

## Ford or Vauxhall?

Over the years I have heard a lot of talk about the benefits of this internet security package against that one. The argument for and against paying for security, MacAfee against Norton against F Secure against Bulldog.

*“Oh I never pay for security” or “I used to use Norton but it slowed the system too much”.*

There is an important fact about life on the Internet and that is we all need protection. I admit to being biased, I use Norton Internet Security, sell it as well. If I found another program that did better I would use and sell that. But I also use Spyware Doctor, between them they catch almost all that the net can throw at my computers, at least for now.

It is unfortunate but at the moment there is not one program that can do everything. The war between the security programmers and the bad guys is constant. Fingers crossed that the good guys win.

Historically a product like Norton Internet Security had a big foot print on a computer, but that only caused issues if there was not enough memory on the system. Even today I see computer swith less than 1 Gigabyte of RAM on XP systems and Vista machines with only 1 Gigabyte of RAM, occasionally less than that. The poor things have not got a chance to work properly and the systems are going to work like cold treacle poured through a sock. Rule of thumb: use at least 1 gig of RAM for XP 2 gigs of RAM for Vista and Windows 7 - more is better.

I have listened to so called experts wax lyrical about the likes of MacAfee and Bulldog, for my part I hate both of the programs, I have found that they both at times cause more problems than they solve. Uninstall them and *“Oh look, the internet works again”.*

AVG (the free one) is often held up as the one too use. It is better than nothing, but the paid for version actually does the job properly, not just part of it. For my part I do not believe in a FREE dinner and I certainly would not trust my computer to something that only does part of the job.