



## Where does the term ‘Tommy’ come from?

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. It is known to have been used as early as 1743, however the term Tommy was chosen as a generic name by the war office in 1815. Legend has it that in WW1 German soldiers would call out “Tommy” across no man’s land if they wanted to speak to a British soldier.

Established in 1919, Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI) helped and supported many wounded, injured and sick ex-Forces personnel returning from war and continued ever since expanding its range of services through the funds it raises through charitable donations. RBLI Tommy represents military services and all those that have served for our country.



 [rbli.co.uk](http://rbli.co.uk)

 [fundraising@rbli.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@rbli.co.uk)

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

RBLI is completely separate to The Royal British Legion and receives no financial support from the annual poppy appeal. The charity must raise its own funds to deliver care and employability support, and build more homes