

Overview

CreateHelp! was born out of the need for a good, easy to use help file authoring tool. There are other tools available, but the good ones are very expensive, and the cheap ones aren't very good. [CreateHelp!](#) is intended to fill that gap.

The initial release of [CreateHelp!](#) enjoyed a very favourable response, and because of support from its users has now evolved into a much more powerful second version.

The features available include:

Automatic 'See Also' Button	*new*
Automatic outline building	*new*
Automatic page building	*new*
Automatic search and referencing	*enhanced*
Compilation of current page	*new*
Context name guessing	*enhanced*
Context Numbering	*new*
Default Context Formatting	*enhanced*
Full editing of HPJ file	*enhanced*
Multiple file support	*enhanced*
Report Generation	*new*
Secondary window definition	*new*
Support of WinHelp macros	*new*
User definable macros	*new*

A full demonstration of these features are available in the CH_DEMO.HLP file. The source files are also included as CH_DEMO.*

[CreateHelp!](#) is distributed as [Shareware](#). You are entitled to use it for evaluation purposes for a period not exceeding 30 days. Thereafter you MUST register or delete it and all associated files.

Installation

The CH2xx.ZIP archive should contain the following files:

C_HELP!.DOT	The CreateHelp! template
C_HELP!.HLP	The help file (this file)
INSTALL.DOC	The installation routine
CH_DEMO.HLP	The help file which demonstrates the features
CH_DEMO.HPJ	The project file for above
CH_DEMO.DOC	The <u>DOC</u> source file for the above
CH_DEMO.DFN	The <u>DFN</u> source file for the above
CH_DEMO.H	The header file for above
CH_DEMO.BMP	Sample bitmap file required for above
CH_DEMO.SHG	Sample hypergraphic file required for above
README.TXT	Release history, last minute release notes etc.

To install [CreateHelp!](#) - Open the INSTALL.DOC file contained in the CH2xx.ZIP archive. This gives the full installation details. Click on the INSTALL button and this will guide you through the installation process.

The Menus








File Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Window Help

File	<u>Close Project</u>	Closes all the open project files
	<u>Print</u>	Gives the option of removing the hard page breaks from the file.
Edit	<u>Find...</u>	Creates a jump or definition reference for found text
	<u>HPJ [Options]</u>	Edits the [Options] section of <u>project.HPJ</u>
	<u>HPJ [Files]</u>	Adds or deletes files from the [Files] section of <u>project.HPJ</u>
	<u>HPJ [Windows]</u>	Edits the [Windows] section of <u>project.HPJ</u>
	<u>HPJ [Config]</u>	Edits the [Config] section of <u>project.HPJ</u>
	<u>Header File</u>	Edits <u>project.H</u>
	<u>Current Context</u>	Edits most of the settings for the current context
View	<u>Error File</u>	Opens the errorlog defined in the [Options] section of <u>project.HPJ</u> for viewing
Insert	<u>Picture</u>	Inserts a graphics file as a reference, or as a bitmap
	<u>New Context</u>	Inserts a new context
	<u>Definition</u>	Inserts a definition reference to the selected text and definition if it doesn't already exist
	<u>Jump</u>	Inserts a jump reference to the selected text
	<u>Macro</u>	Inserts a referenced macro if text is selected or adds a macro to the [Config] section of <u>project.HPJ</u>
Format	<u>Context Defaults</u>	Set the options for Insert New Context and definition separator character
Tools	<u>Pre-Compile</u>	Exports the current project as rich text formatted files.
	<u>Compile Current Page</u>	Compiles the page containing the insertion point and loads it into WinHelp

	<u>Compile Project</u>	Compiles the entire project
	<u>Define User Macro</u>	Defines a user macro for inclusion in the Insert Macro list
	<u>Build Page</u>	Builds an 'index' type page from a pick list or a browse sequence range
	<u>Summary Report</u>	Generates a report of all the context IDs in the <u>project.DOC</u> file
	<u>Launch SHED</u>	Launches the MS Hypergraphics Editor
	<u>Launch Help File</u>	Launches the HLP file associated with the current project
	<u>Setup CreateHelp!</u>	Main setup options
Help	<u>CreateHelp! Index</u>	Shows the index page of the <u>CreateHelp!</u> help file
	<u>Register</u>	Enter registration details to disable 'nag' screens
	<u>About CreateHelp!</u>	Displays the version number, registration status etc.

The Toolbar



	<u>Insert New Context</u>	Inserts a new context
	<u>Edit Current Context</u>	Edits most of the settings for the current context
	<u>Build Page</u>	Creates a contents type page from the options selected.
	<u>Insert Definition</u>	Inserts a definition reference to the selected text and definition if it doesn't already exist
	<u>Insert Jump</u>	Inserts a jump reference to the selected text
	<u>Insert Macro</u>	Inserts a referenced macro if text is selected or adds a macro to the [Config] section of <u>project.HPJ</u>
	<u>Insert Picture</u>	Inserts a graphics file as a reference, or as a bitmap



Launch Shed

Launches the MS
Hypergraphics editor



Launch Help

Launches the HLP file
associated with the current
project.



Compile Current Page

Compiles the page containing
the insertion point and loads it
into WinHelp



Compile Project

Compiles the entire project

File Close Project

Closes both the [project.DOC](#) and [project.DFN](#) files

File Print

After setting the print options from the standard File Print dialog box the user is given the option to remove the hard page breaks from the file. This is useful for conserving paper.

If YES is selected then the file is saved, the hard page breaks are removed and then the file is re-opened. Thus preserving the original formatting.

Edit HPJ Options

Allows direct editing of the [Options] section of [project.HPJ](#)

CreateHelp!	
[OPTIONS]	
ROOT=	<input type="text" value="d:\help\project"/>
BMROOT=	<input type="text" value="d:\help\graphics"/>
ERRORLOG=	<input type="text" value="CH2.ERR"/>
TITLE=	<input type="text" value="Help on CreateHelp!"/>
CONTENTS=	<input type="text" value="Contents"/>
ICON=	<input type="text"/>
WARNING=	<input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 3
REPORT=	<input type="radio"/> OFF <input checked="" type="radio"/> ON
COMPRESS=	<input checked="" type="radio"/> OFF <input type="radio"/> LOW <input type="radio"/> HIGH

OK
Cancel
Help

Edit HPJ Windows

Enables a secondary window to be defined or an existing window to be edited.



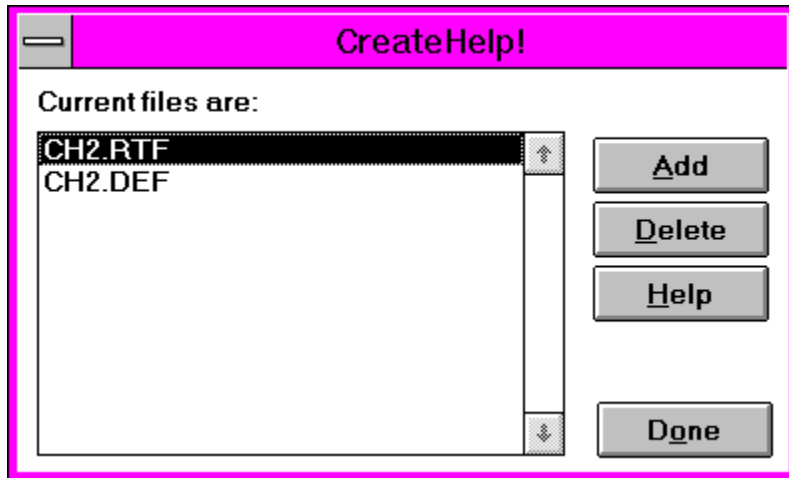
Define Window

Sets secondary window characteristics

CreateHelp!	
Window Name	<input type="text" value="main"/>
Caption	<input type="text" value="Help on CreateHelp!"/>
x,y,width,height	<input type="text" value="300,0,723,1023"/>
window-state	<input checked="" type="radio"/> normal <input type="radio"/> maximized
scrolling-R,G,B	<input type="text" value="255,255,255"/>
nonscrolling-R,G,B	<input type="text" value="255,255,255"/>
ontop-state	<input checked="" type="radio"/> normal <input type="radio"/> on-top

Edit HPJ Files

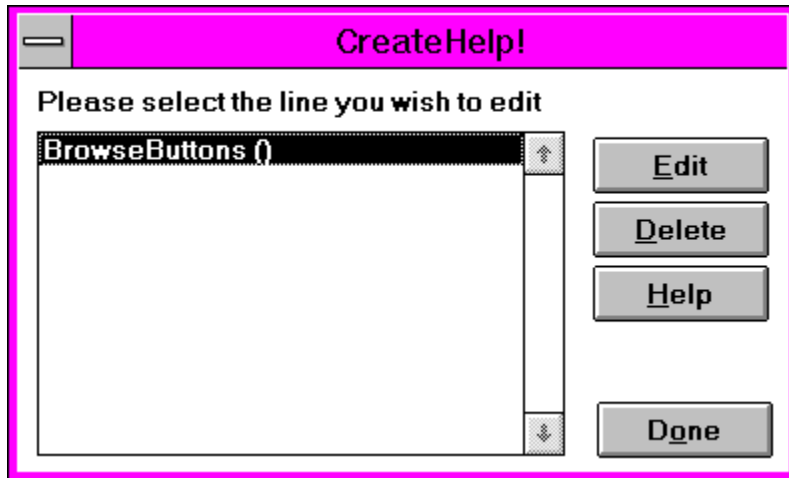
Allows the selection of files to be added or deleted from the [Files] section of the HPJ file.



Files must be in the project directory and already in rich text format. To convert a pair of project files use the [TOOLS PRE-COMPILE](#) function.

Edit HPJ Config

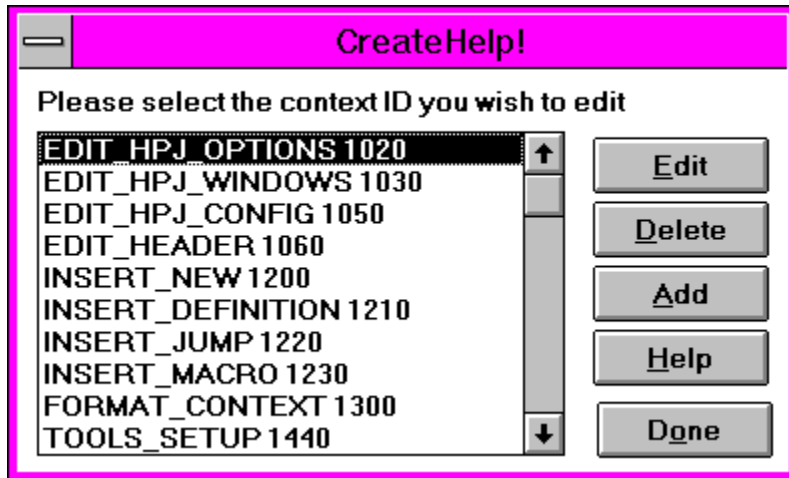
Edits the lines in the [project.HPJ](#) [Config] section.



Use this to delete start-up macros. To add start-up macros use the [INSERT MACRO](#) function with no text selected.

Edit Header File

Adds or deletes context numbers from the [project.H](#) file.





Edit Current Context

Gets the contexts details for the page containing the insertion point and allows editing of most of the details.

Context Number must be edited with [EDIT HEADER FILE](#)

Macros must be edited with [INSERT MACRO](#)

View Error File

Opens the file defined in the ERRORLOG line of [project.HPJ](#) [Options]. This will generate an error if the project has yet to be compiled.



Insert New Context

Inserts a hard page break followed by the footnote references for the details that have entered.

CreateHelp!

Title

☒ Insert title text☒ Non-Scrolling Title
☒ Auto Context☒ Use Title as Keyword

Context ID

Sequence

Context Number

Keywords

See Also Button

See Also Button is not available

Macro

OK

Cancel

Help



Insert Definition

References a pop-up to the selected text. A context is given for the selected text or one can be selected from a list of available contexts. The user is prompted to enter the definition which is then inserted into the DFN file using the fonts selected with definition titles and definition body and the separator defined.

If there is already a definition associated with the selected text then either the reference, the definition or both of these can be deleted.



Insert Jump

References a jump to the selected text. A context ID can be entered or all contexts can be listed for selection.

— CreateHelp!

Please enter a context string

CONTENTS_PAGE

OK

Find DEN >>> Find DOC >>> Help

If a jump reference already exists then this can be edited or deleted.



Insert Macro

If text is selected then a macro can be referenced to the selected text.

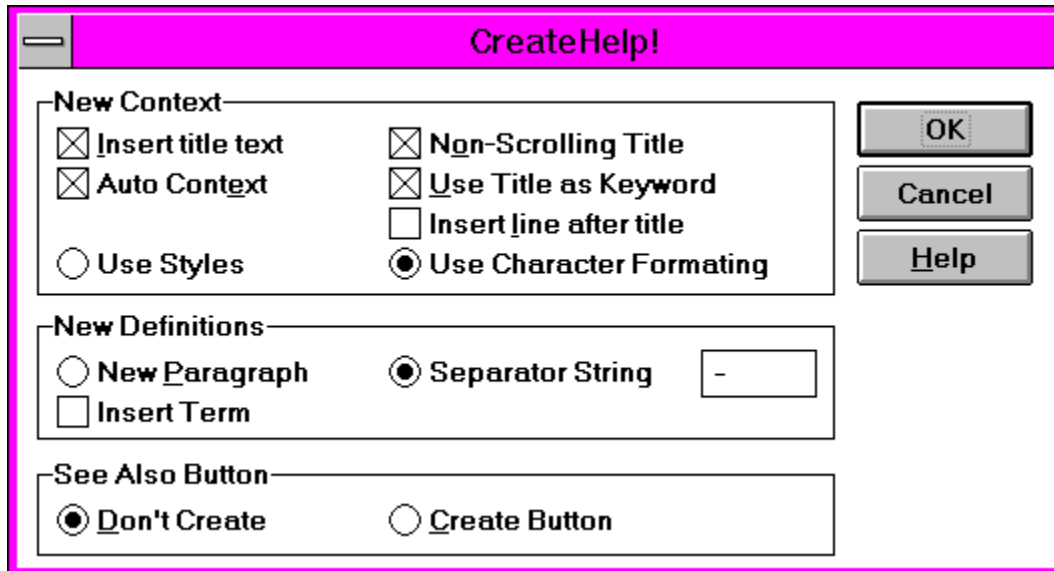
If text is not selected the user is given the option to insert a macro in the [Config] section of [project.HPJ](#) or to edit a footnote macro.

Macros are built from a list of internal macros and user defined macros. If required parameters must be entered in the textboxes provided. Where the parameter is a context or macro then buttons are provided to select these from a pick list.

Note no syntax checking is done. Inserting macros more that 5 deep will cause an 'Out of Memory' error.

Format Context Defaults

These options set the defaults for all New Contexts.



The image shows a dialog box titled "CreateHelp!". It has a standard Windows-style title bar with a minimize button. The dialog is divided into three main sections: "New Context", "New Definitions", and "See Also Button".

New Context

- ☒ Insert title text
- ☒ Auto Context
- ☐ Use Styles
- ☒ Non-Scrolling Title
- ☒ Use Title as Keyword
- ☐ Insert line after title
- ☒ Use Character Formatting

New Definitions

- ☐ New Paragraph
- ☒ Separator String
- ☐ Insert Term

The "Separator String" option is selected, and a text box next to it contains a hyphen (-).

See Also Button

- ☒ Don't Create
- ☐ Create Button

On the right side of the dialog, there are three buttons: "OK", "Cancel", and "Help".

Tools Pre-Compile

Saves the current project in rich text format. This is necessary before files can be added to another project.



Tools Compile Current Page

Compiles the page containing the insertion point and loads it into the WinHelp engine.

If the insertion point is in a definition then a page is created with the text "Click here" and clicking on this will display the selected pop-up.

Note If there are jumps or definitions defined on the page then compilation errors will be generated as these pages are not compiled. The feature is provided to give an idea of what the page will look like in the finished help file.



Tools Compile Project

Compiles the current project using the selected compiler.

When compilation is complete the error file may be viewed or the help file loaded into the help engine.

Tools Define User Macro

Allows the user to define custom macros, these can be either frequently used macros or external functions defined with RegisterRoutine.

The image shows a dialog box titled "CreateHelp!". It has a pink header bar with a minus sign icon on the left. Below the header, the text "Please enter the macro name" is displayed. To the right of this text are two buttons: "Done" and "Help". Below the text is a text input field containing the text "MyMacro". A horizontal line separates this section from the parameter section below. The parameter section consists of six rows, each with a label "Parameter 1" through "Parameter 6" on the left and a text input field on the right. The input fields contain the following text: Parameter 1: "`ButtonId'", Parameter 2: "`ContextId'", Parameter 3: "\"Macro\"", Parameter 4: "", Parameter 5: "", and Parameter 6: "".

Parameter	Value
Parameter 1	`ButtonId'
Parameter 2	`ContextId'
Parameter 3	"Macro"
Parameter 4	
Parameter 5	
Parameter 6	

Each parameter must be entered into the text boxes provided to a maximum of six. If the parameter contains the text 'ContextId' or 'Macro' a button will be provided in the insert macro dialog box.

Tools Setup CreateHelp!

CreateHelp!	
File Paths	OK
Project Path d:\help\project	Help
Graphics Path d:\help\graphics	
Help Compiler	Defaults
<input type="radio"/> HC30 <input type="radio"/> HC31 <input checked="" type="radio"/> HCP	Context Formats
Compiler Path d:\help	Main Titles
Hypergraphics Editor	Main Body
<input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES If YES then	Definition Titles
SHED Path d:\help	Definition Body

Tools Summary Report

This is SLOW but VERY useful. It generates a report of the current project listing Title, Context ID, Browse Sequence, Keywords, Macros and ID number.

Once the report is generated the user can manipulate it as wished.

Note The report is based on the NORMAL template and the CreateHelp! functions are not available until a project file is switched to.

Help CreateHelp! Index

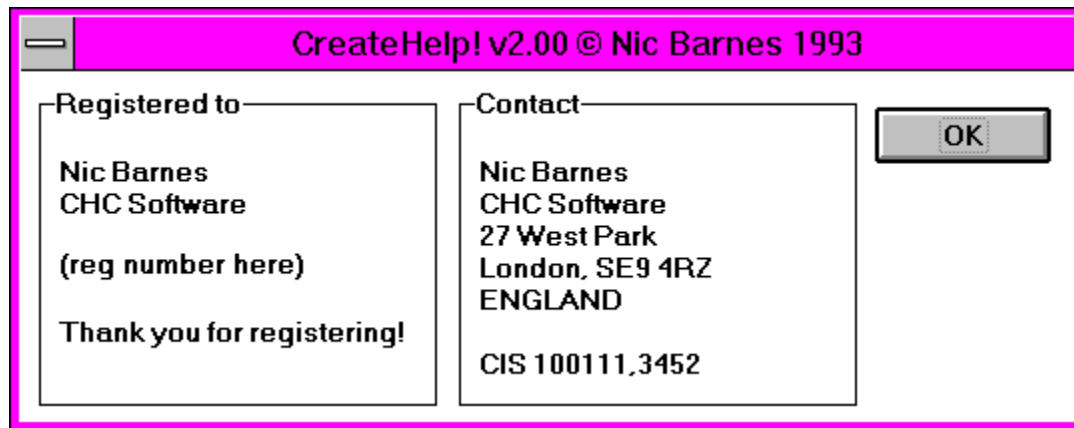
Takes you to the contents page of this file.

Help Register

Use this to enter your registration details - as provided by CHC Software

Help About

Displays a dialog box containing the version number and registration details



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Registration

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The Benefits

The 10 minute Nag messages will be removed immediately upon registration
You will be advised of updates and other products available

The Cost

UK£20.00

US\$40.00

The Methods

Snail Mail by Cheque or banker's draft.
GO SWREG on CompuServe, Product 791
VISA/Master Card by arrangement

Contacting the Author

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The shareware system and the continued availability of quality shareware products depend on your willingness to register and pay for the shareware you use. It's the registration fees you pay which allow authors to support and continue to develop our products. Please show your support for shareware by registering those programs you actually use.

Registration Form

Print Form

I have found CreateHelp! v2 useful and wish to continue to use it.

I enclose payment of UK£20.00 / US\$40.00* made payable to Nic Barnes

*delete as applicable

Name:

Title:

Company:

Address:

City, State

Zip/Post Code

Country

eMail address

Where did you obtain this product from?

Please send to: Nic Barnes
CHC Software
27 West Park
London SE9 4RZ
ENGLAND

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Keyboard Shortcuts

Edit	<u>HPJ [Options]</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+O
	<u>HPJ [Files]</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+F
	<u>HPJ [Windows]</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+W
	<u>HPJ [Config]</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+G
	<u>Header File</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+H
	<u>Current Context</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+X
View	<u>Error File</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+V
Format	<u>Context Defaults</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+E
Insert	<u>Picture</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+P
	<u>New Context</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+C
	<u>Definition</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+D
	<u>Jump</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+J
	<u>Macro</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+M
Tools	<u>Pre-Compile</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+L
	<u>Compile Current Project</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+C
	<u>Compile Project</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+P
	<u>Define User Macro</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+U
	<u>Build Page</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+B
	<u>Summary Report</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+R
	<u>Launch SHED</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+N
	<u>Launch Help File</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+I
	<u>Setup CreateHelp!</u>	CTRL+SHIFT+S



Build Page

Enables the user to build a contents type page from the [project.DOC](#) and [project.DFN](#) files

—

CreateHelp!

Get Titles from—
☒ DOC File ☐ DFN File

Use Browse Sequence range—
☒ No ☐ From to

Create page in—
☒ DOC file ☐ DFN file

OK

Cancel

Help



Launch Current Help File

Launches the HLP file associated with the current project. This will generate an error unless the project has been compiled or if the file has been re-compiled since last loaded by WinHelp



Launch SHED

Launches the MS Hypergraphics editor - SHED.EXE If installed.



Insert Picture

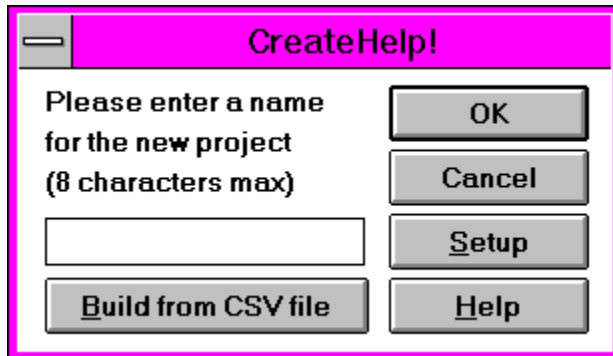
Uses the common dialog box to select a graphic file for insertion. This can be as a referenced file or as a bitmap.

Edit Find

Similar to Edit Find normally used in WinWord, however you are given the option to reference a jump or definition reference to the found text. This is useful for referencing multiple occurrences of a certain word or phrase

Starting a New Project

A new project is started by selecting FILE NEW C_HELP! from within WinWord. You are then presented with the following dialog box.



The image shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "CreateHelp!". It has a standard Windows icon in the top-left corner. The dialog contains a text prompt, an input field, and several buttons.

CreateHelp!

Please enter a name
for the new project
(8 characters max)

OK
Cancel
Setup
Bild from CSV file
Help

Build From CSV File

This feature builds the shell of a project file automatically. You are presented with a dialog box to select a CSV file which is used to build the outline of the project. All project files are given the same name as the CSV file

The CSV file should be a plain text document with the topics listed as follows:

Title, Context Id, Context Number, Browse Sequence, Keywords

If Context Id is blank then the Auto Context feature is used, any other fields that are blank are ignored. Trailing commas are not required.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to those users who have supported CreateHelp! from its inception and to the team of beta testers who provided the necessary feedback to produce a stable product.

Thanks to Tony Linde for providing code for accessing the COMMDLG.DLL which has been invaluable.

And thank you to Vince, Woody, Guy and all the regulars of WINSDK and PROGMSA who provide a constant source of help and ideas.

CreateHelp! has only become what it is today because of user support. Many thanks to you all.

Title - The title of the current context

project.DOC - the file that contains the main body of the help source. In WinWord format

project.RTF - the main help source file in Rich Text Format. This is saved from the project.DOC file at compilation time.

project.DFN - the pop-up help source file in WinWord format.

project.DEF - the pop-up help source file in Rich Text Format. This is saved from the project.DFN file at compilation time.

project.HPJ - the project file governing compilation options etc.

project.ERR - the error file written by HCxx during compilation

project.H - the header file containing the context numbers

Project Path - the path where all the project files reside

Graphics Path - the path where the graphics files reside, this sets the BMRoot option of the HPJ file

Help Compiler - the path to HCxx and the version being used

MS Hypergraphics Editor - the path to SHED.EXE if installed

Insert Title Text - if selected inserts the Context title into the main document, using the Main Titles font

Non-Scrolling Title - formats the title and one line following as a non-scrolling region

Auto Context - creates a context name based on the first two words of the title

Use Title as Keyword - adds the title to the list of keywords

See Also Button - when starting a new project this creates a 'See Also' button which can be enabled/disabled for every context in the project

Definition Separator - defines the separator used for definitions, either a user defined string or a new paragraph

Name - a name which uniquely identifies the window

Caption - the text displayed in the window's title bar

Window State - whether the window is the size defined in windows size or maximised when first opened

Window Dimensions - the x,y,width,height size and position of the window when first opened. These must be in the range 0-1023

Scrolling RGB - Red, Green, Blue values for the scrolling region of the window. These must be in the range 0-255

Non-Scrolling RGB - Red, Green, Blue values for the non-scrolling region of the window. These must be in the range 0-255

On Top State - whether the window is 'Always on Top' or not when first opened

Root - the location of the project files, as defined in Setup - Project Path

BMRoot - the location of the graphics files, as set in Setup - Graphics Path

ErrorLog - the name of the error file created by HCxx during compilation

Contents - the context Id of the contents page

Icon - the file containing the ICO format icon for the compiled file

Warning - the level of warning HCxx reports during compilation

Report - whether HCxx reports compilation errors or not

Compress - the level of compression used by HCxx

HCxx - the help compiler; HC30, HC31 or HCP

Rich Text Format - the format required by HCxx

Title - The title associated with the context. This is inserted into the document if Insert Title Text has been selected

Context ID - A name that uniquely identifies the current context.

Browse Sequence - A number defining the sequence in which the topic is viewed when using the << and >> buttons

Context Number - a number written to the project.H file for use with context sensitive topics

Keywords - these appear in the search dialog box, separated by semi-colons. The title will be appended to this list if Use Title of Keyword is selected.

Macro - enables the building of topic macros which automatically execute when the page is opened. See Also if available will also append macros depending on enabled/disabled

See Also - Enabled will prompt for a context to associate with the See Also button and Build a macro accordingly.
Disabled will insert a DiabieButton macro.

Add Button - adds a line to the file

OK Button - accepts the contents of the dialog box. Same as pressing return

CANCEL Button - cancels the current operation. Same as pressing ESCape

Help Button - opens the help file and takes you to the page associated with the dialog box (this page)

Select the line to Add, Edit or Delete

Edit Button - edits the selected line

The registration details of the registered user of this software

How to contact the author

The major and minor version number of this release

Done Button - writes the changes to the HPJ file and closes the dialog box

Context Id - the topic's Context Id

Context Number - the number used by the calling application to define the page

Current Files - the files currently listed. Must include the full path if the files are not found in the ROOT directory specified in Edit HPJ Options

Project Name - this name is given to all the project files with the extensions HPJ DOC DFN H RTF DEF

Setup Button - presents the Setup CreateHelp! dialog box to change any setup options before starting the new project

CSV - Comma Separated Variable file

Delete Button - deletes the selected line

Macro Button - uses the Insert Macro routine to define a macro

Find DOC Button - provides a list of all available context Ids in the DOC file

Find DFN Button - provides a list of all available context Ids in the DFN file

Get Titles from - choose to select the Context Ids from the DOC or DFN file

Shed Path - the path to SHED.EXE (if installed)

Main Titles font - the font used for the DOC file titles if Format Context Defaults - Use Character Formatting has been selected

Definition Body font - the font used for the DFN file body if Format Context Defaults - Use Character Formatting has been selected

Definition Titles font - the font used for the DFN file titles if Format Context Defaults - Use Character Formatting has been selected

Main Body font - the font used for the DOC file body if Format Context Defaults - Use Character Formatting has been selected

Macro Name - the name of the user macro you wish to define

Macro Parameters - the parameters required by the macro

Create Page in - where to create the page once built, in the DOC or DFN file

Use Browse Sequence Range - whether or not to use a range to build the page from. If selected all pages between these numbers will be listed in the order found.

Note: Topics without a sequence number or with an alphanumeric sequence are assumed to have sequence number of zero

Compiler Path - the path to HCxx

Shed Installed - Yes or No as to whether SHED.EXE is installed. If Yes then a path must be provided

Browse Sequence Number - the order in which pages are viewed when using the << and >> buttons

Insert Term - inserts the text of the definition followed by the separator if selected

Formatting - either use character formatting as defined in Tools Setup CreateHelp! or use styles. The styles used are: Main Titles and Definition Titles, these may be redefined in the normal manner.

Insert Line After - if selected then a blank line is inserted after the title. This is a non-scrolling region if Non-Scrolling Title has been selected

Edit HPJ [Options]
Edit HPJ [Files]
Edit HPJ [Windows]
Edit HPJ [Config]
Edit Header File

