

A white silhouette of a soldier wearing a helmet and carrying a rifle, standing on the left side of the page. The rifle is held vertically, with the barrel pointing upwards.

TOMMY 10K

WHO IS TOMMY?

WHERE DOES THE TERM 'TOMMY' COME FROM?



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The origins of the term Tommy is widely disputed, the most common interpretation is that the term comes from Tommy Atkins, which is slang for a common soldier in the British Army. The term Tommy was established during the nineteenth century, but is particularly associated with World War I. Legend has it that German soldiers would call out to “Tommy” across no man’s land if they wanted to speak to a British soldier.

Established in 1919, RBLI were helping and supporting many wounded, injured and sick ex-Forces personnel returning from World War I, including Tommys.

Tommy represents where we began in 1919 supporting mainly Tommys returning from WW1, while commemorating those who have died since, and helps to look after veterans of today.



Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI) Charity No. 210063. RBLI, Hall Road, Aylesford, ME20 7NL, Kent

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