Crossword 2683: Famous last words by Lavatch

Around the perimeter clockwise from square 1 goes a quotation in *ODQ* minus its last word. This last word suggests the remaining unclued lights, a final example of which (6) must be highlighted in the completed grid.

Across

- 11 Jam is an Asian food (6)
- 12 US record nut with some bread (6)
- 15 I'm surprised after soldier deserted tree in Oz (6)
- 17 Petrol is running around a rock (9)
- 20 Two newspapers probing rotten thief's birthday (8)
- 21 Question about mince pie resembling dairy product (6)
- 23 Card player, for instance, in film (4)
- 26 Gnome fixed cutter's tool (3,3)
- 28 Latvian regularly ignored after excessive interval (6)
- 31 Praised argot but not Latin (4)
- 32 Wrong about time lasting forever (8)
- 34 Wake up and drink after leaving clubs (6)
- 36 Anecdote about terpsichorean activity (3,5)
- 39 Like some hotels or hotel in odd retreats (5-4)
- 41 Coming from Paris, erstwhile features of flights (6)
- 42 Deliveryman is kind in short period (5)
- 43 Tutors working in school? (6)
- 44 One entering is given tithes up north (6)

Down

2 Remove obstacle from sound American houses (5)

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- 4 Loves grabbing policeman - how surprising! (4)
- 5 Shoots up, showing a bit of character (5)
- 6 Attires rogue in Scott's regiments (7)
- 7 Noble is tense after bagel's put down (6)
- 8 Teacher upset by chess champ's head movements (8)
- 9 Particle chosen and not rotating (8)
- 14 Toy put on a basin (5)
- 16 Relative's rage provoked twit (5-4)
- 18 They suppose media endlessly covers ancient city (9)
- 19 Sport thus gets little cash (4)
- 24 Money-worshipper taking top off fossil (8)
- 29 Hat worn by Greek characters in art movement (7)
- 30 Man's very advanced service (5)
- 33 Under divine sun, turn off busy road (3,3)
- 35 Duke's lapse, wearing gold ring (6)

- 37 Books happen to bring up writer's inspiration (5)
- 38 The Spanish seek to overturn 11 dish (5)
- 40 Ruler in revolutionary old poem (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 6 January. Please scan or photograph entries and email them (including the crossword number in the subject field) to **crosswords@spectator.co.uk**, or post to: Crossword 2683, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery.

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