AFR Cryptic (Saturday 13/1/2024) Solution

¹ P	R	² E	Р	³ A	R	⁴ E	D		⁵ S	⁶ L	Α	⁷ L	0	⁸ M
R		L		F		М		⁹ B		I		ı		I
¹⁰ O	Ν	S	Ε	Т		¹¹ A	В	R	Α	S	ı	0	Ν	S
М		Е		Ε		I		U		Т		N		L
¹² P	0	W	Ε	R	Р	L	Α	N	Т		¹³ A	S	I	Α
Т		Н		Н		Е		С		¹⁴ P				Υ
	¹⁵ B	Е	Н	0	L	D		16 H	0	L	Υ	¹⁷ S	Е	Е
¹⁸ E		R		U						Ε		Е		R
19 S	Н	Ε	Α	R	Ε	²⁰ D		²¹ C	Н	Α	N	С	Ε	
S				S		Ε		Н		S		Т		²² S
²³ E	Α	²⁴ S	Т		²⁵ C	Α	Р	ı	Т	Α	L	ı	S	Ε
N		Е		²⁶ C		D		С		N		0		L
²⁷ C	Α	R	Т	Α	G	Ε	N	Α		²⁸ T	U	N	Ε	D
ΙE		٧		R		N		G		L		Α		0
²⁹ S	Ε	Ε	R	Ε	D		³⁰ B	0	D	Υ	S	L	Α	M

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 PREPARED	Piano salesman, with a bottle of wine, is all set (8)	P + REP + A + RED
5 SLALOM	All tumbled in some shortened ski race (6)	Anagram of ALL inside SOM(e)
10 ONSET	Start working as an actor (5)	Double Definition
11 ABRASIONS	One playing in a section of an orchestra scrapes (9)	(I + ON) inside (A + BRASS)
12 POWER PLANT	One who has to pay money to design, in platinum, a generator (5,5)	(OWER + PLAN) inside PT
13 ASIA	Heavily populated area - one located in a state of Australia (4)	I inside (A + SA)
15 BEHOLD	Observe the man reversing in Valiant (6)	HE reversed inside BOLD
16 HOLY SEE	Married one leaving homily to visit papal court (4,3)	HOMILY minus (M + I) + SEE
19 SHEARED	Fleeced sheep are inside farm building (7)	ARE inside SHED
21 CHANCE	Part of a church without large opening (6)	CHANCEL minus L
23 EAST	Banquet not beginning with main course (4)	(f)EAST
25 CAPITALISE	Fund's maximum amount is placed in one account (10)	CAP + [IS inside (I + TALE)]
27 CARTAGENA	Transport agent contracted by a place in Spain (9)	CART + AGEN(t) + A
28 TUNED	Turned down river running well (5)	TURNED minus R
29 SEE RED	Drove, not having time to blow a gasket (3,3)	STEERED minus T
30 BODY SLAM	Sadly, mob mishandled manoeuvre in ring (4,4)	Anagram of SADLY MOB

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 PROMPT	Fun time in gym is executed without delay (6)	ROMP inside PT
2 ELSEWHERE	The Spanish do needlework here and in another place (9)	EL + SEW + HERE
3 AFTER HOURS	Our father's terribly late (5,5)	Anagram of OUR FATHERS
4 E-MAILED	The writer, withdrawn and troubled, sent a message (1-6)	ME reversed + AILED
6 LIST	Roll is lean (4)	Double Definition
7 LIONS	Some with pride, for example, leaving army units (5)	LEGIONS minus EG
8 MISLAYER	Mass murderer providing refuge for one loser (8)	(M + SLAYER) outside I
9 BRUNCH	Starter of rabbit featured in group meal (6)	(R)abbit inside BUNCH
14 PLEASANTLY	Layer containing sealant moulded well (10)	PLY outside anagram of SEALANT
17 SECTIONAL	Battered stretch of coastline is divided (9)	Anagram of COASTLINE
18 ESSENCES	Contents of vessel once deficient in oxygen and sulphur concentrates? (8)	v(ESSE)l + (ONCE minus O) + S
20 DEADEN	Dull idea not supported by one study (6)	(IDEA minus I) + DEN
21 CHICAGO	Smart move made behind a hang-out frequented by gangsters (7)	CHIC + (GO after A)
22 SELDOM	Passengers on board vessel do meet occasionally (6)	vesSEL DO Meet
24 SERVE	Work for American camper during visit (5)	RV inside SEE
26 CARE	Keeping manual, say, close to phone (4)	CAR + phon(E)