

ISLAND LIFE 

Body piercer William Campbell with client, Clare Burton.

POINT IN FAVOUR

WORDS **TRACY RENKIN**
PHOTOGRAPHY **MATT THOMPSON**

Even though he has 11 body piercings, William Campbell admits he still gets a little bit nervous every time he gets a new one. Nearly everyone that walks through his Liverpool St piercing studio in Hobart feels that same kind of unease, he says. "Getting a piercing can be daunting," Campbell says. "I try to make it as safe, friendly and as enjoyable as possible."

It's his in-built empathy that makes this 26-year-old young father and specialist body piercer so warm and welcoming. Even the initial consultation he insists on for clients younger than 13 is refreshing in its compassion and detail.

His passion for the very best in sterilising guns that can't be properly sterilised, he says. Campbell's been piercing the body parts of men and women now for about six years after an 18-month mentoring program. He watched and learnt his skill for six months before he did his first piercing.

He says word of mouth — mostly from Hobart mums — means he has a constant stream of younger faces staring back at him over the reception counter. Sometimes parents can be a little uneasy about taking their little ones into a tattoo parlour. "I can totally understand their apprehension," Campbell says. "A lot of people might know tattoo parlours as a really different thing to what a lot of them are nowadays."

"A lot of people think of a stereotype of a dingy, back-alley, bikie sort of place where you are going to be met with someone who is not going to be very friendly or warm or inviting, which is definitely not the case with a lot of tattoo shops nowadays."

He takes his clients through deep breathing techniques similar to yoga.

"Breathing in and out helps you to naturally relax without even thinking about it," he says. "It's really hard to tense up when you are focusing on breathing."

@piercingbywilliam @walktheline_tattoo



CASCADE
- BREWERY CO -
ESTD 1824

GHOST TOURS

June 7th - 21st | \$24 | 6:45PM & 7:45PM | 18+y/o
BOOK NOW LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

Cascade Brewhouse 140 Cascade Road South Hobart 03 6212 7801