

Whanganui Disability Sport and Recreation Opportunities (Updated June 2025)

Age Concern

Steady-As-You-Go Classes: A combination of strength and balance exercise, stretching and light cardiovascular exercises based on the Otago Exercise Programme. Participants have a chair for support. Ideal for beginners. \$3-4 per session. Classes in Whanganui, Rangitikei and the Waimarino.

Contact Janet at Age Concern Whanganui on 06 345 1799 or email at saygo@acwhanganui.org.nz

Boccia

An indoor seated sport originally designed for people with cerebral palsy, Boccia is a great game for anyone who has an impairment that affects motor skills.

The sport involves throwing leather balls onto a small indoor court, with the aim of landing the ball as close as possible to a white target ball. Participants play their ball in a variety of different ways. Some participants use a ramp to project their ball with someone to assist them, while others throw their balls independently.

Run by Sport Whanganui on a Wednesday afternoon at Keith Street School Hall at 3.30pm. For more information contact Sarah Craig via email sarahc@sportwhanganui.co.nz or phone 027 282 6717.

Blind, Low, Vision Whanganui

Walking Group – Monday 10.30am. Leaves from the Blind, Low Vision Building in Peat Street. Transport and extra support are available for those who need it. Tea and coffee afterwards. Please contact Sarah Small on 022 015 7515 or ssmall@blindlowvision.org.nz

Indoor Bowls – Sunday 1pm. Transport is available.
Phone Russell Lowry on 027 502 2247 or Sarah Fallen on 021 122 2551 for more information.

Chair Exercise Class – Thursday, 10.30am. BLV Hall, 102 Peat St. Contact Sarah Small, 022 015 7515.

Tandem Bike – This is available for hire for a small charge.
Contact Sarah Small on 022 015 7515 for more details

Blind Sport Kit

The Blind Sport NZ Kit includes a range of accessible sports equipment, a comprehensive instruction manual and a teacher's resource. The kit is available to borrow free of charge. See details on this link <https://www.blindsport.kiwi/accessible-sport-kit>. A booking form is at the bottom of the page. Ensure you choose the Whanganui kit, which is housed at Blind Low Vision Whanganui in Peat St, adjacent to the netball courts.

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Sailability Whanganui

We offer sailing opportunities to disabled people of all ages and operate at Pauri Lake just south of Whanganui. We are closely aligned to the Wanganui Sailing Club and volunteers are always welcome.

Contact bob.w.davies@gmail.com 021 803 744 or 06 345 7155

Sense Rugby (on hold until Sep/Oct school holidays)

An occupational therapy led rugby programme designed to help disabled tamariki and rangatahi.

5-7 years: Mondays 4pm - 5pm at Hakeke Community Centre

8+ years: Mondays 5pm - 6pm at Williams Domain across the road from the community centre.

Contact zoe@senserugby.co.nz or info@senserugby.co.nz for more details

Whanganui Unique Children's Support Group

Gym sessions for families who have children with special needs.

This is a safe and fun environment where kids can meet new friends and burn off some excess energy. Siblings welcome. Children must be supervised by an adult.

No prior booking is required. Gold coin donation.

4.00pm to 5.30pm on specified Saturdays at the Whanganui Boys and Girls Gym club

Contact Sue Kenny on 06 343 7583 or 027 3480 106

Or Peter Smith 06 343 8263

Wheelchair Basketball

Wheelchair basketball is played using a sports wheelchair (provided), with rules similar to standard basketball. Our sessions are at a community level, and we welcome people with or without disabilities to join in.

Run by Sport Whanganui. Monday evening at 5.30pm at Whanganui Girls College Gym.

Contact Sarah Craig at sarahc@sportwhanganui.co.nz or 027 282 6717

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Counter Punch for Parkinson's

This class has been developed by Lisa Gombinsky Roach and Shane Cameron to get people with Parkinsons involved in boxing classes. It has a strong focus on improving balance, leg strength, general fitness, and all-round confidence. It is a fun and energetic class. Partners and friends of those with Parkinson's are also encouraged to attend and join in the class.

Where: 100 Devon Road, Whanganui (Kaierau Rugby Club)

When: Wednesday 10-11am

Friday 11am-12pm

Cost: Fee of charge

Contact/Leader: Sala Temo stemo@wrhn.org.nz 029 662 2626

Counterpunchparkinsons.com

Whanganui Riding for the Disabled

"Confidence, independence and wellbeing for people with disabilities through therapeutic horse riding and horse care."

Contact Naeri Nicholls on 027 342 9826

Check us out on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WanganuiRidingForTheDisabled>

Adaptive Snow Sports - Whakapapa

Snow Sports NZ also offers an adaptive membership which gives members access to discounted lift tickets, lessons, equipment hire and volunteer support to help make snow sports more accessible.

More information can be found on our website: snowsports.co.nz/get-involved/adaptive-snow-sports/

Beth at adaptive@whakapapa.com will be able to answer your questions and assist you with any bookings.

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Special Olympics Whanganui

Basketball – Wednesday 5.30-7.30pm at Rutherford Junior School. \$2 per session.

Contact Ashlee Murphy – cascille@hotmail.com 027 825 7495.

Swimming - Tuesday 5.30-6.30pm at Splash Centre. \$2 per session (on hold due to pool upgrade).

Contact Jan Bublitz – jrbublitz@hotmail.co.nz 022 018 7535

Golf – Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm at Tawhero Golf Club.

Contact Ivan Howe – riversittee@gmail.com 027 484 7559

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Powerlifting – Monday 5.30-6.30pm at Rivercity Boxing Club.

Contact Sharnell Stevenson – sharnell@thefocusgroup.co.nz 027 649 4588

Bocce – Sunday 1.00-2.00pm at Laird Park Special Olympics Club (Indoor Bowls when wet)

Email Wanganui@specialolympics.org.nz

Connect with us on Facebook facebook.com/SpecOWang

Chair Yoga Combo

Postures are modified seated on a chair, or you can use the chair for support in standing asanas, especially balance and strength work. Floor work for the final 15 minutes is an option which many enjoy. The choice is yours. Each time is different - this journey is one we do together and one that is personal. Suitable for all levels, beginners to experienced.

Where: Hakeke Library Hub

When: Thursday at 1.15pm

Cost: \$5 per session

Contact: Marian Takarangi-Gavaghan mariantakgav@gmail.com 021 073 1802

There is a list of activity classes for a number of diverse needs on the LiveStronger website. Check out the link for listings within Whanganui.

<https://www.livestronger.org.nz/home/find-class/find-a-class-near-you/?locationR=19#class-1098>

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Whanganui Creative Space

WCS is a community art studio in Whanganui working with diverse-abilities & mental wellbeing.

Tuesday 10am – 2pm at the Community Art Studio – 61 Dublin Street

Call into the studio between 10am and 2pm on a Mon/Tues/Wed or phone the secretary on 021-230-4095

Or contact via email on whanganuics@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Explorartz2020/>

Living in the Music

For those who want to jam on musical instruments. The group meets regularly at the Musicians Club. For more information email kenchernoff76@gmail.com

'Sensory Hour' Saturday's

Every Saturday from 1pm - 2pm at Hakeke Community Centre and Library we have our 'Sensory Hour', for those with sensory needs. Come and enjoy quiet time and ask one of our friendly staff members about our sensory toys for your tamariki.

65 Hakeke St, Whanganui East. 06 927 6707