

# AFR Cryptic (Saturday 8/6/2024) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 SCHEMES	Men, before finishing in chess, developed strategies (7)	(ME)n inside anagram of CHESS
5 PREAMP	Piano salesperson moved around AM stereo equipment (6)	P + REP outside AM
9 A-FLAT	Group of football players engaged in musical production (1-4)	AFL + AT
10 CRESCENDO	Finish in soccer rematch is a high point? (9)	END insider anagram of SOCCER
11 ESCORTED	Guided business established in redeveloped desert (8)	CO inside anagram of DESERT
12 BLOATS	Craft handling large swells (6)	BOATS outside L
13 PIPE	Spot butt from cigarette smoker (4)	PIP + cigarett(E)
14 INCEPTION	Awkward one on about carbon's rise (9)	(INEPT + I + ON) outside C
17 ABERRANCE	Deviation can be rare in disorder (9)	Anagram of CAN BE RARE
18 SCAR	Mark is writing inside Christmas cards (4)	christmaS CARds
20 TOP HAT	Surgery conducted in that head gear considered first-class (3,3)	OP inside THAT
21 GROUPING	Alcohol banking up in class (8)	GROG outside (UP + IN)
24 COLLISION	Company is hostile about active opposition (9)	CO + [(IS + ILL) reversed] + ON
25 GREEN	Reduction of energy excited environmentalist (5)	Anagram of (ENERG)y
26 STATIC	Steady activist not supporting one against changing (6)	Anagram of ACTIVIST minus (I + V)
27 SADNESS	"The Blues Brothers", at the end, damaged sedans (7)	brother(S) + anagram of SEDANS

<b>Down</b>	<b>Clue</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
1 SHAKE	Small fish flourish (5)	S + HAKE
2 HELICOPTER PILOT	Rich IT people distributed group's flyer (10,5)	Anagram of RICH IT PEOPLE + LOT
3 MATURE	Experienced amateur, missing start, messed up (6)	Anagram of (a)MATEUR
4 SECRETION	Discharge core of bureau in region (9)	bu(RE)au inside SECTION
5 PEEL	Remove skin from head of poached fish (4)	(P)oached + EEL
6 EUCALYPT	Worried acutely about prominent branch of pine tree (8)	Anagram of ACUTELY outside (P)ine
7 MANDARIN CHINESE	Fellow, insincere, had translated language (8,7)	MAN + anagram of INSINCERE + HAD
8 LOOSENER	Laxative seen tossed in toilet, right? (8)	Anagram of SEEN inside (LOO + R)
13 PLASTICS	Synthetic materials remain fresh in pictures (8)	LAST inside PICS
15 CLEARINGS	Pockets of vacant land are not normally enclosed by sticks (9)	Anagram of ARE inside CLINGS
16 ORGANIST	Love arrangement of a string instrument player (8)	O + anagram of A STRING
19 BULGED	Leg broken in shoot showed signs of swelling (6)	Anagram of LEG inside BUD
22 GANGS	Head of government in difficulty upset criminal groups (5)	(G)overnment inside (SNAG reversed)
23 ZINC	Sample of quartz in compound is a trace element (4)	quartZ IN Compound