

Incredible tale of a soldier's life journey

By JASON PRITCHARD

jason.pritchard@banburyguardian.co.uk
01295 227756

The incredible but tragic story of a former loan soldier of the British Army has been captured in a book that relives his adventures across the world.

Bruce Duncan of Milton flew out to Brunei as a young 23-year-old lieutenant in 1964 to help support the country's Malay Regiment before stints in Sudan, Jordan and Oman.

But it also tells the tragic story of how his young family were living in Kuwait at the time of the Iraqi invasion in 1990, and of his son Alex being killed in a car crash at the age of 19. His other son Rorie, a passenger in the vehicle, was left paralysed and died in 2002 aged just 30.

Mr Duncan, now 74, held two events for his book *The Loan Soldier* at Oxford's Balliol College and the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum in



Bruce Duncan pictured with his book *The Loan Soldier*

Woodstock last month.

He said: "Brunei was the most exciting in terms of opportunity as I was only 23 at the time when I flew out there. Most of my service was enjoyable apart from Kuwait

of course. I was paid an allowance by the British Army according to the hardship you would face. You had tough countries like Sudan where the cost of living was extremely low, whereas Kuwait's cost

of living was extremely high."

Mr Duncan is married to his wife Toni and they also have two daughters, Hannah and Zoe. The book is priced at £19.99. To order a copy visit www.greenfinchpress.com