

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 29/2/2020) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 WRITE OFF	Forget about enemy held back by court order and fine (5,3)	FOE reversed inside (WRIT + F)
5 TASSIE	State competition entered by clown (6)	TIE outside ASS
10 ROCKET SCIENTIST	Clever one treated sick tot in secret (6,9)	Anagram of SICK TOT IN SECRET
11 ELECTRICAL	Rate cell, redesigned with components of iodine and carbon, using power (10)	Anagram of RATE CELL outside (I + C)
12 FLEA	A mischievous child, withdrawn, may be a source of irritation (4)	(A + ELF) reversed
14 SECANT	Cutting line put in place around container (6)	SET outside CAN
15 SHAPE UP	Progress has changed drugs taken by young boxer, say (5,2)	Anagram of HAS + (PUP outside E)
18 LETTERS	They are bound to look after tenants with academic training (7)	Double Definition
20 SEE FIT	Choose it after returning service charges (3,3)	IT after (FEES reversed)
21 GETS	American not mingling with guests comes by (4)	G(u)E(s)TS
23 COP IT SWEET	Accept without complaint company mine's small deposit in the end (3,2,5)	CO + PITS + WEE + deposi(T)
26 THREE-RING CIRCUS	Confusing situation destabilised currencies, right? (5-4,6)	Anagram of CURRENCIES RIGHT
27 DREAMY	Romantic boyfriend finally married in New Year (6)	boyfrien(D) + (M inside anagram of YEAR)
28 UNBRIDLE	Shoddy builder fencing back of garden should be free (8)	Anagram of BUILDER outside garde(N)

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 WARNE	Australia's opening batsman cut short spinner (5)	(WARNE)r
2 INCLEMENT	Harsh client shifted around workers (9)	Anagram of CLIENT outside MEN
3 EVENTUATED	Regular group of workers, with date organised, turned out (10)	EVEN + TU + anagram of DATE
4 FASCIST	Captain is rounded by speedy right winger (7)	(C + IS) inside FAST
6 ACNE	Spots letters penned by Isaac Newton (4)	isaAC NEWton
7 SPILL	Lighter fluid wasted (5)	Double Definition
8 ENTHALPY	The plan affected factory's final and total heat (8)	Anagram of THE PLAN + factor(Y)
9 VICARS	People ordered six vehicles? (6)	VI + CARS
13 WATER-SKIER	Boat trailer, as it were, broken up on banks of King River (5-5)	(Anagram of AS IT WERE outside K) + R
16 EVIDENCED	Reconfigured device attached to the walls of study may be demonstrated (9)	Anagram of DEVICE outside DEN
17 FLIGHTED	US agent carrying torch is given air (8)	FED outside LIGHT
19 SLOT IN	Find a place for large number gripped by sermon subject (4,2)	LOT inside SIN
20 SMIDGEN	Small piece of negative blackens when hung up (7)	(NEG + DIMS) reversed
22 THREE	A small number are lacking a bit in article (5)	(ARE minus A) inside THE
24 TASTE	Eat some ragout, a stew (5)	ragouT A STEw
25 SEAM	Marine heading to military joint (4)	SEA + (M)ilitary