AFR Cryptic (Saturday 14/12/2024) Solution

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Across	Clue	Explanation
1 TOUCHSTONE	Standard sort of cut shot finishing up with single (10)	Anagram of CUT SHOT + ONE
6 BUST	Work of art is broken (4)	Double Definition
8 PROVINCE	Area in front of courthouse featured in show (8)	[IN + (C)ourt] inside PROVE
9 CARPET	Reprimand coach with blue-eyed boy (6)	CAR + PET
10 ASIO	Spy group is recalled following a leader of operations (4)	IS reversed after A + (O)perations
11 SPACE CADET	School accepted a distracted person who is out of touch with reality (5,5)	S + anagram of ACCEPTED A
12 INNOVATOR	Eggs delivered at the back of inn to right person who makes things happen (9)	(OVA after INN) + TO + R
14 DUVET	Cover song performed by two, including verse (5)	DUET outside V
17 THREW	Cast right into the water at the front (5)	R inside [THE +(W)ater]
19 MAKE HASTE	Friend, carrying keg, nearly has to hurry (4,5)	MATE outside [KE(g) + HAS]
22 MASCARPONE	Large serving of mash, fish and one kind of cream cheese (10)	(MAS)h + CARP + ONE
23 ARIA	People leaving Armenia performed song (4)	ARMENIA minus MEN
24 RESULT	Score drug addict brought back late, oddly (6)	USER reversed + (L)a(T)e
25 HAIRLINE	Very thin hydrogen gas pipe (8)	H + AIR + LINE
26 LOUT	Yahoo left in an exhausted state (4)	L + OUT
27 STRING VEST	Small band against wearing sample underwear (6,4)	S + [(RING + V) inside TEST]

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 TOPIARIST	Fashion-conscious gardener's hat is covered in art (9)	TOPI + (IS inside ART)
2 UTOPIAN	University, to one on board vessel, is ideal (7)	U + TO + (I inside PAN)
3 SANDSOAP	Abrasive cleaner, an awful sod, stuck in drain (8)	(AN + anagram of SOD) inside SAP
4 ONE WAY OR ANOTHER	Switched on a new rotary hoe somehow (3,3,2,7)	Anagram of ON A NEW ROTARY HOE
5 EXCEED	Beat former outspoken top player (6)	EX + sounds like SEED
6 BARRACUDA	Fish food that's regurgitated by a fish (9)	BARRA + CUD + A
7 SEE HERE	Hassled sheepshearer not influenced by sharp look (3,4)	Anagram of SHEEPSHEARER minus SHARP
13 OPEN COURT	Public tribunal ordered recount following downsizing of operation (4,5)	Anagram of RECOUNT after OP
15 THE LATEST	Athletes reserved time for current information? (3,6)	Anagram of ATHLETES + T
16 DELETION	Removed passage and note was first written up about one (8)	(NOTE + LED) reversed outside I
18 HEAVE TO	Stop sailing ban after heat decreased (5,2)	VETO after HEA(t)
20 SURMISE	Suspect male is locked in stable (7)	(M + IS) inside SURE
21 GRATIS	Head of giant rodent is on the house (6)	(G)iant + RAT + IS