

LEISURE

Of passing interest

Historic features in our landscape seen by Puke Ariki heritage collections manager **Kelvin Day**.

Glockenspiel, Stratford

Stratford has the distinction of having New Zealand's only glockenspiel. The word is German and means "playing clock".

While glockenspiels are commonly seen in Europe, the Stratford one has much larger

figures. Incorporating it into the existing clock tower was first promoted in 1998.

Taking the lead from the town's Shakespearean heritage (Stratford's namesake Stratford-upon-Avon being the birthplace of William Shakespeare), Mayor David Walter promoted the idea that the figures represent Romeo and Juliet. A \$65,000 funding grant for the project was obtained from the TSB Community Trust, with Stratford Engineering and Lyal Barrett responsible for the design and engineering work.

The figures are the work of Nigel Ogle, creator of Hawera's Tawhiti Museum. The glockenspiel performs four times daily: 10am, 1pm, 3pm and 7pm.

