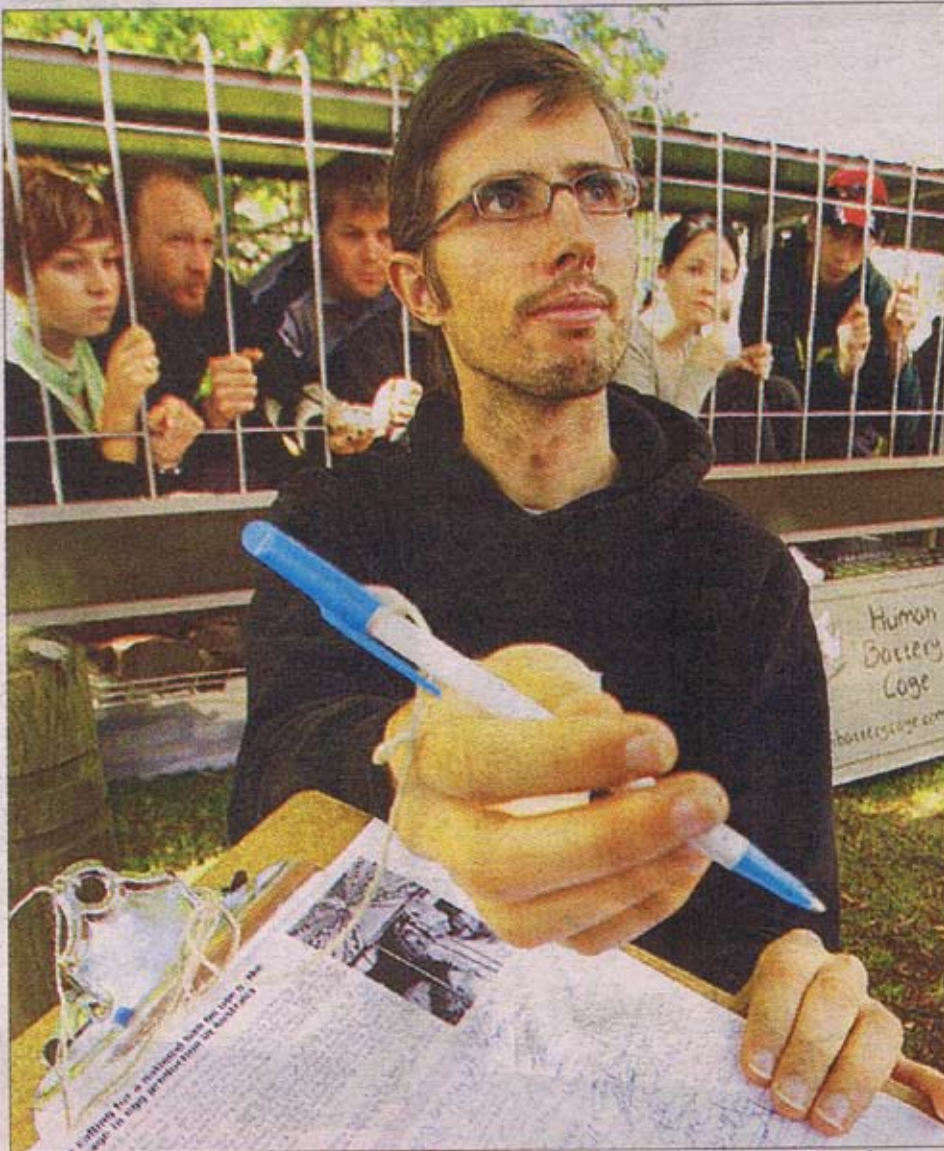


## Hens' lives in A4-sized metal cage



BEING squashed into a small metal cage might sound like an unusual way to spend a day.

But a group of volunteers did just that at sites around Perth last week as they spent a day in the life of the country's estimated 10.5 million battery hens.

The Human Battery Cage installation artwork was at Curtin University of Technology as the latest leg of a six-month national tour.

Project co-ordinator Shane Dagleish said the stunt was intended to educate consumers about where the eggs they ate came from.

"The 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," she said.

Under Australian regulations battery hen cages are about 40cm high with a floor space between 450 and 550sqcm. The RSPCA has long opposed the use of battery cages.

It is a practice the industry has defended as efficient and humane. See [www.humanbattery-cage.com](http://www.humanbattery-cage.com) for details.

**Activist Drew Fryer and supporters at Curtin university, Bentley.**

Picture: Justin Benson-Cooper

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