



## Tertangala - Uni of Wollongong 7 March 2007

# HUMAN BATTERY CAGE PROTEST

By Jay Fletcher

The Human Battery Cage, containing animal liberation activist and sympathetic volunteers, gave students at UoW a vivid portrayal of the experiences of Australia's battery hens.

"10 million hens are kept in battery cages around Australia," said Drew Fryer, an organiser of the action. "That accounts for about 80% of all eggs sold."

The unique and different protest addressed the plight of the battery hen on March 6 at UoW. By piling humans into enlarged replicas of the average battery cage, and discussing the appalling living standards of caged hens, Drew and the organisers hope to create the empathy and compassion needed to achieve their goals.

"Keeping animals in any cage is wrong. We aim to give people a clearer understanding of why," he said.

Three activists are taking the Cage around Australia to collect petition signatures, aiming to have the battery cage completely banned in Australia.

"European countries have already banned the cage," said Drew. "Switzerland, Sweden and Austria have banned it. The entire European Union is aiming to have the cage banned by 2012."

The installation has currently been on the road for two weeks. Another aim is to make contact and link together

animal liberation groups right around the country. Through this type of grassroots organisation, animal lib activist hope to create positive change.

"We think it's a growing movement and we think it's about time Australia caught up with what the rest of the world is doing," Drew said.

To find out more about the Human Battery Cage, for tour dates and to sign the petition, visit: [www.humanbattery.com](http://www.humanbattery.com)



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The Tertangala joins in on the protest