

# the scene

...on the Semiahmoo Peninsula

## Comedy tea party

Addictive Comedy's latest extravaganza – the satirical *Mad Hatter's Tea and Fashion Fundraiser* (Sunday, Sept. 22 from 2-4:30 p.m. at Elgin Hall, 14250 Crescent Rd.) – promises to be unlike any other tea and fashion event ever seen on the Semiahmoo Peninsula.

With narration delivered in typically droll manner by Addictive Comedy founder **Lizzie Allan**, live music and a roster of seven male and seven female models wearing a range of tongue-in-cheek 'fashion' looks, put together with the help of the Peace Arch Hospice Thrift Store, *The Mad Hatter's Tea*

*and Fashion Fundraiser* promises to do its bit to devastate the world of haute couture and demolish the established conventions of such – normally – genteel events.

It's all in fun, of course, for some very good causes – Addictive Comedy's own bursary program to help those in need work through traumatic issues by using stand-up comedy techniques as therapy, and the White Rock-based



Alex Brown the scene

Launching Pad Addiction Rehabilitation Society which helps men recovering from drug and alcohol addiction.

"It's going to be a lot of fun – something completely wild and not like a traditional comedy set," said Addictive Comedy associate **Karina Cebuliak**.

The idea came up in the most organic way imaginable, she said – while she, Allan and Allan's partner, producer, manager and marketing wizard **Elaine Cheung**, were attending the annual, and serious, fashion show and tea staged by Avalon Women's Recovery Society in June.

"I was thinking, you know, this could be really funny," Cebuliak said. "I wrote on a napkin 'hey, we should do a spoof fashion show' and passed it to Lizzie – and she said yes right there. Before the show was over, Elaine was already making plans."

Cebuliak, whose daytime profession is web design and social-media marketing, said she has become used to such spontaneous creativity since becoming involved with Addictive Comedy – and British-born Allan's vision of using stand-up as a form of therapy – at its inception in 2017.

"I had been told for years 'you have to do stand-up comedy,'" she said. "Then along came Lizzie who told me the same thing – but said, 'I can teach you.'"

From a first show at Centennial Arena that sold out in three days, Addictive Comedy has grown exponentially, she said – including staging a Massey Theatre performance in New



Contributed photo

## Comedy show

Comedy performer **Karina Cebuliak** will be one of the participants in Addictive Comedy's deliberately zany *Mad Hatter's Tea and Fashion Fundraiser*, Sept. 22 from 2-4:30 p.m. at Elgin Hall on Crescent Road.

Westminster that played to 1,000 people. "We honestly feel we've developed a fan base among people on the peninsula," Cebuliak said.

"For our Addictive Comedy pieces, we've dipped into some pretty serious subjects such as addiction and trauma, but our comedians are processing it all in such a way that we can all look back and laugh at the ridiculousness of it all."

Featured in *The Mad Hatter's Tea and Fashion Fundraiser* will be door prizes, a silent auction and a 50/50 draw – and the event is also an opportunity for spectators to show off their fashion sense, or nonsense.

Tickets (\$50) are available online at [madhatters2019.eventbrite.ca](http://madhatters2019.eventbrite.ca) or from [elaine@addictivecomedy.com](mailto:elaine@addictivecomedy.com) or 604-614-3142.

## West Beach Art Walk

The West Beach Art Walk – a concept originally pioneered by Golden Cactus gallery co-owner **Chris MacClure** in 1990 – will return to the waterfront this Thursday (Sept. 19) from 5-9 p.m.

Co-presented by the White Rock BIA, the event features gallery artists, plus surprise visits and chats with guest artists, and wine sampling from local wineries.

Golden Cactus, 14833 Marine Dr., will feature celebrity portrait artist **Dave Benning**; while at Art Couture, 14819 Marine Dr., painter 'Mayhem' will be on hand to discuss his contemporary art.

Meanwhile, Whitby's Coffee (14829 Marine Dr.) continues to show the unconventional paintings of **Irena Shklover**.

The next Thursday-night event will be on Oct. 25 when the West Beach Art Walk goes into a once-a-month winter schedule.

For more, visit [goldencactusstudio.com](http://goldencactusstudio.com) or call 604-839-3049.

## Club 240

Crescent Legion's Club 240 (2643 128 St.) is the location for regular Live at Club 240 Friday-night dances, with a variety of bands presented by the Total Music Group (formerly Semiahmoo Music Consortium), along with other special Saturday events throughout the year and a regular Wednesday bluegrass jam.

Coming up at Club 240 are **Billy Dixon** and his Soul Train Express in a special show Saturday, Sept. 21; and, on the Friday night schedule, **Big City Soul** (Oct. 4) and the **Gale Force Blues Piggies** with special guest **Randy Oxford** (Oct. 18).

Tickets (\$20) are on sale at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) and at the legion box office (604-535-1043), which is open daily from 4-9 p.m.

## Audrey Bakewell art

The vivid colours of sunset provide the inspiration for the current show of watercolors and acrylics by **Audrey Bakewell**, featured artist at The Gallery, Central Plaza.

Art has not always been the focus for Bakewell, well-known in the hockey industry as an innovative pioneer of power skating. She began painting as part of her recovery from a serious car accident in 2001.

She now considers it a blessing in disguise as it led to the development of her inner dream of being an artist.

An Associate Signature member of the Canadian Federation of Artists, Bakewell says she continues to find parallels between hockey and painting in terms of technique, flow, rhythm and movement.

She describes her life these days as finding a "balance between a busy art career and producing future NHLers."

The Gallery, at 15134 North Bluff, is open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.