AZED No. 1,758 'Carte Blanche' COMPETITION PUZZLE

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A/O/O/DESS		
Address		

Postcode

The symmetry of the bars in the completed diagram is such that it would look the same if turned upside down, but not if given a quarter turn. Clues are in their correct order. Competitors should mark the bars in their solutions. Numbers are unnecessary.

ACROSS

Spoke incoherently, led astray in fringe area of US city Mammalian grimace shown by people after meat (second cut) Like ill-advised flyer, wobbling in air round California

Bit of lime zest makes this appetizer

Wild tussle involving grand bit of fisticuffs?

Jock's capers flourished with unbridled kiss

Spattered hue in layer at home in various marine settings

Translator shortened short OT book a bit?

Suddenly, as of old, flower's beginning to thrive

Distinctive smell can leaving clean hamper

The old watch singular cobbler?

Once poorly placed, I shall be leading a set that's messed up degree (2 words)

Given this liqueur I, AA alas, must splutter 'Salaam aleikum' With a boss, elephant dispenses with head and tail (mostly)

Canon initiating rites on the altar

Country houses display fluctuations in G & S

Old question: what's reine translated? 'Queen' written in

Riddle: what makes second as long as time?

AZED No. 1,755 Solution & notes

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Rules and requests

Send solution and clue to replace definition asterisked (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to Azed No. 1758, PO Box 518. Oxford, OX 2 6WX. Entries should be postmarked no later than Saturday, Please add a brief explanation of your clue (one entry only). £35, £30, £25 prizes and Azed boolplates for the three clues judged best. The Azed Slip, containing details of successful competition entries and Azed's comments, is available on subscription at £13 a year for 13 Issues (£16 for overseas subscribers). Cheques payable to the Azed Slip, should be sent to The Azed Slip, Coombe Farm, Awbridge, Romsey SO51 OHN. To receive a sample slip, please send an sae to this address.

Across 1, Chamberstick; 10, à toi (all rev.); 11, comp. anag; 15, Ronn(1)e; ref. The Two Ronntes; 16, ref. US bank robber Baby Face Nelson (1908-34); 19, anag, in story; ref. D. J. Enright; 26, draps (rev.); 29, n for X in extremes; 34, abas(e) (rev.); 36, nest in Fe ration.

Down 3, anag, in mack; 4, N Tang in element; 6, comp. anag, & lit.; 7, n in (Le F)/garo; 8, oncer in ct; 23, n/a a.m.; 24, FE off; 28, t+ eras.

AZED No. 1,755 Prizewinners 1Eddie Looby, Birmingham 2 lynda Quee, Truro, Cornwall 3 A.P. Vick, Newcastle upon Tyne

DOWN

* Pretty but very dim girl

Obliteration making King blue

Raised hat up, tipping end

One like Isaac S. holding Nell G. 'flighty', unjust accusation once

Manoeuvre of horse, front holding line

Historical fever, form of shingles, with moisture enveloping one (2 words)

System which if installed is ringing?

Spain sunk, upset about song in Basque

Fruitcakes are astonishing? Quite the reverse

Odd bits of breast eyed - treat of old

Alloy urn laid askew, 'orrid pong inside

Direction finder in States adrift no longer reliable

Poet's direct, it seems, averse even cut by trustee

Old game, in accordance with selfish hypocrite

Stuffed dumpling, fare served up when fairy's around

Mongrel, reverse of weary about opening of umbrella

Money shelled out for atoll

Vessels, American, with navy aboard

The Chambers Dictionary (2003) is recommended. The answer to the twelfth across due is referred to at the entry for its second element, and that to the fifteenth down due appears at the entry for an alternative spelling with an 'i' as its second letter.