

# AFR Cryptic (Saturday 6/12/2025) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 HURTS	Inflicts injuries on regiment primarily occupying small buildings (5)	(R)egiment inside HUTS
4 FLATTERED	Fine coffee and wine should be praised (9)	F + LATTE + RED
9 DOUBLE CREAM	High-fat dairy product could be reviewed by paper? (6,5)	Anagram of COULD BE + REAM
10 ABS	Muscles may be so evenly spaced (3)	mAy Be So
11 EPILEPSY	Nervous disorder may be written down in records close to surgery (8)	(PILE inside EPS) + surger(Y)
12 RENTER	Leaseholder's right to go in (6)	R + ENTER
14 OVER	Off-side fielder not starting a short bowling spell (4)	(c)OVER
15 VERTEBRA	Green support for woman taking on head of experimental spinal unit (8)	(VERT + BRA) outside (E)xperimental
18 SPRAINED	Injured spy almost fell down (8)	SP(y) + RAINED
20 SAGO	Pudding ingredient, say, reduced vitality (4)	SA(y) + GO
24 EARTHS	Grounds are prepared by one leaving this (6)	Anagram of ARE + TH(i)S
25 SCREW-TOP	Type of bottle a group of workers sealed with plug (5-3)	STOP outside CREW
27 ROT	Tripe and bread not finished (3)	ROT(i)
28 BARBITURATE	Drug distributor that sells alcohol, organised a tribute (11)	BAR + anagram of A TRIBUTE
29 PENETRATE	Trap rat in sewer waste with probe (9)	(NET + RAT) inside PEE
30 NITRE	Contents of can - it really is saltpetre (5)	caN IT REally

<b>Down</b>	<b>Clue</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
1 HEDGEROW	How about a garden tool used to trim a line of shrubs or trees? (8)	HOW outside EDGER
2 ROUTINE	Way left open to retain batting order (7)	ROUTE outside IN
3 SILVER	Money is rolled over and left very briefly (6)	IS reversed + L + VER(y)
4 FACE-SAVING	Maintaining prestige, cafe mixed French wine in dip (4-6)	Anagram of CAFE + (VIN inside SAG)
5 AXES	A male, say, recalled choppers (4)	A + (SEX reversed)
6 TEMPERED	Hardened agent met retired journalist (8)	(REP + MET) reversed + ED
7 REACTOR	Church leader harnessing a source of power, perhaps (7)	RECTOR outside A
8 DESIRE	Fancy term used to address someone in abridged legal document (6)	SIR inside DEE(d)
13 PRODUCTIVE	Conduit, one used in test, should be efficient (10)	(DUCT + I) inside PROVE
16 BAD HABIT	Character flaw bishop had corrected slightly (3,5)	B + anagram of HAD + A BIT
17 COMPLETE	Fill in parking permit in advance (8)	(P + LET) inside COME
19 PURITAN	Fanatic turned up on rescheduled train (7)	UP reversed + anagram of TRAIN
21 ATTRACT	Pull a pamphlet containing twaddle primarily (7)	(A + TRACT) outside (T)waddle
22 BEER-UP	Be straight over for drinking party (4-2)	BE + (PURE reversed)
23 TEA URN	Switch around each beverage supplier (3,3)	TURN outside EA
26 PROA	Old hand seen on a Malay sailing boat (4)	PRO + A