

ALYSON ADVENTURES:

What's in the name?

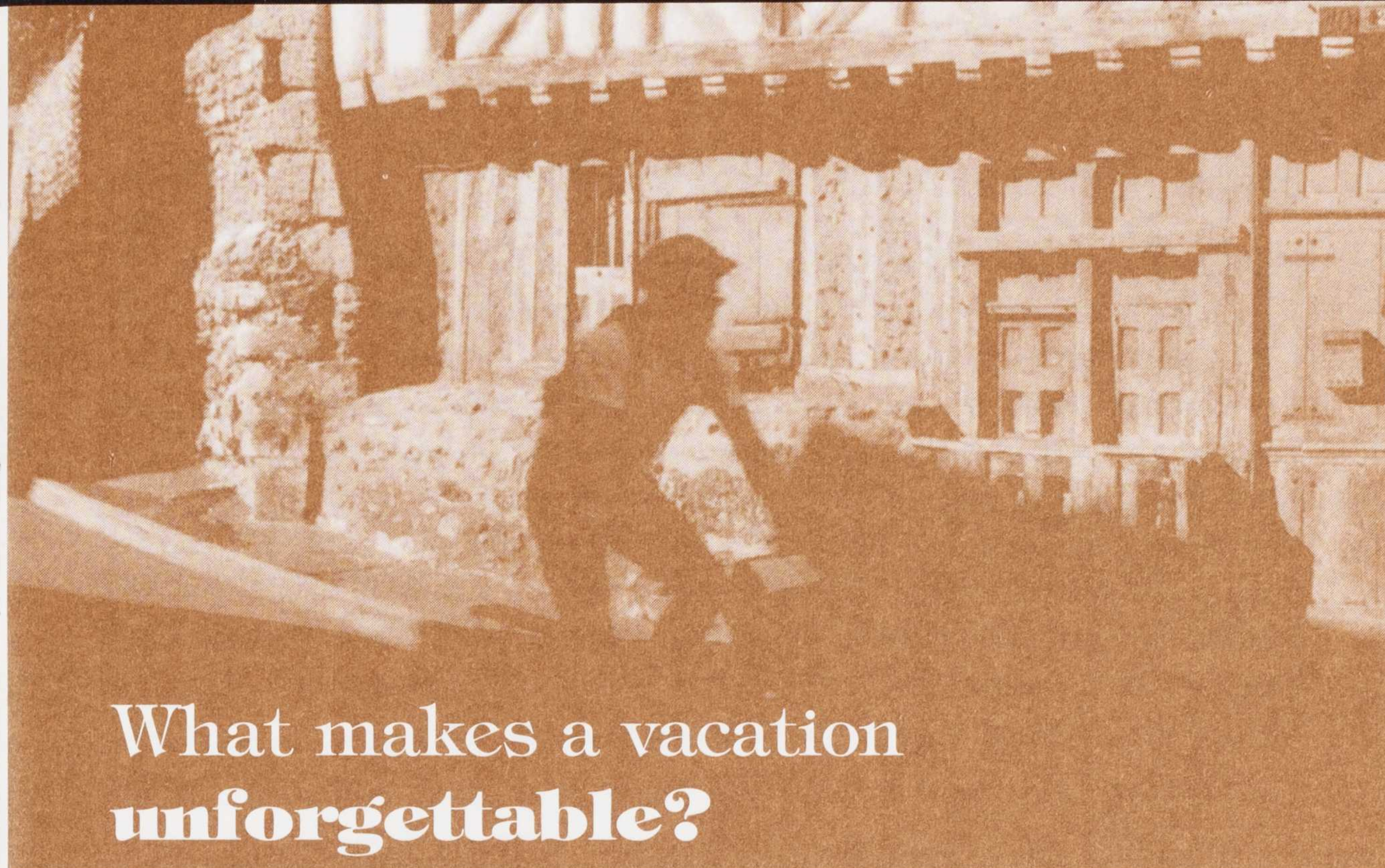
ALYSON: Founder Sasha Alyson started the country's leading publisher of gay and lesbian books, Alyson Publications. He focused on many areas that were otherwise ignored, including books for gay teenagers (*Reflections of a Rock Lobster* and *One Teenager in Ten*) and children (including the controversial *Daddy's Roommate* and *Heather Has Two Mommies*). He is also the founder of Boston's gay newspaper, *Bay Windows*.

Sasha sold his publishing company in 1995 and now brings that same fresh approach to the world of travel. He has won awards for his work from groups as diverse as the Human Rights Campaign, the New England Booksellers Association, and the Greater Boston Business Council.

ADVENTURES: Our trips are active vacations, full of choices and opportunities. On our biking and hiking trips, you can stay with a guide; take our suggested route independently; or pull out the map and plan your own route. We offer the camaraderie of being with other adventurous souls, and the flexibility to be independent.

Some people are happy to spend their vacation on a cruise ship. Others can't look over the rail of that ship without imagining themselves gliding with the manta rays down below. The same people can't see a mountain without wondering what it would be like to make their way to the top.

Does that describe you? Then join us, for a vacation that will be unforgettable.



What makes a vacation unforgettable?

We think it takes several elements, and our trips include them all...

Activity. It takes a certain nerve to walk over to a stranger on the beach and start up a conversation. But there are no strangers when you share activities like biking and hiking. You naturally get to know someone after you've found your way together along an alpine path, or biked off for a swim at a secluded lake.

Variety. After our Edelweiss hiking week, everyone comments on how different the scenery was from one day to the next. When we bike in France, we've selected routes with a remarkable variety of sights: from Roman arenas to medieval villages to natural rock arches. And if you come to New Zealand with us, not only the scenery changes every day, but so do the activities -- kayak one day; the next, hike on a glacier.

People. Our vacations attract active, engaging people, who have a special zest for life. They make each week special -- and that's why so many have stayed friends (and sometimes more than friends) long after the trips end.

Today, the Internet makes it possible for you to look at each trip in detail. In this catalog, we hope merely to pique your interest. If you see a trip that looks good, you can find out more on our easy-to-navigate website, or just give us a call.

Some great people and exciting destinations are waiting for you in the coming year. We look forward to having you join us!