

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 14/12/2024) Solution

¹ T	O	² U	C	H	³ S	T	⁴ O	N	⁵ E		⁶ B	U	⁷ S	T
O		T			A		N		X		A		E	
⁸ P	R	O	V	I	N	C	E		⁹ C	A	R	P	E	T
I		P			D		W		E		R		H	
¹⁰ A	S	I	O		¹¹ S	P	A	C	E	C	A	D	E	T
R		A			O		Y		D		C		R	
¹² I	N	N	¹³ O	V	A	T	O	R		¹⁴ D	U	V	E	¹⁵ T
S			P		P		R		¹⁶ D		D			H
¹⁷ T	¹⁸ H	R	E	W		¹⁹ M	A	K	E	H	A	²⁰ S	T	E
	E		N		²¹ G		N		L			U		L
²² M	A	S	C	A	R	P	O	N	E		²³ A	R	I	A
	V		O		A		T		T			M		T
²⁴ R	E	S	U	L	T		²⁵ H	A	I	R	L	I	N	E
	T		R		I		E		O			S		S
²⁶ L	O	U	T		²⁷ S	T	R	I	N	G	V	E	S	T

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]

