a fair party on the banks of the Waitekaha [~~Waitaha~~] & Cattley & Co at 4. am. & Riley supplying party with [illegible] at 6. Two telephone conversations were then recd. Capt. Mercer was off with Pelly & Cates & cared the Waitekaha & the banks for Scenic. This signal of return was to be used in Dry Creek & by the banks & by the Waitekaha. Pelly, looking very old, & Cates were stiff & cramped in the appendix he did not get back till 2 am.

June 22 Sunday. Had arranged to get up at 6 but I was awoken by alarm at 5. & did not wake till 7 when morning tea came in. I hurried dress & saw Forbes who had just returned after taking the second supporting parties out & said they had found 2 shots up the banks. - at the advance party had found them. Also word off with same telephone & called the Waitekaha party - & Pelly set off in the plane as soon as it arrived. As the first party had found them so soon it was obvious that the party & all owners save 1 of them were safe. & probably had been able to get to the track for the two nights. Son Pelly returned & reported that he had seen them all safe & well & their loneliness was over. A car was ordered & mine & the boys followed to bring in the remains. I felt my car had often been turned in all the years but even then it would not start & I had to take out each plug & knock the points together before it. Then the car bringing in the party started down by the Waitaha Bridge & the boys on hill before the banks. I got to the banks some after 8 & waited there in case Joe & Mack had found the tracks & were following them down. Son Allen came back after fixing his shots. & as there is a wireless telephone at the Waitekaha, then families could telephone & car be brought in. Then was no one at the banks so I said that I would wait - till the [illegible] car came up again. It was 2.10 before it arrived. Spent the time cleaning the car. etc. & then came back & got my lunch

& Col. Park

& had supper. Then found the roads very bad & then had a very big oil expense & had been very short of food, had no water to clean the car, the two women had & did it remarkably well. In the dusk boy, it was not surprising that they had got lost. The banks & party had evidently come down the head of the valley & crossed & got to the Waitekaha. Charlie Parfitt had done remarkably well with what can only be called a very weak party. If any Mr. Thomas & the two from up & the Deviance that, instead of shooting from below, they would have found & hit Dry Creek - the party was waiting & Lindy got to the Waitekaha & the party would then be reached on Monday evening the hills were all covered in deep [illegible] snow & the weather conditions very bad. If it had not been for them being able to get - with the hut undoubtedly they would have died of exposure. Also - Stan & party who had been out riding hurried back & say that - two fires were waiting at Docherty's Creek & that - the telephone was all right. Got - my car & found Joe Henry & Mack Lysons. They had [illegible] left the Deviance Hut at 1 am reached all the Rom, then had found the party - tracks & gone down the banks & effected that had found a very large tree, which made the effort of the 2nd party 2 - exhausted themselves all the more remarkable. They got to the banks at 3, 3/4 of an hour after start & were hurried very down the hill by telling them that a car was patrolling between the Waitekaha & the track and for them. It was very relieved crowd at the hotel that night.

June 23 Wed. After breakfast & found my car was slightly stuck & with Frank went down looking for a small rise & same track. We left it at Dave Graham's as he was away & we could find his key. I drove Mrs Thomas & Mrs Platt & Frank at 10.45. Ray Gibson & Dan Graham the advance party left the Waitekaha track at. returned & those had been to place at Deviance last night. We felt pretty certain that they had got down & the camp up the Waitekaha River, but as they had not turned up I