

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 18/4/2026) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 REASSIGNED	Was king, say, riding donkey, given a new job? (10)	REIGNED outside ASS
6 AGES	Passengers in carriage sat a long time? (4)	carriAGE Sat
10 FORUM	Public meeting in favour of sharing a letter with spirit (5)	FO(R/R)UM
11 EVENTUATE	Give rise to fair trade union at opening of exhibition (9)	EVEN + TU + AT + (E)xhibition
12 STALLING	Everyone involved in swindle is playing for time (8)	ALL inside STING
13 ACQUIT	Release most of English money listed in deed (6)	(QUI)d inside ACT
15 SEE FIT	Choose it after returning service charges (3,3)	IT after (FEES reversed)
16 RESOLVE	Lovers lacking cohesion and energy break up (7)	Anagram of LOVERS + E
18 ONE	A single person came through in speech (3)	Sounds like WON
19 TERRAIN	Land turtle giving up quietly (7)	TERRAPIN minus P
21 ABODES	A builder primarily does renovated dwellings (6)	A + (B)uilder + anagram of DOES
24 AUDITS	"Our currency is holding" - head of Treasury's account inspections (6)	AUD + [IS outside (T)reasury]
25 GRUESOME	Awful rogues tortured men before the end (8)	Anagram of ROGUES + (ME)n
27 EXCURSION	Cruise upset about kiss on pleasure trip (9)	Anagram of CRUISE outside X + ON
28 HORSE	Mount is rough according to report (5)	Sounds like HOARSE
29 SOLE	The Sound of Music alone (4)	Sounds like SOUL
30 TELEGRAPHY	Revolutionary therapy supporting leg - it's all done with wires (10)	Anagram of THERAPY outside LEG

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 REFUSE	Junk is put back together? (6)	Double Definition
2 ACREAGE	Sabotaged gear found buried in great area of land (7)	Anagram of GEAR inside ACE
3 SIMPLE FRACTURE	Femur particles complicated break in bone (6,8)	Anagram of FEMUR PARTICLES
4 GREENSTONE	Geologist initially enters broadcast with one variety of jade (10)	(G)eologist + anagram of ENTERS + ONE
5 EYES	They look east, no doubt (4)	E + YES
7 GRADUAL	Reappointed guard given a little latitude is slow (7)	Anagram of GUARD + A + L
8 SHEATHED	Part of race held in building outside should be covered (8)	HEAT inside SHED
9 STICKS TOGETHER	Pieces of wood got packaged up with three different glues (6,8)	STICKS + (GOT reversed) + anagram of THREE
14 PREARRANGE	Organise early start for paratroopers behind mountains (10)	(P)aratroopers + REAR + RANGE
17 STEAMERS	Pilots guided around a thousand ships (8)	STEERS outside (A + M)
20 RADICAL	Revolutionary form of carbon used in composition of tyre (7)	C inside RADIAL
22 EGO-TRIP	Self-indulgence with drugs got linked to split (3-4)	E + GOT + RIP
23 REMEDY	Medication, moderately treated, lacking a lot (6)	Anagram of MODERATELY minus (A LOT)
26 MINE	Dig out quantity of aluminium in excavation (4)	aluminium IN Excavation