



UK retailer offers post-Christmas divorce gift lists 英商家推出耶誕節後離婚禮物清單

A chain of high-street shops in Britain launched a divorce gift list service amid a **surge** of married couples saying "I don't" after the festive season.

In a twist on the popular wedding list, through which **newlyweds** receive presents to help them into married life, retailer Debenhams came up with a new list to help divorcees stock up after leaving their ex-partner's home.

"Divorcing can be an expensive time and registering for a Divorce Gift List means that family and friends can help the newly separated begin their new life," said Peter Moore, head of retail services at the chain.

A "divorce means that one partner will be leaving the marital home and therefore be left without any essentials in their new house," he said.

The list includes a range of items from bed linen and towels to microwaves and plasma screen televisions.

Debenhams, which has **outlets** across Britain, said they took the decision at a time when "congratulations on your divorce" greeting cards and divorce parties were growing in popularity.

It is just the latest present for married couples ready to **call it a day** on their marriage after a law firm reportedly started offering divorce gift vouchers in the run-up to Christmas.

The vouchers offered half-hour or hour-long advice sessions with a lawyer, according to the *Daily Telegraph*.

A senior partner from Lloyd Platt & Company in London, which launched the service in November, told the newspaper there was always a huge increase in couples seeking advice in January. (AFP)

英國一家連鎖大型商店宣佈，為了因應佳節過後湧現的「離婚潮」，他們順勢推出「離婚禮物清單」服務。

國外新人結婚時會收到幫助他們融入婚姻生活的禮物，以這種受歡迎的結婚禮物清單為發想基礎，英國連鎖百貨店迪班漢斯想出這個新的清單，幫助搬出愛巢的離婚者準備好日用品。

該連鎖百貨零售服務主管彼得·摩爾說：「離婚的過程可能非常耗費時間，而登記「離婚禮物清單」意味著家人和朋友可以幫助剛和伴侶分離的他們開始新生活。」

他說：「離婚意味著夫妻中有人將離開兩人共組的家庭，因此人搬到新家後會缺少日常必需品。」

該清單範圍從床單組、毛巾到微波爐和電漿電視等都涵括在內。

在英國各地都有通路的迪班漢斯百貨表示，他們發現「恭喜你離婚」祝福卡和離婚派對愈來愈盛行後，才決定推出這項服務。

一間法律事務所在耶誕節前夕開始販售「離婚禮券」，經過媒體報導後，該禮券儼然成為時下饋贈準備離婚的夫妻的最新禮物。

據英國《每日電訊報》報導，該禮券提供半小時或一小時的律師諮詢服務。

去年十一月推出該服務的倫敦羅伊德普萊特律師事務所的一位資深合夥人對該報表示，每年一月到事務所來諮詢的夫妻人數總是暴增。(法新社/翻譯：袁星靈)

Elin Nordegren, wife of Tiger Woods, smiles at the Presidents Cup golf competition in this Oct. 10, 2009 file photo at Harding Park Golf course in San Francisco, California. PHOTO: AFP

這張二〇〇九年十月十日攝於加州舊金山哈汀公園高爾夫球場的照片中，老虎伍茲的妻子愛琳·諾德葛蘭在總統盃高爾夫賽上微笑。照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. surge /sɜːdʒ/ v./n.

激增 (jī1 zēng1)

例：There's been a surge in demand for monitors since the start of the year.
(今年年初以來，市場對顯示器的需求激增。)

2. newlywed /'njuːlɪ,wɛd/ n.

新婚夫妻 (xīn1 hūn1 fū1 qī1)

例：The Mediterranean is a popular destination for newlyweds.
(地中海是新婚夫妻的熱門蜜月地點。)

3. outlet /'aʊt,lɛt/ n.

專營店 (zhuān1 yīng2 diān4)

例：The chain has hundreds of outlets around the country.
(這家連鎖店在國內有上百個經銷點。)

LANGUAGE POINT 重要片語

call it a day
劃下句點

If you **call it a day**, you stop doing an activity. According to the article, a lot of couples decide to **call it a day** after Christmas.

Example: "After playing tennis for 15 years, Brendan decided it was time to **call it a day**."

如果說你「**call it a day**」，就表示你停止做某件事。上文中提到，許多夫妻在耶誕節後決定離婚。

例如：「打了十五年的網球後，布蘭登決定是到此為止的時候了。」