CROSSWORD
No 16,885 Set by JULIUS

RANDOM ALPHABETICAL
Solve the clues and fit the answers into the grid. Each letter of the alphabet appears at least once at the beginning of the solutions.

Lady Caroline starts to attract Duke at dance (7)
Second answer very lucid, unlimited, carefree (4,5)
Peaceful American death (7)
That north-eastern French department (5)
Eucalyptus pots placed around entrances to Royal Albert Hall (7)
It’s a special occasion; kiss mum, son, father sitting on yard (4,3)
Arab sailor regularly seeing double? (5)
Poor Rob queuing at soup kitchen might use this (7,5)
A time to venerate Joey, 6th June 1944 (4,3)
Remove burden from a NHS nurse struggling (9)
Percentage of voters cycling? Result! (7)
Distinctive character of those putting Spain first? (5)
Uses telephoto lens (a pandemic video call no-no) (5,2)
He annoys very English King in retreat (5)
Perspex cheapo Lyme Regis bottles? (7)
German doctor’s fine gold suits spun leaving Italy (7)
Punch-drunk kid yells “conk broken!” (7,5)
Dutch Exchange’s illicit affairs? (4-8)
I’m upset; daughters left me ultimately cold note (6,1)
Gran’s madly into upside-down cake, possibly having lapsed! (12)
Seizes command of men under the influence of drugs (9)
Looking over first hint of Uxbridge MP’s cheating in housing market (9)
Distribute benefits when on strike (4,3)
In effect, trade union gets featured in online campaign (7)
Hormone Luis drunkenly injected in pub (7)
Churning out few hits, they’re put on ice (3,4)
A bit of acne on a teensy little ‘un (7)
Cooking blue cod? Possibly (5,2)