

## About Marie Byles & Ahimsa

Marie Byles (1900 - 1979) was a prominent conservationist, mountaineer, explorer, bushwalker and lawyer. Always ahead of her time Marie also studied, practiced and wrote about Buddhism. Her beliefs were deeply connected with her respect and protection of the natural world and the practice of sustainable living. Her home *Ahimsa* is the significant physical embodiment of these beliefs.

*Ahimsa* and the surrounding landscape is a testimony to Marie Byles' life and vision as a feminist and a conservationist. *Ahimsa* is a National Trust property.



## About the events

Experience the urban bush conservation legacy of the legendary Marie Byles and encounter her remarkable property and story at her former home *Ahimsa* in Cheltenham over a weekend of diverse activities. The two days provide a rare opportunity to visit the property and learn more about its background.

The National Trust *Marie Byles: A Spirited Life* exhibition panels will be on display at *Ahimsa* from 12.00 on both days and tell the story of Marie's extraordinary life and interests. There is no charge to attend.

*Ahimsa* is a 15 minute walk from Cheltenham Railway Station on the T1 line, one station from Epping. Limited on street car parking is available at the end of Cobran and Day Roads. *In the footsteps of Marie Byles* has been organised by Friends of Ahimsa, in conjunction with the National Trust of Australia (NSW), Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust, and other local organisations.

**Booking essential** for Saturday walks, children's art activity, & film screening. For booking and information, email Martin Fallding - [info@calli.com.au](mailto:info@calli.com.au), and Bookings for children's art activity only - [joannehook08@gmail.com](mailto:joannehook08@gmail.com)



## In the footsteps of Marie Byles

A weekend of free walks, children's art activities, talks, exhibition and film at *Ahimsa*, Cheltenham NSW

**15 & 16 September 2018**

For information and booking, contact [info@calli.com.au](mailto:info@calli.com.au)

Ahimsa is a National Trust property.



# In the footsteps of Marie Byles

## Program - Saturday 15 September

- 12.00 – 4.30 **The Marie Byles: A Spirited Life exhibition** will be on display in the Hut of Happy Omen at Ahimsa
- 1.00 – 3.00 **Byles family bush & urban landscape heritage walk\***
- This approximately two hour guided walk begins at the historic Byles family property *Chilworth* in Beecroft and finishes at *Ahimsa* in Cheltenham. Meet at the entrance to No 24 Welham St Beecroft (10 min walk from Beecroft station). Bring water, walking shoes, hat and sunscreen.
- 3.00 – 3.30 **Afternoon tea in Hut of Happy Omen**
- 3.30 – 4.00 **Exhibition opening of Marie Byles: A Spirited Life**  
To be opened by The Honourable Phillip Ruddock Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council
- 4.00 – 4.30 **Ahimsa bushland wander**  
Join Marie Byles' friend and neighbour Martin Fallding for a short guided walk around the property.

### Access:

Access to *Ahimsa* is by Day Road where there is a track that leads to Lane Cove National Park and passes by *Ahimsa*. For less able walkers there is access from Cobran Road however there is uneven ground and steps. Follow the signs to 67 Cobran Road '*Ahimsa*'.

Note that the property and bushwalks have uneven surfaces, stairs and slopes. Unsuitable for strollers or those with walking difficulties. Bring comfortable shoes, water, packed lunch and a torch for Sunday's film screening if staying after 5.30 pm.

# In the footsteps of Marie Byles

## Program - Sunday 16 September

- 10.00 – 12.00 **Family art making activity\*** at the Hut of Happy Omen  
Young artists aged 7 – 11 are invited to get creative and use the surrounding bush land and property to participate in a range of art activities. Although activities are artist led children must be supervised by family members or carers. Bookings essential at [joannehook08@gmail.com](mailto:joannehook08@gmail.com)
- 12.00 – 4.30 **The Marie Byles: A Spirited Life exhibition** will be on display in the Hut of Happy Omen at Ahimsa.
- 12.30 – 1.30 **Pack a picnic lunch** and enjoy the bush surrounds.
- 2.00 – 4.00 **Spring Wildflower Walk**  
Meet at the car park at the end of Day Road, Cheltenham for a wildflower walk in Lane Cove National Park led by the Beecroft – Cheltenham Civic Trust. The walk will finish at Ahimsa.
- 4.00 – 4.30 **Afternoon tea at Hut of Happy Omen**
- 4.30 – 5.30 **Screening of A Singular Woman\***  
Film maker - Gillian Coote will introduce her documentary on the life of Marie Byles. The film includes remarkable interviews with early conservationists, bush walkers and mountain climbers such as Paddy Pallin and Dot Butler.

### Bookings and further information:

Booking is essential for items marked \* including Saturday heritage walk, children's art activity, and film screening.

For booking and information, email Martin Fallding - [info@calli.com.au](mailto:info@calli.com.au)