



Art exhibit fires up anti-smokers

ANTI-smokers let off steam in the foyer of the Art Gallery of NSW yesterday, bombarding an Alfa Romeo racing car with cigarette butts and crushed tobacco packets.

More than 40 members of BUGAUP - Billboard-Using Graffitiists Against Unhealthy Products - converged on the car, an exhibit in the gallery's art and technology show, to protest against its use for the advertising of Marlboro cigarettes.

The car is heavily adorned with Marlboro advertising stickers.

Visitors gaped and gallery employees watched helplessly as a BUGAUP member, Mr Ric Bolzan, of Redfern, Sydney, chained himself to the car, protesting against "the use of a cultural institution for the promotion of tobacco products".

Mr Bolzan had time to read an open letter to the trustees of the gallery, decrying their involvement with cigarette advertising, before the police moved in and arrested him.

Mr Bolzan, dressed in white overalls and plastered with non-smoking stickers, con-

tinued to chant anti-smoking slogans as he was escorted to a police vehicle.

He was later charged with causing serious alarm and affront, and was ordered to appear at Castlereagh Street Court on August 30.

A spokesman for BUGAUP said the group had been angered last week to see the NSW Premier, Mr Wran, posing for photographs in the Alfa Romeo car.

"As a member of a Government which officially condemns the promotion of tobacco, his action was disgraceful," he said.



ANTI-cigarette protester Mr Ric Bolzan, chained to the Marlboro-endorsed Alfa Romeo, and above, being led away by police as he chanted anti-smoking slogans