## AFR Cryptic (Saturday 14/10/2023) Solution

| ${ }^{1} \mathrm{P}$ |  | ${ }^{2} \mathrm{P}$ | E | ${ }^{3} \mathrm{D}$ | 0 | ${ }^{4} \mathrm{M}$ |  | ${ }^{5} \mathrm{D}$ | E | ${ }^{6}$ B | A | ${ }^{7} \mathrm{~T}$ | E | ${ }^{8} \mathrm{~S}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R |  | 0 |  | A |  | E |  | A |  | A |  | E |  | T |
| ${ }^{9} \mathrm{I}$ | S | L | A | M |  | ${ }^{10} \mathrm{~T}$ | 1 | M | E | S | H | A | R | E |
| E |  | A |  | P |  | H |  | N |  | M |  | S |  | E |
| ${ }^{11} \mathrm{~S}$ | U | R | V | I | V | 0 | R |  | ${ }^{12} \mathrm{E}$ | A | S | E | U | P |
| T |  | B |  | S |  | D |  | ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ |  | T |  |  |  | 1 |
|  | ${ }^{14} \mathrm{~T}$ | E | C | H | N | 1 | C | A | L | 1 | T | ${ }^{15}$ | E | S |
| ${ }^{16} \mathrm{~A}$ |  | A |  |  |  | C |  | N |  |  |  | T |  | H |
| ${ }^{17} \mathrm{C}$ | A | R | D | ${ }^{18} \mathrm{I}$ | N | A | L | N | U | ${ }^{19} \mathrm{M}$ | B | E | R |  |
| C |  |  |  | C |  | L |  | 0 |  | A |  | R |  | ${ }^{20}$ |
| ${ }^{22} E$ | R | ${ }^{22} \mathrm{~A}$ | S | E | D |  | ${ }^{23} 1$ | N | 1 | T | 1 | A | T | E |
| P |  | P |  | L |  | ${ }^{24} \mathrm{C}$ |  | B |  | T |  | T |  | G |
| ${ }^{25} \mathrm{~T}$ | 0 | P | B | A | N | A | N | A |  | ${ }^{26} \mathrm{E}$ | L | 1 | T | E |
| E |  | A |  | N |  | N |  | L |  | R |  | V |  | T |
| ${ }^{27}$ D | E | L | U | D | E | S |  | ${ }^{22}$ | E | S | S | E | E | S |


| Across | Clue | Explanation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 POPEDOM | Catholic leader's office procedure Father knocked <br> back (7) | (MODE + POP) <br> reversed |
| 5 DEBATES | Top performer turned around club's formal <br> discussions (7) | SEED reversed outside <br> BAT |
| 9 ISLAM | Religion is liturgy, primarily, and a mass (5) | IS + (L)iturgy + A + M |
| 10 TIMESHARE | Drain containing mesh adjoining a jointly owned <br> property (9) | TIRE outside (MESH <br> + A) |
| 11 SURVIVOR | Virus affected three characters in the middle of <br> "Divorce", a reality TV show (8) | Anagram of VIRUS + <br> di(VOR)ce |
| 12 EASE UP | Slow down vehicle finally, and pause for a change <br> $(4,2)$ | vehicl(E) + anagram of <br> PAUSE |
| 14 <br> TECHNICALITIES | At clinic he varied restrictions and literal rule <br> interpretations (14) | Anagram of AT <br> CLINIC HE + TIES |
| 17 CARDINAL <br> NUMBER | Eccentric Melburnian maligned a valued figure (8,6) | CARD + anagram of <br> MELBURNIAN |
| 21 ERASED | Letters collected by worker as editor should be <br> removed (6) | workER AS EDitor |
| 23 INITIATE | Enjoying success, I had a meal with new member (8) | IN IT + I + ATE |
| 25 TOP BANANA | Important person to lead a family member back to <br> Australia (3,6) | TO + PB + A + NAN + <br> australi(A) |
| 26 ELITE | Selected "E" letter in Scrabble put down the wrong <br> way (5) | (E + TILE reversed) |
| 27 DELUDES | People generally adopting the Spanish kids (7) | DUDES outside EL |
| 28 LESSEES | Tenants, without notice, returned (7) | LESS + (SEE reversed) |


| Down | Clue | Explanation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 PRIEST | Minister asks a lot of questions before closing of parliament (6) | PRIES + parliamen(T) |
| 2 POLAR BEAR | Soft sort of arboreal animal used to a cold climate (5,4) | $\mathrm{P}+$ anagram of ARBOREAL |
| 3 DAMPISH | A little wet politician, one dressed in style (7) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { (MP + I) inside } \\ & \text { DASH } \end{aligned}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & 4 \\ & \text { METHODICAL } \end{aligned}$ | Drug overdose, one caught by a large orderly (10) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { METH + OD + I + C } \\ & +\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{L} \end{aligned}$ |
| 5 DAMN | Criticise nuts sent up north (4) | MAD reversed +N |
| 6 BASMATI | Rice left out of lamb as it stewed (7) | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { Anagram of (1)AMB } \\ \text { AS IT } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 7 TEASE | Time spent with moderate guy (5) | T + EASE |
| 8 STEEPISH | Soak is hot and quite high (8) | STEEP + IS + H |
| $13$ <br> CANNONBALL | Fired one can not shortly head to nearby dance party (10) | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \mathrm{CAN}+\mathrm{NO}(\mathrm{t})+ \\ & (\mathrm{N}) \text { earby + BALL } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 15 ITERATIVE | Repetitious item not completed by four in class (9) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ITE(m) + (IV inside } \\ & \text { RATE) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 16 ACCEPTED | Regular performed outside clubs with record (8) | ACTED outside (C + EP) |
| 18 ICELAND | I caught African antelope where it's very cold (7) | $\mathrm{I}+\mathrm{C}+$ ELAND |
| 19 MATTERS | Temperature recorded in polluted stream makes a difference (7) | T inside anagram of STREAM |
| 20 BEGETS | Fathers, for example, featuring in plays for money (6) | EG inside BETS |
| 22 APPAL | A friend experiencing internal pressure and shock (5) | P inside (A + PAL) |
| 24 CANS | Light meal mostly served up in tins (4) | (SNAC)k reversed |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

