## AFR Cryptic (Saturday 18/11/2023) Solution

<sup>1</sup> S	Т	<sup>2</sup> A	Р	<sup>3</sup> L	Ε		<sup>4</sup> R	<sup>5</sup> E	٧	<sup>6</sup> Е	R	<sup>7</sup> S	Α	<sup>8</sup> L
U		G		Ε		<sup>9</sup> A		Α		N		Ε		Α
10B	U	I	L	D	I	N	G	S	0	С	I	Ε	T	Υ
IJ		S		G		Т		Υ		L		K		Е
<sup>11</sup> E	S	Т	Ε	Ε	M	Ε	D		<sup>12</sup> P	0	S	S	Ε	Т
С		М		S		Α				S				Т
<sup>13</sup> T	Ε	Е	N		<sup>14</sup> S	Т	Α	<sup>15</sup> B	L	Е	M	<sup>16</sup> A	T	Е
		N		<sup>17</sup>		Е		L		D		М		
<sup>18</sup> M	Ε	Т	Α	С	Α	R	Р	Α	L		<sup>19</sup> S	Р	Α	<sup>20</sup> R
I				Ε				S		<sup>21</sup> B		L		Е
<sup>22</sup> S	Р	<sup>23</sup> L	1	С	Ε		<sup>24</sup> S	Т	Е	Е	R	I	N	G
Ι∟I		Α		R		<sup>25</sup> T		ı		M		F		U
26 E	N	Т	R	Ε	Р	R	Ε	N	Ε	U	R	I	Α	L
l al		-		Α		0		G		S		Е		Α
<sup>27</sup> D	Υ	N	Α	M	I	T	Ε		<sup>28</sup> M	Ε	N	D	Ε	R

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 STAPLE	Principal is to join paper (6)	Double definition
4 REVERSAL	Odd bits of rust appearing in display switch (8)	(R)u(S)t inside REVEAL
10 BUILDING SOCIETY	Barrister's first guilty decision ruined prominent lender (8,7)	(B)arrister + anagram of GUILTY DECISION
11 ESTEEMED	Honoured guests at the centre came down heavily (8)	gu(ES)ts + TEEMED
12 POSSET	Model nearly finished congealed milk-based drink (6)	(POS)e + SET
13 TEEN	Youngster's tin pinched from tuckshop (4)	CANTEEN minus CAN
14 STABLEMATE	Companion's bishop played in no-win situation (10)	B inside STALEMATE
18 METACARPAL	Touched a fish, a large bony thing (10)	MET + A + CARP + A + L
19 SPAR	Part of rigging a boxing match (4)	Double definition
22 SPLICE	Some of cricket bat's power demonstrated in cut (6)	P inside SLICE
24 STEERING	Mechanism used to control energy, twice reset in line (8)	(E + E) inside STRING
26 ENTREPRENEURIAL	Distracted, inept learner rues not finishing business (15)	Anagram of (INEPT LEARNER RUE)s
27 DYNAMITE	New-fangled diet keeping many up is explosive (8)	Anagram of DIET outside (MANY reversed)
28 MENDER	Troops recalled embarrassed person in recovery (6)	MEN + (RED reversed)

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 SUBJECT	National coach turned up on aeroplane carrying clubs (7)	BUS reversed + (JET outside C)
2 AGISTMENT	Stock-keeping cost in agriculture is, time after time, divided by people (9)	AG + IS + [(T + T)] outside MEN]
3 LEDGES	Sides put on the back of large shelves (6)	EDGES after L
5 EASY	Tune a system's components - it's not difficult (4)	tunE A SYstem
6 ENCLOSED	End in itself is not out in the open? (8)	CLOSE inside END
7 SEEKS	Searches for saying of religious people (5)	Sounds like SIKHS
8 LAYETTE	Baby's set of clothing still inside after hours (7)	YET inside LATE
9 ANTEATER	Pest exterminator retired in retreat after an evening meal (8)	(RET reversed) after (AN TEA)
15 BLASTING	Explosions may be continuing after appearance of bomber at the front (8)	LASTING after (B)omber
16 AMPLIFIED	Expanded financial services company lied about one fee initially (9)	AMP + LIED outside [I + (F)ee]
17 ICE CREAM	Cooked rice came with cold dessert (3,5)	Anagram of RICE CAME
18 MISLEAD	Fool is crazy about place surrounded by water (7)	MAD outside ISLE
20 REGULAR	Gun retrieved by a resistance fighter (7)	LUGER reversed + A + R
21 BEMUSE	Be first to make and run through puzzle (6)	BE + (M)ake + USE
23 LATIN	Romantic language is mostly dead at home (5)	(LAT)e + IN
25 TROT	Go off after start of triathlon's run (4)	ROT after (T)riathlon