



# NEWSLETTER

## News & Info

### Lumière 2019

From Saturday 12 to Sunday 20 October, this year's Lumière festival celebrates "the memory and vitality of film," with 424 screenings and 190 films shown in various locations throughout Lyon. For more information about tickets, venues, and screening times, click [here](#).

### Ace Anglais

If you're looking for another opportunity to practice speaking English, then Club Ace Anglais, our language partner for non-business English, might be exactly what you need. See the article to the right for more information.

### Rugby World Cup

Since Friday 20 September, rugby union enthusiasts have been focused on Japan, where the world's best international teams have been duelling for the honour to hold up the Webb Ellis Cup at the tournament's end.

The competition is fierce, with New Zealand's All Blacks, current champions, looking to repeat. Surprises abound in each edition of the World Cup, and this year is no exception. Tune in on 2 November at 10:00 a.m. to see who will be the new world champions.



## CLUB ACE ANGLAIS

## A Novel Way to Ace Your English

### What is it?

Club Ace Anglais is a private members' club in Lyon for non-native English speakers who would like to speak English in a relaxed, supportive environment.

### How does it work?

All levels, from Elementary (A2) to Advanced (C1) are welcome to participate. But you must sign up to take advantage of the events. The annual membership fee includes an online placement test and a chat with a teacher in order to evaluate your oral expression. The key: relax!

Ace Anglais are our business partner for non-business English, and we think this is a great, additional learning environment for our existing students.

### What activities do Ace Anglais offer?

Each month there is a programme of up to 18 events, all of which are hosted by qualified English teachers:

- Discussion Dinners
- Language Lunches
- Afterwork Apéros
- Wine & Words
- Cinema Club (for all levels)
- Pub Nights
- And more!

For more information, email: [contact@clubaceanglais.com](mailto:contact@clubaceanglais.com), or check out their Facebook page [here](#).

## VOCABULARY

ghoul - an evil spirit or phantom, especially one supposed to rob graves and feed on dead bodies

on the prowl - moving around stealthily in search of prey

Jack-o-lantern - a lantern made from a hallowed out pumpkin or turnip

forbidding - unfriendly or threatening in appearance

the netherworld - the underworld of the dead

bob for apples - a game where participants try to catch floating apples with only their mouths

ward off (phrasal verb) - to push back or defend against someone or something

at stake - if something is at stake, it is at risk

relish - to enjoy greatly



### Did you know?

- Halloween is the second largest consumer holiday in the United States (after Christmas)
- Every year, more chocolate is sold for Halloween than for Valentine's Day
- An estimated that 145 million Americans will buy pumpkins for Halloween this year

## “Trick or Treat!”

Say the word “Halloween” and most people will think of everything from black cats and flying bats, to witches on broomsticks and ghouls on the prowl, not to mention candies and costume parties and scary jack-o-lanterns. But when did Halloween begin, and what's it really all about?



### Ancient origins

Halloween began thousands of years ago as a Celtic festival called Samhain. Traditionally celebrated from October 31 to November 1, it was believed that the spirit world and physical world intersected on this day, making it possible for monsters and other forbidding inhabitants of the netherworlds to interfere with the lives of humans. The celebration of All Saints (November 1), established in the 8th Century, eventually integrated many of practices of Samhain. But it wasn't until Irish immigrants arrived in north America in the nineteenth century that the customs of the Halloween celebration we know today became mainstream.

### Trick-or-treat!

The phrase “trick-or-treat” perfectly sums up what Halloween is all about these days. On October 31, children disguised in costumes knock on doors and say “trick-or-treat”, meaning “give us a treat (usually a small piece of candy) or we will play a trick on you. Other customs may depend on the culture in which Halloween is celebrated, but they all have one thing in common — scary fun. Indeed, many people go to great lengths to create a costume to rival Hollywood's special effects artists. Costume parties are quite common and can include activities such as pumpkin carving, bobbing for apples, and trick-or-treating for children.



### Link to the past

On Halloween night 2,000 years ago, the Celts lit bonfires and dressed in costumes to ward off evil spirits. With a long hard winter approaching, they believed their harvest, and personal safety, were at stake.

Today most people might tell you they disguise themselves for fun. But there are others, those who relish the thrill of a scary ghost story, who see it as an opportunity to cross normal social boundaries, if even for a night, and look malefic spirits straight in the eye. For maybe they understand what the ancient Celts believed long ago, that October 31 was a night to be feared, and was meant for more than just fun and games. Or is it?

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**