

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 28/9/2024) Solution

¹ S	P	² O	R	³ T		⁴ B	U	⁵ S	H	⁶ P	I	⁷ L	O	⁸ T
O		N		A		R		A		O		A		H
⁹ C	A	T	E	R	P	I	L	L	A	R		¹⁰ T	W	O
C		H		D		D		E		T		T		R
¹¹ E	V	E	N	I	N	G			¹² C	A	M	E	I	N
R		B		S		E		¹³ S		B				Y
¹⁴ O	V	A	L			¹⁵ H	E	I	R	L	O	¹⁶ O	M	
O		L		¹⁷ S		E		X		E		R		¹⁸ T
	¹⁹ F	L	I	P	P	A	N	T			²⁰ O	G	L	E
²¹ C				A	D		H		²² C		A			N
²³ A	T	²⁴ T	A	C	K			²⁵ S	P	A	N	N	E	D
N		I		E		²⁶ T		E		V		I		E
²⁷ D	U	E		²⁸ B	R	A	I	N	T	E	A	S	E	R
L		U		A		X		S		A		E		L
²⁹ E	X	P	E	R	T	I	S	E		³⁰ T	O	D	A	Y

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 SPORT	Exhibit page in catalogue (5)	P inside SORT
4 BUSH PILOT	Prepared to publish outback flyer (4,5)	Anagram of TO PUBLISH
9 CATERPILLAR	Provide leader with grub (11)	CATER + PILLAR
10 TWO	Number in addition so to speak (3)	Sounds like TOO
11 EVENING	Time for a soiree just in back of building (7)	EVEN + IN + buildin(G)
12 CAME IN	Entered cinema in a drunken manner (4,2)	Anagram of CINEMA
14 OVAL	Eggs discovered next to large field (4)	OVA + L
15 HEIRLOOM	He left in one room an object of passing interest? (8)	HE + [L inside (I + ROOM)]
19 FLIPPANT	Turn over trousers with end trimmed to be irreverent (8)	FLIP + PANT(s)
20 OGLE	Participants during jog leer and stare impertinently? (4)	jOG LEer
23 ATTACK	Criticise a troop's leader before strategic move (6)	A + (T)roop + TACK
25 SPANNED	Crossed a wide area as speculators initially looked for gold (7)	(S)peculators + PANNED
27 DUE	Outstanding pair of performers finished early (3)	(DUE)t
28 BRAIN-TEASER	Variation of base rate in quarter, ultimately is a difficult problem (5-6)	Anagram of BASE RATE IN + quarte(R)
29 EXPERTISE	Special knowledge and time one invested in old friend, as such (9)	(T + I) inside (EX + PER SE)
30 TODAY	Small dog biting dad briefly is right now (5)	TOY outside (DA)d

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 SOCCEROO	Australian sports star's century boosting score ruined by two ducks (8)	C inside anagram of SCORE + OO
2 ON THE BALL	Is deserting this during one social event smart? (2,3,4)	(THIS minus IS) inside (ONE +BALL)
3 TARDIS	Who's transport is behind time on a road? (6)	IS after (T + A + RD)
4 BRIDGEHEAD	Raised ground the man spotted in poor fortified position in enemy territory (10)	(RIDGE + HE) inside BAD
5 SALE	Selling alcohol after closing of pubs (4)	ALE after pub(S)
6 PORTABLE	Piano or furniture easily or conveniently transported (8)	P + OR + TABLE
7 LATTE	Coffee cart with no wheels entering behind schedule (5)	CART minus CAR inside LATE
8 THORNY	Complex gadget finally turned on (6)	gadgeT + HORNY
13 SIXTH SENSE	Insight is kept back by ten anxious about high school (5,5)	IS reversed + X + (TENSE outside HS)
16 ORGANISED	Orderly's god is near orderly (9)	Anagram of GOD IS NEAR
17 SPACE BAR	Fine boxer's start in fight is key for creating an opening (5,3)	[ACE + (B)oxer] inside SPAR
18 TENDERLY	Offer lady proposed without notice in a kind way (8)	TENDER + (LADY minus AD)
21 CANDLE	Type of light tin used by new sort of LED (6)	CAN + anagram of LED
22 CAVEAT	Warning at grotto set out front (6)	AT after CAVE
24 TIE UP	Tether that is bitten by ram (3,2)	IE inside TUP
26 TAXI	Thanks team that plays cricket for coast (4)	TA + XI