

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 26/7/2025) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 GAPING	Joke about pressure in Open (6)	GAG outside (P + IN)
5 FORT	Military outpost defended soundly (4)	Sounds like FOUGHT
9 RONDO	Musical composition is right before performing act (5)	R + ON + DO
10 CONGRUENT	Members of public on Gruen topic should be agreeing (9)	publiC ON GRUEN Topic
13 FIELDER	Fine one senior member of a cricket team (7)	F + I + ELDER
14 DESCENT	Pole secured by reasonable line (7)	S inside DECENT
15 RATE	Trade adversely impacted without diamonds to value (4)	Anagram of TRADE minus D
16 CALCULATOR	Call about copper at work endlessly in summer? (10)	CALL outside CU + AT + w)OR(k
19 GO-BETWEENS	Grand English award disconcerted newest agents (2-8)	G + OBE + anagram of NEWEST
20 LIVE	Endure depravity in retreat (4)	EVIL reversed
23 AWAKENS	A snake, twisted around tail of cow, comes to life (7)	Anagram of A SNAKE outside co(W)
25 IN PRINT	She dropped out of internship not properly documented (2,5)	Anagram of INTERNSHIP minus SHE
26 DREAM TEAM	The best people rate me poorly in block (5,4)	Anagram of RATE ME inside DAM
28 CONDO	Pro's opposing side provide a place in America (5)	CON + DO
29 BEAR	Put up with growth of hair to a great extent (4)	(BEAR)d
30 MODERN	Novel way of working, right, inside study? (6)	MO + (R inside DEN)

Down	Clue	Explanation
2 AVOIDS	Ducks enthusiastic about egg starting to split (6)	AVID outside O + (S)plit
3 INCARNATE	Human transporter engaged by native (9)	CAR inside INNATE
4 GONAD	Sex gland's activity connected to mutated DNA (5)	GO + anagram of DNA
5 FIRE SALE	Clearance of damaged goods affected lease after large growth (4,4)	Anagram of LEASE after FIR
6 TIN	Large amount of colour roofing material (3)	(TIN)t
7 PREFER	Sporting official protected by agent returned favour (6)	REF inside (REP reversed)
8 INVERTEBRATE	Indecisive person, wearing green, adjusted a beret (12)	IN + VERT + anagram of A BERET
11 ELECTRICIANS	Tradies fashioned nice articles (12)	Anagram of NICE ARTICLES
12 TUTOR	Express disapproval or give individual instruction (5)	TUT + OR
17 CONFIRMED	Proven case of fraud dismissed for male (9)	(CON + FIRED) outside M
18 STREAMER	Ship carrying right flag (8)	STEAMER outside R
19 GUARD	Drug turned up in possession of a sentry (5)	DRUG reversed outside A
21 EFTPOS	Payment option left, possibly, with shortcomings? (6)	LEFT POSSibly
22 SPACER	Small horse - it maintains a steady gap (6)	S + PACER
24 STEAM	Move fast left-winger of steady squad? (5)	(S)teady + TEAM
27 ROB	Hold up probe with ends missing (3)	p)ROB(e