In early 1926, John Lahey donated the magnificent Westminster chiming clock during the construction of the Clock Tower building.

On the 2nd of October, 1926 at the opening ceremony of the Clock Tower building, Mr Lahey was asked to pull on the rope to start the mechanism of the clock at exactly 2:58pm. The clock then beautifully chimed its song for the first time at 3:00pm.

John Wesley Lahey was a well known businessman in the Queensland Timber Industry. He was born in Ireland in 1850, travelled to Brisbane in 1962 with his family and married Evelyn Clipsham in 1905.

All three of Lahey sons were educated at TSS.

John Lahey was a very generous benefactor to the school donating not only the clock, but also a wireless set, sports equipment, carpentry tools and equipment, the chapel organ and a racing four boat.

Mr Lahey was a dynamic character and his energy and generosity did not wane right up until his death.

Refusing to be bedridden, he died at home, upright in his favourite chair on 16th April, 1937.

Below : John Lahey standing at the back on the left.