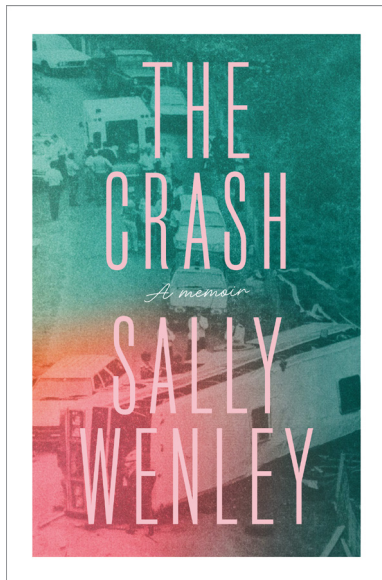




The Crash

A memoir

SALLY WENLEY



\$37

CATEGORY: Memoir, NZ Non Fiction

ISBN: 978-1-991309-15-0

ESBN: 978-1-991309-21-1

THEMA: DNC, 5PMB, 1MBN

BISAC: BIO033000, BIO026000

PUBLISHER: Massey University Press

IMPRINT: Massey University Press

PUBLISHED: April 2026

PAGE EXTENT: 220

FORMAT: Limpbound

SIZE: 210 x 138mm

RIGHTS: World

EDITOR'S RESIDENCE: Tāmaki

Makaurau Auckland

CARTON QUANTITY: 48

ISBN 978-1-991309-15-0



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FACING THE AFTERMATH 40 YEARS ON

In 1987 Sally Wenley was the driven, fun-loving and at times naughty sports prefect of her Hawke's Bay school with everything to live for. When a bus crashed on a school trip, five people were killed and she became a paraplegic, her sporting dreams in tatters.

Now an award-winning radio reporter, in this engaging, uplifting and at times hilarious memoir she looks back at the angry, defiant, risk-taking younger self who used alcohol and arrogance to mask physical pain and trauma. And, for the first time in 40 years, she also looks squarely at the accident.

As she explores what happened, and acknowledges that the bus crash also devastated other lives, she comes to understand why she was so driven to escape the confines of her wheelchair and she counts her blessings.

'Wenley has crafted one of the best books of the year' — Steve Braunias, Newsroom

'If any recent New Zealand book is required reading, its this one' — Jenny Nicholls, Waiheke Weekender

'*The Crash* is a vital, brave, exuberant read. They say courage is the virtue on which all the others climb, and this is a book about that.' — Jim Mora

'If you're looking for a memoir that's candid without being self-pitying, funny without being flippant, and brave enough to examine what happened, not just on the day, but for decades after, this one is worth your time.' — Andrea Molloy, NZ Booklovers

'Insistently authentic, crafted and clear all the way.' — David Hill, Kete Books

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sally Wenley is an award-winning journalist. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Massey University and a diploma in broadcast journalism. She began her journalism career at Television New Zealand in Auckland, worked for a time at a magazine for doctors and then at Radio New Zealand, where she won four journalism awards for radio reporting. Sally is now a freelance journalist for both RNZ and other publications. In her spare time she enjoys hunting and fishing and volunteers to help other newly injured people who have become wheelchair users like herself. She lives in Auckland with her partner and her teenage daughter.

SALES POINTS

- An amusing, candid and engaging memoir
- A special insight into the daily struggles of life in a wheelchair but also an inspiring story of pluck and determination