A CUFF LINK

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of cuff links.

Background of the Invention

Prior art cuff links generally consist of a bridging member with a retaining member disposed at each end. In use, the bridging member is adapted for insertion through holes disposed in respective first and second sections of a sleeve that are to be coupled, whilst the retaining members are adapted to rest against outward facing surfaces of the first and second sleeve sections so as to couple the first and second sleeve sections together like bookends.

Unfortunately, prior art cuff links tend to exhibit certain problems. Firstly, because the retaining members simply rest against the surfaces of the sleeve sections, they tend to be susceptible to dislodgement through the sleeve section holes thereby reducing the effectiveness of the cuff link. This may be particularly problematic where the user is particularly active and the retaining members are readily dislodged through the sleeve section holes.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention seeks to alleviate at least one of the problems described above in relation to the prior art.

The present invention may involve several different broad forms. Embodiments of the invention may include one or any combination of the different broad forms herein described.

In a first broad form, the present invention provides a cuff link for use in coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together, said cuff link including a first arm and a second arm, wherein said first and second arms are selectively adjustable between at least a relatively opened configuration in which at least one of the first and second arms are able to be inserted through holes disposed in each of the first and second sections of the sleeve, and, a relatively closed configuration in which the first and second arms are adapted to form a substantially closed loop which passes through the holes disposed in the first and second sections of the sleeve.

Preferably, the first arm may be pivotably movable relative to the second arm.

Typically, the first arm may be sized such that it may be able to extend from the hole of the first sleeve section to an outer edge of the sleeve. Similarly, the second arm may be sized such that it may be able to extend from the hole disposed in the second sleeve section to an outer edge of the sleeve. Advantageously, in this manner, the first and second arms may be able to contact together so as to form the closed loop whereby the sleeve sections may be held in relatively secured fashion.

In contrast, retaining members of prior art cuff links do not extend from the holes disposed in sleeve sections to the outer edge of the

sleeve and the retaining members tend to extend a relatively short distance along the surfaces of the sleeve sections so as to provide relatively limited securement of the cuff link to the sleeve.

Typically, at least one of the first and second arms may include a tapered end. Advantageously, this may assist in its insertion through the holes of the first and second sections of the sleeve. In contrast, the retaining members of some prior art cuff links in the market tend to be ill-suited for insertion through the holes in the sleeve sections.

Preferably, the present invention includes a mechanism adapted for selectively maintaining the first and second arms in the substantially closed configuration. Typically, the mechanism may include at least one of:

(i) a biasing mechanism such as a leaf spring, a coil spring or the like which may be adapted to urge the first and second arms relatively together into the closed configuration; and/or

(ii) a latching mechanism which may be adapted to couple the first and second arms together when they are disposed in the closed configuration. For instance, the latching mechanism may include a hook disposed on the first arm, and, a corresponding recess disposed on the second arm in which the hook may be releasably received so as to couple first and second arms together;

(iii) a stud and notch arrangement wherein the stud may be adapted for snap-fitting engagement within said notch. For instance, the stud may be disposed on the first arm, and the notch may be disposed on the second arm or vice versa. Typically, the stud and notch may be formed from a resiliently deformable material;

(iv) an over-centring mechanism wherein said mechanism is adapted to bias the first and second arms into either of the opened and/or closed configurations depending upon a relative pivoting position of the first arm relative to the second arm at any given time.

Typically, the first and second arms may be substantially identical.

Typically, in one embodiment, the first and second arms may cooperatively form an opened crab-claw configuration when disposed in the opened configuration, and, a closed crab-claw configuration when disposed in the closed configuration. Preferably, the first and second arms may be pivotably coupled together via a hinge. Typically, an over-centre mechanism may be used to bias the first and second arms into either of the closed and opened configurations depending upon a predetermined threshold pivoting position in which the first and second arms are relatively arranged at any given time. Typically, a portion of spring steel may be disposed adjacent the hinge to assist in effecting the over-centring function.

In an alternative embodiment, the first and second arms may cooperatively form an elongate bar when disposed in the opened

configuration, and, may cooperatively form an "A-shaped" configuration when disposed in the closed configuration.

Typically, first ends of the first and second arms may be hingedly coupled to opposing ends of a central member. Also typically, over-extending portions of the first ends of the first and second arms may extend past the hinge. Said over-extending portions may include first surfaces which may be adapted for releasable engagement with a first surface of the centre member. Typically, the first surfaces of the over-extending portions may include stubs which may be adapted for snap-fitting engagement with corresponding notches disposed in the first surface of the centre member. Said over-extending portions may also include second surfaces which may be substantially planar.

The over-extending portions of the first and second arms may form the legs of the A-shaped configuration when the first and second arms are disposed in the closed configuration. Typically, second ends of the first and second arms which are relatively remote to the central member may be symmetrically sloped. Advantageously, when the first and second arms form the closed configuration, the symmetrical sloping of the second ends may be adapted to neatly abut against so as to form the apex of the A-shaped configuration.

In yet a further embodiment, the first and second arms may cooperatively form a square or rectangular shaped configuration when disposed in the closed configuration, and, may be adapted to cooperatively form an S-shaped configuration when disposed in the opened configuration.

Typically, the first and second arms include top and bottom substantially U-shaped sections which may be hingedly coupled such that planar faces of the U-shaped sections may be co-axially rotatable relative to each other around a pivot pin.

Typically the pivot pin extends from a first arm of the bottom U-shaped section into a first arm of the top U-shaped section. Typically, a head of the pivot pin which is inserted in the first arm of the top U-shaped section is fixed within the first arm of the U-shaped section and a base portion of the pivot pin is freely rotatable within the first arm of the bottom U-shaped section. When the top U-shaped section is rotated, the base of the pivot pin rotates within the bottom first arm of the bottom U-shaped section. The base of the pivot pin may also include a plurality of notches spaced apart around its circumferential surface. The notches may therefore rotate when the top U-shaped section is rotated relative to the bottom U-shaped section. A locking pin may also be disposed in a mid-section of the bottom U-shaped section wherein the locking pin which may be spring biased into an extended position from a retracted position along the mid-section wherein when in the extended position, the locking pin abuts against the base of the pivot pin. Depending upon the rotational position of the pivot pin, the locking pin may either be received into one of the plurality of notches disposed in the base of the pivot pin, or, may be dislodged from one of the plurality of notches and pushed into a relatively retracted position within the mid-section of the bottom U-shaped section. When the top and bottom U-shaped sections are rotated into the closed configuration, the locking pin is adapted to lodge within one of the plurality of notches in the base of the pivot pin so that the top and bottom U-shaped sections may be locked into a stationary position. When the top U-

shaped section is rotated away from the bottom U-shaped section the locking pin dislodged from the notches in the base of the pivot pin until the top U-shaped section is rotated substantially 180 degrees relative to the bottom U-shaped section whereby the locking pin is again adapted to be received into another notch which may be disposed on the base of the pivot pin so as to lock the top and bottom U-shaped sections into the S-shaped configuration.

In yet a further embodiment, the first and second arms may be adapted to cooperatively resemble a closed jaw-like configuration when disposed in the closed configuration, and, an opened jaw-like configuration when disposed in the opened configuration. Typically the first arm may provide a first jaw portion of the jaw-like configuration, and, the second arm may provide a second jaw portion of the jaw-like configuration. Typically first and second arms may include pivoting flaps which may be pivotably coupled together by a common pivot pin.

Typically, the first and second arms may each also include a tooth wherein when first and second arms are maneuvered into the closed configuration, each tooth may neatly abut against each other to form a continuous rung extending from the first arm to the second arm.

Preferably first and second arms may be spring biased into the closed configuration. Typically, a coil spring may be used to bias the first and second arms together.

In yet a further embodiment, the present invention may be adapted to form a rectangular-shaped closed-loop when arranged into the closed configuration.

For instance, the first arm and second arm may comprise adjacent sides of, and form a corner of, the rectangular-shaped closed-loop. Typically, each of the four corners of the rectangular-shaped closed-loop may be pivotable using rivets.

Typically, the rectangular-shaped closed-loop may be adjusted into the opened configuration by either sliding the first arm relatively away from the second arm, or, pivoting the first arm away from the second arm. Preferably, the present invention may involve the first arm being first slid away from the second arm before then being pivoted away.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The present invention will become more fully understood from the following detailed description of a preferred but non-limiting embodiment thereof, described in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

- **Figure 1** depicts a first embodiment of the present invention which resembles a crab-claw disposed in a closed configuration;

- **Figure 2** depicts the first embodiment disposed in an opened configuration;

- **Figure 3** depicts the first embodiment in an exploded view;

- **Figure 4** depicts the first embodiment in use when coupling a first and second section of a sleeve together;

- **Figure 5** depicts a second embodiment of the present invention arranged in an opened configuration wherein it resembles a substantially straight bar;

- **Figure 6** depicts the second embodiment of the present invention arranged in a closed configuration wherein it resembles an A-shaped configuration;

- **Figure 7** depicts the second embodiment in use when coupling a first and second section of a sleeve together;

- **Figure 8** depicts a third embodiment of the present invention arranged in an opened configuration in which it resembles a squared S-shaped configuration;

- **Figure 9** depicts the third embodiment arranged in the closed configuration in which it resembles a rectangular-shaped configuration;

- **Figure 10** depicts an exploded view of the third embodiment;

- **Figure 11** depicts a transparent view of the third embodiment when disposed in the closed configuration;

- **Figure 12** depicts the third embodiment in use when coupling a first and second section of a sleeve together;

- **Figure 13** depicts a fourth embodiment of the present invention arranged in an opened configuration;

- **Figure 14** depicts the fourth embodiment of the present invention arranged in a closed configuration;

- **Figure 15** depicts a rear view of the fourth embodiment of arranged in the closed configuration;

- **Figure 16** depicts a side view of the fourth embodiment arranged in the closed configuration;

- **Figure 17** depicts the fourth embodiment in use when coupling a first and second section of a sleeve together;

- **Figure 18** depicts a fifth embodiment of the present invention shown laid out flat in an opened position;

- **Figure 19** depicts the fifth embodiment in a closed configuration in which it resembles a rectangular-shaped closed loop;

- **Figure 20** depicts the fifth embodiment in an intermediately opened position;

- **Figure 21** depicts the fourth embodiment in use when coupling a first and second section of a sleeve together;

Modes for Carrying out the Invention

Figures 1-21 show five different embodiments of the present invention.

Each embodiment includes a first arm and a second arm coupled so as to be adjustable between at least a relatively opened configuration in which at least one of the first and second arms is able to be freely inserted through holes disposed in a first and second section of a sleeve that are to be coupled, and, at least a closed configuration in which the first arm is able to be coupled to the second arm so as to form a substantially closed-loop which passes through the holes disposed in the first and second sections (X,Y) of the sleeve.

The first and second arms are sized so that they will extend from respective first and second holes of the first and second sleeve sections (X,Y) to the outer rim (Z) of the sleeve so as to be able to form the closed loop.

Each embodiment also includes a mechanism adapted for maintaining the first and second arms in the substantially closed configuration.

In Fig, 1, a first embodiment (1) is shown in which the first and second arms (2,2') cooperatively form an opened crab-claw configuration when disposed in the opened configuration. Figure 2 shows the first and second arms (2,2') cooperatively forming a closed crab-claw configuration.

The first and second arms (2,2') are pivotably coupled together via a pivot pin (not shown) which is adapted for insertion into apertures (3) disposed in the first and second arms (2,2') when aligned.

A piece of spring steel (not shown) is disposed adjacent the pivot pin which operatively engages with both the first and second arms (2,2') so as to provide an over-centering mechanism for the first embodiment. In this manner, the first embodiment is able to be biased into either one of the opened and/or closed configurations depending upon the relative rotational position of the first and second arms (2,2') to each other at any given time.

Figure 4 depicts the first embodiment in use in releasably coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together. The first and second arms (2,2') of the first embodiment are firstly spread apart until the over-centre mechanism takes over and biases the first and second arms (2,2') outwardly from each other. Thereafter, the first arm (2') is able to be inserted through the holes in the first and second sleeve sections so that the first and second arms are disposed on the outward surfaces of the first and second sleeve sections (X,Y). The first and second arms (2,2') are then rotated about within the holes such that first ends (2a,2a') of the first and second arms (2,2') extend past the outer rim (Z) of the first and second sleeve sections (X,Y) sleeve section. Thereafter, the user will forcibly pivot the first and second arms (2,2') together again until the over-centering mechanism again works to bias the first and second arms (2,2') in to the closed configuration. When this occurs, the first ends (2a,2a') of the first and second arms (2,2') form a closed loop passing through the sleeve section holes and around the outer rim (Z) of the sleeve sections (X,Y).

In a second embodiment of the present invention, the first and second arms (5,5') cooperatively form an elongate bar when disposed in the opened configuration as shown in Fig. 5. The first and second arms (5,5') are thereafter able to be arranged into a closed configuration in which they resemble an A-shape as shown in Fig. 6.

First ends (5a,5a') of the first and second arms (5,5') are coupled to opposing ends of a central member (6) via hinge points. Over-extending portions (7,7') of the first ends (5a,5a') of the first and second arms (5,5') extend past the respective hinge points as shown in Fig. 6. The over-extending portions (7,7') also include first surfaces (7a,7a') which are adapted for releasable engagement with a first surface (8) of the centre member (6).

The first surfaces (7a,7a') of the over-extending portions (7,7') include stubs (7b,7b') which are adapted for snap-fitting engagement with corresponding notches (8a,8a') disposed in the first surface (8) of the centre member (6).

The over-extending portions (7,7') of the first and second arms (5,5') form the legs of the A-shaped configuration when the first and second arms (5,5') are adjusted into the closed configuration. Second ends (5b,5b') of the first and second arms (5,5') which are relatively remote to the central member (6) are symmetrically sloped so that they are able to neatly abut against each other so as to form the apex of the A-shaped configuration as shown in Fig. 6.

The second end (5b) of the first arm includes a stub (10) disposed on its sloped surface which is adapted for snap-fitting engagement with a corresponding notch (10') which is disposed on the sloped surface of the second end (5b') of the second arm (5'). By engaging the stub (10) and the notch (10'), this enables the sloped surfaces of the second ends (5b,5b') to be held together so that the A-shape can be maintained.

Thus, in use, the second embodiment cuff link is firstly arranged into the opened configuration as shown in Fig. 5 whereby the sleek shape of the cuff link lends itself to being relatively easily inserted through the holes of first and second sections (X,Y) of the sleeve. In this regard, either of the sloping second ends (5b,5b') of the first or second arms (5,5') are suitably adapted for inserting through holes in the sleeve sections (5,5').

Once inserted through the sleeve holes, the centre member (6) should rest across the holes in the sleeve sections (X,Y), the first arm (5) should be positioned adjacent to an outward-facing surface of the first section (X) of the sleeve, whilst the second arm (5') should be positioned adjacent to an outward-facing surface of the second section (Y) of the sleeve.

Thereafter, the second ends (5b,5b') of the first and second arms (5,5') should be rotated inwardly so that the stub (10) and notch (10') are able to releasably engage. In doing so, the sleeve sections (X,Y) are held coupled together within the closed loop of the A-shaped configuration.

Referring now to Figs. 8 to 12, a third embodiment is shown. The first and second arms (11,11') are adapted to cooperatively form a rectangular-shaped configuration when disposed in the closed configuration as shown in Fig. 9, and, are adapted to cooperatively form a squared S-shaped configuration when disposed in the opened configuration, as shown in Fig. 8.

The first and second arms (11,11') include top and bottom substantially U-shaped sections (11,11') which are hingedly coupled such that planar faces of the U-shaped sections (11,11') are co-axially rotatable relative to each other around a pivot pin (12).

The pivot pin (12) extends from a first arm (11a') of the bottom U-shaped section (11') into a first arm (11a) of the top U-shaped section (11). A head of the pivot pin which is received in the first arm (11a) of the top U-shaped section (11) is fixed therein by retaining pin (4) whilst a base portion of the pivot pin (12) is freely rotatable within the first arm (11a') of the bottom U-shaped section (11'). Thus, when the top U-shaped section (11) is rotated, the base of the pivot pin (12) rotates within the bottom first arm (11a') of the bottom U-shaped section (11'). The base of the pivot pin (12) also includes a plurality of notches (14) spaced apart around its circumferential surface. The notches (14) therefore will rotate when the top U-shaped section (11) is rotated relative to the bottom U-shaped section (11').

A locking pin (15) is disposed in a mid-section (11b') of the bottom U-shaped section (11'). The locking pin (15) is biased by a coil spring (20) into an extended position from a retracted position relative to the

mid-section (11b') wherein when in the extended position, the locking pin (15) is caused to abut against the base of the pivot pin (12). The locking pin (15) and the coil spring (20) are held in place within the mid-section (11b') by a screw piece (21) as shown in Figs. 10 and 11.

Depending upon the rotational position of the pivot pin (12), the locking pin (15) will either be received into one of the plurality of notches (14) disposed in the base of the pivot pin (12), or, will be dislodged from one of the plurality of notches (14) and pushed back into a relatively retracted position within the mid-section (11b') of the bottom U-shaped section (11'). When the top and bottom U-shaped sections (11,11') are rotated into the closed configuration, the locking pin (15) is adapted to lodge within one of the plurality of notches (14) in the base of the pivot pin (12) so that the top and bottom U-shaped sections (11,11') are able to be locked into a stationary position. When the top U-shaped section (11) is rotated away from the bottom U-shaped section (11'), the locking pin (15) dislodges from the notches (14) in the base of the pivot pin (12) until the top U-shaped section (11) is rotated substantially 180 degrees relative to the bottom U-shaped section (11') whereby the locking pin (15) is again adapted to be received into another notch (14) which may be disposed on the base of the pivot pin (12) so as to lock the top and bottom U-shaped sections (11,11') into the S-shaped configuration as shown in Fig. 8.

Thus, in use, the third embodiment is first arranged into the S-shaped configuration. Either the top or bottom U-shaped sections (11,11') are inserted through the holes in the first and second sections of the sleeve (X,Y) and once inserted through, the top and bottom U-

shaped sections (11,11') are adjusted into the closed configuration as described above so as to form a closed loop rectangle which passes through the sleeve holes.

The third embodiment also includes a clasp (not shown) which is adapted for releasably securing the top U-shaped section (11) and the bottom U-shaped section (11') together when the cuff link is arranged in the closed loop configuration as shown in Figs. 9 and 11. In this embodiment, the clasp is disposed on a side of the cuff link which is opposite to the side housing the pivot pin. The clasp that is used includes a ball and socket type clasp.

In a fourth embodiment, the first and second arms (16,16') are adapted to cooperatively resemble a closed jaw-like configuration as shown in Fig. 14 when disposed in the closed configuration, and, an opened jaw-like configuration as shown in Fig. 13 when disposed in the opened configuration.

The first arm (16) provides a first jaw portion of the jaw-like configuration, and, the second arm (16') provides a second jaw portion of the jaw-like configuration. The first and second arms (16,16') also include pivoting flaps (16a,16a') which are pivotably coupled together by a common pivot pin (17) whereby the jaws are able to be selectively rotated about the pivot pin (17) into the opened and closed configurations.

The first and second arms (16,16') each include a respective tooth (16b,16b') wherein when first and second arms (16,16') are maneuvered into the closed configuration, each tooth (16b,16b') is

adapted to neatly abut against each other so as to form a continuous beam extending from the first arm (16) to the second arm (16').

The first and second arms (16,16') are spring biased into the closed configuration using a coil spring (18) mounted adjacent the pivot pin (17) and which is operatively connected to said first and second arms (16,16').

In use, the teeth (16b,16b') are pivoted apart into the opened configuration by pressing against ends of the first and second arms (16,16'). In this configuration, the cuff link is then maneuvered around the first and second sections (X,Y) of the sleeve so that the teeth (16b,16b') lies adjacent to the first and second sleeve section holes respectively.

Thereafter, the first and second arms (16,16') are released and they return to the closed configuration due to the force of the biasing spring (18) acting upon them. In doing so, the teeth (16b,16b') through the holes in the sleeve sections and meet to form a closed loop which passes through the holes in the sleeve sections (X,Y) as shown in Fig. 17.

In yet a fifth embodiment, a rectangular-shaped closed-loop is able to be formed when disposed in the closed configuration.

As shown in Fig. 19, the first arm (19) and second arm (19') form the corner (A) of the rectangular-shaped closed-loop. Each of the adjacent sides of the four corners (A,B,C and D) of the rectangular-

shaped closed-loop are pivotably coupled pivotable using cylindrical-shaped rivets(22).

The first arm (19) includes a notch (19a) disposed in a first end which is adapted for releasably engagement with the rivet (22) which passes through corner (A). The diameter of the rivet is such that it will snap-fit within the recess (19a) of the first arm (19). The rivet also passes through a first end of the second arm so that when the rivet is coupled to the notch (19a) of the first member, the first and second arms (19,19') are effectively coupled together and a squared-shaped close loop is formed by the fifth embodiment cuff link.

The rectangular-shaped closed-loop is able to be adjusted into the opened configuration by either sliding the first arm (19) relatively away from the second arm (19'), and/or, pivoting the first arm (19) away from the second arm (19'). The fifth embodiment requires the first arm (19) to be first slid away from the second arm (19') and then pivoted away.

The reference in this specification to any prior publication (or information derived from it), or to any matter which is known, is not, and should not be taken as an acknowledgment or admission or any form of suggestion that that prior publication (or information derived from it) or known matter forms part of the common general knowledge in the field of endeavour to which this specification relates.

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the invention described herein is susceptible to variations and modifications other than those

specifically described without departing from the scope of the invention. All such variations and modification which become apparent to persons skilled in the art, should be considered to fall within the spirit and scope of the invention as broadly hereinbefore described. It is to be understood that the invention includes all such variations and modifications. The invention also includes all of the steps and features, referred or indicated in the specification, individually or collectively, and any and all combinations of any two or more of said steps or features.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A cuff link for use in coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together, said cuff link including a first arm and a second arm, wherein said first and second arms are selectively adjustable between at least a relatively opened configuration in which at least one of the first and second arms are able to be inserted through holes disposed in each of the first and second sections of the sleeve, and, a relatively closed configuration in which the first and second arms are adapted to form a substantially closed loop which passes through the holes disposed in each of the first and second sections of the sleeve.

2. A cuff link as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first arm is rotatably movable relative to the second arm.

3. A cuff link as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the first arm is adapted to extend from the hole of the first sleeve section to an outer edge of the sleeve.

4. A cuff link as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the second arm is adapted to extend from the hole of the second sleeve section to an outer edge of the sleeve.

5. A cuff link as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein at least one of the first and second retaining members includes a tapered end.

6. A cuff link as claimed in claim 5 including a securing mechanism adapted for selectively maintaining the first and second arms in the substantially closed configuration.

7. A cuff link as claimed in claim 6 wherein the securing mechanism includes at least one of:

(a) a biasing mechanism;

(b) a latching mechanism;

(c) an over-centering mechanism.

8. A cuff link as claimed in claim 7 wherein the biasing mechanism includes a spring.

9. A cuff link as claimed in claim 7 or 8 wherein the latching mechanism includes a stud and notch arrangement wherein the stud is adapted for releasable snap-fitting engagement with said notch.

10. A cuff link as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the first and second arms are substantially identical.

11. A cuff link as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the first and second arms resemble a closed crab-claw like shape when disposed in the closed configuration, and, an open crab-claw like shape when disposed in the opened configuration.

12. A cuff link as claimed in claim 11 wherein the first and second arms are rotatably coupled around a hinge.

13. A cuff link as claimed in claim 11 or 12 including an over-centering mechanism adapted for biasing the first and second arms into either one of the opened or closed configurations depending upon a relative rotational position of the first arm relative to the second arm at any given time.

14. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein the first and second arms are adapted to form an A-shaped configuration when disposed in the closed configuration, and, are adapted to form an elongate rod when disposed in the opened configuration.

15. A cuff link as claimed in claim 14 wherein first ends of the first and second arms are rotatably coupled to opposing ends of a central member.

16. A cuff link as claimed in claim 15 wherein the first and second arms include over-extending portions which extend past the respective hinges when the first and second arms are arranged in the opened configuration, and said over-extending portions are adapted to form the legs of the A-shape when the first and second arms are arranged into the closed configuration.

17. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 16 wherein the over-extending portions include first surfaces which are adapted for releasable engagement with a first surface of the centre member.

18. A cuff link as claimed in claim 17 wherein the over-extending portions include notches which are adapted for releasable

engagement with corresponding stubs disposed on the first surface of the central member.

19. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 18 wherein the stubs are adapted for snap-fitting engagement with corresponding notches.

20. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 19 wherein second ends of the first and second arms include sloped surfaces, wherein when the first and second arms are arranged into the closed configuration, the sloped surfaces are adapted to abut flush against each other to form an apex of the A-shape.

21. A cuff link as claimed in claim 20 wherein the sloped surface of the first arm includes a stub, and the sloped surface of the second arm includes a notch, wherein when the sloped surfaces abut to form the apex of the A-shape, the stub and notch are adapted to releasably engage.

22. A cuff link as claimed in claim 21 wherein the stub is adapted for releasable snap-fitting engagement with the notch.

23. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein the first and second arms are adapted to form a rectangular-shaped configuration when disposed in the closed configuration, and, are adapted to form a squared S-shaped configuration when disposed in the opened configuration.

24. A cuff link as claimed in claim 23 wherein the first and second arms include top and bottom squared U-shaped sections, wherein planar faces of the top and bottom squared U-shaped sections are coaxially rotatable about a pivot pin.

25. A cuff link as claimed in claim 23 or 24 including a locking pin adapted for selectively engaging with a plurality of apertures disposed on the pivot pin so as to lock the first arm into position relative to the second arm.

26. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein the first and second arms are adapted to resemble a closed jaw-like configuration when disposed in the closed configuration, and, an opened jaw-like configuration when disposed in the opened configuration.

27. A cuff link as claimed in claim 26 wherein the first and second arms include pivoting plates via which a pivot pin is coupled to enable rotatable movement of the first arm relative to the second arm.

28. A cuff link as claimed in claim 26 or 27 including a tooth disposed on at least one of the first and second arms wherein when the first and second arms are arranged into the closed configuration, the at least one tooth extends substantially from the first arm to the second arm.

29. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 26 to 28 wherein the first and second arms are spring biased into the closed configuration.

30. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein the first arm and second arm are adapted to form adjacent sides of a rectangular-shaped loop when arranged in the closed configuration, and, an elongate bar when arranged in the opened configuration.

31. A cuff link as claimed in claim 30 wherein corners of the rectangular-shaped loop are pivotable about rivets.

32. A cuff ink as claimed in claim 30 or 31 wherein the first arm includes a single bar and the second arm includes a pair of bars, wherein a first end of said first arm is adapted to rest between first ends of the pair of bars of the second arm when arranged into the closed configuration.

33. A cuff link as claimed in claim 32 wherein said first end of the first arm includes a notch which is adapted to releasably receive the rivet disposed at the corner formed by the first and second arms when arranged in the closed configuration.