OVERDUE PARTIES

Guide lines for those waiting back at the bus.

There will be any different scenarios depending on the experience of the party, their route, day trip or multi day trip and the weather and daylight conditions.

Question other trampers in the area as to whether they have encountered the missing party.

Take a look at their intended route and if daylight permits, consider sending pairs to other exit points, track or stream junction and give them a time to return back to bus.

It may now be time to alert the police as to a party being overdue. Write up a sheet to include the following:

- From the trips book, obtain the names of all the missing party members. List their approx age and experience and any known medical concerns
- Advise of any known cell phone number and if anyone was carrying a PLB
- Provide their proposed route
- Advise of the present weather and if swollen streams are likely to be a reason for their being overdue

Day trip:

Consider returning the bus and passengers back to Takapuna and maybe leaving a pair of people at the road end.

The bus may have to return either that evening or the following morning.

Appoint someone to contact all the next of kin, to advise that the party is overdue and the authorities have been alerted.

Weekend trip:

The bus may have to stay overnight at the road end or a nearby motor camp. Contact someone in Auckland and get them to call the next of kin to advise that the party is overdue and that the authorities have been informed.