

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 13/4/2024) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 RECESSED	Leader of sect, bound by decrees, reformed and broke up (8)	(S)ect inside anagram of DECREES
5 ADONIS	A mafia boss is a handsome young man (6)	A + DON + IS
9 PROVE	Test experienced vet short on time (5)	PRO + (VET minus T)
10 PARENTING	Father, paying money for accommodation, is taking care of children (9)	PA + RENTING
12 NAIL POLISH	Protective coating sprayed on a pill is hard (4,6)	Anagram of ON A PILL + IS + H
13 SHOE	Ring concealed by the woman's trainer, for example (4)	O inside SHE
15 DO-GOODER	Well-intentioned person relocated rodeo at end of trail (2-6)	Anagram of RODEO after DOG
16 IMPOST	Supporting member's duty (6)	Double Definition
18 CLERKS	Stickler taking on development without IT office workers (6)	Anagram of STICKLER minus IT
19 BALLARAT	Victorian city's social event attended by a person with a bad reputation (8)	BALL + A + RAT
22 TEES	Guy heard golfers use them (4)	Sounds like TEASE
23 NEUTRALITY	One drafted into an utterly devastated detachment (10)	I inside anagram of AN UTTERLY
25 PIONEERED	Established individual tucked into pie and wine (9)	ONE inside PIE + RED
26 AREAS	Pieces of ground are grassy in the middle (5)	ARE + gr(AS)sy
27 WAY OUT	Excellent course needed when taking leave (3,3)	Double Definition
28 IN PERSON	Sniper manipulated operative face to face (2,6)	Anagram of SNIPER + ON

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 RIPENED	Seasoned one, escorted by writer, dressed in a vibrant colour (7)	(I + PEN) inside RED
2 CLOSING CEREMONY	Rider's first in cycling - someone prepared for Olympic event (7,8)	(R)ider inside anagram of CYCLING SOMEONE
3 SHEEP COCKY	Cheeky cops messed with small farmer (5,5)	Anagram of CHEEKY COPS
4 ESPALIER	Slip up that is fixed by right training method for plants (8)	LAPSE reversed + IE + R
6 DENT	Press in study time (4)	DEN + T
7 NEIGHBOURLINESS	Telephone connections in bush region transformed hospitality (15)	LINES inside anagram of BUSH REGION
8 SUGGEST	Intimate guests sorted out time (7) *	*
11 REST	Employees of welfare state take a break? (4)	welfaRE STate
14 AMALGAMATE	Combine seaweed harvested by a male friend (10)	ALGA inside (A + M + MATE)
17 WAITED ON	Served a prepared diet in South Korean capital (6,2)	(A + anagram of DIET) inside WON
18 CATS-PAW	Light breeze's power harnessed by vessel, a cutter (4-3)	P inside (CAT + SAW)
20 TRYPSIN	Test stick carrying stomach's primary enzyme (7)	TRY + [PIN outside (S)tomach]
21 JEER	Laugh at jeweller dropping spring (4)	JEWELLER minus WELL
24 BEAU	Sweetheart, outspoken, tied knot (4)	Sounds like BOW

* Erroneous clue – my apologies