System Restore Error Code 0x81000203

I was having problems creating "Restore Points" in windows 7.

When I opened "System Protection" everything was greyed out; and all I got was an: "System Restore Error Code 0x81000203".

Hunting high and low I finally came across this good advice from the following website: https://windowsforum.com/threads/actual-solution-for-system-restore-error-code-0x81000203.184794/

Both "Volume Shadow Copy" and "Microsoft Software Shadow Copy Provider" must be started and set to automatic. With both of these services active, the System Protection tab will work.

Their link to Microsoft didn't work but here is a link that works: https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/forum/windows_7-performance/how-to-fix-error-code-0x81000203/0358b3df-a34f-e011-8dfc-68b599b31bf5
This describes how to fix this error for the "Volume Shadow"; but just apply the same for "Microsoft Software Shadow".

My "Restore Points" are now working. One more suggestion: Don't forget to click the Configuration

button to select the drive, and set the Maximum Disk Space to be used (to something more than zero, depending on how many generations of restore points you want, set it to at least a few GB).

Also just in case, create the first checkpoint yourself.

That's it, and I am a happy bunny.

My Chromecast Saga

For once the "Getting started" documentation was clear and correct.

I plugged the Chromecast #1 (upstairs) into my TV via HDMI; then I had to go online on my smartphone to do the "Setup", this involved downloading and installing "Google Home" this was so beautifully easy. Before the Chromecast could be used it needed to update its software. I was prompted to link it to my router; and after that, it didn't take long before it was up and running.

While I was at it I also installed "Google Home" on my live smartphone (Samsung S4) and on my tablet (Samsung Tab 4), great, the Chromecast can now be controlled by any of the 3 gadgets. I then wanted to install another Chromecast #2 downstairs. It hooked up ok, but the update just looped — it stayed on 0% for hours on end until I "x'ed" the upgrade. Thinking about it decided that maybe the "Google Home" apps needed to be reinstalled, so I uninstalled "Google Home", cleared the cache and data in "Play Store" — but alas — my Wi-Fi network is now refusing to let me install anything from "Google Play Store". It was a faulty "Chromecast" and it has been returned and refunded.

It was not my applications/gadgets that were faulty; because when I went to my neighbour and use their Wi-Fi to download from "Play Store" it worked fine. It took about 3 weeks before my Wi-Fi was working correctly again.