

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 23/9/2023) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 FORECAST	Prophecy supporting a sect experiencing conversion (8)	FOR + anagram of A SECT
5 GROTTA	Source of glow-worms possibly reached crossing river (6)	GOT TO outside R
10 SECOND-IN-COMMAND	Deputy condemns nomadic wandering (6-2-7)	Anagram of CONDEMNS NOMADIC
11 SEPARATION	Split peas spoiled a small amount of food (10)	Anagram of PEAS + RATION
12 MESA	Entries in scheme's actuarial table (4)	scheMES Actuarial
14 SURGED	Cocktail of drugs containing ecstasy caused a rush (6)	Anagram of DRUGS outside E
15 SEEDBED	See head of newspaper about database environment that's needed for development (7)	(SEE + ED) outside DB
18 SCEPTIC	Scoffer's cold contracted by pussy (7)	C inside SEPTIC
20 TWENTY	Run of Cabaret went years - quite a few (6)	cabareT WENT Years
21 ACES	Flying war heroes, a short time back (4)	A + (SEC reversed)
23 OPERATIONS	A surgical team works on these alternatives, taking time into account (10)	OPTIONS outside ERA
26 AMBULANCE CHASER	Cuban male mixed drink for lawyer looking for work (9,6)	Anagram of CUBAN MALE + CHASER
27 ERRAND	Make a mistake with joiner's commission (6)	ERR + AND
28 FLAT SPIN	Confused state fellow connected with changing of last access code (4,4)	F + anagram of LAST + PIN

