

We Remember...

HAMMERSMITH'S REBEL PAST

In
May 1926 nearly two
million workers joined a General
Strike called by the TUC in support of a
million miners fighting wage cuts... Local strike
committees organised picketing all across the country, but
strikers faced fierce repression from police, the army and
Government-sponsored middle class strikebreakers and scabs.
Workers fought pitched battles to prevent scabs driving trams and buses.



There was trouble on Hammersmith Broadway during the Strike. On 6th May, in a “*bad riot at Hammersmith outside OMS [scab organisation] HQ... stones were thrown and police used batons.*” It seems “*buses were stopped near the station, and various parts removed by the strikers. When some of the buses returned at 8.30 pm some of the occupants began to jeer at the crowd some of which became angry and boarded some buses roughly handling the drivers and conductors one of whom was badly injured*” (shame). “*Local fascists began to throw stones from a building near by. Later the police made a charge using their batons, and arrested forty three people...*”

past tense people's plaques