

The Stickler Weekly 244 Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 POSITION	Put one in support with one in operation (8)	I inside POST + I + ON
5 RABBIS	Church leaders and associates of Arab bishops (6)	aRAB BISHop
9 CLOSING UP	Blocking what bad teams are good at in competition (7,2)	LOSING inside CUP
11 MERIT	Good leader of men retrieved flag (5)	(M)EN + (TIRE reversed)
12 ENTAIL	Call for thanks in return for business (6)	TA inside (LINE reversed)
13 LENTILS	Time of fasting is broken by large vegetarian meal for one (7)	LENT + (IS outside L)
15 TENDER-HEARTED	Hand in notice, accepting gallery's responsibility is sensitive (6-7)	TENDER + (HEED outside ART)
17 BREASTSTROKER	Swimmer's agent keeping, for instance, time in period of little action (13)	BROKER outside [(AS + T) inside REST]
21 IMPLIED	Little devil didn't tell the truth as suggested (7)	IMP + LIED
22 BLITHE	Born double-jointed and sprightly (6)	B + LITHE
25 GRAFT	Work hard to join branch (5)	Double Definition
26 PERMITTED	Licensed agent returned wearing gloves? (9)	REP reversed + MITTED
27 DESIRE	Fancy term used to address someone in legal document that's 16? (6)	SIR inside (DEE)D
28 SMUGGLED	Superior was in first position after girl initially ran (8)	SMUG + [LED after (G)IRL]

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 PACKED	Crowded ship finally reorganised a deck (6)	SHI(P) + anagram of A DECK
2 SPORT	Show off piano in catalogue (5)	P inside SORT
3 TUITION	ESP lacking in training (7)	INTUITION minus IN
4 ORGY	Drunken revelry our guy attended without us? (4)	(OUR + GUY) minus the Us
6 AMMONIA	Load of bullets distributed in a basic compound (7)	AMMO + anagram of IN A
7 BARRISTER	Counsel backed gentleman taking part in trade deal (9)	SIR reversed inside BARTER
8 SET ASIDE	Save time in treatment of disease (3,5)	T inside anagram of DISEASE
10 PILCHARD	Fish sauce served up with leafy vegetable (8)	LIP reversed + CHARD
14 MESSED UP	Seems deranged fool, not all there, made a mistake (6,2)	Anagram of SEEMS + (DUP)E
15 THESPIANS	The one inside covers players (9)	THE + (I inside SPANS)
16 ABRIDGED	Notice about card game should be shortened (8)	AD outside BRIDGE
18 SPITTER	Pressure admitted by model person responsible for a dishonourable discharge? (7)	P inside SITTER
19 KILLING	Royal with internal injury that's exhausting (7)	KING outside ILL
20 TENDED	Looked after temperature all over (6)	T + ENDED
23 TOTAL	Get numbers together to say something briefly (5)	TO + (TAL)K
24 TRAM	Public transport shortened walk in New Zealand (4)	(TRAM)P

