

Wat Tyler

Put the demands of the people to the King in the meeting at Smithfield.
Often referred to as the leader of the Revolt.

John Ball

Trained as a priest. Unhappy with the way in which peasants were treated. Made speeches to the protestors.

King Richard II, 1367–1399

Became king in 1377. Aged 14 at time of the event we are studying.
Advised by a council of noblemen, including his uncle, John of Gaunt.

Simon Sudbury

Archbishop of Canterbury. Became Chancellor (chief government minister) in 1380. The Chancellor was in charge of the country's finances.

John of Gaunt

Duke of Lancaster. One of the richest and most powerful men in the country. Virtually ran the country when Richard was a child. Owned the Savoy Palace in London, as well as lots of other land throughout England. Many thought that he wanted to be king himself.