

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 12/7/2025) Solution

¹ S	T	² A	M	³ P	S			⁴ M	O	⁵ R	A	⁶ S	S	
W		N		U		⁷ P		I		E		O		
⁸ A	W	A	I	T		⁹ O	B	S	T	A	C	L	E	¹⁰ S
P		R		O		R		I		S		O		U
¹¹ P	A	C	I	F	I	C		¹² N	I	O	B	I	U	M
E		H		F		U		F		N		S		S
¹³ R	A	Y	S			¹⁴ P	R	O	P	E	R	T	Y	
S				¹⁵ S		I		R		D				¹⁶ B
	¹⁷ P	¹⁸ L	A	T	I	N	U	M			¹⁹ W	²⁰ E	L	L
²¹ S		O		R		E		A		²² T		X		I
²³ E	R	O	D	I	N	G		²⁴ T	E	E	M	I	N	G
N		K		D		R		I		A		G		H
²⁵ D	E	S	P	E	R	A	D	O		²⁶ S	P	E	N	T
		E		N		S		N		E		N		E
	²⁷ T	E	X	T	A	S			²⁸ W	R	I	T	E	R

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 STAMPS	Collectables stay mostly with house-sitters? (6)	(STA)y + MPS
4 MORASS	Primitive growth found on banks of river and a bog (6)	MOSS outside (R + A)
8 AWAIT	Look for it east of a state of Australia (5)	IT after (A +WA)
9 OBSTACLES	Drunken constable is not counting in bars (9)	Anagram of CONSTABLE IS minus IN
11 PACIFIC	A client's initial condition, shown in picture, is mild (7)	[A + (C)lient + IF) inside PIC
12 NIOBIUM	Nickel ring and iodine encased in worthless metal (7)	NI + O + (I inside BUM)
13 RAYS	Pick up sound beams (4)	Sounds like RAISE
14 PROPERTY	Quality veteran forward playing in the centre (8)	PRO + PERT + pla(Y)ing
17 PLATINUM	A can coated with excellent metal (8)	(A + TIN) inside PLUM
19 WELL	Oil supplier in good condition (4)	Double Definition
23 ERODING	Section of tie rod in general is wearing away (7)	tiE ROD IN General
24 TEEMING	Falling heavily and crawling (7)	Double Definition
25 DESPERADO	Reckless person distributed speed right before a party (9)	Anagram of SPEED + R + A +DO
26 SPENT	Writer set in stone is shattered (5)	X inside anagram of A TEST
27 TEXTAS	Sign that something's wrong in a test troubled markers (6)	W(RITE for A)R
28 WRITER	A character in war replaced by ceremonial author (6)	(STA)y + MPS

[illegible]