

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 11/10/2025) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 PARLANCE	Standard number of shots fired with weapon in a manner of speaking (8)	PAR + LANCE
5 ABACUS	A coach fitted with air-conditioning for summer (6)	(A + BUS) outside AC
9 CUISINE	Head of university is surrounded by nice cooked food (7)	[(U)niversity + IS] inside anagram of NICE
10 SPANNER	Tool - one picked from nine in box (7)	(NINE minus I) inside SPAR
11 DECORATING	Honouring code developed by class (10)	Anagram of CODE + RATING
12 WEKA	NZ rail passengers returned from Lake Wakatipu? (4)	LAKE Wakatipu reversed
13 RAT RUN	Right turn taken out of control after a short cut (3,3)	R + (anagram of TURN after A)
14 DESCRIBE	Bishop bound by creed is ordered to report (8)	B inside anagram of (CREED IS)
17 REACHING	Evangelism, without initial pressure, is penetrating (8)	PREACHING minus P
18 FIENDS	Wicked people, right, lacking in mates? (6)	FRIENDS minus R
21 FADE	Decline an ironclad promotion? (4)	FE outside AD
22 SQUARE MEAL	Frisky mare tucked into grass with substantial nourishment (6,4)	Anagram of MARE inside SQUEAL
24 STORAGE	Space for keeping stuff held by publicist or agent (7)	publiciST OR AGEnt
25 BALLOON	Everyone involved in benefit is swell (7)	ALL inside BOON
26 DISMAY	Consternation is beginning to mount in set time (6)	[IS + (M)ount] inside DAY
27 BEGRUDGE	Resent move on the banks of, for example, river (8)	BUDGE outside (EG + R)

[illegible]