



Museo de la Casa Rosada, Aruba

## *From the Editor*

Dear Readers,

Your Editor has the distinct honor to present this Special Edition of the *Table Tennis History Journal*, introducing the fabulous Museo Casa Rosada, created by Fabio Marcotulli and his partner Laila Galvez in beautiful Aruba.

This overview of Fabio's museum is certain to impress, educate and entertain our Readers. Many of the items I have never seen before, and you will notice that most everything is in superb condition. Fabio has truly masterful skills in the art of restoration. He is masterful at all his interests!

Maps are provided of the two floors: the main museum exhibits, and the playing rooms, which also have many items enhancing the walls.

The scope of the collection is diverse and with great depth. The early boxed sets are very well represented, including several newly discovered names for the game, such as Home Tennis and Fluff-Fluff.

The collection of rackets and bats is particularly outstanding, over 2400 examples ranging from early varieties, to Barna, pre-1972 Stigma/Stiga and Butterfly, sensational Heiloway bats with custom anatomic grips, 75 thick sponge bats and my favorites, 36 early ball retrievers!

Following is a summary of categories & inventory counts:

Early boxed sets (c.1900-1905):	164
Boxed sets (c. 1920-1960):	80
Strung rackets (excluding those in boxed sets)	76
Vellum and Parchment rackets (not boxed)	155
Double-Purpose rackets (Vellum-Strung)	7
Pyrography rackets	58
Early Trophies (1900-1930)	65
Ball retrievers (1900-1905)	36
TT Variant playing games	12
TT Books (1900-1920)	36
Early Sandpaper, cork, wood bats	120
Hardbats (1900-1930)	215
Barna and Dunlop bats	122
Heiloway bats	64

Imperial Bats	48
Cor-du-Buy bats	22
Alpha Bats	25
Thick Sponge bats (different models)	76
Stigma-Stiga bats (Before 1972)	176
Butterfly bats (Before 1972)	132
Vintage Ball makers	52
Total number of rackets:	2400+

Plus many other items, such as books, prints, objet, trophies, posters, balls ... all presented in fine custom frames and display cases.

Enjoy the tour of something so special & unique, truly impressive and very important for the history of our sport. Congratulations & bravo Fabio!!



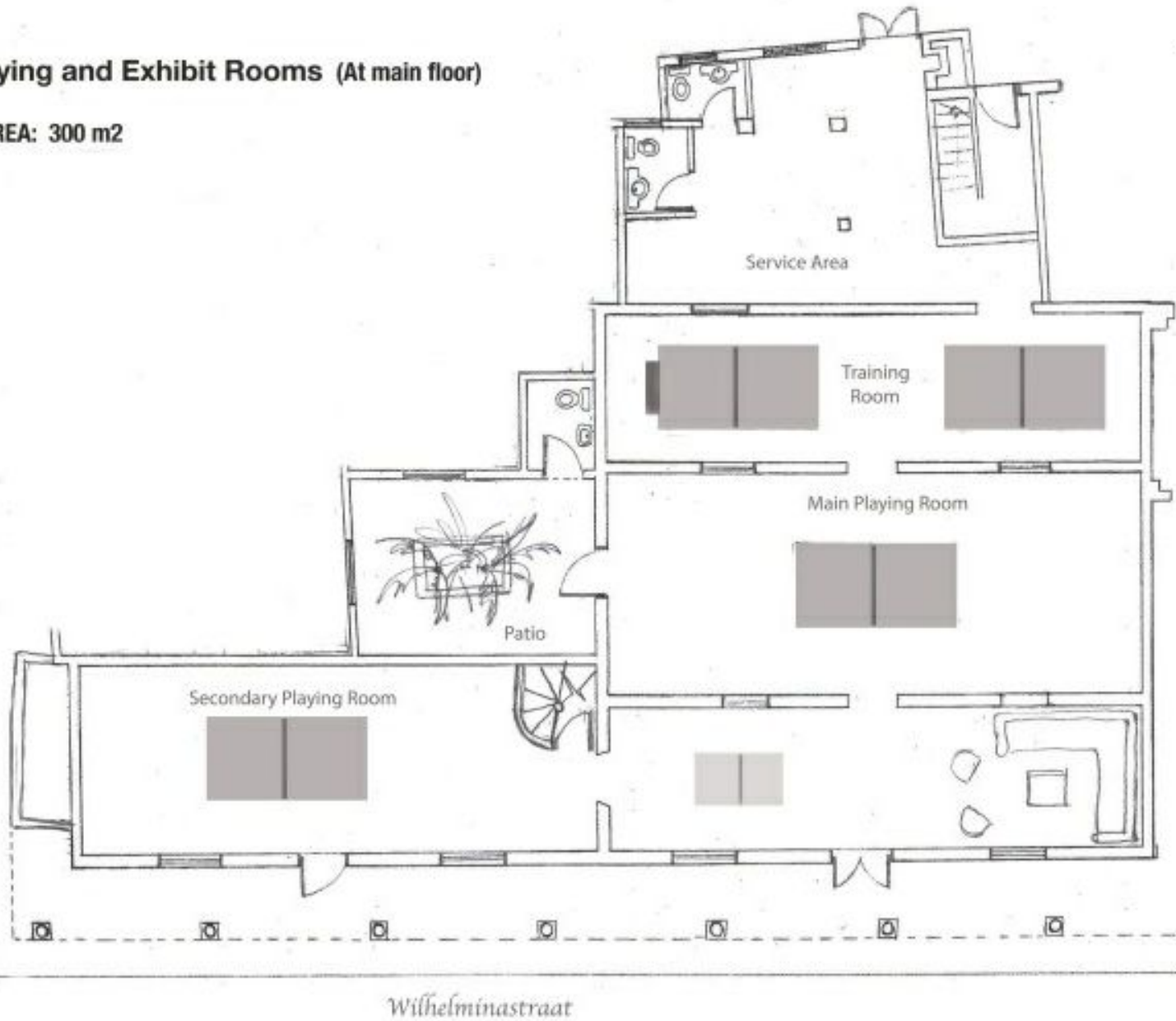


The 1890 set by David Foster (ENG), one of 2 known surviving examples

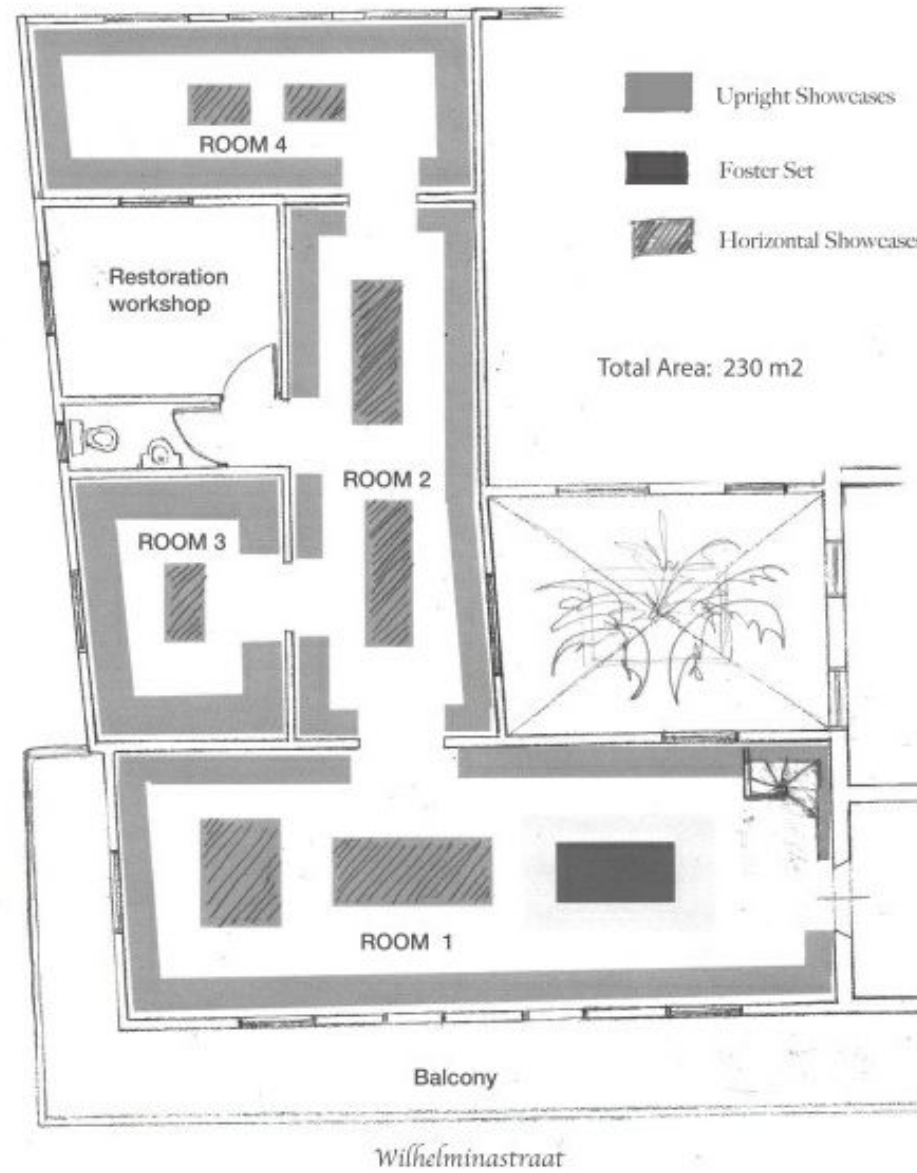


**TT Playing and Exhibit Rooms (At main floor)**

**TOTAL AREA: 300 m2**



# MUSEUM (at 1st. Floor)





Room 1



































Room 2

















Room 3

















Room 4





















This section shows close-ups of some of the wall exhibits















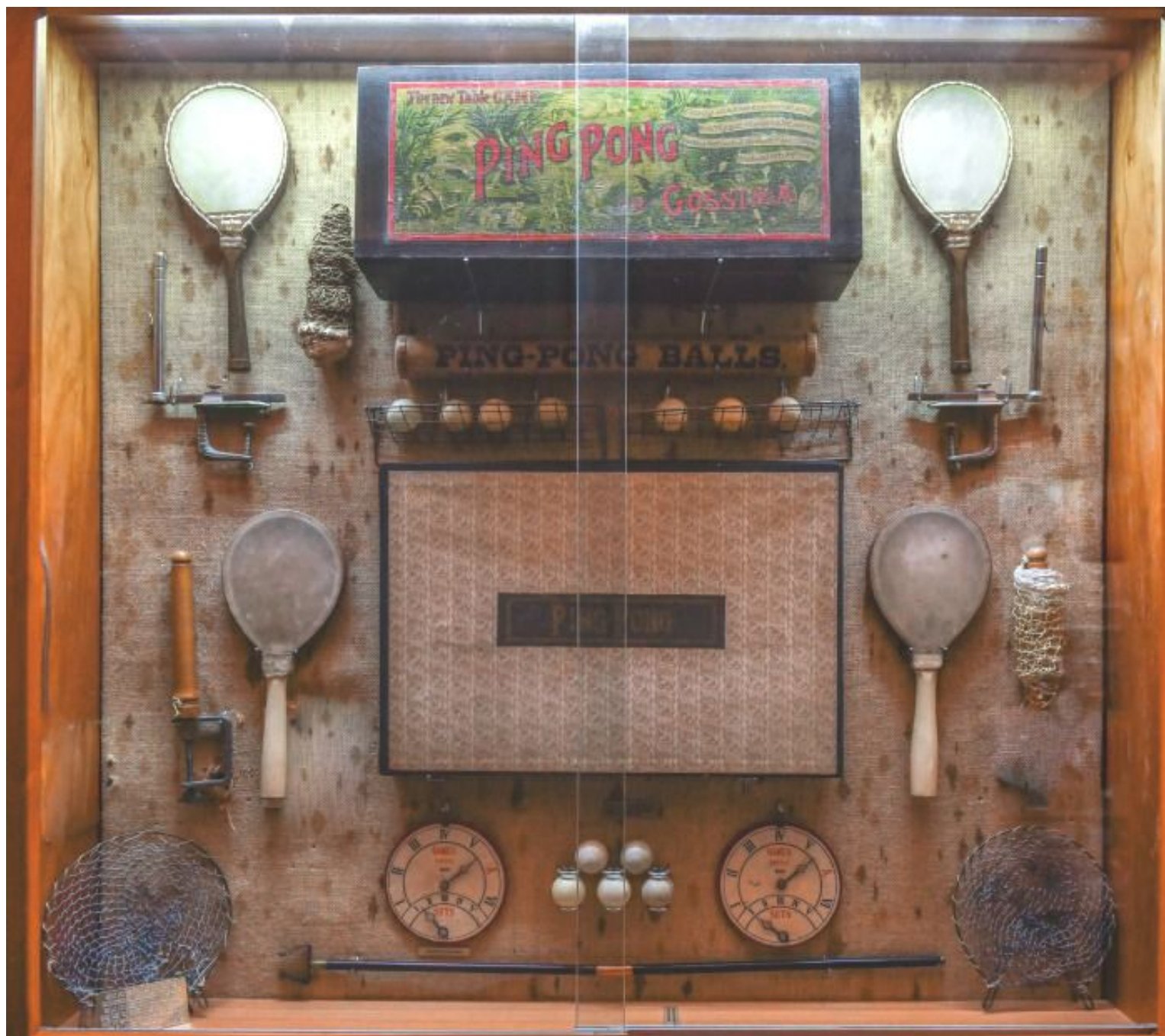












































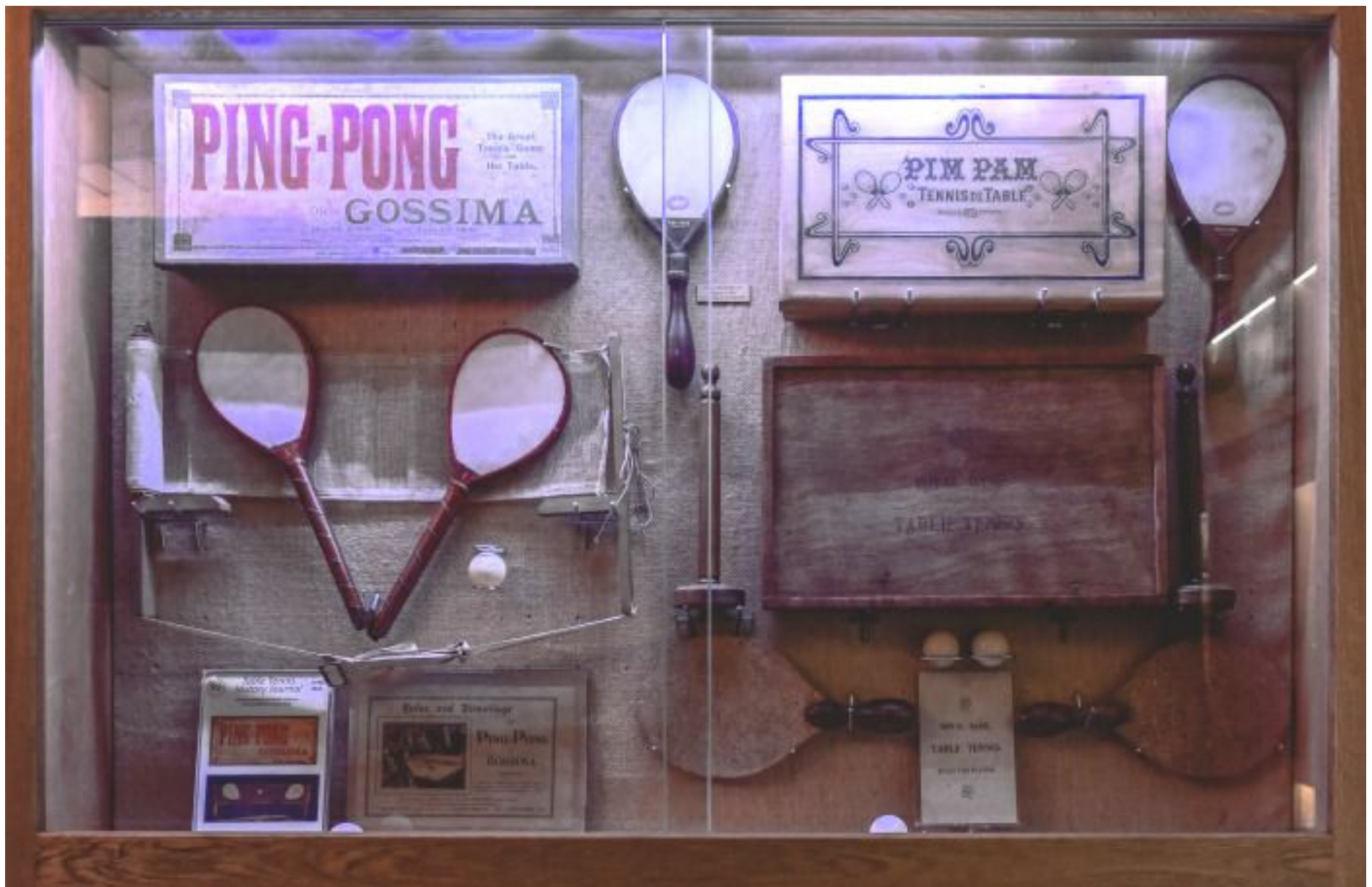






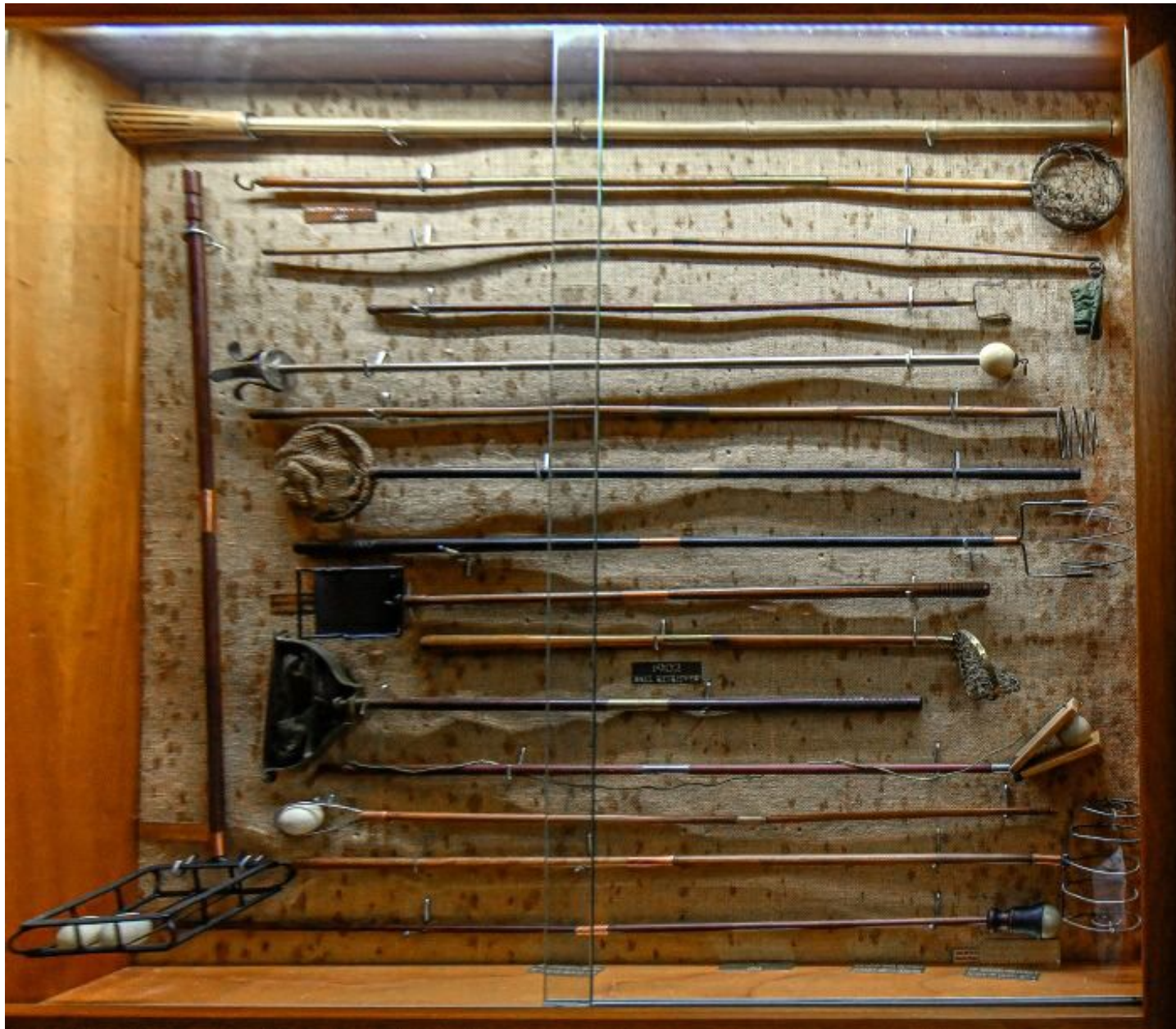
























Lounge area with wall exhibits, main playing room on the left





Area opposite the lounge, with more wall exhibits



View of wall exhibits in the lounge room





Main playing room, with additional wall exhibits



Well-presented wall exhibits, prints, programs , photos





Training roon with 2 tables



Training room, table with robot





Main playing room



Early prints, including the two large humorous scenes by Russ Daniell 1902







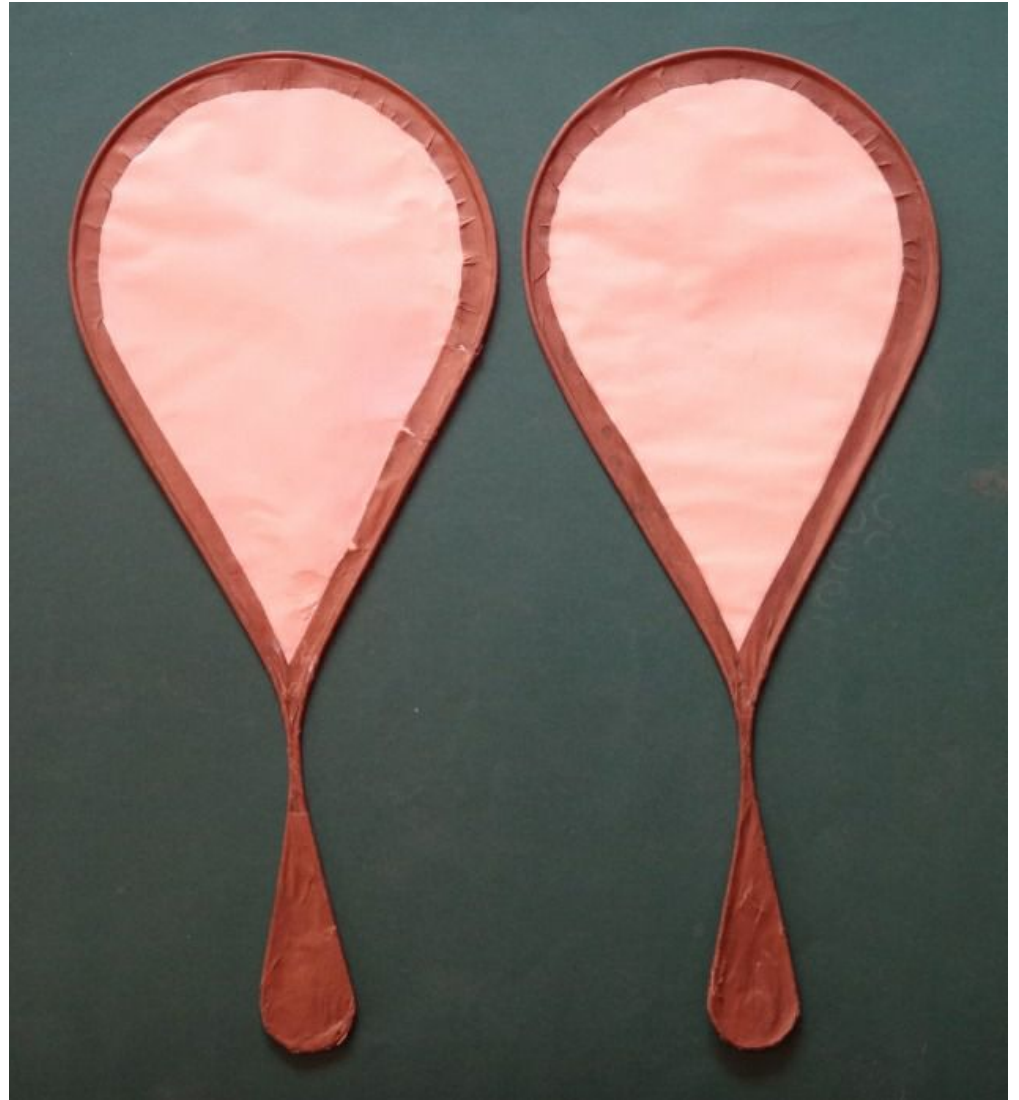






Celebrity Photo Gallery





This section shows some of Fabio's personal favorites - some rare & wonderful pieces!



Beautiful early pyrography set





Another fine pyrography set









Benetfink silver toast rack shaped like a racket

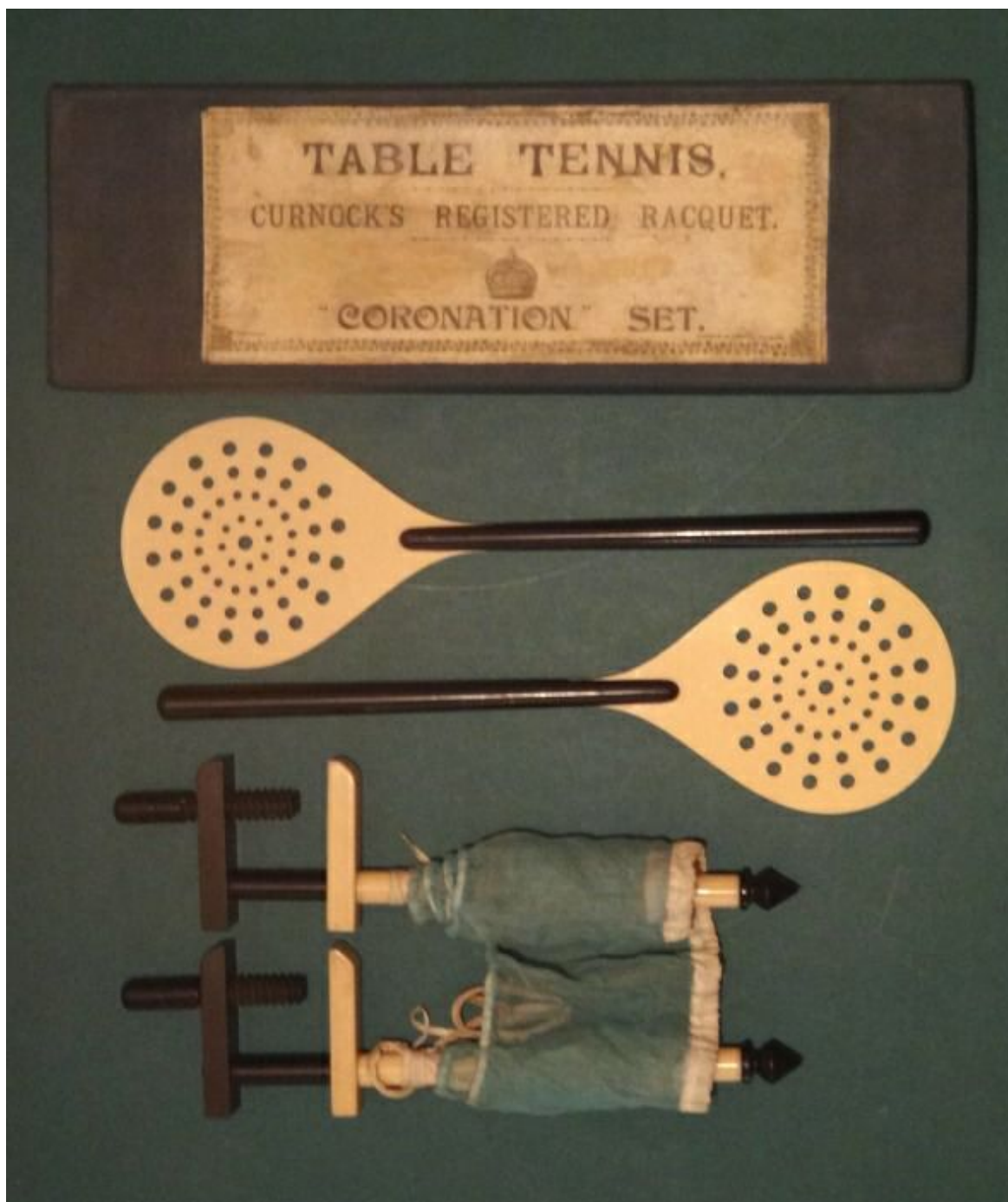
















F.A.O.Schwarz  
set c.1902



Fretwork bats





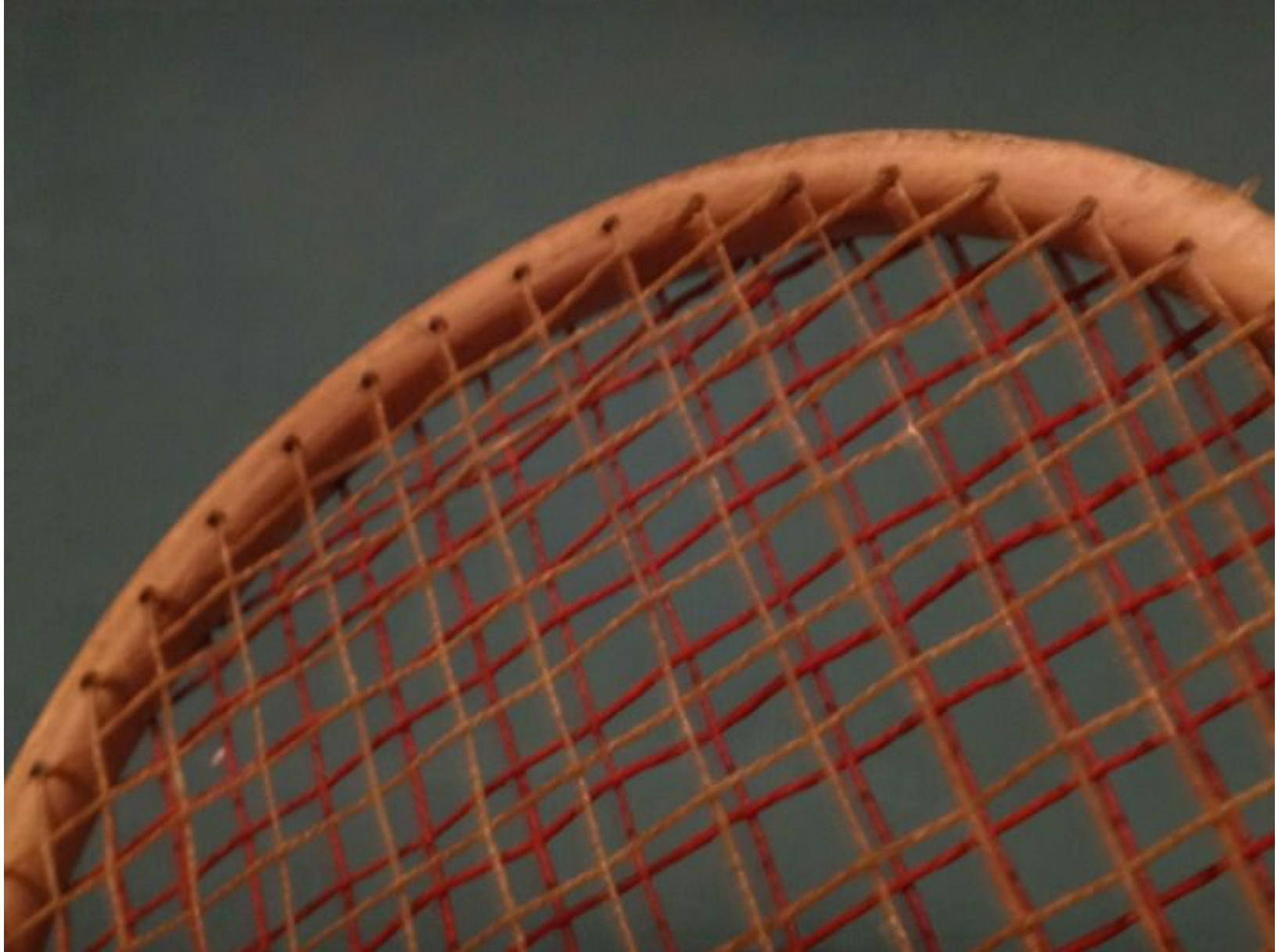
Fretwork bats





Pistol Grip wood bat





Rare double strung racket



Parker Bros. single vellum cane rackets



Hamley single vellum cane racket





Pyrography bat



Metal faced Pit-a-Pat bat

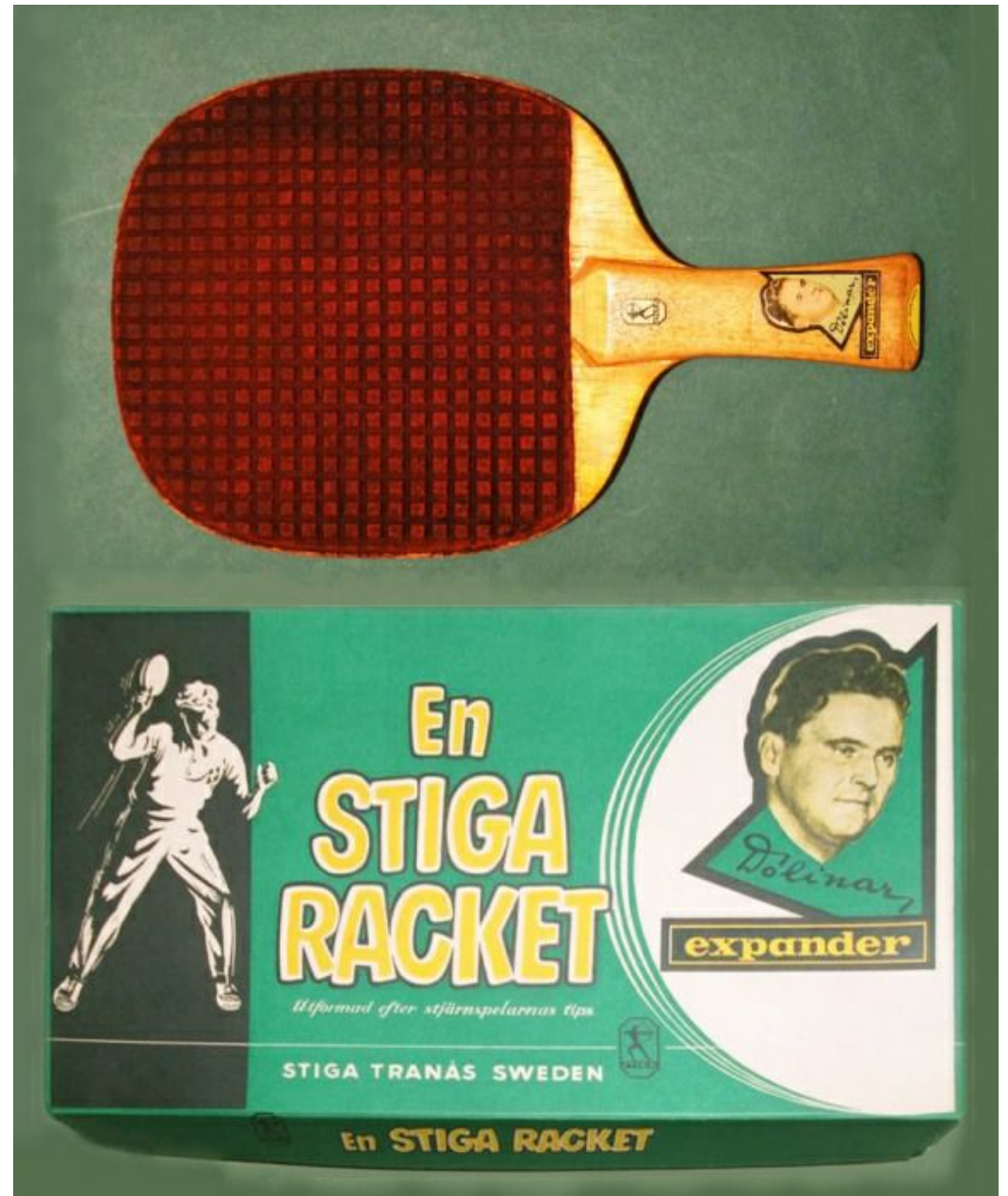


Miklos Szabados bat. He won the 1931 World Singles title, & was a key member of the Hungarian team, later moving to Australia.



'Sado' thick sponge bat, after Hiroji Satoh (JPN), 1952 World Singles Champion







This is considered the oldest Barna bat, with cork-tipped handle, signature & excellent wood patterns



French Ludarva Barna bat, the only bat with Victor's picture on it





An example of 64 Heiloway bats in the museum



The fabulous Heiloway/Butterfly Anatomic bat. The grip is the most comfortable I've ever held

