

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 28/8/2021) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 PATHS	Courses at high school started by head of psychology (5)	(AT + HS) after (P)psychology
4 CROSSWORD	Line drawn around empty squares in sequence - puzzling thing? (9)	CORD outside [(S)quare(S) in ROW]
9 CHAGRIN	Talk greatly expressed feeling and annoyance (7)	(CHA)t + GRIN
10 ABUSERS	They don't say nice things about losing out with employers (7)	(ABOUT minus OUT) + USERS
11 SOMETHING ELSE	An exceptional person's pivotal point in lot seems out of place (9,4)	HINGE inside anagram of LOT SEEMS
14 PEAK	Summit talks boycotted by leaders of Sudan and Syria (4)	SPEAKS minus (S)udan and (S)yria
15 VICTORIANS	Southerners - six - relocated to Cairns (10)	VI + anagram of TO CAIRNS
18 OPEN LETTER	Ring writer with landlord's public message (4,6)	O + PEN + LETTER
19 LEAN	Bony heel (4)	Double Definition
21 SIT ON THE FENCE	Tangrams originally described in translated Chinese often to avoid conflict (3,2,3,5)	(T)angrams inside anagram of CHINESE OFTEN
24 LEADERS	Directors rewind small roll of film containing commercial (7)	(S + REEL) reversed outside AD
26 ROUTINE	Way left open to retain batting order (7)	ROUTE outside IN
27 SEMESTERS	Wise men, securing millions, established academic terms (9)	SEERS outside (M + EST)
28 TODAY	Small dog biting dad briefly is right now (5)	TOY outside (DA)d

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 PACE	Pressure applied with great speed (4)	P + ACE
2 TRANSPARENT	Frank extended pole inside tent (11)	(RAN + SPAR) inside TENT
3 SCRIMP	Restrict introduction of short wave (6)	(S)hort + CRIMP
4 CONSTRICT	Agitated croc isn't taking time to squeeze (9)	Anagram of CROC ISNT outside T
5 OKAPI	Right, a pig with no tail is a strange-looking animal? (5)	OK + A + (PI)g
6 SLUGGARD	Drone shot trail on the way up (8)	SLUG + (DRAG reversed)
7 ODE	Creative work is outstanding according to audience (3)	Sounds like OWED
8 DISPERSING	Camouflaged snipers, hiding in quarry, should be spreading out (10)	Anagram of SNIPERS inside DIG
12 LEAVE BEHIND	I behave badly, consumed by loan's neglect (5,6)	Anagram of I BEHAVE inside LEND
13 EPSOM SALTS	Toss sample mixed with purgative medicine (5,5)	Anagram of TOSS SAMPLE
16 TREE FERNS	Bank covered in sea-birds and tropical plants (4,5)	REEF inside TERNS
17 BLENDERS	Bank's primary creditors - they always mix things up (8)	(B)ank + LENDERS
20 INSULT	Put down entry retained by Collins ultimately (6)	collINS ULTimately
22 HASTE	Expedition features team reduced by half (5)	HAS + TE(am)
23 DENY	Refuse in animal's lair, especially at the back (4)	DEN + especiall(Y)
25 AIM	Plan a time with no limitations? (3)	A + (t)IM(e)