

It is unfortunate, but!

It is an unfortunate fact that badly infected computers can often only be repaired by reformatting or by carrying out a factory restore, either from the hard drive, or from those DVDs that you never got around to burning (creating).

It is usually possible to back up and clean documents, photographs, music etc, but programs need to be installed.

What programs do you have on your computer and where are the disks? It is a sad reality that a lot of people do not realise that Microsoft Word is not part of the operating system.

A few years ago Microsoft started to audit the licences for operating systems, a lot of people were caught out with the dreaded 'You may be a victim of pirated software' message. Every time the machine turns on it showed up. It prevented proper updates and left the poor little beastie open to attack.

The same now happens with Microsoft Office, and talking about Office, just where did you put the disk?

Microsoft take their licensing seriously, after all poor old Bill does need a big pension to carry out all his good works.

Did you lend the disk to the kids, is it lost in a box from the last time you moved? Perhaps it would be better off in a box with all the other disks and programs associated with your computer, you can always put it under the external hard drive that you use to back up and keep safe all those important letters and photos, can't you?