

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 11/11/2023) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 CLERIC	Divine relic excited head of church (6)	Anagram of RELIC + (C)hurch
5 HABITAT	Natural environment is rather active in Panama possibly (7)	(A BIT) inside HAT
9 FORTUNE-TELLERS	Timber gatherers collecting erratically - not true visionaries (7-7)	FELLERS outside anagram of NOT TRUE
11 URINATED	Weed, one found in nature, weirdly died (8)	I inside anagram of NATURE + D
12 FONDUE	Found cooked slice of eggplant in dipping sauce (6)	Anagram of FOUND + (E)ggplant
14 TIGHT	Compact may be in operation from tonight (5)	TONIGHT minus ON
15 CHRISTMAS	Swindler, finally identified in this scam, spoilt holiday (9)	swindle(R) inside anagram of THIS SCAM
17 RINGTONES	Band on set reworked "Music of the Modern Age" (9)	RING + anagram of ON SET
19 STRIP	Expose back of dress with slip up (5)	dres(S) + TRIP
21 SILENT	Mum is coming back some time before Easter (6)	IS reversed + LENT
23 INTRIGUE	Conspiracy in firm about one thousand dollars (8)	IN + [TRUE outside (I + G)]
25 INTERNATIONALS	Injured Iranian lost ten matches at the highest level (14)	Anagram of IRANIAN LOST TEN
26 GROMMET	Young surfer's ring of rope or metal (7)	Double Definition
27 GREASY	Like oil when present in hair colour (6)	AS inside GREY

