## AFR Cryptic (Saturday 2/12/2023) Solution

<sup>1</sup> D	I	<sup>2</sup> S	Т	<sup>3</sup> R	Ε	<sup>4</sup> S	S		<sup>5</sup> S	<sup>6</sup> Е	Α	<sup>7</sup> T	Ε	<sup>8</sup> D
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<sup>10</sup> C	0	N	С	Ε	R	N		<sup>11</sup> E	Р	ı	G	R	Α	М
A		D		X		T		G		Т		R		I
<sup>12</sup> <b>P</b>	L	Α	N	Α		<sup>13</sup>	M	ı	Т	Α	T	I	0	Ν
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			<sup>14</sup> D	ı	R	Е	C	Т	D	<sup>15</sup> E	В	I	Т	S
<sup>16</sup> F		<sup>17</sup> S		N		N		Е		Ν		С		Н
18 <b>A</b>	Ν	С	1	Ε	N	Т	G	R	Ε	Ε	K			
L		Α				Α		Е		R		<sup>19</sup> L		<sup>20</sup> S
<sup>21</sup> S	Р	R	ı	<sup>22</sup> N	K	L	Е	D		<sup>23</sup> G	R	Α	С	Е
E		Р		0		-		Р		Ε		W		С
24 <b>T</b>	Н	Е	Α	R	Т	S		<sup>25</sup> O	U	Т	0	F	ı	Т
Т		R		G		Т		S		ı		U		0
<sup>26</sup> O	U	S	Т	Ε	D		<sup>27</sup> S	T	ı	С	K	L	Ε	R

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 DISTRESS	Is time in outfit agony? (8)	(IS + T) inside DRESS
5 SEATED	Occupants of house ate dinner sitting down (6)	houSE ATE D inner
10 CONCERN	Business, once in credit, now losing almost all (7)	(ONCE inside CR) + N(ow)
11 EPIGRAM	Old chestnut tree ultimately needed by two farm animals (7)	tre(E) + PIG + RAM
12 PLAN A	Computer system, plugged into PA, could be the best option (4,1)	LAN inside PA
13 IMITATION	Counterfeit's shortcoming initially lacking? (9)	(l)IMITATION
14 DIRECT DEBITS	Backed foundation - it is behind alteration of credit payment arrangements (6,6)	(BED reversed + ITS) after anagram of CREDIT
18 ANCIENT GREEK	Alexander the Great, say, one energetic, excited king (7,5)	AN + anagram of ENERGETIC + K
21 SPRINKLED	Soft piece of ice, covered in snow, vehicle sprayed with water (9)	(P + RINK) inside SLED
23 GRACE	Favour start of gruelling competition (5)	(G)ruelling + RACE
24 THE ARTS	Creative expressions suit finishing time (3,4)	HEARTS after T
25 OUT OF IT	Head of organisation, wearing costume, is excluded from participation (3,2,2)	(O)rganisation inside OUTFIT
26 OUSTED	Religious book about American education is removed from office (6)	OT outside US + ED
27 STICKLER	Delight admitted by senior person who's a purist (8)	TICKLE inside SR

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 DA CAPO	A limit applied in function from the beginning (2,4)	(A + CAP) inside DO
2 SUNDAY	Open mostly in, say, a weekly timeslot (6)	(UND)o inside SAY
3 RE-EXAMINE	Review concerning chopper going over mine (2-7)	RE + (AXE reversed) + MINE
4 SENTIMENTALIST	Romantic shipped people in IT a record (14)	SENT + (MEN inside IT) + A + LIST
6 EVITA	A number of conservatives stood up for musical (5)	conservATIVEs reversed
7 TERRIFIC	Muscular problem, taking into account mistake in case, is dreadful (8)	TIC outside (ERR + IF)
8 DIMINISH	Food containing small cut (8)	DISH outside MINI
9 REGISTERED POST 15 ENERGETIC	Secure mailing service, for example, is needed by territory in communist place (10,4)  High-powered Green muddled quote up (9)	(EG + IS + TER) inside RED + POST Anagram of GREEN
16 FALSETTO	Singer's group carried by loud singer (8)	+ (CITE reversed)  SET inside (F + ALTO)
17 SCARPERS	Person not holding on following disfigurement, heads for the hills (8)	PERSON minus ON after SCAR
19 LAWFUL	Learner from hell is obeying the rules (6)	L + AWFUL
20 SECTOR	District with little time to respond at first (6)	SEC + TO + (R)espond
22 NORGE	Part of Spain or Germany and part of Scandinavia (5)	spaiN OR GErmany