

A CUFF LINK

Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to the field of cuff links.

Background of the Invention

10 Cuff links are used to couple first and second sections of a sleeve together and typically consist of a pair of retaining members disposed at opposite ends of a bridging member. A first retaining member may generally be adjustable so that it can be more readily maneuvered through holes disposed in the sleeve sections so that the bridging member can thereafter be passed through the holes in the sleeve sections. When the first retaining member has been maneuvered through both sleeve sections, it is then re-adjusted relative to the bridging member so that it is less susceptible to inadvertently slipping through the holes in the sleeve sections whereby the sleeve sections would no longer be held together.

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One problem with at least some prior art cuff links available on the market is that, even though the first retaining member can be adjusted to allow it to be initially inserted through the holes in the sleeve, this can still be a tedious and time-consuming exercise for a user because the first retaining member may be ornamentally shaped and not adapted for insertion through the sleeve holes in an efficient manner. Prior art cuff links which include a chain as the bridging member may also be particularly tedious to insert through sleeve holes.

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A further problem that is perceived with prior art cuff links is that fickle users may become bored with a particular cuff link design over time and may desire greater variety in the style of the cuff links that they wear. However, the cost of purchasing new cuff links may be
5 expensive and such users may unfortunately have little option but to wear the same cuff link designs repeatedly.

Summary of the Invention

10 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
15 the different broad forms herein described.

In a first broad form, the present invention provides a cuff link for use in releasably coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together, said cuff link including first and second retaining members having
20 respective first and second attachment surfaces that are attached to opposing ends of a bridging member, wherein the first retaining member is releasably attachable to the bridging member, such that when the first retaining member is detached from the bridging member, the bridging member is able to be inserted through first and
25 second holes disposed in the first and second sections of the sleeve respectively, and thereafter, when the first retaining member is releasably attached to the bridging member, the first and second sections of the sleeve are arranged between the first and second retaining members and the first and second retaining members are

substantially unable to pass through the holes in the first and second sections of the sleeve.

Typically, the second retaining member may be substantially identical
5 to the first retaining member. Also typically, the second retaining member may be releasably attached to the bridging member. Preferably, releasable attachment of the second retaining member to the bridging member may be effected in substantially the same manner in which the first retaining member may be releasably
10 attachable to the bridging member.

Typically, the first and second retaining members may be sized so that they are unable to pass through the holes in the first and second sections of the sleeve when respective first and second attachment
15 surfaces of the first and second retaining members are pressed against the holes.

Typically, the bridging member includes a narrower cross-section relative to the attachment surfaces of the first and second retaining
20 members.

Typically, the bridging member may be releasably attached to the first retaining member using a coupling device which includes:

- 25 a pair of arms; and
- an engagement surface;
- the pair of arms being adjustable between at least a relatively expanded configuration, and, a relatively contracted configuration wherein, when the pair of arms are adjusted into the relatively expanded configuration, the engagement surface is able to pass
30 between the arms, and thereafter, when the pair of arms are adjusted into the relatively contracted configuration, the pair of arms close

around the engagement surface so as to substantially prevent the engagement surface from being dislodged from the pair of arms.

Typically, the engagement surface includes an elongate bar. The
5 elongate bar may be disposed within a cavity of the first retaining member. Typically, the cavity may be accessible via the attachment surface of the first retaining member. Preferably, the cavity may be sized to at least partially accommodate the pair of arms when they are coupled to the elongate bar. Typically, the pair of arms may
10 cooperatively form a curve which may be contoured to complement a curved profile of the elongate bar. Advantageously, this may allow for the elongate bar to be held in a relatively snug-fitting manner between the pair of arms.

15 Typically, the pair of arms may be resiliently adjustable relative to each other such that, for instance, the pair of arms may be adapted for coupling with the engagement surface in snap-fitting fashion. Also typically, release of the engagement surface from the pair of arms may be effected by forcibly pulling the engagement surface
20 outwardly away from the pair of arms whereby as the engagement surface abuts against the pair of arms, the pair of arms may resiliently adjust into the relatively expanded configuration so that the engagement surface may pass through.

25 In alternative embodiments of the present invention, the pair of arms may not be resiliently adjustable and may for instance be hingedly coupled together. In such an arrangement, adjustment of the pair of arms between the relatively expanded configuration and the relatively contracted configuration may be effected manually by a user.

In certain embodiments, the present invention may include a lock for locking the position of the pair of arms so that for instance, if the pair of arms are closed around the engagement surface, they may be held in that position by the lock in order to alleviate the occurrence of any inadvertent dislodgement of the first retaining member from the bridging member.

Typically, the pair of arms may be disposed on the bridging member and the engagement surface may be disposed on the first retaining member. However, it would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art that in alternative embodiments, the pair of arms may be disposed on the first retaining member whilst the engagement surface may be disposed on the bridging member.

Typically, the pair of arms may be biased into the relatively contracted configuration. Typically, the biasing of the pair of arms may result from the choice of materials which may be used to form the bridging member. For instance, the bridging member may include a plastic and/or metal alloy material, such that the biasing of the pair of arms into the contracted configuration may be inherent from the nature of the material used itself.

Preferably, when the bridging member is coupled to the first retaining member, the bridging member extends outwardly away from the elongate member in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the attachment surface of the first retaining member.

In alternative embodiments of the present invention, the first retaining member and the bridging member may be releasably attachable using a coupling device including:

a stub that is movable along a stub axis between at least a relatively extended position and a relatively retracted position;

and a stub recess adapted for releasably receiving the stub when the stub is adjusted into the relatively extended position;

5 wherein, when the stub is releasably received in the stub recess, the bridging member is releasably attached to the first retaining member.

Preferably, the stub may be slidably movable along the stub axis.

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Typically, the stub may be disposed on the bridging member and the stub recess may be disposed on the first retaining member.

Typically, when the stub is arranged in the retracted position, the stub may be retracted inwardly of the bridging member into an opening in the bridging member.

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Typically, a pair of stubs may be disposed on the bridging member for engaging with a pair of corresponding stub recesses disposed on the first retaining member. However, it would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art that in alternative embodiments of the present invention, the stub(s) may be disposed on the first retaining member, and the corresponding stub recess(es) may be disposed on the bridging member.

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25 Typically, the stub may be biased into the relatively extended position by use of a biasing device. Typically, the biasing device may include a spring such as a coil spring.

Typically the first retaining member may include a cavity, and, the stub recess may be disposed in a side-wall of the cavity. Typically, the bridging member may be adapted for insertion into the cavity

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wherein the cavity wall abuts against the stub so as to force the stub inwardly of the bridging member into the relatively contracted configuration until the stub comes into alignment with the stub recess in the cavity side-wall, and the stub is then able to freely move
5 outwardly of the bridging member and into the relatively extended configuration whereby it is received into the stub recess.

Typically, the stub may be dislodged from the stub recess by forcibly pulling the bridging member outwardly away from the cavity of the
10 first retaining member which may typically be in a direction transverse to the stub axis.

In certain embodiments, the cavity may include an internal shape configuration that may be adapted to allow attachment of the stub to
15 the stub recess by firstly guiding the bridging member inwardly of the cavity when the bridging member is tilted at a first angle around its elongate axis. Thereafter, the bridging member may be rotated around its elongate axis until the stub(s) is/are in alignment with the corresponding stub recess(es) in the cavity side-wall whereby the
20 stub(s) is/are able to freely extend outwardly of the bridging member to be received into the corresponding stub recess(es).

Typically, the first retaining member may include an outer surface characteristic including at least one of:

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- (a) a cubed-shaped configuration;
- (b) a rectangular-shaped configuration; and/or
- 30 (c) a diamond-shaped configuration.

Typically, the bridging member may include at least one of:

- (a) a bar having a substantially square-shaped cross-sectional configuration;
- 5 (b) a bar having a substantially rectangular-shaped cross-sectional configuration;
- (c) an H-shaped bar.

In a further broad form, the present invention provides a cuff link for use in releasably coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together, said cuff link including:

- a first retaining member; and
- a second retaining member; and
- a bridging member which is fixed to the first retaining member and which is releasably attachable to the second retaining member;
- 15 wherein, the bridging member is adapted for insertion through holes disposed in the first and second sections of the sleeve, and wherein the first and second retaining members are substantially unable to pass through the holes in the first and second sections of the sleeve.

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Preferably, the bridging member and the second retaining member are releasably attached using a coupling mechanism including:

- a female member; and
- a male member adapted for insertion into the female member
- 25 wherein said male member includes a stub which is adjustable between at least an extended position and a retracted position, and, the female member includes a stub recess, wherein when the male member is inserted into the female member and the stub is adjusted into the extended position, the stub is able to be releasably received
- 30 into the stub recess whereby the bridging member and the first retaining member are able to be releasably attached.

Preferably, the male member may be disposed on the second retaining member. Also preferably, the female member may be disposed on the bridging member. However, it would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art that in alternative embodiments, the male member may be disposed on the bridging member and the female member may be disposed on the second retaining member. Typically, the stub extends and retracts transversely relative to an orientation of insertion of the male member into the female member. Also typically, the male member includes a pair of stubs which may sit next to each other in axial alignment. The female member may also include a pair of stub recesses adapted for receiving respective stubs disposed on the male member.

Typically, the stubs may be spring biased. Preferably a single spring may be used to spring bias both stubs. For instance, a coil spring may be disposed between bases of the two stubs.

Typically, the male member and female member include substantially square-shaped and/or rectangular shaped cross sections.

Advantageously, the present invention may alleviate at least one of the problems associated with the prior art in that by being able to detach at least one of the retaining members from the bridging member, the bridging member is then able to be inserted relatively easily through the holes in the first and second sleeve sections due to the relatively sleek nature of the bridging member. In contrast, with the prior art, the relatively less sleek retaining member configuration has meant that it is relatively more cumbersome to maneuver through both holes in the sections of the sleeve.

A further advantage in the present invention is that by allowing at least one retaining member to be detachable from the bridging member, it may be envisaged that a user may be able to interchangeably attach disparate retaining members with disparate
5 bridging members in "mix-n-match" fashion so as to give rise to a multiplicity of possible design combinations. This may alleviate a degree of boredom which may otherwise be experienced by wearers of prior art cuff links who may have a much more limited selection of cuff link designs to choose from.

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Moreover, it may be envisaged that because at least one of the retaining members may be detachable from the bridging member, this may allow for relatively more ornate and/or larger retaining members to be used with the present invention than may otherwise
15 be the case with certain prior art cuff links. In contrast, this would not be the case with certain prior art cuff links having relatively larger and more ornate retaining members fixed to the bridging member because the inability to detach these retaining members from the bridging member would mean that it would be difficult if not
20 impossible to insert the relatively larger and more ornate retaining members through the sleeve holes.

Brief Description of the Drawings

25 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:

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- **Figure 1** depicts a first embodiment of the present invention including first and second retaining members

releasably attached at opposing ends of a bridging member;

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- **Figure 2** depicts the first embodiment wherein the first and second retaining members are detached from the bridging member;

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- **Figure 3** depicts the first embodiment in used in securing first and second sections of a sleeve;

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- **Figure 4** depicts a second embodiment of the present invention wherein the first and second retaining members are detached from an H-shaped bridging member;

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- **Figure 5** depicts an exploded view of the second embodiment;
- **Figure 6** depicts a side view of the second embodiment wherein the first and second retaining members are releasably attached to the bridging member

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- **Figure 7** shows an alternative embodiment to the second embodiment wherein only a first retaining member is releasably attachable to a bridging member, whilst the second retaining member is fixed to the bridging member;

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- **Figure 8** shows a third embodiment of the present invention in which the first retaining member is fixed to

the bridging member and the second retaining member is detached from the bridging member;

5 - **Figure 9** shows an exploded view of the third embodiment of the present invention;

10 - **Figure 10** shows the third embodiment wherein the first retaining member with the bridging member fixed thereon is releasably attached to the second retaining member.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

15 Referring firstly to Figs. 1 to 3, a cuff link (1) in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention is shown for use in releasably coupling first and second sections (5a,5b) of a sleeve together.

20 The cuff link (1) includes first and second retaining members (2a,2b) disposed on opposing ends of a bridging member (3). Both first and second retaining members (2a,2b) are releasably attachable to the bridging member (3) and are sized so that they are unable to fit through sleeve holes disposed in the first and second sections (5a,5b) of the sleeve.

25 The first and second retaining members (2a,2b) are substantially identical in shape and dimension.

30 The bridging member (3) includes a uniform rectangular-shaped cross-section along an elongate axis, the direction of which is represented by the line marked "X" in Fig. 1.

The relatively sleek cross-sectional shape and dimensions of the bridging member (3) enables it to be easily inserted through the sleeve holes disposed in first and second sections (5a,5b) of the sleeve.

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Whilst the first and second retaining members (2a,2b) are releasably attached to the bridging member (3) in a substantially identical manner, the following description will focus on the attachment of the second retaining member with the bridging member (3) as this is
10 more clearly depicted in the accompanying drawings.

The second retaining member (2b) is releasably attached to the bridging member (3) using a coupling device which includes the pair of arms (3b) disposed on a second end of the bridging member (3)
15 which are adapted for releasable engagement with a lateral bar (4) disposed in a cavity (5) of the second retaining member (2b) as shown in Fig. 2.

The bridging member (3) includes a resilient material such as plastic
20 or a metal alloy such that the pair of arms (3b) are resiliently deformable between at least a relatively expanded configuration, and, a relatively contracted configuration. Figure 2 shows the pair of arms (3b) arranged in the relatively contracted configuration.

25 The resilient nature of the pair of arms (3b) enables them to be snap-fitted onto the lateral bar (4) by pressing the lateral bar (4) between the pair of arms (3b). Thereafter, the pair of arms (3b) are forced apart into the relatively expanded configuration wherein the lateral bar (4) is able to pass between them and into relatively snug-fitting
30 contact with the curved section (6) that is cooperatively formed between the pair of arms (3b). The pair of arms (3b) are able to then

resiliently adjust back into the relatively contracted configuration whereby the lateral bar (4) is substantially prevented from dislodgement.

- 5 The cavity (5) of the second retaining member (2b) in which the lateral bar (4) is disposed is sized to substantially accommodate the pair of arms (3b) when they are coupled around the lateral bar (4) as shown in Fig. 1.
- 10 In order to effect release of the lateral bar (4) from coupling with the pair of arms (3b) and hence release of the bridging member (3) from the second retaining member (2b), the second retaining member (2b) should be pulled outwardly away from the bridging member (3) whereby the pair of arms (3b) are adapted to resiliently adjust once
- 15 again into the relatively expanded configuration when the lateral bar (4) abuts against them, so as to enable release of the lateral bar (4) from their grasp. Once the lateral bar (4) has passed through the pair of arms (3b), the pair of arms (3b) resiliently return once again into the relatively contracted configuration due to their natural
- 20 biasing.

Figures 4 to 6 show a cuff link in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention. A coupling device which is used to releasably attach first and second retaining members (7a,7b)

25 to an H-shaped bridging member (9) includes a pair of adjustable stubs (8a,8a) and (8b,8b) disposed at each end of the bridging member (9) which are adapted to be releasably received within corresponding pairs of stub recesses (10a,10a) and (10b,10b) located in cavities (11a,11b) of the first and second retaining

30 members (7a,7b) respectively. The stub recesses (10a,10a) and (10b,10b) are partially viewable in the transparent view of Fig. 5.

Whilst the first and second retaining members (7a,7b) are releasably attached to the H-shaped bridging member (9) in a substantially identical manner, the following description will primarily focus on the attachment of the second retaining member (7b) with the H-shaped
5 bridging member (9) as this is more clearly depicted in the accompanying drawings.

As shown in the exploded view of Fig. 5, the stubs (8b,8b) are disposed on outward facing surfaces of a pair of prongs (9b,9b) at a
10 second end of the H-shaped bridging member (9).

The stubs (8b,8b) are each adjustable between relatively retracted positions in which they are able to be retracted into respective openings in the H-shaped bridging member (9), and, relatively
15 extended positions in which they are extended outwardly of the respective openings in the H-shaped bridging member (9). The stubs (8b,8b) are biased into the relatively extended position using coil springs (12b,12b).

20 The stubs (8b,8b) are adapted to be slidably movable along a respective stub-axis as represented by the lines "A" and "B" in Fig. 5. The cavity (11b) of the second retaining member (7b) includes an internal shape configuration which requires the bridging member (9) to be maneuvered into the cavity (11b) in a two-step manner when
25 releasably attaching the second retaining member (7b) to the bridging member (9). Again, it should be reiterated that the first retaining member (7a) is releasably attached to the bridging member (9) in substantially the same manner.

30 Firstly, the bridging member (9) is required to be tilted at a first angle around an elongate axis (which is represented by the line marked

"X") as shown in Fig. 4, before being inserted into the cavity (11b) of the second retaining member (7b). Once inserted into the cavity (11b), the bridging member (9) is then able to be rotated about its elongate axis (X) until the stubs (8b,8b) are in alignment with their corresponding stub recesses (10b,10b) disposed in the sidewall of the cavity (11b). Thereafter, the stubs (8b,8b) are able to freely extend outwardly of the bridging member (9) to be received into their corresponding stub recesses (10b,10b). In doing so, the bridging member (9) becomes releasably attached to the second retaining member (7b)

Conversely, the stubs (8b,8b) are able to be dislodged from their corresponding stub recesses (10b,10b) by reversing the maneuvering steps employed in effecting releasable attachment. That is, the bridging member (9) is firstly rotated back into the first angle relative to the elongate axis (X) of the bridging member (9). In doing so, the stubs (8b,8b) are dislodged from their corresponding stub recesses (10b,10b) and may be retracted inwardly of the bridging member (9). Thereafter, the bridging member (9) is slid outwardly of the second retaining member cavity (11b) substantially in a direction of alignment with its elongate axis (x).

Figure 7 depicts an alternative embodiment to that of the second embodiment which differs only in that the first retaining member (20) is releasably attachable to a first end (21a) of a bridging member (21) whilst a second end (21b) of the bridging member (21) is fixed to a second retaining member (20'). Releasable attachment of the first retaining member (20) to the bridging member (21) is implemented in substantially the same manner as described above in the second embodiment.

Figures 8 to 10 depict a cuff link in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention. The cuff link includes a first retaining member (13a), a second retaining member (13b), and a bridging member (14) which is fixed to the first retaining member (13a) and which is releasably attachable to the second retaining member (13b) via a coupling device.

The coupling device includes a male member (15) disposed on the second retaining member (13b) which is adapted for insertion into a corresponding female member (14) disposed on the bridging member (14) which also happens to be the bridging member (14). The male member (15) and female member (14) both include rectangular shaped cross-sections.

As shown more clearly in the exploded view of Fig. 9, the male member (15) also includes a pair of stubs (16a,16b) which are adjustable between at least extended positions and retracted positions whilst the female member (14) includes a pair of corresponding stub recesses (18) adapted for releasably receiving the stubs (16a,16b) when the male member (15) is inserted into the female member (14) and the stubs (16a,16b) are adjusted into their extended positions. One of the stub recesses (18) is shown disposed in an internal sidewall of the female member (14) in the transparent view of Fig. 9. Figure 8 shows the second retaining member (13b) detached from the bridging member (14) whilst Fig. 10 depicts the second retaining member (13b) releasably attached to the bridging member (14). Figure 9 only depicts one of the stub recesses (18) but it would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art that a corresponding stub recess lies on the other side of the female member which is not immediately visible in Fig. 9.

The stubs (16a,16b) are arranged in axial alignment with each other on the male member (15) and are adapted to extend and retract in a substantially transverse orientation to a direction of insertion of the male member (15) into the female member (14) so as to be received
5 by the corresponding stub recesses (18) which lie on opposing internal side-walls of the female member (14).

It can be seen from Fig. 9 that in this embodiment, a single coil spring (17) is disposed between bases of each stub (16a,16b) so as
10 to bias the stub members (16a,16b) into opposite lateral directions from each other.

Thus, as the male member (15) is being inserted into the female member (14) to effect releasable attachment of the bridging member (14) with the second retaining member (13b), the stubs (16a,16b) are
15 initially forced into their retracted positions as they abut against the sidewall of the bridging member (14). It is only when the stubs (16a,16b) move substantially into alignment with the corresponding stub recesses (18) that they are able to freely extend outwardly into
20 their corresponding stub recesses (18) in which they are received during releasable attachment of the second retaining member (13b) with the bridging member (14).

To effect detachment of the bridging member (14) from the second retaining member (13b), the second retaining member (13b) should
25 be forcibly pulled away from the bridging member (14) by a user whereby the stubs (16a,16b) are caused to retract inwardly together as they abut against the bridging member sidewall (19) and the male member (15) is subsequently withdrawn from the female member
30 (14).

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
5 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
10 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
15 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 releasably coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together, said cuff link including first and second retaining members having respective first and second attachment
5 surfaces that are attached to opposing ends of a bridging member, wherein the first retaining member is releasably attachable to the bridging member, such that when the first retaining member is detached from the bridging member, the bridging member is able to
10 be inserted through first and second holes disposed in the first and second sections of the sleeve respectively, and thereafter, when the first retaining member is releasably attached to the bridging member, the first and second sections of the sleeve are arranged between the first and second retaining members and the first and second retaining
15 members are substantially unable to pass through the holes in the first and second sections of the sleeve.
2. A cuff link as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first and second retaining members are substantially identical.
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3. A cuff link as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the first and second retaining members are both releasably attachable to the bridging member.
- 25 4. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the first and second retaining member are releasably attachable to the bridging member in a similar fashion.

5. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the bridging member may be releasably attachable to the first retaining member using a coupling device, the coupling device including:
- a pair of arms; and
 - an engagement surface;
- the pair of arms being adjustable between at least a relatively expanded configuration, and, a relatively contracted configuration wherein, when the pair of arms are adjusted into the relatively expanded configuration, the engagement surface is able to pass between the arms, and thereafter, when the pair of arms are adjusted into the relatively contracted configuration, the pair of arms close around the engagement surface so as to substantially prevent the engagement surface from being dislodged from the pair of arms.
6. A cuff link as claimed in claim 5 wherein the engagement surface includes an elongate bar.
7. A cuff link as claimed in claim 6 wherein the elongate bar is disposed within a cavity of the first retaining member.
8. A cuff link as claimed in claim 7 wherein the cavity is adapted to house the pair of arms when the pair of arms are closed around the engagement surface.
9. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 8 wherein the pair of arms are resiliently adjustable.
10. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 9 wherein the pair of arms are disposed on the bridging member and the engagement surface is disposed on the first retaining member.

11. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 10 wherein the pair of arms are biased into the relatively contracted configuration.

12. A cuff link as claimed in any one of the preceding claims
5 wherein the first retaining member and the bridging member are releasably attachable using a coupling device including:

a stub that is movable along a stub axis between at least a relatively extended position and a relatively retracted position;

and a stub recess adapted for releasably receiving the stub
10 when the stub is adjusted into the relatively extended position;

wherein, when the stub is releasably received in the stub recess, the bridging member is releasably attached to the first retaining member.

13. A cuff link as claimed in claim 12 wherein the stub is slidably
15 movable along the stub axis.

14. A cuff link as claimed in claim 12 or 13 wherein the stub is
disposed on the bridging member and the stub recess is disposed on
20 the first retaining member.

15. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 12 to 14 including
the use of a pair of stubs.

16. A cuff link as claimed in claim 15 wherein the pair of stubs are
25 arranged side-by-side in substantially coaxial alignment.

17. A cuff link as claimed in claim 16 wherein the pair of stubs are
biased into the relatively extended position.

18. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 15 to 17 including a spring for biasing the stubs into the relatively extended position.

19. A cuff link for use in releasably coupling first and second sections of a sleeve together, said cuff link including:

a first retaining member; and

a second retaining member; and

a bridging member which is fixed to the first retaining member and which is releasably attachable to the second retaining member;

wherein, the bridging member is adapted for insertion through holes disposed in the first and second sections of the sleeve, and wherein the first and second retaining members are substantially unable to pass through the holes in the first and second sections of the sleeve.

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20. A cuff link as claimed in claim 19 wherein the bridging member and the second retaining member are releasably attachable using a coupling device, the coupling device including:

a female member; and

a male member adapted for insertion into the female member wherein said male member includes a stub which is adjustable between at least an extended position and a retracted position, and, the female member includes a stub recess, wherein when the male member is inserted into the female member and the stub is adjusted into the extended position, the stub is able to be releasably received into the stub recess whereby the bridging member and the first retaining member are able to be releasably attached.

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21. A cuff link as claimed in claim 19 or 20 wherein the male member is disposed on the second retaining member.

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22. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 21 wherein the female member is disposed on the bridging member.
23. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 20 to 22 wherein
5 the stub extends and retracts transversely relative to an orientation of insertion of the male member into the female member.
24. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 20 to 23 wherein the male member includes a pair of stubs which are arranged in
10 substantially axial alignment.
25. A cuff link as claimed in claim 24 wherein the female member includes a pair of stub recesses adapted for receiving respective stubs disposed on the male member.
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26. A cuff link as claimed in claim 24 or 25 wherein the stubs are spring biased.
27. A cuff link as claimed in claim 26 wherein the stubs are spring
20 biased by a single spring.
28. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 27 wherein the bridging member includes a substantially H-shaped configuration.
- 25 29. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 28 wherein the second retaining member includes a cavity adapted for accommodating the bridging member when it is releasably attached to the bridging member.
- 30 30. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 29 wherein the cavity of the second retaining member includes a shape

configuration which is adapted to enable releasable attachment with the bridging member in accordance with a two-step motion, the two-step motion including:

- 5 (i) laterally inserting the bridging member into the cavity when the bridging member is tilted relative to an axis of entry of the bridging member into the cavity; and
- (ii) once inserted in the cavity, rotating the bridging
10 member about the axis of entry into the cavity until the stub is received into the stub recess.

31. A cuff link as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 30 wherein the first retaining member is also releasably attachable to the
15 bridging member,

32. A cuff link as claimed in claim 31 wherein the first retaining member is substantially identical to the second retaining member.

33. A cuff link as claimed in claim 31 or 32 wherein the first and
20 second retaining members are releasably attachable to the bridging member in similar fashion.