

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 4/10/2025) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 ICECAP	Integrated circuit returned speed for a cold mass (6)	IC + (PACE reversed)
5 BILLET	Metal bar or post (6)	Double Definition
9 EBULLIENT	Excited male that is in care of specialist (9)	(BULL + IE) inside ENT
10 STALL	Beat around the bush and animal enclosure (5)	Double Definition
11 RELIEVED	Happy story, told inside, always backed by detective (8)	LIE inside (EVER reversed) + D
12 BIOPIC	Big topic missing great personal story (6)	BIG TOPIC minus GT
14 HOSPITABLE	Helpful shop replaced one piece of furniture (10)	Anagram of SHOP + I + TABLE
15 MEAL	Trimmed beef, say, served with large quantity of food (4)	MEA(t) + L
17 CHAT	Pet swallowing hot potato (4)	CAT outside H
19 FLASHLIGHT	It may be needed to see rope in escape (10)	LASH inside FLIGHT
22 EAGLET	Small bird's broken leg ingested by swallow (6)	ANagram of LEG inside EAT (verb)
23 GEMSTONE	It's considered precious by most involved in DNA unit (8)	Anagram of MOST inside GENE
25 CHILE	Country boy, say, cut off end of toe (5)	CHIL(d) + to(E)
26 OVIPAROUS	Egg-laying duck and fat cat wake up briefly (9)	O + VIP + AROUS(e)
27 THONGS	They are worn on the beach in different places (6)	Double Definition
28 GET SET	Be prepared to experiment, for example, taking retirement (3,3)	(TEST + EG) reversed

[illegible]