provided in the top and bottom support members **32** and **34**, these recesses serving to hold the end member **26** in position and thus holding the screen **24** substantially flat in the optimum configuration for viewing.

[**0057**] As illustrated in **FIG. 2**, when the screen **24** is not needed for displaying data (for example during voice calls), it can be retracted to the retracted position shown in this Figure. The end member **26** is removed from the recesses **38** and inserted into recesses **40** in the top and bottom support members **32** and **34**, these recesses **40** lying close to the phone housing. The screen **24** is held between the end member **26** and the housing as a series of serpentine folds; if, as is typically the case, the screen **24** includes a plastic substrate, this substrate may be given a "set" to facilitate the screen **24** adopting the correct serpentine configuration. The end support member **36** is temporarily detached from the top and bottom support members **32** and **34**, moved to a position adjacent the end member **26** and again attached to the support members **32** and **34**. Each of the support members **32** and **34** is, as shown in **FIG. 2**, in two sections connected hinged adjacent the recesses **40**, and the outer sections, designated **32**A and **34**A, of the support members **32** and **34** respectively are folded at right angles to the adjacent sections so that they lie parallel to the length of the end member **26** and immediately "outside" (to the right in **FIG. 2**) the end support member **36**. It will be seen that retracting the screen **24** in this manner greatly reduces the bulk of the cell phone **10** when the screen **24** is not required.

[**0058**] **FIG. 3** shows an end elevation of a second external screen cell phone (generally designated **50**) of the present invention which resembles that shown in **FIGS. 1 and 2** but which has a different arrangement for storing the retracted external screen **24'**, the end elevation being taken in a direction corresponding to looking upwardly from the lower end of **FIG. 2**, the external screen **24'** being shown in its retracted position. The cell phone **50** has a housing **52**, and the external screen is provided with an end member **28** and top, bottom and end support members, all of which are essentially identical to those shown in **FIG. 2**. (The portion of the bottom support member adjacent the housing **52** is omitted from **FIG. 3** to show details of the retracted screen **24'**.) However, instead of being stored in a folded serpentine configuration as shown in **FIG. 2**, the screen **24'** is stored in a scroll-like fashion. To this end, a spindle **54** is rotatably mounted on the top and bottom support members adjacent the housing **52**. As the screen **24'** is retracted, it is wound around the spindle **54**, the portion of the screen **24'** wound in a helical configuration around the spindle being denoted **24"** in **FIG. 3**. Although not shown in **FIG. 3**, the spindle **54** is provided with biasing means in the form of helical springs (other types of biasing means may of course be substituted) which bias the spindle **54** to rotate clockwise in **FIG. 3**, so that once the screen **24'** is released from recesses corresponding to the recesses **38** shown in **FIGS. 1 and 2**, the screen **24'** will automatically wind around the spindle **54** under the bias provided by the biasing means.

[**0059**] The visual indicator cell phone (generally designated **70**) shown in **FIGS. 4 and 5** is similar to that shown in **FIG. 1** except it lacks both the internal screen **17** and the external screen, although either or both of these screens could be provided if desired. As best seen in **FIG. 5**, the housing **52** of cell phone **70** is essentially cuboidal, having a front surface **14**, an opposed rear surface, and opposed pairs of end surfaces and side surfaces extending between the front and rear surfaces. As indicated by the shading in **FIGS. 4 and 5**, the cell phone **70** is provided with a visual indicator **72** which covers a small area at the upper end (in **FIG. 4**) of the front surface **14**, the whole of the adjacent end face and large portions of the rear and both side surfaces (only one side surface is visible in **FIG. 5**, but a corresponding portion of the other side surface is also covered by the visual indicator **72**). The visual indicator **72** is arranged to flash black and white when a call is received. The cell phone **70** is also provided with a conventional audible ring indicator, and a toggle button **74** (**FIG. 4**) is provided adjacent the microphone **22** to enable the user to toggle between the audible and visual indicators.

[**0060**] **FIG. 6** illustrates an external display (generally designated **90**) of the present invention in use with a cell phone essentially identical to that shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. The external display comprises a housing **92**, having essentially the form of a flat cuboid, and an electro-optic screen **94** located within the housing **92**. The housing **92** is provided adjacent one edge with buttons **28** and a trackball **30** similar to the corresponding device shown in **FIGS. 1 and 2**. However, the external display is not mounted upon the cell phone but is detachably connected thereto by means of a flexible cable **96**, this cable being plugged by means of a connector **98** into a data output socket (not shown) provided on the cell phone. The cable **96** enables data to be transmitted from the cell phone to the external display, and may also provide for data transmission in the opposed direction, so that, for example, data input by means of the buttons **28** or trackball **30** may be conveyed to the cell phone. Many cell phones are already equipped with serial ports to enable them to be used with external modems, and these serial ports may be employed as the data output socket for communication with the external screen.

[**0061**] From the foregoing description, it will be seen that the external screen display of the present invention greatly reduces the problems associated with displaying data on portable, hand-held electronic devices. It will also been seen that the visual indicator cell phone of the present invention solves most of the problems associated with the use of audible ring indicators on cell phones.

[**0062**] While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to specific preferred embodiments, it should be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and detail may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. For example, although the external display shown in **FIG. 6** is illustrated with only a series of buttons and a trackball, it will readily be apparent that such an external display could incorporate a keyboard, thus greatly facilitating the use of the attached cell phone for sending E-mail. Accordingly, the whole of the foregoing description should be construed in an illustrative and not in a limitative sense, the invention being defined solely by the appended claims.

1. A portable electronic device having an internal screen for the display of information, the electronic device also having an external screen arranged to receive information from the electronic device and being capable of displaying said information on an electro-optic medium:

2. A portable electronic device according to claim 1 comprising a cellular telephone.