

Two unclued answers are thematic. Four other thematic answers lack definitions in the clues. A further two answers which might be seen as thematic are clued normally.

ACROSS

- 9** Taps with bundle of paper – treatment for dry skin? (4,5)
10 (5)
11 "Goodbye, Kate", you said (5)
12 Henry gutted after upsetting 14 – great minds thinking alike? (9)
13 Area drain faulty (7)
14 Broken tea plate lost a range of colour (7)
15 Item 25 on the menu? Rather sexy! (5)
17 (3)
18 Scores brothers heard in Casablanca after dark (5)
20 Pointless *Mastermind* questions ... (7)
21 ... in retrospect: Ahmad's topic is about German city(7)
23 Aluminium enclosure to house sailors' instrument (9)
25 Volume 9: Mid-Kent (5)
26 Rolls with caviar filling sent back? On the contrary – a mistake! (5)
27 A minute fraction – of one and a half hours? (9)

DOWN

- 1** Covered up – 'e wears hat in outhouse (8)
2 Peacekeepers bound to be loosened (8)
3 Almost abandon microscopic examination (8)
4 Went mad over nuclear scientist (6)
5 Little priest has animal disease: ... (8)
6 ... extra precautions needed to cover mouth (4)
7 Parrot's claim to be the main attraction on a hill (8)
8 In frenzy, men get a form of protein (6)
16 Unknown salesman with lager gets up, well-oiled (8)
17 Garlands of stones? Absurd! (8)
18 Partner embraces returning Italian guy to give encouragement (8)
19 Amah tans unruly girl (8)
20 Heartless duck? (6)
21 Open Angela's case for Malaysian State (6)
22 Novelist's cross note in German article (6)
24 Hesitation in denial (4)

