

AFR Cryptic (Saturday 9/12/2023) Solution

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

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 RECESS	Break up services arranged with down? (6)	Anagram of SERVICES minus VI
4 MAJESTIC	A joke, one acquired by host, is superb (8)	(A + JEST + I) inside MC
9 PURSE	Noble carrying small amount of money (5)	PURE outside S
10 COVER NOTE	Temporary insurance number kept in concealed safe at the back (5,4)	NO inside COVERT + saf(E)
11 CAESIUM	Metal case ruined one pump lacking any pressure (7)	Anagram of CASE + I + (p)UM(p)
12 RATINGS	Calls about a time for survey of popular programmes (7)	RINGS outside (A + T)
13 THIN	Flimsy corrugated iron covering hospital (4)	TIN outside H
14 MANIACAL	Demonic one listed in distributed almanac (8)	I inside anagram of ALMANAC
17 THRASHED	Outbreak contained by the Head of Defence is crushed (8)	RASH inside [THE + (D)efence]
19 ALGA	Seaweed fragments housed in botanical garden (4)	botanicAL Gardens
22 TOBACCO	Boat at sea caught cod mostly - it's smoked (7)	Anagram of BOAT + C + (CO)d
24 EDITING	Changing tide turned in front of geologist (7)	Anagram of TIDE + IN + (G)eologist
25 ITINERANT	Rambling point made in one violent declamation (9)	TINE inside (I + RANT)
26 SHOOT	Snap a new branch (5)	Double Definition
27 SPLUTTER	Dispute small place, say (8)	S + PL + UTTER
28 LESSON	Teaching without working (6)	LESS + ON

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 RAPACITY	Criminal charge linked to a large town's greed (8)	RAP + A + CITY
2 CAREERIST	Self-seeking father recalled time under management (9)	(SIRE reversed + T) after CARE
3 SCENIC	"Weird Science" for the most part is dramatic (6)	Anagram of (SCIENC)e
5 ADVERTISEMENT	Marketing determines a TV broadcast (13)	Anagram of DETERMINES A TV
6 ERRATIC	Iodine discovered in deformed crater is volatile (7)	I inside anagram of CRATER
7 THORN	Types of heath or native spiky plant (5)	heaTH OR Native
8 CHEESE	Chef mostly accepting view about dairy product (6)	(CHE)f outside (SEE reversed)
10 COMPASSIONATE	Humanitarian authorisation, one NATO ordered in advance (13)	(PASS + I + anagram of NATO) inside COME
15 LOLLIPOPS	Loaf is stocked with soft-drink and sweets (9)	LOLL + (IS outside POP)
16 CAUGHT ON	Criminal punched by a thug in a frenzy got wise (6,2)	CON outside anagram of (A + THUG)
18 RICHEST	Most productive doctor's closing one case (7)	docto(R) + I + CHEST
20 ETHICS	Heartless chemist amended rules of conduct? (6)	Anagram of CHE(m)IST
21 TISSUE	Paper tiger's first problem (6)	(T)iger + ISSUE
23 BRILL	Right's representative, listed in leaflet, is excellent in England (5)	R inside BILL