

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 4/11/2023) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 INCISE	Cut segments from CSI, NCIS etc (6)	csI NCIS Etc
4 ACADEMIC	A person studying a rat and mutated mice (8)	A + CAD + anagram of MICE
9 SAMOA	Small NZ bird once spread around a Pacific island group (5)	(S + MOA) outside A
10 CERTAINLY	Crate repacked by one and left in New York for sure (9)	Anagram of CRATE + I + (L inside NY)
11 CHANCEL	Opening large part of a church reserved for the clergy and choir (7)	CHANCE + L
12 IMPASTO	I am after origin of old painting (7)	IM + PAST + (O)ld
13 RIOT	One involved in corruption and wild behaviour (4)	I inside ROT
14 CIRCINUS	Fun show plugged by popular group of stars (8)	CIRCUS outside IN
17 TACITURN	Act I, reviewed before performance, is withdrawn? (8)	Anagram of ACT I + TURN
19 DEAN	Study divided up by a school head (4)	DEN outside A
22 NECKTIE	Kitchen tea informally presented without hat and formalwear (7)	Anagram of KITCHEN TEA minus HAT
24 EARBASH	Roving bear has to chew the fat constantly (7)	Anagram of BEAR HAS
25 ECONOMIST	Government adviser possibly organised fraud with nothing in troubled times (9)	(CON + O) inside anagram of TIMES
26 TRIPS	Helpful information about river expeditions (5)	TIPS outside R
27 TIDINESS	Order and sit around eating lunches, say? (8)	SIT reversed outside DINES
28 CLOSED	Compact kernel of Windows shut down (6)	CLOSE + win(D)ows

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 INSECURE	Nice user, treated badly, is not adequately protected (8)	Anagram of NICE USER
2 COME ABOUT	Happen to change tack (4,5)	Double Definition
3 SCARCE	Electrical capacitance, somewhere in housing of alarm, is hard to find (6)	C inside SCARE
5 CARDIAC ARREST	Coaches holding assistant up, before time out, with heartfelt problem? (7,6)	(CAR + CAR) outside (AID reversed) + REST
6 DEADPAN	Straight-faced head of college soaking up commercial pressure (7)	DEAN outside (AD + P)
7 MINIS	Small cars try leaving the church (5)	MINISTRY minus TRY
8 CEYLON	Tea that's brewed, noticeably lacking a bit (6)	Anagram of NOTICEABLY minus A BIT
10 CALLISTHENICS	"Buzz" in chest is corrected with exercises (13)	CALL + anagram of IN CHEST IS
15 SCENARIOS	Plans from Rio found in wrecked Cessna (9)	RIO inside anagram of CESSNA
16 ENTHUSED	The abridged application, listed in conclusion, is inspired (8)	[(TH)e + USE] inside END
18 CUT DOWN	Duct, repositioned by individual, fell (3,4)	ANagram of DUCT + OWN
20 IN DEBT	Owing money, independent arranged bet (2,4)	IND + anagram of BET
21 BRUTAL	Unsweetened ale mostly is beastly (6)	BRUT + (AL)e
23 CROWD	Assembly line packed in music collection (5)	ROW inside CD