

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 20/6/2026) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 GERMAN MEASLES	Manager seems upset about onset of Lyme disease (6,7)	Anagram of MANAGER SEEMS outside (L)yme
9 DISCERN	Uncoordinated dancer is missing out on a spot (7)	Anagram of DANCER IS minus A
10 TEAR OUT	Forcefully remove Prince of Wales, say, facing defeat (4,3)	TEA + ROUT
11 EARWIG	A wire rigged close to gathering to eavesdrop (6)	Anagram of A WIRE + gatherin(G)
12 BULLETIN	Newsflash - it's fired in! (8)	BULLET + IN
14 SALMAGUNDI	Amusing lad composed a medley (10)	Anagram of AMUSING LAD
16 COXA	Small crew member seen with a joint (4)	COX + A
19 SECT	School of opinion relocated cadets without notice (4)	Anagram of CADETS minus AD
20 GIANT PANDA	Head of genetics interbred taipan and a vulnerable species (5,5)	(G)enetics + anagram of TAIPAN AND
22 PREFACED	Introduced game official, inside, showed signs of impatience (8)	REF inside PACED
23 MISSAL	Fail to see a large book of prayers (6)	MISS + A + L
26 APOSTLE	Evangelist maligned lots in parody (7)	Anagram of LOST inside APE
27 OMINOUS	Boundless comic intellect is threatening? (7)	c)OMI(c + NOUS
28 SUPPLEMENTARY	Flexible people try catching a game ball (13)	SUPPLE MEN + (TRY outside A)

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 GODDESSES	Beautiful women follow up on dresses right away (9)	DOG reversed + (DRESSES minus R)
2 RISER	Jack is last to stumble in middle of sparring (5)	[IS + stumbl(E)] inside spa(RR)ing
3 AMERICAN	Trump's son, for example, in the form of a man? (8)	ERIC inside (A + MAN)
4 MANY	Property owned by nobleman yielded lots? (4)	nobleMAN Yielded
5 ASTOUNDING	A depth ascertained (including temperature) is impressive (10)	(A + SOUNDING) outside T
6 LIABLE	Subject, refused bail, left courthouse at the back? (6)	Anagram of BAIL + L + courthous(E)
7 SHOUT DOWN	"Silence! Silence! Get the better of gutless warden"? (5,4)	SH + OUTDO + W(arde)N
8 STUN	Shock manoeuvre that's dangerous mostly (4)	(STUN)t
13 LUTINE BELL	Even parts of deal in bulletin confused Lloyd's ringer (6,4)	d(E)a(L) inside anagram of BULLETIN
15 LECHEROUS	Raunchy clues compiled about leading man (9)	Anagram of CLUES outside HERO
17 ANAPLASTY	Pal disfigured in a horrible piece of cosmetic surgery (9)	Anagram of PAL inside (A + NASTY)
18 OPTICIAN	Surgery on twitching problem, one completed by an eye-correction specialist (8)	OP + TIC + I + AN
21 WAIT UP	Hang on, don't go to bed just yet (4,2)	Double Definition
22 PLAY	Perform a song, opening with piano (4)	P + LAY
24 STOMA	A selection of instruments to make a surgical opening (5)	instrumentS TO MAke
25 WORM	Argue about entry point of major computer virus (4)	ROW reversed + (M)ajor